

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

**Original Application No. 102 of 2021
&
Original Application No.02 of 2020**

S. Kumaradasan Vice President
Velachery Eri Pathukappu Iyakkam,
Velachery, Chennai.

...Applicant

Versus

The Govt. of Tamil Nadu,
Rep. by its Chief Secreary,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 009 & ors.

...Respondents

With

Tribunal on its own motion Suo Motu
based on the newsitem published in Dinamalar
Newspaper, “ Velachery lake-full due to Monsoon”
Plea for preventing sewage waste get mixed in the lake.

Versus

The Govt. of Tamil Nadu,
Rep. by its Chief Secreary,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 009 & ors.

...Respondents

INDEX

S.No	Description	Page No.
1.	Report filed on behalf of the Respondent – Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board	1 – 5

Advocate for the Respondent: TNPCB
Tr. S. Sai Sathya Jith,
Advocate, Chennai

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

**Original Application No. 102 of 2021
&
Original Application No.02 of 2020**

S. Kumaaradasan Vice President
Velachery Eri Pathukappu Iyakkam,
Velachery, Chennai.

...Applicant

Versus

The Govt. of Tamil Nadu,
Rep. by its Chief Secreary,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 009 & ors.

...Respondents

With

Tribunal on its own motion Suo Motu
based on the newsitem published in Dinamalar
Newspaper, " Velachery lake-full due to Monsoon"
Plea for preventing sewage waste get mixed in the lake.

Versus

The Govt. of Tamil Nadu,
Rep. by its Chief Secreary,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 009 & ors.

... Respondents

**REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENT
TAMILNADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD.**

I, J. Josephine Sahayarani, D/o Jesu Rajan, Christian, aged about 56 years, having office at No.76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai-600 032, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

1. I am the Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and I am filing this Report on behalf of the 2nd Respondent 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 (SZ) in its order dated 19.07.2021 directed inter alia that:

J. Josephine Sahayarani
20/10/2021

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

“When this was pointed out the Learned Counsel appearing for official respondents submitted that if some time is granted they will come with further report as directed incorporating all aspects required on the basis of allegations made in both the cases. It is quite unfortunate that grievance in this application is that proper maintenance is not being done and de-silting was not conducted for quite long period. Further, if de-silting is not properly done and maintenance work is not done to the water bodies, then the water storing capacity of the water bodies will be reduced and that will create unnecessary floods. Further, water bodies are not expected to be used as dumping ground or sewage pond. If any such things are found, then authorities are expected to take appropriate legal action against the persons who are violating the same as well and come with a report as what is the nature of action taken from their side. Such a pro-active attitude was not seen on the part of the regulators as well as official respondents as evident from their failure to file on time their independent reports before this Tribunal as well. Further, considering the circumstances, we feel that some more time can be granted to the Committees as well as official respondents including Pollution Control Board and the local bodies to come with detailed comprehensive factual report comprising allegations in both cases, action plan and also remedial measures taken by them to resolve the issue and they are directed to file their respective reports to this Tribunal”.

3. It is respectfully submitted that, based on the Hon'ble NGT order dated: 10.01.2020 passed in the O.A.No.02 of 2020 Suo mottu regarding the discharge of sewage into Velachery lake, a joint Committee Constituting the District Collector, Chennai, The District Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai, The Commissioner, Greater Chennai Corporation and the Executive Engineer, WRD, Lower Palar Basin Division, Kancheepuram (as a nodal agency) was formed.

4. It is respectfully submitted that the joint committee inspected the Velachery lake on 17/07/2020. During inspection the following were observed:

J. for 20/10/2024

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

i) It was noticed that overflow of Velachery lake is channelized to Veerangal canal in tune the overflow water reaches the Palikaranai marshy land.

ii) The channel connecting the Velachery Lake and Veerangal Canal was stagnated with Sewage/Sullage from households/commercial establishments.

iii) Water samples were collected by the officials of the DEE, TNPCB, Chennai on 17.07.2020 & 22.07.2021 at the following locations and sent for analysis to TNPCB Laboratory.

a. At the inlets of storm water drain at MaruthupandiarSalai, Velachery- 2 no (Opp. To Sree Gupta Bhavan, Near JM Jumma Masjid).

b. At the inlets of storm water drain at Dr.Ambedkar Nagar, Adambakkam- 1no.

c. At the inlets of storm water drain near Kakkan bridge, Adambakkam- 1no.

d. At the Velachery lake

The report of analysis reveals that the samples collected at the storm water inlets into Velachery Lake and at the Velachery Lake contain faecal coliform which shows that the same is contaminated with sewage.

4. It is respectfully submitted that in pursuance to the orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (sz), Chennai, the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board has issued instructions vide Board's Letter dated 12.01.2021 to the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB), Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC), and the Superintending Engineer, PWD (WRD) Palar Basin Circle to implement the Joint Committee recommendations on immediate action on pollution abatement to control the pollution of Velachery, Veerangal Canal due to

J. J. J. J. J.
22/10/2021

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

unauthorised discharge of untreated sewage by the residential/commercial establishment.

Further, it is observed that adjacent to Veerangal canal, no. of areas were not provided with underground sewerage system. If the CMWSSB provides proper collection and transportation arrangement for the discharge of the untreated sewage, from the unsewered areas and treat the same in the existing Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) of CMWSSB which is operating nearby / provide a new STP of adequate capacity, the above problem can be avoided.

In this regard, a direction under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 as amended was issued to the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) vide Board Proceeding dated 18.06.2021² to comply with the following among others:

- i. The Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) shall complete the underground sewage system for the unsewered area and to ensure that the untreated sewage presently let into nearby land and water bodies shall be stopped and to ensure 100% treatment of sewage.
- ii. The CMWSSB shall comply with the above directions within the time period specified therein. Otherwise board shall impose Environmental Compensation as per CPCB guidelines.

5. It is submitted that the Hon'ble NGT may direct the CMWSSB to devise a detailed plan for the implementation of the above scheme immediately so as to stop the contamination caused to Velachery lake due to disposal of untreated sewage from unsewered area nearby.

J. Prasad
22/10/22

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

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

J. Josephine Sahayarani
20/10/2024

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

VERIFICATION

I, J. Josephine Sahayarani, Daughter of Thiru. Jesu Rajan, working as Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai-600 032, do hereby verify that the contents of above report are true to the best of my knowledge through records.

J. Josephine Sahayarani
20/10/2024

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

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

**Original Application No. 102 of 2021
&
Original Application No.02 of 2020**

S. Kumaaradasan Vice President
Velachery Eri Pathukappu Iyakkam,
Velachery, Chennai.

...Applicant

Versus

The Govt. of Tamil Nadu,
Rep. by its Chief Secreary,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 009 & ors.

...Respondents

With

Tribunal on its own motion Suo Motu
based on the newsitem published in
Dinamalar
Newspaper, " Velachery lake-full due to
Monsoon"
Plea for preventing sewage waste get
mixed in the lake.

Versus

The Govt. of Tamil Nadu,
Rep. by its Chief Secreary,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 009 & ors.

... Respondents

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

Advocate for Respondent: TNPCB
Thiru. Sai Sathyjith
Advocate, Chennai.

Date: 22.10.2021

Date of Hearing: 18.11.2021

