

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

**Original Application No. 144 of 2021 (SZ)**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

Tribunal on its own motion-SUO MOTU Based on the News item published in the Times of India, Eenadu Newspaper Edition Dated: 15.04.2021, "Squatters gone, but Coom till a dump", The Times of India Newspaper, Chennai edition dated: 01.06.2021, "Waste is segregated, but not cleared from Coom in Otteri", the Hindu "Newspaper, Chennai edition dated: 20.06.2021, "Encroachments are back along the Coom in Chetpet."

...Applicant(s)

**Versus**

1. The Chief Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 009.
2. The Principal Secretary to Government, Public Works Department,  
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George Chennai,  
Tamil Nadu – 600 009.
3. The Additional Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu, Revenue and Disaster Management Department,  
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George Chennai,  
Tamil Nadu – 600 009.
4. The Principal Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Health and Family Welfare Department,  
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George Chennai,  
Tamil Nadu – 600 009.
5. The Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,  
Department of Environment, Climate Change & Forests, Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 009.
6. Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 009.
7. The Principal Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,  
Highways and Minor Ports Department,  
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George Chennai,  
Tamil Nadu – 600 009.

  
V.G. RAMASWAMI, B.E.,  
Superintending Engineer  
C.M.W.S.S. Board  
Chennai - 600 002.

8. Engineer in Chief (Water Resources Organisation) and  
Chief Engineer (General)  
Public Works Department, Chepauk,  
Chennai – 600 005.
9. The Chairman,  
Tamil Nadu Pollution control Board, No. 76,  
Anna Salai, Guindy, Chennai, Tamil Nadu –  
600 032.
10. The Member Secretary,  
Chennai Rivers Restoration Trust, 6.103,  
Dr. D.G. S. Dinakaran Salai,  
Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai – 600 028.
11. Tamil Nadu Highways Department, Rep.  
by its Director General,  
No. 76, Sardar Patel Road, Guindy,  
Chennai – 600 025.
12. Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board,  
Rep. by its Managing Director, No. 1,  
Pumping Station Road, Chintadripet,  
Chennai – 600 031.
13. The District Collector,  
Chennai District,  
District Collectorate Office, No. 62,  
Rajaji Salai, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Chennai –  
600 001.
14. Greater Chennai Corporation, Rep.  
by its Commissioner, Ripon  
Building,  
Chennai 600 003. .... Respondent(s)



V.G. RAMASWAMI, D.E.,  
Superintending Engineer  
C.M.W.S.S. Board  
Chennai - 600 002.

## INDEPENDENT REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF CMWSS BOARD

I, V.G. Ramaswami S/o. V. Guruswami, Hindu, aged 58 years working as Superintending Engineer (Central/ Co-ord) of Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board having office at 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Urban Administrative Building, MRC Nagar, Chennai 600 028 do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

1. I am the Superintending Engineer (Central/ Co-ordination) of the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board and as such I am well acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case.
2. I am filing this status report on behalf of the Managing Director, Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board, Chennai – 28, as per the orders issued by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Chennai on 07.07.2021.
3. I hereby submit the status of works carried out by Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board for the mitigation of sewage outfalls into Coovum river in Chennai city. The progress of works are detailed below:

### Integrated Coovum River Eco – Restoration Project:

CMWSSB has taken up the implementation of 14 sub-projects. The work components consists of 9 nos of Interception & Diversion arrangements along the river and 3 nos of Modular Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) for treatment of the diverted Sewage at College Road, Chetpet, Nungambakkam and Maduravoyal, one 10 MLD Sewage Treatment Plant at Langs Garden and 1 Under Ground Sewerage Scheme (UGSS) at Nerkundram. The status of the progress of the 14 sub-projects are detailed below:

Sl. no.	Description of Work	Physical Progress of work (%)	Expected date of completion
1	Package 1 – Chintadripet	100	Completed
2	Package 2 - I & D – Chetpet	100	Completed
3	Package 3 - I & D – Nungambakkam	100	Completed
4	Package 4 - I & D - Metha Nagar	84	30.09.2021
5	Package 5 - I & D - Anna Nagar	100	Completed

  
V.G. RAMASWAMI  
Superintending Engineer  
C.M.W.S.S.B. Board  
Chennai - 600 002.

