

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI.**

Original Application No. 100 of 2021(SZ)

Tribunal on its own motion Suo Motu based
on the News item published in The Hindu Newspaper,
Chennai Edition Dt.09.04.2021, "Dumping of garbage
Foiled near Anamalai, trucks seized".

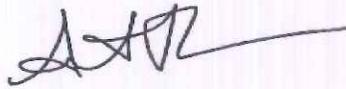
Vs

The Chief Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 009 & 14 others.

...Respondents

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**Advocate
Thiru.S. Sai Sathya Jith,
Advocate, Chennai.**

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE AT CHENNAI.**

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 100 of 2021 (SZ)

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU
Based on the News Item in the Hindu Newspaper,
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garbage foiled near Anamalai, trucks seized"

...Applicant

Vs

1. The Chief Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu -600 009 & 14 others .

...Respondent(s)

REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE 11TH RESPONDENT
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

I, R. Sarasavani, D/o. J. Raghavan, Hindu, aged about 57 years, having my office at No. 76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai -600032, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:-

1. I am the Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai and I am filing this Report on behalf of the 11th Respondent Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and as such I am well acquainted with the facts of the case as per records.

2. It is respectfully submitted that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (Southern Zone) in its order dated 14.02.2023 has directed as follows :

"Para 1: Even as early as in November, this Tribunal had directed the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board to obtain the reports of the leachate samples collected by the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University for conducting analysis. So far, the said report has not been filed. Earlier, the District Collectors were impleaded Suo Motu as Respondents Nos.20 to 34 and the Government Pleaders of both the States were directed to file their reports.

Para 7: For filing of the reports by the Kerala State and also the analysis report by the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and getting the result from the Hon'ble Supreme Court, let the matter be listed on 31.03.2023".

R. Sarasavani
20/3/23

JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMILNADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD,
No.76, MOUNT SALAI, CHENNAI-600 032.

3. It is respectfully submitted that the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore have collected the soil and water samples in the presence of TNPCB officials on 15.12.2022 and the Result of Analysis (ROA) was furnished by the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore vide their report dated 07.02.2023. The Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore has collected four soil samples from the site and two water samples from the nearby wells that have been used for irrigation purpose and furnished the report. Copy of TNAU, Coimbatore Report of Analysis is submitted herewith as Annexure.

4. It is respectfully submitted that the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore has finally concluded based on the soil and water analyses and furnished the inference as follows:

“Based on the soil and water analyses report and inspection of Semmedu site, it was inferred that there was no significant changes in the soil physico chemical parameters, the heavy metals were not detected at higher concentrations in any of these soils. Results on the Organic analytes also signify only the presence of metabolites of microbial, soil and plant origin. No pharmaceutical compounds were detected in the samples. There was a significant development in the field since 2021 and presently, the site is leveled and preparatory works are ongoing for crop production.”

Under the above circumstances, it is humbly prayed that this Hon'ble National Green Tribunal may be pleased to pass such further or other orders as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstance of this case and thus render justice.

dlan 20/3/23
JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMILNADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD,
No.76, MOUNT SALAI, CHENNAI-600 032.
BEFORE ME

VERIFICATION

I, R. Sarasavani, D/o. J. Raghavan, working as Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai, do hereby verify that the contents of above report are true to the best of my knowledge through records.

dlan 20/3/23
JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMILNADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD,
No.76, MOUNT SALAI, CHENNAI-600 032.



TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

COIMBATORE - 641 003, TAMIL NADU, INDIA

Dr. M. RAVEENDRAN, Ph.D.
Director of Research



No. DR/P5/Pollution Control Board/NGT Case/2023 dt. 07.02.2023

To
The District Environmental Engineer,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
Coimbatore South
Plot No.E-55A, SIDCO Industrial Estate,
Pollachi Main Road, Kurichi,
Coimbatore-641 021.

Sir,

- Sub: TNAU – NGT Case – Dumping of garbage piles at Semmedu, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore – Report on the soil and water analyses – Report – regarding.
- Ref: Lr.No.DEE/TNPCB/CBS/NGT O.A.No.100 of 2021/2021 dated 12.07.2021 of the District Environmental Engineering, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Coimbatore-641 021.

With reference to the letter cited above, soil and water samples were collected from the location site (Latitude: 10.574507, Longitude: 76.868024) near Semmedu on the Muthalamada – Chemmanampathy Road, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore and subjected to estimation of pH, EC, major and minor nutrients, heavy metals and organic analytes. The results are are enclosed for kind perusal.

M. Raveendran
7/2/23
DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

M.
7/2/23

Copy to the TPO to Vice-Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore

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NGT CASE
DUMPING OF GARBAGE PILES AT SEMMEDU, ANAIMALAI HILLS, COIMBATORE
REPORT ON THE SOIL AND WATER ANALYSES

Background

In order to ascertain the allegations made on dumping of garbage in Anaimalai hills (Ref: Letter No. DEE/ TNPCB/ CBS/ NGT/ O.A No. 100 of 2021 dated 12.7.2021), team was formulated to collect and analyse soil and water samples from the designated sites for the presence of organic/ inorganic contaminants.

Joint inspection and samples collected

Field inspections were conducted in Jul 2021, Jan 2022 and Dec 2022 with Engineers from TNPCB, Coimbatore and experts from Department of Environmental Sciences, TNAU, Coimbatore. The site had dumping of garbage and in few spots it had traces of burnt trash. Soil samples were collected from three sites (both surface and subsurface soil samples), two samples from burnt site with ashes and two water samples from nearby well. In Jan 2022, one soil sample was handed over by TNPCB for analyses. In Dec 2022, 4 more soil samples were taken from the same site that has been developed as of now.

