

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

APPLICATION No. 112 OF 2020 (SZ)

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU
Based on the News Item in Tamil Newspaper
Dinamalar Chennai Edition dated 13.07.2010,
"Delay in starting the Cultivation due to
Non-maintenance of Uyyakondan Canal"

...APPLICANT

VERSUS

The Principal Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department,
Chennai – 600 009
Chennai – 600 009
& 5 others

...RESPONDENTS

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IN THE MATTER OF:

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Versus

1. The Principal Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai – 600 009.
2. The Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,
Department of Environment,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 009.
3. Engineer in Chief (Water Resources Organization)
and Chief Engineer (General)
Public Works Department,
Chepauk, Chennai – 600 005.
4. The Chairman,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
No.76, Anna Salai, Guindy,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 032.
5. The District Collector,
Tiruchirappalli District,
District Collector Office, Thiruchirappalli – 620 001.
6. Tiruchirappalli City Municipal Corporation,
Rep. by its Commissioner,
58, Bharathidasan Salai,
Opp. Campion School Cantonment,
Tiruchirappalli 620 001.

...Respondent(s)

**STATUS REPORT AND ACTION PLAN
SUBMITTED BY THE 6TH RESPONDENT**

I, , S.Sivassubramanian, Son of Mr. Subbiah, Hindu, aged about 57 years, presently holding the post of the Commissioner/Special Officer, Trichy Corporation, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:-

1. I state that I am the Commissioner of Tiruchirapalli Corporation, the 6th Respondent herein and as such I am well acquainted with the facts of the case from available records.

2. I humbly submit that this Hon'ble National Green Tribunal has taken cognizance Suo-Moto based on a news item published in the Tamil daily "Dinamalar - Chennai Edition" dated 13.07.2020 under the heading "**Delay in starting the Cultivation due to non-maintenance of Uyyakondan Canal**" and registered a case in Original Application No. 112 of 2020 (SZ).

3. I humbly submit that this Hon'ble Tribunal in its order dated 24.07.2020 has admitted the above case and appointed a Joint Committee to inspect the area in question and submit a factual and action taken report.

4. I humbly submit that in compliance of the direction of this Hon'ble Tribunal, a Joint committee has been constituted in its meeting held on 04.09.2020 with the following committee members:

- i.** Revenue Divisional officer, Trichy,
- ii.** Superintending Engineer, PWD/WRD, Middle Cauvery Basin Circle, Trichy,
- iii.** District Environmental Engineer, TNPCB, Trichy, and
- iv.** City Engineer, Tiruchirapalli City Corporation

5. I humbly submit that the Joint Committee has conducted a joint inspection on 05.09.2020 and 08.09.2020 and filed its report before this Hon'ble Tribunal. This Respondent is also a member of the Joint Committee, has submitted the present status of the projects which are under progress along with necessary documents, to the members of the Joint Committee and the same was also a part of the Report. However, this Hon'ble Tribunal has specifically directed this Respondent to file the present status and time line in respect of the projects, hence this Respondent filling the present status report.

6. I humbly submit that the Report submitted by the Joint Committee may be treated as part and parcel of this Status Report.

7. I respectfully submit that the Uyyakondan canal was built by the Great King Raja Raja Chozhan for the purpose of irrigation of 32742 acres including 36 no's of Tanks indirectly in Tiruchirapalli and Thanjavur District. The Canal is taking off from the River Cauvery with an open head at 171 KM from Mettur reservoir on the right side of river Cauvery. The actual head is situated at Pettavaithalai village in Srirangam Taluk. It has got a long length of leading canal running along the right margin of Cauvery and at km 2.83 and the head sluice was constructed in the year 1932. The main canal runs for a length of 70 km and tails into Valavanthankottai tank situated in Valavanthankottai village in Trichy Taluk. The Uyyakondan canal from LS 16/4 to 21/4 miles (26.54 Km to 34.59km) runs within the limit of Tiruchirapalli City Corporation.

8. I humbly submit that in the year 1937 a new extension canal formed from Valavanthankottai to Santhan eri covering a length of 7 miles 6 furlongs and 480 feet. This extension canal was intended to supply 13 rain fed tanks one in Trichy District and 12 in Tanjore District. Subsequent to the above in the year 1951 a second extension canal was sanctioned and executed for a length 1 mile and 2 furlong Santhan Eri to Sayakudi Eri and the IIIrd Extension Canal for a length of 1 mile and 1 furlong from Sayakudi Eri to Serandi Eri.