Sl. no.	Description of Work	Physical Progress of work (%)	Expected date of completion
6	Package 6 - I & D - Langs Garden Road	77	30.09.2021
7	Package 7 - I & D - South Coom River Road	74	30.09.2021
8	Package 8 - I & D - Aminjikarai	100	Completed
9	Package 10 - I & D - Anna Nagar	100	Completed
10	Package 11 - Modular STP - College Road, Chetpet	95	31.08.2021. Testing and Trail operations commenced
11	Package 12 - Modular STP - Nungambakkam	65	31.12.2021
12	Package 13 - Modular STP - Maduravoyal	14	31.12.2021
13	Package 14 - Modular STP - TTUF at Langs Garden	30	16.05.2022
14	Package 15 - UGSS - Nerkundram	32	30.06.2022

On completion of the above works, 37 nos of Sewage Outfalls into River Coom will be plugged by CMWSSB.

CMWSSB has taken up the Under Ground Sewerage Scheme to Nerkundram through which the outfalls from Nerkundram will be arrested on providing Sewerage Connection through "IllamthorumInnaippu Scheme". This scheme will be completed in 2023.

Apart from the above outfalls, based on the instructions from the Chief Secretary, a Joint committee comprising of officials from CMWSSB, PWD, GCC, DTP, CMA and CRRT, inspected the outfalls into River Coom from Paruthipattu to its mouth and identified 81 nos of additional outfalls carrying sewage.

CMWSSB, for the identified 61 nos of additional outfalls within Chennai city, is in the process of preparing Interception and Diversion proposals to the nearest collection system / Sewage Pumping Stations as a short term measure and permanent Infrastructure Strengthening as long term measures. The DPRs for the short term proposals in River Coom are planned to be completed in a phased manner by December 2021 and permanent long term measures by August 2022.

  
**V.G.RAMASWAMI. B.E.,**  
 Superintending Engineer  
 C.M.W.S.S.Board  
 Chennai - 600 002.

On availing necessary funding from the Government, all these mitigation works will be completed by 2025. Due to site constraints for proposals for drains of Cooum river, CMWSSB is in the process of revising the DPRs. The revision of the DPRs will be completed by March 2022. On completion of the DPRs, necessary funding will be obtained and all the works will be completed by 2025.

With respect to allegation raised about obtaining NOC from PWD, it is mentioned that letter as enclosed in the annexure has been issued by the Chief Engineer, Water Resource department, Chennai region, Chepauk, Chennai-05 on 26.06.2019, stating clearly that the permission is accorded for the construction of sewage treatment plant in Spur tank road, Chetpet and also it is mentioned that letting of treated water into cooum river from CMWSSB STP can be periodically inspected by TNPCB as required.

Further in connection with the allegation raised about **obtaining consent to establish to operate Modular STP's**, it is submitted that CMWSSB have put forward **offline** application for obtaining CTE for Modular STP at spur tank road on 24.9.2019 and the same had been acknowledged by TNPCB. Subsequently based on the instructions, **Online application** with necessary approved documents had been submitted to TNPCB on 16.12.2019 and respective claim for obtaining CTE had been paid completely by CMWSSB along with necessary documents. At present, application for obtaining CTE is placed to TNPCB for sanctioning.

The action taken by CMWSS Board for the mitigation of Sewage Outfalls for prevention of pollution of Cooum river and the status of the ongoing works is hereby submitted before the Hon'ble Green Tribunal for consideration.

Solemnly affirmed at Chennai  
on this 27 day of August 2021 and  
Signed his name in my presence

  
V.G. RAMASWAMI, B.E.,  
Superintending Engineer  
C.M.W.S.S. Board  
Chennai - 600 002.

Before me

10y.  
K. GOPI

Advocate E.No. 702/2006,  
16 Law Chambers,  
High Court Buildings,  
Chennai - 104.

Before the National Green Tribunal (Southern Zone)

Chennai,

O.A.No.144 of 2021 (SZ)

Tribunal on its own motion-SUO MOTU Based on the News item published in the Times of India, Eenadu Newspaper Edition Dated: 15.04.2021, "Squatters gone, but Coom till a dump", The Times of India Newspaper, Chennai edition dated: 01.06.2021, "Waste is segregated, but not cleared from Coom in Otteri", the Hindu "Newspaper, Chennai dition dated: 20.06.2021, "Encroachments are back along the Coom in Chetpet."

:Applicant

Vs.

Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply  
and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB)  
represented by its Managing  
Director, Santhome Road,  
MRC Nagar, Chennai – 28.

:Respondent

REPORT FILED BY 12TH RESPONDENT

G.JANAKIRAMAN

Counsel for 12th Respondent