

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

**APPLICATION NO. 125 OF 2021 (SZ)**

Between

R. Balakrishnan,  
S/o. Rangarajan,  
No.296, Thillaiamman nagar,  
Lalpuram (Post), Chidambaram Taluk,  
Cuddalore District- 608 602.  
Tamilnadu.

.....Applicant

AND

1. The District Collector,  
Cuddalore District,  
Cuddalore.  
Phone No.04142-230999
2. The Sub Collector  
Chidambaram,  
Cuddalore.  
Phone No.9445000425
3. The Tahsildar,  
Chidambaram Taluk,  
Chidambaram,  
Cuddalore District.  
Phone No.04144 227866
4. The Commissioner,  
Chidambaram Municipality,  
Chidambaram 608 001  
Cuddalore District.  
Phone No.7397382200
5. The Executive Engineer,  
Public Works Department (WRO),  
Chidambaram ,  
Cuddalore District.  
Phone No.7397382200
6. The District Environment Engineer,  
Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board,  
Chidambaram,  
Cuddalore District.  
Phone No.04142 239867

  
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7. The Executive Engineer,  
Tamilnadu Water & Drainage Board,  
Cuddalore, Cuddalore District.  
Phone No.9976175357

8. The Block Development Officer,  
Kumaratchi Panchayat Union,  
Kumaratchi, Chidambaram,  
Cuddalore District-608 302

.....Respondents

**FACTUAL REPORT FILED BY COMMISSIONER CHIDAMBARAM  
MUNICIPALITY**

I, Ajitha Barvin , Daughter of Mohammed Yasin, Muslim aged about 35years, Working as Commissioner, Chidambaram Municipality, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:-

The Commissioner, Chidambaram Municipality, the 4th respondent in the above Original Application, submits the following for the consideration of the Honourable Tribunal.

**QUESTION NO. (i)** Whether the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 are being strictly implemented in Chidambaram Municipality.

**Report**

1. The Solid Waste Management Rules 2016 are being implemented in Chidambaram Municipality as detailed below.

i. Chidambaram is a Selection Grade Municipality in Cuddalore District. The town was Constituted as Municipality during 1873 and upgraded as Selection Grade in the year 1998. The extent of the town is 4.82 sq.km The town is divided into 33 wards for Administrative purpose and total number of house hold 14058. The population of the town as per 2011 census is 62153 and the present population (2021) is about 66250. The ULB has one Bus stand, an important aspect is that lord Nataraja Temple frequented by a large number of Pilgrims and Tourists is an important place in the town.

  
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ii. Total quantity of MSW generation of this town is 18.00 M.T per day with a per capita generation of 210 gms/day/person. The following activities under solid waste management are being carried out and the Bio degradable wet waste is handled through 4 Micro composting centres and 4 Onsite composting centres which are located in different parts of the town.

- Primary collection of Waste through door to door collection is being carried out.
- The wet waste are collected daily at every door step.
- The domestic and household hazardous waste such as sanitary napkins, diaper are collected daily and disposed through incinerators.
- E-waste, other hazardous waste and C & D waste collection are separately collected and disposed through the agencies handling and recycling the same.
- Animators are involved in imparting awareness and motivation to the households on source segregation through behavioural change.

iii. The municipality is collecting the Solid waste through waste collectors daily by engaging 43 permanent municipal workers and 152 out sourced workers. 21 Battery Operated Vehicle (BOV), 7 Nos of light commercial vehicles (LCV) and 34 Nos of pushcarts are being used for primary collection of waste from household. The identified 7 Nos bulk waste generators handled the wet waste themselves in their premises through own waste processing facilities as per the instruction given by the Chidambaram municipality.

## **2. Collection and transportation status.**

The following vehicles are being used based on the norms prescribed for BOVs and LCVS.

- 21 BOVs are used to 400HH/vehicle / day ( 3 trips)
- 7 LCVs are used at 1200 HH/vehicle / day (3 trips)
- 1 tipped lorry for collection of C & D waste and waste from market.

