

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

Original Application No. 134 of 2023 (SZ)

In the matter of:

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU based on

The news item published in “Dinamalar” Newspaper dated,

31.08.2023 under the caption “Ground water polluted chemical

Effluents if MEPZ is let into Thiruneermalai Lake”

...Applicant(s)

Versus

The District Collector,

Chengalpattu and others

...Respondent(s)

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Through

Dr. D. Shanmuganathan

Standing Counsel of Tamil Nadu

National Green Tribunal

Southern Zone

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

Original Application No. 134 of 2023 (SZ)

"Tribunal on its own motion *suo motu* based on the news item published in 'Dinamalar' Newspaper dated 31.08.2023 under the caption "Groundwater polluted chemical effluents if MEPZ is let into Thiruneermalai Lake".

-versus-

1. The District Collector
Chenglpattu
2. The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board
Chennai
3. The Chief Engineer
Water Resources Department
Chennai Region, Chennai-5
4. The Development Commissioner
Madras Export Processing Zone
Chennai

.. Respondents

REPORT AFFIDAVIT FILED BY THE CHIEF ENGINEER, WATER RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT, CHENNAI REGION, CHENNAI-5

I, K.Asokan, son of Kunchithapatham , Aged 59 years, officiating as Chief Engineer, Water Resources Department (WRD), Chennai Region, Chennai having my office at PWD Campus, Chepauk, Chennai-5, do, hereby, solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

2. I am the third respondent, *suo motu* impleaded in the Original Application herein and Chief Engineer and the impugned Thiruneermalai Lake is under the maintenance control of the WRD.

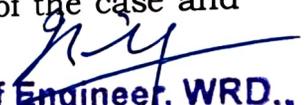
3. It is stated that this Hon'ble Tribunal has suo motu taken on file in the above Original Application based on the news report in the Dinamalar Newspaper dated 31.08.2023 wherein it has been alleged that the ground water is polluted due to the discharge of chemical effluents by the 4th respondent herein and this Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to pass orders to issue notice to the respondents herein for filing reply and the Original Application is listed on 18.10.2023 down for filing reply. It is stated in this regard that though the impugned lake is under the maintenance control of this answering respondent, the news report is about pollution of sub surface water due to the discharge of the chemical effluents by the 4th respondent.

4. Further, it is stated that the stored water in the lake is not used for any agricultural activities nor for any domestic consumption of the locality. The effect of the pollution and pollutant factors have to be tested by the 2nd respondent/Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and hence, the WRD has no locus to go into the aspects of pollution from the discharged chemical effluents by the 4th respondent.

5. Hence, the outlet points from where the discharged water is drained into the lake has to be arrested at the starting place from the origin of the outlet points which is about 1.50kms from the lake of such outlet points of the 4th respondent by the concerned local body Tambaram Corporation on receipt of the report regarding the pollution level and depollutant factors by the 2nd

respondent/Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and to prevent pollution to sub surface water in the locality.

It is, therefore, submitted that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to take on record the submissions made above with regard to the WRD and pass appropriate further orders as deemed fit in the circumstances of the case and thus render justice.


Chief Engineer, WRD.,
Chennai Region,
Chennai-5.

THIRD RESPONDENT

VERIFICATION

I, K.Asokan, son of Kunchithapatham, Chief Engineer, Water Resources Department, Chennai Region, Chennai-5, do, hereby verify that the contents of above Paragraphs are true to the best of my knowledge and are believed to be true on legal advice and that I have not suppressed any material fact.

Verified at Chennai on this the 16th Day of October, 2023.


Chief Engineer, WRD.,
Chennai Region,
Chennai-5.
THIRDRESPONDENT