

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

Original Application No. 15 of 2021 (SZ)

Tribunal on its own motion-SUO MOTU
Based on the News item in the Hindu
English Newspaper dated:05.01.2021,
& In Dinamalar Tamil Newspaper
dt: 05.01.2021, "White foam Observed
in Cooum stretch near Napier Bridge"

... Applicant(s)

Versus

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

...Respondent(s)

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Advocate for the Respondent: TNPCB

Tr. S. Sai Sathya Jith,

Advocate, Chennai

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

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

...Respondent(s)

REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE 6TH RESPONDENT
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD.

I, J. Josephine Sahayarani, D/o Jesu Rajan, Christian, aged about 58 years,
having my office at 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 (TNPCB), Chennai – 32, and filing this Report on behalf of the 5th Respondent
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) and as such I am well acquainted with
the facts of the case from the records.

2. It is respectfully submitted that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ),
Chennai in its order dated 17.02.2022 has directed inter alia as follows:

J. Josephine Sahayarani
28/1/2022

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

“The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) and other respondents are also having their responsibility to protect the aquatic life as well as equally protecting the life of human beings. If the foam is not caused on account of any industrial waste, but due to untreated sewage is being letting into the river resulting in generation of ‘Algal Blooms’ which is likely to create such foam which may have impact on the environment as such. These aspects will have to be considered by the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) while evolving a policy for the purpose of having a proper drainage and treatment system. Any delay in implementing such project will result in more and more damage to the environment and they are expected to look into the temporary measures to avoid such things and also to evolve such mechanism to restrict the detergents that are being used in soaps and other washing materials, so that the number of chemicals or other materials available in the system are reduced to impact the environment.

The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board also expected to come with some solution in this regard.

The joint committee and the regulators are directed to come with independent reports on the basis of the newspaper reports mentioned above and submit the reports to this Tribunal on or before 17.03.2022.”

3. It is respectfully submitted that the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) vide proceedings dated 04.12.2019 has issued directions to the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) to take immediate action to connect the unsewered wards located on the banks of River Adyar to Underground Sewerage System (UGSS) and shall take necessary action to install Tertiary Treatment Plant comprising RO system to the STPs located at Nesapakkam and explore the possibility of reusing the RO permeate for industrial purpose and to convey and dispose the RO reject directly into sea after conducting the marine impact study through reputed institution to curtail the discharge of sewage into River Adyar.

Further, the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) has again issued directions on 16.03.2021 to the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board (CMWSSB), CMA, DTP, Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department and Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicines on the installation of

J. S. Srinivasan
20/1/22

JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
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Online Continuous Effluent Monitoring system (OCEMS) and using of mobile based application on STP monitoring towards the compliance of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) directions dated 15.02.2021.

The 15 sub-projects with work components including the construction of 10 nos of Interception & Diversion arrangement along the river, 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 are being implemented by the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) under the Chennai River Restoration project of CRRT in compliance with the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Principal Bench, New Delhi in its order dated 13.02.2019 in case No. O.A.556 to 559 of 2018.

4. It is respectfully submitted that the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board has issued the following directions to the Common STPs coming under the jurisdiction of Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) on 18.06.2021 and 22.10.2021 in order improve and protect water quality in river Cooum and Adyar River.

- i. The CMWSSB shall ensure that the existing 13 STPs with existing treatment capacity of 745 MLD shall be utilized to the fullest capacity and ensure that there is no under utilization of existing capacity (capacity utilized is 579.06 MLD and 165.94 MLD remains underutilized)
- ii. The CMWSSB 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.

