



W.P(MD)No.9466 of 2026

WEB COPY BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED : 07.04.2026

CORAM:

**THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE N.SATHISH KUMAR
and
THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE M.JOTHIRAMAN**

**W.P(MD)No.9466 of 2026
and
W.M.P(MD)No.7565 of 2026**

K.K.Ramesh

... Petitioner

vs.

1.The Union of India,
Represented by its Secretary,
Ministry of Water Resources,
No.412, Shram Shakti Bhawan,
Rafi Marg,
New Delhi - 110 001.

2.The State of Tamil Nadu,
Represented by its Secretary,
Public Works Department and
Water Resources Organization,
Fort St. George,
Secretariat,
Chennai - 600 009.



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3.The State of Tamil Nadu,
Represented by its Additional Chief Secretary,
Finance Department, Fort St. George, Chennai - 600 009.

4.The Engineer-in-Chief,
Water Resources Department,
Chepauk, Chennai - 5 (W.E.)

5.The Chief Engineer,
Operation and Maintenance,
Water Resources Department,
Chepauk, Chennai - 5 (W.E).

6.The Chief Engineer,
Public Works Department,
Water Resources Organization,
Periyar Vaigai Basin Circle,
Madurai - 2

7.The Executive Engineer,
Public Works Department,
Water Resources Organization,
Periyar Vaigai Basin Circle,
Madurai - 625 002.

8.The District Collector,
Theni District, Theni.

... Respondents

PRAYER : Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus directing the respondents to clear the mud and sludge in the Vaigai Dam on war footing manner to improve the storage of water to the needs of five southern District People at



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least at this stage if this Court is not getting involved to remove the difficulties, the five Districts Madurai, Theni, Dindigul, Ramnad and Sivagangai will turn into a barren land and the both the people and cattle will not be able to at least to quench the thirst by considering the petitioner's representation dated 23.02.2026.

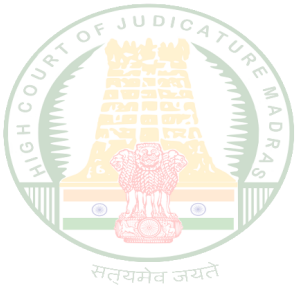
For Petitioner : Mr.K.K.Ramesh
Party-in-Person

For RR 2 to R8 : Mr.S.P.Maharajan
Special Government Pleader

ORDER

(Order of the Court was made by N.SATHISH KUMAR, J.)

The petitioner has filed the present writ petition, styled as a “Public Interest Litigation,” seeking a direction to the respondents to clear the mud and sludge in the Vaigai Dam on a war footing, so as to improve the storage capacity of water for meeting the needs of the people of the five southern districts. It is further stated that, if this Court does not intervene at this stage to alleviate the difficulties, the districts of Madurai, Theni, Dindigul, Ramanathapuram, and Sivagangai would turn barren, and both the people and cattle would be unable even to quench their thirst.



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2.Mr.S.P.Maharajan, learned Special Government Pleader, accepts notice for the respondents 2 to 8.

3.It is brought to the notice of this Court that, in W.P(MD)No. 12961 of 2018, by order dated 22.02.2024, a predecessor Bench had already directed the authorities concerned to desilt the Vaigai Dam if the storage level in the dam falls below 40.

4.In view of the above, the authorities concerned are directed to state what steps have been taken pursuant to the said order and to file a detailed report by the next date of hearing.

5.Post the matter on **29.04.2026**.

[N.S.K.,J.] [M.J.R.,J.]
07.04.2026

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2.The Secretary,
Represented by the State of Tamil Nadu,
Public Works Department and
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Secretariat,
Chennai - 600 009.

3.The State of Tamil Nadu,
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