

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

Original Application No.142 of 2021 (SZ)

IN THE MATTER OF :

Tribunal on its own motion – SUO MOTU
based on the News Item in the Hindu
Tamil Newspaper, Chennai Edition
Dated:6th June 2021, "Soap Factories
spoiling Agricultural Lands in the
Cauvery Delta, which has been Declared
a Protected Agricultural Zone, Farmers
worried about yields"

.....Applicant(s)

- Versus -

1. The Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,
Department of Environment,
Climate Change & Forest,
Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 009.
2. The Principal Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,
Industries Department,
Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 009.
3. The Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu,
Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department,
Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 009.
4. The Chairman,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
No.76, Anna Salai, Guindy,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 032.
5. The District Collector,
Thanjavur district,
District collectorate,
Thanjavur – 613 010.

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No.of Correction. Nil


Under Secretary to Government
Agriculture Department
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009


Deputy Secretary to Government
Agriculture Department
Secretariat, Chennai- 600 009

6. The District Collector,
Thiruvarur District,
District Collectorate,
First Floor, Thiruvarur – 610 004.
7. The District Collector,
Nagapattinam District,
District Collectorate, First floor,
Nagapattinam - 611 001.
8. The District Collector,
Mayiladuthurai district,
District Collectorate,
Mayiladuthurai.

(Impleaded as additional 8th respondent
As per Order dated 06.07.2021.)

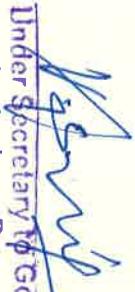
..... Respondent(s)

STATUS REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE THIRD RESPONDENT

I, R. Palanivelu, S/o. S.Ramasamy, Hindu, aged 58 years residing at No.145, 7th Cross Street, Mahalakshmi Nagar, Nandhivaram, Guduvancheri, Chengalpattu District and do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

1. I am the Deputy Secretary to Government, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department, Secretariat, Chennai – 600 009 and I have been authorised to file this Status Report on behalf of the Agricultural Production Commissioner and Secretary to Government, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department, Secretariat, Chennai - 600 009, the third respondent herein and as such I am well acquainted with the facts and circumstances of this case from the available records.

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No.of Correction. Nil


Under Secretary to Government
Agriculture Department
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009


Deputy Secretary to Government
Agriculture Department
Secretariat, Chennai. 600 009

2. The above case has been Suo Motu registered by the Hon'ble Tribunal on the basis of the newspaper report published in 'The Hindu' Tamil daily Edition, dated 06.06.2021, under the caption 'விளைநிலங்களைப் பாழாக்கும் சோப்புத் தொழிற்சாலைகள்'. The allegations made in the newspaper that the fertile of the soil has been affected considerably because of the pollution created by the soap factories thereby and the agricultural production is also affected and causing heavy loss to the farmers. Hence, the Hon'ble Tribunal in its Order dated 06.07.2021, among other things appointed a Joint Committee comprising of:-

- (1) A Senior Scientist or a Senior Officer from Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Integrated Regional Office, Chennai.
- (2) A Senior Officer or a Senior Scientist from the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCCB) as designated by its Chairman.
- (3) A Soil Scientist to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), Coimbatore preferably from Tiruchirappalli or nearby institution to these Districts.
- (4) The Joint Directors of Agricultural Departments, namely, Thanjavur, Thiruvarur, Nagapattinam and Mayiladuthurai Districts who will assess the main team, whenever they are inspecting the respective areas, so as to prepare the report by the committee appointed by the Tribunal.
- (5) The District Collectors of the above Districts were also directed to render their assistance for proper co-ordination and also for providing necessary logistics from the team to conduct the inspection and submit the report, and
- (6) The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCCB) will be the nodal agency for co-ordination and for providing necessary logistics for this purpose.


Under Secretary to Government
Agriculture Department
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009


Deputy Secretary to Government
Agriculture Department
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009

3. The Hon'ble Tribunal in its order dated 06.07.2021 among others has directed the Committee relating to Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department that to:-

"II. Ascertain the soil quality in those areas and ascertain as to whether there was any damage caused to the soil on account of any illegal activity of discharging effluents or other waste in the nearby agricultural lands and if there is any contamination caused, then, they are directed to suggest the remedial measures to restore the soil quality in that area,

V. The committee is also directed to ascertain as to whether any loss of yield has been caused to the agriculturists, whose lands have been affected and if so assess the loss of income caused to each land owner."

4. It is humbly submitted that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal among others has directed the respondents to comply with the direction and for filing their independent response regarding the allegations made in the newspaper report without delay, to comply with the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone, the Director of Agriculture has been requested to look into the matter and to send the report in this regard. Accordingly, the Director of Agriculture based on the reports furnished by the Joint Directors of Thanjavur, Thiruvarur, Nagapattinam and Mayiladuthurai submitted report on the issue of effluents of the soap factories spoiling agricultural lands located in the Cauvery Delta Protected Agricultural Zone as alleged in the Hindu daily Newspaper as follows:-

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No.of Correction. Nil


Under Secretary to Government
Agriculture Department
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009


Deputy Secretary to Government
Agriculture Department
Secretariat, Chennai- 600 009

S. No	Districts	Name of the Factories	Location	Licences Details
1	Thiruvarur	Narimanam Silicate Unit - I Narimanam Silicate Unit - II	Peruntharakudi, Koradachery Adiyakkamangalam Thiruvarur	Reg No. 33-020-11-02489 Dated.01.11.1999 Reg No.TN 25B0004930 Dated. 29.01.2020
		Diamond Silicate, Unit Premi chemical Company Pvt.,Ltd	Peruntharakudi, Koradachey Nallur, Kottur	Reg No. 33/20/05/340 Dated. 16.02.2006 Not Functioning
2	Thanjavur	M/S Maharaj Soaps Industry Pvt.,Ltd Kiran Global Chems Limited	Deepambalapuram Village, Ammapettai, Thanjavur -614401. Deepambalapuram Village, Ammapettai, Papanasam Taulk, Thanjavur -614402	Reg No.TN 22-0000680 Dated.27.08.2009 Reg No.33-021-12-04454E Dated. 04.02.2013
3	Nagapattinam	M/S Reena Silicate Industries Pvt.,Ltd Sree Jayadevi Industries (2 Units) Kiran Global Limited.	Uthamacholapuram village, Thirumarugal block Uthamacholapuram village , Thirumarugal block Narimanam village, Thirumarugal block	Reg No.TN-02-0006594 Dated.23.07.1990 Reg No.TN -02-0060974 Dated. 10.03.1988 Reg.No.TN -02-0056385 Dated.17.01.1989.
4	Mayiladuthurai	No soap factories		

5. It is also humbly submitted that till the date no allegations or grievances were received from the farmers of Cauvery Delta Protected Agricultural Zone towards effluents of Soap factories into the agricultural lands, spoiling of the land and yield crops.

6. Hence, it is prayed that the Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to accept the status report filed on behalf of the third respondent and based on

the same pass such order/further orders as deemed fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the present case in the interest of Justice.

Verification

I, R. Palanivelu, S/o. S.Ramasamy, Hindu, aged about 58 years, residing at No.145, 7th Cross Street, Mahalakshmi Nagar, Nandhivaram, Guduvancheri, Chengalpattu District and do hereby declare that aforesaid facts are true to the best of my knowledge and belief and information.

Solemnly affirmed at Chennai on this the ~~01st~~ day of November, 2021 and signed his name in my presence


Deputy Secretary to Government
Agriculture Department
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009

BEFORE ME


Under Secretary to Government
Agriculture Department
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009