9. I humbly submit that when the South Bank Canal was excavated and Kattalai Bed Regulator was constructed in the year 1934 - 1935 all korambu canals below Kattalai Bed Regulator upto Uyyakondan head from Pettavaithalai in Srirangam Taluk on the right side of Cauvery has been shifted to South Bank Canal and the required supply to Uyyakondan was drawn at head in South Bank Canal and let down at the tail drop in South Bank Canal into Kulithalai Kattuvari which joins with the leading canal of Uyyakondan just above the head sluice a surplus escape was also constructed to facilitate letting out into Cauvery.

10. I humbly submit that Uyyakondan Channel runs admittedly 8 Km within the limits of Tiruchirappalli City Corporation comprising of K-Abishekapuram Zone, Ponmalai Zone and Ariyamangalam Zone.

11. I humbly submit that presently, under AMRUT Phase II UGSS Project, UGD works are being executed from Puthur Weir up to Lawson's Road, near Ayyappan temple in Ponmalai Zone along the Uyyakondan channel bund side. Works are also being executed in Ariyamangalam Zone under this Project along this channel bund. The sullage from Siddha hospital and TB hospital functioning inside the Government Hospital is connected with the sewer lines running in Allithurai road and the said sewage waters were stopped from going to the Uyyakondan channel. The sewage of Maruthi Hospital and Rathina Global Hospital located near Uyyakonadan Channel is not let into the channel and they have connected it in the UGD lines of this Corporation by following the said sewage line are connected to the Panjappur sewage treatment plant in Trichy.

12. It is stated that under the Smart City development scheme a plan to revamping the existing sewage system which are commissioned during the year 1987 were found out and a detailed study has been conducted and a proposal has been submitted for carrying out the said works. The said work was technically approved under the Smart City scheme and expecting the consent from the High power committee for carrying out the works at the earliest. The said

proposal was submitted even on 21.07.2020 and will be taken on consideration within this month by the High Power Committee. Uyyakondan channel and its neighbouring areas are covered under the AMRUT PHASE-II scheme and Smart City UGSS scheme. By completing the above schemes all the areas covered under the present Trichy Corporation limits will be connected to UGD SCHEME and no untreated water will be let out in Uyyakondan channel at all the 36 points mentioned above. The work is under way in Phase-II scheme is already in the process for 9 points and balance 26 points will taken up in Smart City UGSS Scheme.

13. I humbly submit that action has been taken against the individual house hold who are not connected their sewage lines in to the exisiting UGD's. As such it was found 1627 households in and around Uyyakondan channel were letting the sewage line in to the channel.

14. I humbly submit that in the result of the action taken by the corporation out of 1627 total number of Households adjacent to the bank of Uyyakondan Channel, 1040 UGD Connections are given and 587 Public Health Notices are issued to the individual households and 163 connections which are letting into Uyyakondan Channel were closed.

15. I humbly submit that the drainage lines in that area adjacent to the Uyyakondan channel were laid more than 30 years back and are now developing lots of stoppages and leakages around that area. We are maintaining that old sewage system till now and now developed scheme under AMRUT PHASE-II scheme and Smart City UGSS scheme for revamping the entire drainage and sewage system. After the completion of the above two schemes no sewage mixed water will be let in the Uyyakondan channel at any points.

16. I humbly submit that though 8 kilometers stretch of Uyyakondan channel lies within the limit of Trichy Corporation, the weeds and Hyacinth were removed then and there by the Public Works Department. Besides this action is taken against the individual

households who are letting untreated sewage into the water body by City Health Officer of Tiruchirappalli City Corporation by way of issuing notice to stop such water contamination and to get UGD connection. Action is being taken in full swing to stop the untreated sewage water into the water body by

- i. Blocking the pipes which are directly let into channel
- ii. By issuing more notices under Public Health Act
- iii. By giving UGD connections
- iv. Removing garbage from river bund using JCP and Tipper Lorry

17. I humbly submit that action is being taken against persons who are responsible for the contamination of water by issuing notices by City Health Officer of Tiruchirapalli City Corporation as listed in the enclosure. Within the limits of Golden Rock Zone, by such action taken, Ward No.46, Ponvizha Nagar Bund side – 7 Nos. – Ward No.48, Pakkali Street – 12 Nos and within the limits of Ariyamangalam Zone – Ward No.21- 15 Nos, Ward No.23, Vaikkal Mettu Street – 32 Nos. & Eda Street South Corner – 85 Nos – Ward No.22, Annai Nagar – 12 Nos. of households which are letting the waste water into the water body were found out and the same were stopped by giving connections to the UGD.

DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE:

18. I respectfully submit that in and around the channel the garbage is gathered by the Corporation staff and cleared in alternative days. The garbage's and debris gathered on the banks of the channel are removed periodically by the corporation by using JCB, Tippers and dozer vehicle. In part of AMRUT PHASE-II scheme, the said works are carried out on the banks at present also. Other than this process we are having one Micro Compost Yard in Ward No.49 Kulumikkarai, Near Alvar Thoppu for proper processing and disposal of solid wastes.

LIQUID WASTE:**(River Front Development at Uyyakondan Channel):**

19. I humbly submit that Implementation of River Front Development Project at Uyyakondan Channel is being executed at an estimated cost of Rs.17.56 Crore to prevent channel pollution. Work order was issued to M/s. PST Engineering, Namakkal on 07/01/2019 and so far 37.50% of the work has been completed. Various entertainment infrastructures such as providing No. of 3 parks in the project area in the name of Tiger Park, Peacock Park and Lotus Park are being created in the 2.1 kms stretch on both side of Uyyankondan Channel.

20. I humbly submit that after the completion of project, Tiruchirappalli people will immensely benefit from the works executed here and they will enjoy the fancy and artful structures created along with pure and natural air.

THE MAJOR COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT ARE FOLLOWS:

- i. Provision of RCC retaining wall in the project area, wherever necessary to sustain the improvements such as Walkways / Green Space / Water front.
- ii. Development of Roads on both the banks of the proposed site to improve the mobility and connectivity.
- iii. Jogging, Walking and Pedestrian pathways at the proposed site along the banks of the Channel.
- iv. Landscaping in the proposal stretch of the Channel.
- v. Parking facility for people using riverfront facilities.
- vi. Open stage with amphitheater to conduct various shows at the bank of the Channel.
- vii. Children's play area / Play Equipment.
- viii. Public Park and Green Space development.

ix. Seating arrangements for the visitors.

21. I humbly submit that to prevent the pollution at Uyyakondan channel, the Corporation decided to improve and develop the channel area under River Front Development component of Smart City Mission. The Corporation will conduct the awareness program and displaying boards to avoid throwing polluted things in the river by the public.

REGARDING DISCHARGE OF SEWAGE WATER FROM ANNAL GANDHI MEMORIAL GOVERNMENT GENERAL HOSPITAL, TIRUCHIRAPPALLI:

22. I humbly submit that the Annal Gandhi Memorial Government General Hospital, Tiruchirappalli had submitted UGD application dated 26/11/2013 with Tiruchirappalli City Corporation. A Letter dated 07/02/2014 bearing No.ROC No.E1/UGD/858, 860-865/2013 (K-Abi) was sent by the Commissioner of Tiruchirappalli City Corporation to the Dean, Annal Gandhi Memorial Government General Hospital, Tiruchirappalli calling upon to pay the necessary deposit amount and estimate and Centage Charges. It is stated in the said letter about the collection toilet outlet of two wells is being pumped out and let into the existing UGD system available at Vannarapettai Road. In many occasion the UGD systems blocked due to huge quantity of sewerage disposal from the hospital. Resulting that, the sewerage overflow through the manhole and lead into adjacent storm water drain. This storm water drain is having disposal point of nearby Uyyakondan irrigation channel and got polluted. Approximately 1,00,000/- Ltrs of water is being used for flushing in the toilets attached to the Government Hospital.

23. I humbly submit that in order to avoid pollution of Uyyakondan Channel against UGD a proposal was given to give new underground drainage connections to the entire hospital premises through a separate 200 mm dia sewer main from the existing hospital outlet to Corporation UGD sub-pumping station collection well which is located at Vayaloor Main Road at a distance of 1165 M. It results in free flow

and disposal of sewerage waste from hospital. Frequent blockage in sewer main widely reduced and Uyyakondan channel safe guard against pollution. It was also called upon necessary treatment system should be provided within the GH premises before let into Corporation main. By that time it was estimated Rs.35,95,000/- to provide UGD connection to the Government Hospital.

