

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

**Original Application No. 130 of 2021 (SZ)**

Tribunal on its own motion  
SUO MOTU- Chennai's Sanitation Workers  
live the Horrors of a broken waste disposal system"

Versus

The Chief Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,  
Government Secretariat,  
Fort St. George, Chennai,  
Tamil Nadu-600 009 and Others.

...Respondent(s)

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**Filed by  
Thiru. Sai Sathyaajith,  
Advocate, Chennai.**



BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
SOUTHERN ZONE AT CHENNAI.

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 130 of 2021(SZ)

SUO MOTU – Chennai's Sanitation  
workers live the Horrors of a broken  
waste disposal system

Vs

1. The Chief Secretary  
to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,  
Government Secretariat,  
Fort, St. George, Chennai,  
Tamil Nadu – 600 009.
2. The Principal Secretary  
to Government of Tamil Nadu  
Health and Family Welfare Department,  
Government Secretariat,  
Fort, St. George, Chennai,  
Tamil Nadu – 600 009
3. The Secretary to Government  
of Tamil Nadu, Department of Environment,  
Forests & Climate Change,  
Government Secretariat,  
Fort, St. George, Chennai,  
Tamil Nadu – 600 009.
4. Additional Chief Secretary to Govt.  
of Tamil Nadu, Municipal Administration  
and Water Supply Department,  
Government Secretariat,  
Fort, St. George, Chennai,  
Tamil Nadu – 600 009.
5. The Chairman,  
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,  
No. 76, Anna Salai, Guindy,  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 032.
6. The District Collector,  
Chennai District,  
District Collectorate Office,  
No. 62, Rajaji Salai, 4th Floor,  
Chennai – 600 001.

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23/12/2021

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

7. Greater Chennai Corporation,  
Rep. by its Commissioner,  
Ripon Building, Chennai – 600 003.
8. The Superintending Engineer,  
(Solid Waste Management),  
Greater Chennai Corporation,  
Ripon Building, Chennai – 600 003.
9. Tamil Nadu Waste Management Limited,  
Rep. by its Nodal Person,  
Tamil Nadu Waste Management Project,  
CHWTSDF Gummidipoondi  
Tiruvallur – 601 201.
- 10 G. J. Multiclave (India) Pvt. Ltd.,  
Rep by its Nodal Person,  
New No. 20, Old No. 37,  
Teachers Colony, Kamarajar Avenue,  
Adyar, Chennai – 600 020.

... Respondents

**REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> RESPONDENT -**  
**TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

I, R.Sarasavani, D/o. Raghavan, Hindu, aged about 56 years, having my office at No. 76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai -600032, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:-

1. I am the Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai and I am filing this Action Taken Report on behalf of the 5<sup>th</sup> Respondent Tamil Nadu Pollution Control 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 NGT (SZ) in its order dated 24.06.2021 directed inter alia that:

*“Para 9: The Tamil Nadu Pollution control Board (TNPCB) as well as the Commissioner, Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) are directed to submit their independent reports regarding the allegations made in the*

*Jan 23/12/2021*  
JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER  
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
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*newspaper report, steps taken by them to safe guard the interest of the sanitary workers who are engaged in such activities, the statistics showing the number of sanitary workers affected during this period and the nature of precautions taken by them to avoid spreading of the virus among sanitary workers, what is the methodology adopted by them for collection and disposal of Bio-medical waste like masks, gloves and other equipments used by COVID-19 affected patients who are undergoing treatment under home quarantine advice.*

*Para 10: The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) is also directed to file a report, as to what is the nature of action taken by them, when such incidents were brought to their notice, what is the mechanism adopted by them for checking such irregularities in implementation of Bio-medical waste in their respective area”.*

3. It is respectfully submitted that, the Hon'ble NGT in its order dt.13.09.2021 directed inter alia that:

*“ Para 6: The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board is also directed to ascertain as to whether the health care facilities, including the Government Hospitals and the Medical Colleges in Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) are having required authorization and whether they are strictly following the Bio Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016 and if not what is the nature of action taken by them in this regard so far while submitting their status report”.*

4. It is respectfully submitted that, the consent /authorization status of the health care facilities including the Government Hospitals, Medical

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 23/12/2021  
 JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER  
 TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
 No.76, MOUNT SALAI, GUNDEY,  
 CHENNAI-600 032.