J. S. Kumar
28/1/22

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

- iii. The CMWSSB shall take necessary action to operate and maintain the STPs to ensure that the sewage from the assigned area is treated in the STPs and no bypass of sewage shall take place.
- iv. The CMWSSB shall expedite the process of sewer connection, construction, completion and commissioning of under construction STPs so as to bring them into operation
- v. The CMWSSB shall furnish time bound plan of action and show the progress made in the construction of proposed STPs so as to bring them into operation.
- vi. As per CPCB guidelines for utilisation of treated effluent in irrigation, the treated effluent should meet the norms prescribed for irrigation under Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986/Consent. The effluent should also conform to Total Dissolved Solid (TDS)- 2100 mg/l and Sodium Adsorption Ratio (SAR)- preferably less than 18 but not more than 26, depending on soil/crop type, besides meeting any other parameters suggested by agricultural scientist or agricultural university/institute in the Irrigation Management Plan (IMP)
- vii. The CMWSSB shall comply with the directions issued by TNPCB dt. 27.08.2020 regarding installation of Online Continuous Effluent Monitoring System (OCEMS) based on the CPCB directions dated 07.08.2020.
- viii. The CMWSSB shall comply with the letter issued by TNPCB dt. 24.11.2020 regarding using mobile application for transmission of STP operation data by STP operators on weekly basis based on the CPCB directions dated 03.11.2020
- ix. The CMWSSB shall explore the possibility of utilising the treated sewage by forming a grid so that further industrial use shall be established.

5. It is respectfully submitted that the CMWSSB vide their letter dated 18.02.2022 (Copy enclosed as Annexure – I) submitted reply to the TNPC Board's directions and

J. Aravind
20/1/22

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

from their reply it was found out that they have partially complied the directions of the TNPC Board and has stated that the same will be complied by the year 2023.

Further the Board has issued Show Cause Notice to the CMWSSB vide Board proceeding dated 26.08.2022 for letting out untreated sewage into River Adyar in Manapakkam area of GCC and Kolapakkam, Moulivakkam & Periapancheri villages of Kundrathur Panchayat Union, failing to provide reply an interim Environmental Compensation of Rs. 110 lakhs will be levied for the period from April 2020 to January 2022 for non compliance of the directions of the Hon'ble NGT order dated 02.07.2020 in O.A.No. 606 of 2018 and non compliance of the directions issued by the Board.

6. It is respectfully submitted that in this regard, the CMWSSB has furnished a reply to this office vide their letter dated 17.10.2022 (Copy enclosed as Annexure – II) and among other things stated as follows:

- i. The Under-Ground Sewerage Scheme (UGSS) in Manapakkam is under progress and so far 69% of works have been completed and Moulivakkam UGSS scheme is also under progress and so far 59% of works have been completed and both the schemes are expected to be completed by September, 2023.
- ii. The Chennai River Restoration Trust (CRRT) has taken up the works of restoration of River Adyar.
- iii. The progress of ongoing works under Adyar CRRT has been explained.
- iv. The details on progress of providing UGSS with STP for Porur, Kolapakkam, Meenambakkam (behind Airport) has also been explained.
- v. Further, the CMWSSB has requested not to levy interim Environmental Compensation against them, since CMWSSB claims that they do not let-out any sewer into the waterways in this case.

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

J. S. Kumar
28/10/2022
JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
No.76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
CHENNAI - 600 032.

7. Further, it is respectfully submitted that the white foam is a common phenomena during the monsoon season after rain, created by the agitation of sea water particularly when it contains higher concentration of dissolved organic matter and the same has also been highlighted by the Joint Committee in the report submitted to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ), Chennai. Experts say detergent residues in rivers and canals mix with the saline water and get whipped up due to the action of the winds to form foam. The study report of NCCR has also identified the disposal of untreated waste is the major sources of pollutant both in river Cooum and Adyar River.

7. It is respectfully submitted that the water quality in the river Cooum and Adyar river will be improved only if the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB), and the Greater Chennai Corporation taken immediate necessary action on complete prevention of disposal of untreated sewage either directly or indirectly in to the River Adyar and Cooum. Further the disposal of waste water in to the storm water drain by the residential and commercial area is also finally confluence with the river and Buckingham canal. Moreover the waste water drained out in to the Buckingham canal is also confluence with the River Cooum and Adyar River.