24. I humbly submit that the Commissioner of Tiruchirappalli City Corporation had once again issued a Letter dated 24/05/2019 bearing Roc No.UGD/858/860/2013/E1 (K-Abi) dated 24/05/2019 to the Engineer-In-Chief, Buildings- PWD Campus, Chepauk Chennai and to the Dean, Annal Gandhi stating the revised estimate prepared for Rs.86.00 Lakhs to execute the work and request to remit the amount for providing UGD connection to the Government Hospital. Farmers association have called for agitation to stop the missing of sewage water in to Cauvery River on 27.02.2020. In a effort to solve the issue a Joint Peace Committee meeting was organised by the Tiruchirappalli West Thasildhar on 25.02.2020 for the purpose of providing UGD connection to the Government Hospital.

25. I humbly submit that in the Peace Committee meeting The Deputy Thasildhar, Tiruchirappalli West, Junior Engineer of K-Abishekapuram Zone, Tiruchirappalli City Corporation, RMO and Assistant RMO from Government Hospital with other officers who had attended the meeting. In the said meeting it was resolved that Tiruchirappalli City Corporation has to provide UGD connection to the Government Hospital on payment of Rs.86 Lakhs of estimated amount. The Government Hospital authorities assured to construct a treatment plant inside the hospital premises to a cost of Rs.1.5 Crores with the help of National Health Mission and they have sent communication to that effect to the National Health Mission.

26. I humbly submit that as per the 4th resolution of Peace Committee, the wastages from Government Hospital are divided into four kinds and they have to be sent to Sengipatti at Tanjore District by the vehicle of a firm belonging to Medicane System for the purpose of

treatment. The other general wastages are being removed by Tiruchirappalli City Corporation. The wastages collected from Isolation Ward and Surgery section are discharged only after treatment. In order to install the treatment plant inside the campus of Government Hospital a request was sent to National Health Mission claiming 1.5 Crore, the estimated amount.

27. I humbly submit that the Special Officer/ Commissioner, Tiruchirappalli City Corporation had also sent a reminder to the Engineer - In - Chief, Buildings- PWD Campus, on 08/05/2020 to remit 86 Lakhs to provide UGD connection to the Government Hospital, Tiruchirappalli. Once again a reminder dated 04/09/2020 was issued to PWD calling upon to pay the estimated amount of Rs.86 lakhs for providing UGD connection to the Government Hospital, Tiruchirappalli. The Tiruchirappalli City Corporation had issued a notice dated 05/09/2020 to Government Hospital to discharge the wastage after treatment and called upon to stop the letting the wastage into the Uyyakondan Channel through the City Health Officer, Tiruchirappalli City Corporation.

28. I humbly submit that as the estimated amount is yet to be deposited and hence the UGD connection could not be provided by Tiruchirappalli City Corporation. Tiruchirappalli City Corporation has given a revised estimate for a sum of Rs.94.60 Lakhs for laying separate UGD connection to the Government Hospital. It is reported by the District Collector that the proposal was sent for approval for the above said amount to the National Health Mission.

29. I humbly submit that totally there were 36 intersection points where the sewage water is flown in to the Uyyakondan channel in the 8 kilometres stretch. Out of 36 point now One point have been closed under the AMRUT-II scheme underground drainage system viz Raja colony and Kumuli thoppu area. Twenty Six point will be curtailed in the ongoing Smart City UGSS Scheme within 31.12.2021. Eight point where the sewage line connecting to Uyyakondan channel will be stopped on completion of AMRUT-UGSS PHASE-II before 31.12.2021,

in which the work is under progress. Committee inspected at the points of SWD i.e. Storm Water Drain on the way of Uyyakondan Canal.

30. TIMELINE REPORT FOR ACTION PLAN

A. Action has taken by Health Section by issuing 471 notices to close the out let into Uyyakondan canal.

B. In consequence 38 UGD connections are given in the area within the limits of Ariyamangalam Zone.

C. The reason for the delay in providing remaining 549 Nos UGD connections to be given after revamping of main UGD pumping and distribution lines. This revamping work is doing under two heads viz. Smart City Mission and AMRUT UGSS (Phase II).