Soil analyses reports

The surface soils and subsurface soils at the dumped site had pH range of 7.3 – 8.5 and EC with range of 0.41 – 1.2 dS/m. The organic carbon content was high in few soils compared to normal soils and it ranged from 0.44 - 0.93 %. This might be due to addition of organic matter through the waste dumps.

The nutrient content of the soils were in the medium range of soil fertility rating. The available nitrogen ranged from 240 – 360 kg/ha, available phosphorus from 10 – 24 kg/ ha and available potassium from 190 – 260 mg/ kg. In soils collected from burnt soil site the available potassium was high (300 kg/ ha). In soils, heavy metals like Hg, Pb, Zn, Ni, Cd and As were not detected. Heavy metals like Cr and Cu were detected in traces but below permissible limits as prescribed by WHO.

Water analyses report

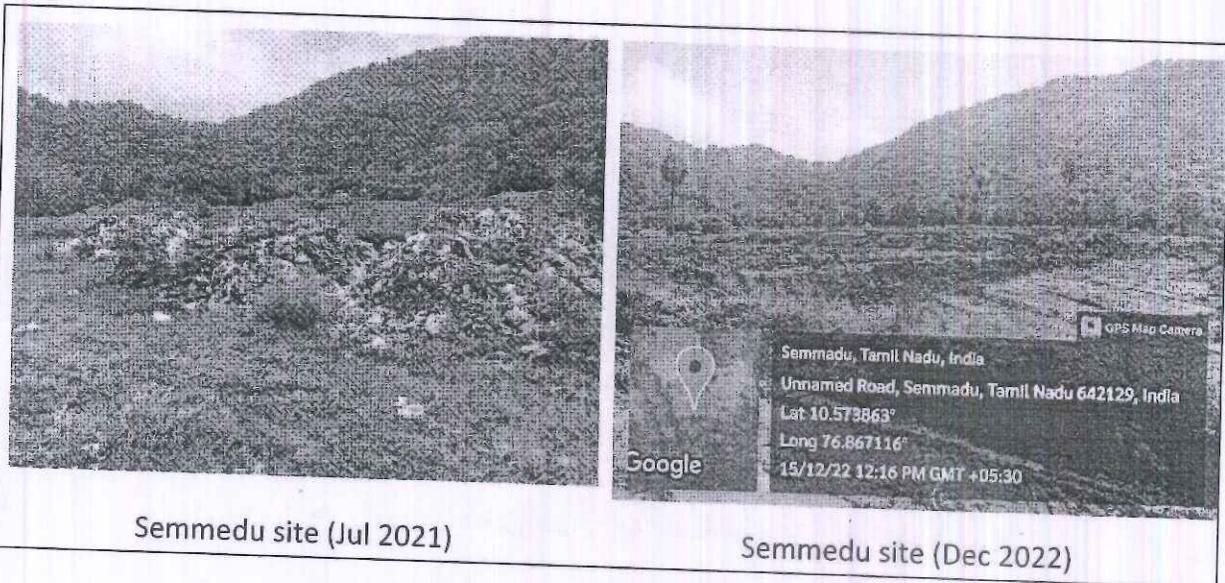
Water samples were collected from nearby two wells that have been used for irrigation purpose. The pH of the samples were near neutral and the EC ranged from 0.63 – 0.72 dS/ m. Heavy metals were not present in the water samples, including Cr (below permissible limits).

Organic analytes in the soils

In order to ascertain the presence/ absence of organic pollutants, soil samples were extracted with solvents as per standard protocols and analysed in GC-MS. In all the 4 samples collected, an array of soil, plant and microbial derived metabolite compounds were detected. In sample 1, Squalene and oleic acids were major compounds detected followed by Glycidyl palmitate and n-Hexadecanoic acid. In sample 2, 9-Octadecenoic acid was predominant followed by Octadecanoic acid, Glycidyl palmitate and Hexadecanamide. In sample 3, Methyl 9-cis,11-trans-octadecadienoate, 9-Octadecenoic acid (Z)-, methyl ester, Methyl stearate, 9,12-Octadecadienoic acid (Z,Z)-, cis-13-Octadecenoic acid and Octadecanoic acid were detected and similarly, in sample 4 also hexadecanamide and octadecanoic acid were detected. However, in all the samples no organic contaminants were present including pharmaceutical compounds.

Inference

Based on the soil and water analyses report and inspection of Semmedu site, it was inferred that there was no significant changes in the soil physicochemical parameters, the heavy metals were not detected at higher concentrations in any of these soils. Results on the organic analytes also signify only the presence of metabolites of microbial, soil and plant origin. No pharmaceutical compounds were detected in the samples. There was a significant development in the field since 2021 and presently, the site is leveled and preparatory works are ongoing for crop production.



Semmedu site (Jul 2021)

Semmedu site (Dec 2022)

Developments at Semmedu site

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**REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE 11TH
RESPONDENT- TAMIL NADU POLLUTION
CONTROL BOARD.**

**Advocate for Respondent: TNPCB
Thiru.S. Sai Sathya Jith ,
Advocate, Chennai.**

Date:30.03.2023.

Date of hearing on: 31.03.2023.