

25<sup>th</sup> December, 2019

From:

**D.Mathivanan**

7, Kokilam 2<sup>nd</sup> cross Street,  
Gandhiroad, Velachery,  
Chennai – 600 042.

To:

**Shrimathi. Tamizhachi Thangapandian,**  
Member of Parliament  
South Chennai Constituency - Tamil Nadu  
Government of India  
New Delhi.

**Respected Madam,**

**Sub: Request for Re opening of "IIT Madras Cauvery Gate"(Velachery Gandhi road Gate)–Reg.**

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We the aggregate of people living in and around the campus perimeter of the **Indian Institute of Technology, Madras – 600 036**, are facing a peculiar situation of difficulty to find access to the institution. The institution has more than 2 gates for the convenience of their staff coming to work on a day-to-day basis. One such gate is the **"Cauvery Gate" (Velachery Gandhi Road Gate)** which leads to the main access to Gandhi Road in Velachery, Chennai 600 042.

We bring to your notice that this gate is being used by a number of people which includes but not restricted to, **School Students, working staff of IIT, Madras, Parents of school students, Pensioners of IIT, Madras etc.** Unfortunately, for reasons not know to the general public and to their surprise, to see that this gate has been dismantled and closed with cement and mortar by construction of a wall, thereby totally closing the entry and exit point through this particular gate. The closure of this gate has put into inconvenience a larger part of the society, who, have served and many continuing to serve in the institution. We are giving below a few of those who are put into difficulty by the closure of the Cauvery Gate.

- 1) Primarily the institution does not have provision to provide accommodation to all their staff inside the campus.
- 2) Due to this reasons and other necessities, the many staff working in the institution built their home in near proximity to the institution and one such place is Velachery, Chennai. This proximity enabled them to have access to their work spots and their children's education and health needs. In fact, there are many people in the society who live in Velachery who have given their land for the built-up of the campus of IIT, Madras; once again the main reason being the proximity of their work spot through access gates

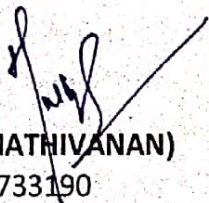
provided at 3 places in and around Velachery and Taramani, that is separated in distance by a kilometer in different directions.

- 3) There are two schools inside the campus of IIT, Madras, namely, Kendria Vdyalaya, IIT School and Vanavani Higher Secondary Matriculation School. Both the schools cater to studies from 1<sup>st</sup> Standard to 12<sup>th</sup> Standard, nearly of the 1000+ children studying in these two schools, approximately 33% of them are living outside the campus and their main access to the schools were these gate and the primary one being "Cauvery Gate". The closure of this gate has put the children and their parents into great difficulty as they are having to take 30 minutes extra to reach the school, drops their children and then come back and go to their office. Similarly, the mothers who walk up the distance to bring their children are having even more tough time due to the state of not being able to proceed without difficulty.
- 4) There is a hospital that is run by the institution, where the staff and their children are treated as per the terms of their employment. Once again, getting to the hospital is also put into difficulty due to closure of the Cauvery Gate. There are to take a detour and reach the other gate which is on the Velachery Main Road and with great difficulty cross the highly congested narrow road and unsafe due to high traffic and a PTC bus stop just near the gate. The chances of an accident is on the higher side as there is crisscrossing on the road.
- 5) There is a Bank and Post Office, where many of the pensioners still use for their investments made prior to their superannuation. A number of them having provided their life certificate are continuing the same bank and post office for their transactions. The closure of the gate, has made it extremely difficult for them. The detour for these senior citizens are even more unsafe through the other gates. Most of them are septuagenarians and walk and move with the help or assistance of others and sometimes alone, having good knowledge of the route of access. The closure has highly impacted their connivances.

Given the above reasons for the difficulties that has been caused by the closure of the Cauvery Gate, it is with a heavy heart that we are in, to request for the re-opening of the gate and give access to all those who are in need of the access with the appropriate control systems.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,



(D. MATHIVANAN)

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