  
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### **3. Processing and disposal of Solid Waste Status.**

- Bio degradable waste is being handled, processed and converted as compost at Micro Composting Centres established with decentralized approach in 4 locations with a capacity of 3.5 TPD each, with a combined capacity of 14 TPDs.
- Recyclable dry waste which is saleable is being Sold to local recycling vendors and waste collectors are permitted to avail the monetary benefits from sale as an incentive for their efforts in ensuring the proper segregation.
- Electronic waste, rubber, tyre, tube, bottles wastes are separated at resource recovery centres (RRC) and are sold to local recycling vendors and waste Collectors and permitted to avail the monetary benefits from sale.
- Non saleable dry waste such as soiled plastic, rags, cloths, used shoes, used mattresses, pillows, rexin covers, damaged bags and other combustible materials etc., is now being transported to Ariyalur Cement industries for disposal and an agreement has been entered in this regard. As on date a total of 89 Number of Loads, 304.07 Tons have been despatched to the Cement Industries.

## **II. Allegation of encroachment into the water bodies in and around Chidambaram area as detailed in the application.**

### **Report**

i. In Chidambaram Municipal limit the joint inspection has been carried out and 94 encroachments in Omakulam tank, 71 encroachments in Nagachery kulam and 62 encroachments in Gnanaprakasam kulam were identified. All these encroachments in the above three water bodies have been evicted completely, and no encroachment exists in these waster bodies and the discharge from the encroachments are arrested completely. With regard to the encroachments in Nagachery Kulam to omakulam channel, Omakulam to Gnaprakasam Kulam channel (Ward No.5, Block No. 11,12,13, T.S.No. 867, 868, 953, 955 and 938), there are 19 encroachments identified by the town surveyor (Report and sketch enclosed). 47 encroachments are also identified by surveying the Thatchan kulam (report enclosed). Hence action is being taken to issue

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notice for eviction. These Channels and Water Bodies are under the Jurisdiction of this Respondent.

ii. Further it is also stated that alternate site have not been provided for the evicted 227 families from the above three tanks for the past two years from the date of eviction.

iii. In addition to the Covid – 19 Pandemic issue and Suomoto writ admitted by the Hon'ble High court of Madras in W.P.No. 11993/2021, it was directed not to carry out any encroachment drives till 15.07-2021 and posted the matter on 13.09.2021. As the common orders in regard to the Eviction of encroachments has been vacated the action for eviction is being taken up and eviction notices are being prepared for issue to the encroachers. After service of notices, the eviction process will be started.

iv. With respect to the discharge of untreated sewage into the water bodies, 403 houses have been identified and notices have been issued to the encroachers under T.N. Public Health Act Sections 34, 35, 36 & 41. Out of 403 houses, 172 houses are located in the temple lands/encroachment / Promboke land which are not able to get UGS House service connection. Hence necessary action has been taken to get special permission from the Govt. to provide UGS house service connection to them. Action is also being taken to connect the remaining 205 houses to UGS system to prevent discharge of untreated sewage to water bodies by issuing notices to them. So far 56 houses have been effected with UGS house Service connections and action is being taken to provide, House service connection to the remaining houses on or before 30.09.2021. Thereafter, the discharge of untreated sewage from the property tax assessed building will be completely arrested.

**IV. Compliance on the directions given by the Principal Bench of National Green Tribunal in O.A No. 606 of 2018**

The direction given by the principal bench of National Green Tribunal in O.A No. 606 of 2018 have been complied with by the Chidambaram Municipality as detailed below.

  
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## **Present status of Solid Waste Management in Chidambaram Municipality :**

The quantity of MSW generation of this town is about 18 M.T / day. The following activities under Solid Waste Management are being carried out and the Bio degradable wet waste is handled through 4 Micro Composting centres and 4 onsite composting centres which are located in different parts of the town.

### **Collection and segregation process**

The Municipality is collecting the Solid Waste through Waste collections daily through 43 Municipal permanent works and 152 out sourced workers. 21 Battery Operated Vehicle (BOV), 7 light commercial vehicle (LCV) and 34 pushcarts are being used for primary collection of waste from household. The collection of waste by bulk waste generators themselves and wet waste is being handled by them in their premises.

### **Transportation**

- 21 BOV vehicles are used at 400HH/vehicle / day (3 trips)
- 7 LCV vehicles are used at 1200 HH / vehicle / day (3 trips)
- Primary collection at door steps is being done and wastes collected are directly transported to processing centres.
- 21 BOV and 7 LCV covering 14058 households and 2623 commercial shops.
- 1 Tipper lorry for collection of C & D waste and waste from markets.

### **Processing status and disposal of Solid Waste**

- Bio degradable waste is being handled, processed and converted as compost at Micro Composting Centres established with decentralized approach in 4 locations with a capacity of 3.5 TPD each totalling 14 TPD.
- Recyclable dry waste which is saleable is being Sold to local recycling vendors and waste collectors are permitted to avail the monetary benefits from sale.

  
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- Electronic waste, rubber, tyre, tube, bottles wastes are separated at resource recovery centres (RRC) and are sold to local recycling vendors and waste Collectors are permitted to avail the monetary benefits from sale.
- Non saleable dry waste such as solid plastic, rags, cloths, used shoes, used mattresses, pillows, rexin covers, damaged bags and other combustible materials etc., is now being disposed to Ariyalur Cement industries. As set out above the total number of loads despatched as on date is 304.07 Tons 89 loads.

#### **V. Bio – Remediation of legacy waste**

#### **Revamping of dump site through Bio-mining to Recover the land at Compost yard in Chidambaram Municipality.**

The Solid Waste Collected by the Chidambaram Municipality for the past 40 years is disposed in the Compost yard of 4.48 Acres land located at C. Thandeshwaranallur. The estimated quantum of the legacy waste dumped at the compost yard as surveyed during April – 2018 was 86707 M<sup>3</sup>.

The Government of Tamil Nadu Sanctioned bio mining of 52000 m<sup>3</sup> of legacy waste dumped at compost yard in Phase – I and granted Rs. 336 lakhs for the removal of 52000 M<sup>3</sup> legacy waste. The Bio mining work was entrusted to M/s. Zigma Global Environ Solutions Private Limited, Erode and Chidambaram Municipality engaged the Centre for Environmental Studies (CES), Anna University, Chennai as consultant.

The Contract firm has completed the processing of 52000 M<sup>3</sup> of legacy waste as per the agreement condition on 05.07.2021 and the segregated fractions are disposed of as per the tender conditions and the same was duly certified by the Centre for Environmental studies (CES), Anna University, Chennai. Nearly 3 Acres of land reclaimed due to this activities. In this cleared land the Urban Forest with 3000 tree of various varieties has been planned and as on date 650 tree are already planted and the balance will be planted by 30-09-2021.

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A proposal for Bio mining of balance estimated quantity of legacy waste of 34,707 M3 at compost yard has been prepared at an estimated cost of Rs.280.00 lakhs and sent to Govt. of Tamil Nadu for sanction in Phase – II under SBM.

#### **VI. Liquid Waste Management**

Old under round sewerage system was implemented in Chidambaram town during the year 1969. Due to aging of pipes in collection system and pumping main the old UGS system had not been functioning properly. Hence it was decided to implement a new UGSS to Chidambaram town.

Providing UGSS to Chidambaram Municipality was administratively sanctioned by the Government of Tamil Nadu for an amount of Rs.7562.23 lakhs as per G.O.(D) No. 28/MA&WS (MAIII) Dept / Dated : 27.01.2014. The work was awarded to M/s. Keyem Engineering Enterprises & M/s. Pure Enviro Engineering Pvt. Ltd. The work has been completed in all respects and the scheme is put into beneficial use from 28.05.2020 and it is being maintained by TWAD Board. Under the new Scheme, 10,000 House service Connections could be given. Presently 6312 HSC have been shifted to new system as on 04-07-2021 and further 350 have been shifted as on 19-08-2021 and the remaining HSC will be shifted on or before 30.09.2021.

Since the Collection of sewerage in old system was discharged to the open drain at 3 pumping stations, necessary arrangements have been made to interlink the sewerage collected in the old system to the new sewerage pumping stations to avoid discharge of sewerage into the open drain. The interlink works have been completed. Further sewerage over flow in the old UGS System at 16 locations have been plugged to arrest the flow of sewage in to the SWD.

At present the sewages collected through Old UGSS and New UGSS in Chidambaram town is being pumped from 3 New pumping stations to the sewerage Treatment Plant at Lalpuram and the same are Treated properly and then letout as per the Pollution Control Board norms. The same is

  
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periodically inspected and the discharge parameters are being monitored by an onsite lab operated by the TWAD Board, who is carrying out the operations for the first three years. The said discharge is also tested periodically by the TNPCB and one such report is enclosed with this report.

Dated on this the 26th day of August 2021

  
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