8. It is respectfully submitted that once the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) implements the directions issued by the Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board, the water quality will be improved and the formation of sea foam may be controlled nearer to the river mouth along the sea coast.

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 circumstance of this case and thus render justice.

J. Pr. Kumar
20/11/2022

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

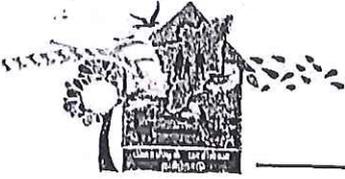
BEFORE ME

VERIFICATION

I, J. Josephine Sahayarani, D/o Jesu Rajan working as Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, having office at No. 76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai -600 032, do hereby submit that the above contents are true to the best of my knowledge and belief through records.

J. Josephine Sahayarani
20/10/2022
JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
No.76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
CHENNAI - 600 032.

JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
No. 78, Mount Salar, Guindy,
CHENNAI - 600 032



CHENNAI METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

PRINCIPAL SECRETARY/MANAGING DIRECTOR

Lr.No.CMWSSB/S.E.(C)/TNPCB & NGT/Spl 2022

dt.

18.02.2022

To
The Chairman,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board
76, Anna Salai, Guindy Industrial Estate,
Race View Colony,
Guindy, Chennai, 600032

Sir,

Sub: CMWSSB-C.E(O&M-I&II) –TNPCB-Hon'ble NGT (SZ)-O.A. No.144 of 2021(SZ)-
News item published in the Times of India, Newspaper edition dated
15.04.2021, "Squatters gone, but cooym still a dump", Times of India, Newspaper
edition, Chennai edition dated 01.06.2021, "waste is segregated, but not cleared
from coovum in Otteri, the Hindu Newspaper, Chennai dated
20.06.2021, Encroachments are back along the Coovum in Chetpet-Certain
directions under section (A) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution)
Act, 1974 as amended-ATR of CMWSSB for the proceedings issued by TNPCB
dt.18.06.2021--Reg.

Ref: 1. Proc No.T6/TNPCB/F.024985/Hon'ble NGT O.A.No.144 of 2021/W/2021
dt.28.12.2021.

2. Proc No.T6/TNPCB/F.5656/STP/2021-1 dt.18.06.2021

Kind attention is drawn to the reference 1st and 2nd cited; wherein it has been
addressed to comply with the following conditions/improvement measures,

1. The CMWSSB shall provide proper collection and transportation
arrangement for the untreated sewage discharged unauthorisedly into
Coovum River and treat the same in the near by STP so as to avoid
contamination of Coovum river water.
2. The CMWSSB shall comply with the directions issued by TNPCB vide Proc
dt.18.06.2021.

o/c

2/1/22
[Signature]

➤ Accordingly, for Point No.1 following reply is furnished:

- **For Point No.1:** It is submitted that detailed status of works towards plugging of sewage outfalls into the Coovum & Adyar river is being carried out under Coovum River Restoration works and the same has been submitted to Hon'ble NGT in OA No.144 of 2021. Further it is also informed that various works are under progress towards providing Under Ground Sewerage System (UGSS) in the unserved areas and sewer connections are being effected through Azhaithal Innaipu and Illam Thorum innaipu to the premises of Chennai city. Thereby it is informed that CMWSSB properly collect, transport and discharge the sewage through proper pumping at SPS and the same is properly treated in the STP's before letting into the river and thereby complying with the directions issued by the TNPCB.
- Various steps are being taken by CMWSSB for the mitigation of Sewage Outfalls into the rivers. On observing the work progress of the Interception and Diversion works, Under Ground Sewerage Scheme (UGSS) and Modular STPs, the proportion of impurities causing pollution to the Coovum river due to the sewage discharge is largely minimized.

➤ **For Point No. 2 :** In the Proceeding No.T6/TNPCB/F.5656/STP/2021-1 dt.18.06.2021 wherein it is mentioned to comply with the following directions under section 5 of the Environment(Protection) act,1986 as amended and following reply is furnished :

S.No	Details required	Status
1	<p>The CMWSSB shall ensure that the existing 13 STP's with existing treatment capacity of 745 MLD shall be utilized to the fullest capacity and ensure that there is no under utilization of the existing capacity (capacity utilized is 579.06 MLD; and 165.9 MLD remains unutilized).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With reference to the STP's capacity utilization under CMWSSB, the capacity 600MLD at present is utilized- Perungudi capacity 126MLD capacity utilization is 100%, Nesapakkam capacity 117 MLD capacity utilization is 88%, Kodungaiyur capacity 270MLD capacity utilization 82%, Koyambedu capacity 214 MLD capacity utilization 68%, sholinganallur capacity 18 MLD Capacity utilization is 55%. • On completion of the ongoing UGSS works for the added areas of Chennai, improvement works to collection and transmission systems including interception and diversion of outfalls, the capacity utilization of the existing STPs will be fully ensured.
2	<p>The CMWSSB shall complete the UGSS 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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMWSSB is taking action to expedite the ongoing UGSS works and also preparing DPR to unserved area to collect the sewage generated for further treatment as detailed below : • In 42 added areas of Expanded Chennai city, UGSS scheme have been completed in 17 added areas and works are under progress in 8 added areas. Tender called for 1 No of work in Madipakkam

S.No	Details required	Status
		<p><u>Details of Work under progress in 8 added areas:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing UGSS to Mugalivakkam & Ramapuram works are under progress and expected to be completed at the earliest. • Providing Comprehensive sewerage scheme to Nerkundram ; Manali, Chinnasekakdu, Karambakkam and Manapakkam works are under progress and on completion of works sewage collected from Karambakkam & Nerkundram will be conveyed to Koyambedu STP; Manappakm will be conveyed to Nesapakkam STP; Manali and Chinnasekkadu to Kodungaiyur STP and the works are expected to be completed at an earliest • Providing UGSS to Perungudi and Commisioning of 54 MLD STP at Shollinganallur works are under progress and will be completed at an early date • Providing UGSS scheme to Pallikaranai, Shollinganallur and Karapakkam works are under progress and will be completed at an early date <p><u>Tender called for: In one added area-</u> <u>Madipakkam:</u>AS has been accorded for Implementation of UGSS for Madipakkam vide G.O. (MS) No.23 MA&WS Dept.Dated31.01.2022.Tenders have been called for</p>

S.No	Details required	Status
		<p>this work by fixing due date on 10.03.2022</p> <p><u>Preparation of DPR in 16 added areas:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of DPR have been completed for balance 16 added areas of Chennai city. Viz. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) Kottivakkam, ii) Pallavakkam, iii) Neelankarai, iv) Uthandi, v) Semmenchery, vi) Nandambakkam, vii) Puzhal, viii) Mathur, ix) Vadaperumbakkam , x) Theeyambakkam, xi) Jalladampettai, xii) Injambakkam & Okkiamthoraiyapakkam, xiii) Edyanchavadi, xiv) Sadayankuppam, xv) Kadapakkam and xvi) Left out streets of Madhavaram. • The DPRs have been forwarded to the Government for according Administrative sanction on 01.01.2022. • The proposal/DPR has also been forwarded to TUFIDCO & TNUIFSL for posting the schemes under central funds under AMRUT 2.0 and kfW respectively. Upon obtaining AS and fund tieup, works will be taken up.
3	<p>The CMWSSB shall take necessary action to operate and maintain the STP's to ensure that the sewage from the assigned area is treated in the STP's and no bypass of sewage shall take place.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The raw sewage received from the assigned area to the STP is treated and discharged as per the standards prescribed by TNPCB and there is no bypass of sewage from the assigned area

S.No	Details required	Status
4	The CMWSSB shall expedite the process of sewer connection, construction, completion and commission of under construction STP's so as to bring them into operation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CMWSSB is constructing new STPs of total capacity 350MLD (2 nos of 120MLD at Kodungaiyur, 50MLD at Nesapakkam and 60MLD at Perungudi), the above new STPs are expected to be commissioned by 2022. The rehabilitation works of the existing 7 of the 13 STPs is expected to be completed by 2023.
5	The CMWSSB shall furnish the time bound plan of action and show the progress made in the construction of proposed STP's so as to bring them into operation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CMWSSB is constructing new STPs of total capacity 350MLD (2 nos of 120MLD at Kodungaiyur, 50MLD at Nesapakkam and 60MLD at Perungudi), the above new STPs are expected to be commissioned by 2022. The rehabilitation works of the existing 7 of the 13 STPs is expected to be completed by 2023.
6	As per CPCB guideline for utilization of treated effluent in irrigation, the treated effluent should meet the norms prescribed for irrigation under environment(production) Rules, 1986/Consent. The effluent should also conform to TDS-2100 mg/l ad SAR preferably less than 18 but not more than 26, depending on soil/crop type besides meeting any others parameters suggested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The treated effluent confirms to the CPCB Guidelines but there is no demand for irrigation in the city except for gardening purposes.

S.No	Details required	Status
	by agricultural scientist or university in the Irrigation Management Plan(IMP).	
7	The CMWSSB shall comply with the directions issued by TNPCB dt.27.08.2020 regarding installation of (OCEMS) based on the CPCB directions dated 07.08.2020.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of OCEMS works as per the TNPCB directions has been taken up both for new STPs and for the existing STP under rehabilitation/ modification works. The works will get completed by 2023 for all the new and existing STPs.
8	The CMWSSB shall comply with the letter issued by TNPCB dated 24.11.2020 regarding using mobile application for transmission of STP operation data by STP operators on weekly basis based on the CPCB directions dated 03.11.2020.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The application is already shared with the STP operators and is in use for entry of STP operation data by STP operators on weekly basis based on the CPCB directions dated 03.11.2020.
9	The CMWSSB shall explore the possibility of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CMWSSB is supplying secondary treated sewage to industries M/s. CPCL, M/s.MFL&

S.No	Details required	Status
	utilizing the treated sewage by forming a grid so that further industrial use shall be established.	<p>M/s.MPL in Manali besides above CMWSSB is operating 2 nos of 45MLD capacity TTRO plants at Kodungaiyur and Koyambedu to supply TTRO water to Manali- Minjur-Sriperambudur corridor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Nos of 10MLD TTUF plant is under construction for recharge of water bodies in Porur and Perungudi. • 1 No of 10MLD TTUF plant is under construction at L.G road, Egmore for supplying treated water to the Southern Railways for wagon cleaning and gardening purposes of GCC. • Additional demand for TTRO water has been received from M/s SIPCOT and M/s TANGEDCO for which proposals are under preparation. The demand for recycled TTUF water at SIPCOT Siruseri and at One hub Industrial Estate has also been received and proposals have been submitted.

As such, the above details are furnished as the ATR for the directions mentioned in your proceeding dated 28.12.2021 for your kind information.

[Handwritten Signature]
P.S.M.D
18/2/22



025307



17

CHENNAI METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD



MANAGING DIRECTOR

Lr.No.CMWSSB/C.E (P) III/TNPCB/Manapakkam Canal/spl/2022

Dt: 17.10.2022

To

The Chairperson
Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board
76, Anna Salai, Guindy Industrial Estate
Race View Colony
Guindy, Chennai 600 032.

Sir,



Sub: CMWSSB – C.E (P) III – TNPCB – Complaint regarding discharge of untreated sewage into River Adyar behind the Chennai Airport – Show Cause Notice issued under Section 5 of Environmental Pollution Act, 1986 as amended for levying of interim Environmental Compensation – Reply furnished – Reg.

- Ref: 1. Proc.No.T6/TNPCB/F.5656/STP/2021-1, dt: 18.06.2021
2. Proc.No.T6/TNPCB/F.021393/Adayar river/2021-1, dt: 22.10.2021
3. Proc.No. T6/TNPCB/F.024985/Hon'ble NGT O.A.No.144 of 2021 / W / 2021, dt: 28.12.2021
4. Lr.No.CMWSSB/S.E (C)/TNPCB & NGT/Spl 2022, dt: 18.02.2022
5. Lr.No.CMWSSB/C.E (P) III/Manapakkam Canal/Ins. Report/2022, dt: 06.05.2022
6. Lr.No.CMWSSB/CE(P)III/SE(P) VI/Manapakkam Canal/PWD/2022, dt: 23.05.2022
7. Lr.No.CMWSSB/CE(P)III/Adyar CRRT/Manapakkam Canal/ HR&CE / 2022, dt: 22.06.2022
8. Proc.No.T6/TNPCB/F.021393/Adyar River/2021-1, dt: 26.08.2022
9. இந்தி சமய அறநிலையத்துறை கடிதம், ந.க.எண் 46731/2022/வி2, நாள்: 30.08.2022
10. Letter.No.DB/T5(3)/F.CMWSSB-Manapakkam/2022, dt: 22.09.2022.

Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board issued certain directions to CMWSSB to comply under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 vide ref 1st cited above.

TNPCB officials inspected River Adyar behind Chennai Airport, regarding complaint against the discharge of wastewater into River Adyar, on 04.10.2021. Based on the inspection, CMWSSB was again issued directions vide ref 2nd cited to prevent letting out of untreated sewage into Manapakkam Canal which drains into Adyar River and to provide Underground Sewerage Scheme to Manapakkam area of GCC.

CMWSSB sent a detailed reply to TNPCB, regarding the action taken to plug sewage outfalls into River Adyar and River Cooum, status of new STPs under construction, status of ongoing and upcoming UGS schemes in added areas of Chennai city, supply of secondary treated sewage water to industries vide ref 4th cited above.

Now, TNPCB has issued show cause notice, vide ref 8th cited, regarding the letting out of untreated sewage into River Adyar in Manapakkam area of GCC and Kolapakkam, Moulivakkam & Periapanicheri villages of Kundrathur Panchayat Union. It is also mentioned that failing to provide reply, interim Environmental Compensation of Rs. 110 lakhs, for the period of April 2020 to January 2022, for the non compliance of the directions of the Hon'ble NGT order in O.A.No.606 of 2018 dated 02.07.2020 and non compliance of the directions already issued by the Board vide proceedings dated 22.10.2021.

In this connection, it was already informed that UGS schemes are underway in Manapakkam and Mugalivakkam. Manapakkam UGS Scheme is under progress and so far 69% of works have been completed. The scheme is expected to be completed by September 2023. Likewise, under Mugalivakkam UGS Scheme, 59% of works have been completed and expected to be completed by September 2023. On completion of these works, all Households in these areas will be given House Service Connections, by which letting out of sewage into waterways in these areas will be prevented.

In this regard, it is informed that, Chennai River Restoration Trust (CRRT) has taken up the work of restoration of River Adyar from Adanur tank to river mouth near Thiru Vi Ka Bridge. CRRT Board has approved 56 sub projects of short term plan at a cost of Rs.555.46 Crores to be implemented by various implementing agencies / line department under Phase-III of Adyar River restoration origin to mouth for plugging of sewage outfalls into Adyar River. Out of 56 sub projects, 14 sub projects are to be implemented by CMWSS Board and the administrative sanction has already been accorded vide MA&WS (MC1) