

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

O.A. No. 125 of 2021 (SZ)

R. Balakrishnan
Cuddalore

...Applicant

-Vs-

The District Collector,
Cuddalore District &Ors

...Respondent

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

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REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENT

TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD.

I, .Josephine Sahayarani, D/o. Jesu Rajan, Christian, aged about 57 years, having my office at No.76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai-32, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

1. I am the Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai-32, and I am filing this Report on behalf of the Respondent, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and as such I am well acquainted with the facts of the case as per the records.

2. It is respectfully submitted that the Hon'ble NGT (SZ) in its order 16.03.2022 and directed inter alia that

“para 6: The State Pollution Control Board is also directed to file their further report regarding the implementation of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and functioning of the STP etc. Though it was mentioned in the report submitted by the Pollution Control Board that the work of the STP was completed, it was not clear as to whether it was made to operate. So, the Chidambaram Municipality, State Pollution Control Board, the District Collector – Cuddalore District and the Commissioner for Municipal Administration are directed to file their independent reports regarding the stage of implementation of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, completion of the UGSS and operation of the STP etc.”

J. J. Suresh
30/8/22

JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMILNADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
CHENNAI - 600 032.

3. It is respectfully submitted that the Chidambaram Municipality has a population of 66250 Nos in 33 wards. The total quantity of Municipal Solid Waste generated from the Municipal Area is 18 T/day. The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board has granted Authorisation under the Municipal Solid Waste (M&H) Rules on 11.04.2019 for processing, recycling, treatment and disposal of Municipal Solid Wastes of 18.0 MT/day, to the Chidambaram Municipality.

The Chidambaram Municipality is collecting the wastes from the households in segregated form according to the nature of the waste. The compostable organic waste is composted in 4 Nos of Micro Composting Centres (MCC) operated by the Municipality. Out of four, two MCCs are located adjacent to the Municipal Office premises, one in Rajalakshmi Nagar and another one in Vageesa Nagar, within the Municipal area. In these MCC units, the collected degradable vegetable (organic) waste is conveyed through Municipality vehicles from the Waste Collection Centres to the MCC units and shredded by a shredder machine to make the waste to smaller sizes. Then microbial culture (EM solution) is added to the shredded waste and kept in masonry tanks for about 15-20 days. The organic waste get degraded and becomes a compost manure.

The other wastes are brought to the Resource Recovery Centre (RRC) near the Municipal Office, where the plastics and other combustible materials are separately baled in a baling machine, and bundled and loaded in lorries to be transported to the cement factory (M/S. Ultra Tech Cements Ltd) at Ariyalur District, under agreement, to be used as a supplementary fuel in cement kilns. The recyclable wastes (bottles, rubber, etc.,) is kept in separate bins in the RRC and sold to recycling vendors. The above four MCCs and the Resource Recovery Centre were inspected and found that all are in operation.

4. It is further submitted that the Chidambaram Municipality has carried out the Bio-mining operation of old legacy waste dumped in the yard at Thandesanallur. Bio mining is the process of adding microbial inoculation in the legacy waste and tilting the waste for about 30 to 40 days to effect the degradation of organic materials and then to segregate the remaining materials. The Chidambaram Municipality has processed 52,000 m³ of legacy

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waste in this yard using mechanized systems and disposed the segregated materials. A remaining quantity of about 32000m³ of legacy waste is still to be biomined in the yard, for which the Municipality is in the process of getting administrative and fund approvals.

5. It is respectfully submitted that the Hon'ble NGT has passed order dt.21.07.2022 and directed inter alia that:

“ para 3: we direct the District Collector, who is 1st respondent to file a comprehensive report about completion of UGSS, providing house service connections and also status about removal of the encroachments ”.

6. It is respectfully submitted that the Chidambaram Municipality has applied and obtained consent order to establish the Sewage Treatment Plant from the TNPC Board on 07.09.2018 for treating the sewage to a capacity of 9.44 MLD. The STP is presently used to treat the sewage generated from part of the Municipal Area. For which the Chidambaram Municipality has obtained consent for discharge of 2.5 MLD treated sewage into agricultural land vide proceeding dated 20.10.2021.

7. It is further submitted that the TNPC Board has issued certain direction under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act 1986 as amended to the Commissioner of Chidambaram Municipality vide Board Proceedings dated 18.06.2021, to comply with the directions within three months. One of the directions is that “The Municipality shall complete the underground sewerage 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.”

8. It is respectfully submitted that the Report of Analysis of treated sewage samples collected from STP on 29.06.2021, 09.08.2021, 29.11.2021, 21.02.2022. 08.03.2022 reveals that all the parameters are within the standard prescribed by the Board.

9. It is respectfully submitted that direction was issued to the Chidambaram Municipality vide Board's proceeding dated 17.08.2022 to identify sewage outfalls in water bodies, divert all the sewage generated from households and convey it to the sewage treatment plant located at Lalpuram

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and to comply with the directions issued vide Board's proceeding dated 18.06.2021 (100% UGSS connection OCEMS connectivity using mobile application for transmission of STP operation data, etc.,) Also, the Directorate of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department was requested vide Board's letter dated 17.08.2022 to comply with the following:

i. Action plan shall be furnished within a month to provide UGSS in Village Panchayat around the Chidambaram Municipality area namely Usupur Panchayat, Chidambaram non municipal area (Ponnambala Nagar and Sivasakthi Nagar), Kothankudi Panchayat, Pallipadai Panchayat and Thandeswaranallur Panchayat and to install sewage treatment plants individually or jointly to treat the sewage generated from the said Village Panchayat, so as to bring the quality of treated sewage to satisfy the discharge standards prescribed by the Board.

ii. Immediate action shall be taken by the concerned local bodies to plug the sewage outfall points into water bodies in Village Panchayats around the Chidambaram Municipality by diverting the same for further treatment and for beneficial reuse.

Under the above circumstances, it is humbly prayed that this Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (Southern Zone) at Chennai may be pleased to take this Report on Record and 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. Sr. Kumar
30/8/2022

JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMILNADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
CHENNAI - 600 032.

BEFORE ME

VERIFICATION

I, .Josephine Sahayarani, D/o. Jesu Rajan, Christian, working as Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai-32, do hereby submit that the contents of the above report are verified and true to the best of my knowledge through records.

J. Sr. Kumar
30/8/2022

JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMILNADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
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**Advocate for Respondent No.
Thiru. S. Sai Sathya Jith,
Advocate, Chennai.**

Date: 02.09.2022.

Date of Hearing: 16.09.2022