D. AMRUT UGSS Phase II work is particularly in respect of the sewerage collection system in added and left out areas of erstwhile Tiruchirapalli City Corporation. Out of the added and left out areas of erstwhile Tiruchirapalli City Corporation which are situated on the bund of Uyyakondan canal within 8 K.Ms are

- i. Lakshmipuram
- ii. Ammakulam
- iii. Seenivasapuram
- iv. Ganapathy Nagar
- v. Kamaraj Nagar.
- vi. John Nagar

E. The remaining areas in UGD Connections to be given which are under Smart City Mission are mentioned as follows

- i. Lawsons Road
- ii. Ponvizha Nagar
- iii. Pakkali Street
- iv. Pudu Reddy Street
- v. Alwarthoppu main

- vi. Alwarthoppu main
- vii. Alwarthoppu 2nd & 3rd street
- viii. Heber Road
- ix. Vaikkal Mettu Street
- x. NM Pallivasal Street
- xi. Palakakarai Service Road (East & West)
- xii. Eda Street
(North West, North East & South East points)
- xiii. Nithyanandapuram
- xiv. Irudhayapuram Thoppu Street
- xv. Mariyam Nagar
- xvi. Duraisampuram 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th street
- xvii. Dhanamani Colony
- xviii. Manalvaarithurai Road
- xix. Valluvar Nagar
- xx. Senthaneerpuram

F. As there is no UGD Main is available in the areas which are covered under AMRUT UGSS Phase II Scheme, UGD Connections are yet to be given. 451 proposed Manholes to be constructed for these areas. In which as on date 153 Manholes work is completed. Out of 11.82 K.M. length Collection Main, 2.69 KM Collection Main line is laid. Out of 2.11 K.M Pumping Main, 1.16 K.M is laid.

G. In which areas lies under hard rock areas (Control blasting) work will be executed only after getting permission of ADB as and when it requires to remove the hard rock locates in Lakshmiapuram in ward No.7, Kamaraj nagar in ward no.28 and Ganapathy puram in ward no.28. This is the reason for the delay and this hard rock removing work is being done since past six months. ***This UGD Scheme work was started on 05.04.2019 and it is targeted to complete the work on 29.07.2021.***

H. As far as Smart City Mission project for laying UGD Connections are concerned, the following are the details of the status:

| | | | |
|------|--|---|--|
| i. | Project Cost | : | Rs.214.27 Crores. |
| ii. | Project Area | : | 11.82 Sq.Km |
| iii. | No. of Wards | : | 34 Wards (18 Wards fully covered) (16 Wards partially covered) |
| iv. | No. of Lifting Stations | : | 7 |
| v. | Length of Pumping Main Replaced | : | 6.20 K.M |
| vi. | Length of Sewer Main Replaced | : | 210.00 K.M |
| vii. | No. of HSC Connections to be replaced | : | 55,155 |

I. As far as allotment of work under SMART CITY mission is concerned,

i. This project was sanctioned by Smart City High Power Sanctioning Committee on 06.11.2020. After getting the Technical sanction from the Chief Engineer, the Commissioner of Municipal Administration, Chennai, tender will be floated with necessary procedures. Time taken for the above procedure will be 90 days to clear the activity before commencing the work.

ii. After revamping the sewer main, HSC connections will be given subsequently without delay, discharges letting into the channel will be completely arrested permanently. Until that time schedule, Corporation will control the discharges and insist the public to keep the disposal into the Septic Tank. So it will take approximately 90 days to complete all the procedures to commence the work. **The period of project is 2 years.**

31. I respectfully submit that this Respondent is taking earnest steps to protect the water body situated within its jurisdiction without any default and complying with the environmental rules in letter and spirit and without any default.

Under the above circumstances, I humbly pray that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to record the above status report and close the present application and pass such further or other orders as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and proper in the circumstances of the case and thus render justice.

TIRUCHIRAPALLI

Dated at Chennai on this the 17th day of November, 2020


COMMISSIONER
 Tiruchirappalli City Corporation.

6TH RESPONDENT

VERIFICATION

I, S.Sivassubramanian, Son of Mr. Subbiah, Hindu, aged about 57 years, presently holding the post of the Commissioner/Special Officer, Trichy Corporation, do hereby verify that the contents of Paragraph Nos. 1 to 31 are true to the best of my knowledge and believed to be true on legal advice and that I have not suppressed any material fact.

TIRUCHIRAPALLI

Verified at Chennai on this the 17th day of November, 2020

6TH RESPONDENT


COMMISSIONER
 Tiruchirappalli City Corporation.

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