

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

(Through Video Conference)

Original Application No. 107 of 2023(SZ)

IN THE MATTER OF

Tribunal on its own motion Suo Motu based on the news item published in The New Indian Express, dt. 09.08.2023, under the caption "Huge pollution risk in 8 Km around NLC" and in The Times of India, Chennai Edition dt. 09.08.2023 under the caption "Water near NLC full of Mercury".

... Suo Motu

And

The Managing Director,  
NLC India Limited,  
Chennai and Ors.

... Respondent(s)

**REPORT FILED BY THE 6<sup>th</sup> RESPONDENT**

I, K.Uma, D/o. R.Kaliyaperumal aged about 54 years, working as Superintending Engineer (WT&T) , CMWSSB having office at No.1 Pumping Station Road, Chindadripet, Chennai 600002 do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:-

01. I am the Superintending Engineer (WT&T), CMWSSB of 6<sup>th</sup> Respondent and filing this report on behalf of the 6<sup>th</sup> Respondent herein as I am well acquainted with the facts of the case.

02. The Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) is supplying around 1040 MLD of treated water at present to Chennai city, out of which, around 175 MLD is supplied by drawing the raw water from various sources in Cuddalore District of Tamil Nadu viz. Veeranam lake, NLC Mine-1A , Paravanar river and Deep Bore wells in the Neyveli Aquifer.

  
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (Veeranam)  
C.M.W.S.S. Board  
No.1 Pumping Station Road  
Chindadripet, Chennai - 600002

  
Superintending Engineer (WT&T),  
C.M.W.S.S. Board,  
Pumping Station Road,  
Chennai-600 002.

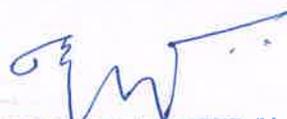
03. As the current storage of Veeranam lake is less than its full storage, the Veeranam lake drawal is now maintained at around 130 MLD of the total supply of 175 MLD and the remaining 45 MLD is drawn totally from other supplementary sources in Cuddalore District viz.

- a) From NLC Mine-1A through a Pump house located outside the Mine
- b) From Paravanar river through a pump house located on the down stream of Wallajah lake and
- c) From Deep Bore wells provided in Neyveli Aquifer.

04. The raw water drawn from all these sources in Cuddalore District are conveyed to the Vadakuthu Water Treatment Plant of CMWSSB where the raw water from all the sources are mixed and treatment process chemicals such as Alum, Chlorine and Lime are being dosed as per requirements. The chemical mixed water is routed through the Static Mixer to clarifloculators. In the clarifloculators, flocks formed absorbs most of the suspended particles present in the raw water and settles as sludge in the bottom and the same will be removed at frequent intervals. The clarified water from clarifloculator passes through the Rapid Gravity Sand filter beds available at WTP and each bed comprises of various size of pebbles and sand media of required size. Filtration is a process for separating the colloidal impurities.. The clear treated water from the filter beds is collected in Clear water reservoir and pumped to Chennai city.

05. The Vadakuthu water Treatment Plant is equipped with a Testing Laboratory with all facilities and equipments and the water sample at each and every stage of the Treatment process is tested on hourly basis by experienced Chemists to ensure the required standards. The clear water treated at the Vadakuthu Water Treatment Plant conforms to drinking water standards as per IS 10500/2012..

06. The treated water sample from the Vadakuthu Water Treatment Plant of CMWSSB was also tested on 29.01.2023 at a NABL accredited and CPCB recognized Laboratory viz. M/s.Chennai Testing Laboratory, Guindy, Chennai for complete chemical and biological Analysis. From the test report received from M/s.Chennai Testing Laboratory, it was seen that the Mercury as Hg in tested treated water sample is below 0.001 mg/l as against the requirement (acceptable limit) of 0.001 mg/l (Max.) as per IS 10500/2012 and hence it is confirmed that the water supplied from the Vadakuthu Water Treatment Plant of CMWSSB in Cuddalore Distict to Chennai city meets the drinking water standards as per IS 10500/2012 and is safe.

  
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (Veeranam)  
C.M.W.S.S. Board  
No.1 Pumping Station Road,  
Chindadripet, Chennai - 600 002

  
Superintending Engineer (WT&T),  
C.M.W.S.S. Board,  
Pumping Station Road,  
Chennai-600 002.

07. It is submitted that the water drawn by CMWSSB from all the sources in Cuddalore District including sources of NLCIL were not supplied directly and is treated as per established standards and supplied to Chennai city as safe drinking water.

08. It is therefore prayed that , this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to accept the above response on behalf of the 6<sup>th</sup> Respondent and thus render Justice.



Superintending Engineer (WT&T),  
C.M.W.S.S. Board,  
Pumping Station Road,  
Chennai-600 002.

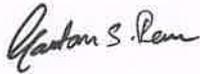
Solemnly affirmed at Chennai on this  
the 25<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2023 and  
signed his name in my presence

] ]

Before me



EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (Veeranam)  
C.M.W.S.S. Board  
No.1 Pumping Station Road,  
Chindadripet, Chennai - 600



COUNSEL FOR 6<sup>th</sup> RESPONDENT



ADVOCATE : CHENNAI

I. Polence Samuel.  
57, LC, MHC, CH-104

Before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal  
Southern Zone, Chennai.

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REPORT FILED BY THE 6<sup>th</sup> RESPONDENT  
(CMWSSB)

Advocate :: Chennai.

GAUTHAM S RAMAN  
Counsel for 6<sup>th</sup> Respondent