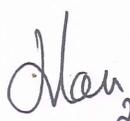
Colleges, Private healthcare facilities under the Jurisdiction of Greater Chennai Corporation is tabulated as follows:-

S.No.	Type of Health Care facility	Number of HCFs	Nos of HCFs having valid Consent/bio Medical Waste Authorization
1	No. of Govt. Bedded Hospital	25	25
2	No. of Govt. Non Bedded Hospital	95	95
3	No. of Medical college with hospitals	10	10
4	No. of Private bedded hospitals	573	573
5	No. of Private non bedded health care facilities	3537	3537
	Total HCFs under GCC	4240	4240

5. It is respectfully submitted that the said 608 Nos. of bedded health care facilities (Govt. & Private Medical College with Hospitals) have obtained consent of the Board under Water (P&CP) Act, 1974 and Air (P&CP) Act, 1981 and authorization under Bio Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016. Also 3692 Nos. of non bedded health care facilities (clinics, laboratories, diagnostic centers etc.,) have obtained one time authorization under Bio Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016.

6. It is respectfully submitted that the details of the HCFs treating COVID-19 patients in the 1 to 15 zones of the GCC is as follows:

1. No. of Govt. Bedded hospitals – 6 Numbers (Quantity of waste generated & disposed – 249.48 Kg/day approx.)
2. No. of Pvt. Bedded hospitals – 21 Numbers (Quantity of waste generated & disposed – 717 Kg/day approx.)
3. No. of Laboratories - 15 Nos (Quantity of waste generated & disposed – 199.5 Kg/day approx.)

  
 23/12/2021  
 JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER  
 TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
 No.76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,  
 CHENNAI-600 032.

7. It is further submitted that the said health care facilities have executed agreement with the Common Bio Medical Waste Facilities namely M/s. G.J. Multiclave India Pvt. Ltd., Thenmelpakkam village, Chengalpattu District and M/s. Tamil Nadu Waste Management Limited, Kinnar Village, Chengalpattu District.

8. It is respectfully submitted that the Common Bio Medical Waste Facilities namely M/s. G.J. Multiclave India Pvt. Ltd., Thenmelpakkam village, Chengalpattu District and M/s. Tamil Nadu Waste Management Limited., Kinnar Village, Chengalpattu District are collecting the bio medical wastes generated from the healthcare facilities operating in the 1 to 15 zones of the GCC. The two CBMWTFs have provided 28 Nos. of dedicated vehicles fitted with Global Position System (GPS) to collect the bio medical wastes generated from the health care facilities and also implemented the Bar Coding Systems.

9. It is respectfully submitted that the TNPCB has issued directions under section 5 of the E(P) Act, 1986 to the Directorate of Medical Education, Directorate of Medical and Rural Health Services and Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine to ensure proper segregation of COVID19 waste from general solid waste as per the CPCB guidelines on COVID19 waste management.

10. It is respectfully submitted that the district wise details on the daily generation and disposal of COVID – 19 BMW are maintained by the TNPCB and is being displayed in the TNPCB website.

11. It is respectfully submitted that the health care facilities are monitored regularly by the TNPCB and if any health care facility is found

*Har* 23/12/2021  
JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER  
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
No.76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,  
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disposing bio medical wastes other than handing over to the common bio medical waste treatment facility, action will be taken against the HCF including the levy of environmental compensation as per the CPCB guidelines.

Under the above circumstances, it is humbly prayed that this Hon'ble National Green Tribunal 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.

*dlau*  
23/12/2021  
JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER  
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
No.76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,  
CHENNAI-600 032.  
**BEFORE ME**

**VERIFICATION**

I, R.Sarasavani, D/o. Raghavan, working as Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai, do hereby verify that the contents of above report are true to the best of my knowledge through records.

*dlau*  
23/12/2021  
JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER  
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
No.76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,  
CHENNAI-600 032.

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Workers live the Horrors of a broken waste  
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...Applicant

Versus

1. The Chief Secretary to Govt. of Tamil  
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Tamil Nadu-600 009 and Others

..Respondent(s)

REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE 5<sup>th</sup>  
RESPONDENT – TAMIL NADU POLLUTION  
CONTROL BOARD

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

Date: 03.01.2022

Next date of hearing: 31.01.2022

