



W.P.(MD) No.449 of 2021

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED : 30.03.2026

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MR.SUSHRUT ARVIND DHARMADHIKARI,
CHIEF JUSTICE

and

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE N.SATHISH KUMAR

W.P.(MD) No.449 of 2021

K.Pushpavanam

... Petitioner

Vs.

1. Union of India, represented by,
The Principal Secretary,
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,
Indira Paryavaran Bhavan,
Jarbagh Road, New Delhi – 110003.

2. State of Tamilnadu, represented by,
The Principal Secretary,
Department of Environment and Forests,
Fort St.George, Chennai – 600 009.

3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forest/Chief Wildlife Warden,
Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest/Chief Wildlife Warden,
Panagal Maligai, 1, Jeenis Road,
Saidapet, Chennai – 600 015.

4. The Wildlife Warden,
Gulf of Mannar, Marine National Park,
Mandapam Road (Opp.ITI),
Mandapam,
Ramanathapuram District – 623 502.

5. Chief Conservator of Forests and Trust Director,
Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve Trust (GOMBRT),
No.102/26, Retired Army Bungalow,
First Floor, Ramanathapuram - 623 504.



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6. The Collector,
District Collector Office,
Ramanathapuram - 623 503.

7. The Collector,
First Floor,
Collector Office,
Thoothukudi - 628 101.

... Respondents

Prayer : Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, to issue a Writ of Mandamus, directing the respondents,

- a. To collect and dispose the 'Ghost nets' that are present in the 'Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve' as per the recommendations in the "Integrated Management Plan for the Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park and Biosphere Reserve (2018-2027)" in an expedite manner within the time stipulated by this Hon'ble Court.
- b. To emulate the 'Suchitwa Sagaram' initiative followed by Kerala in all the coastal districts of Tamilnadu and to make the ocean as plastic free as much as possible.
- c. To conduct an awareness program for the fishermen community regarding the harms of disposing the 'Ghost nets' in the oceans in accordance with law within the time stipulated by this Hon'ble Court.

For Petitioner	: Mr.R.Alagumani
For R1	: No appearance
For R2 to R7	: Mr.S.P.Maharajan
	Special Government Pleader

O R D E R

[Order of the Court was made by The Hon'ble CHIEF JUSTICE]

No one appears for respondent No.1



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2. By way of last indulgence, four weeks further time is granted to file counter affidavit.

3. List this case on 29.04.2026.

[SUSHRUT ARVIND DHARMADHIKARI, C.J.] [N.SATHISH KUMAR, J.]

30.03.2026

NCC : Yes / No
Index : Yes / No
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To:

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THE HON'BLE CHIEF JUSTICE
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N.SATHISH KUMAR, J.

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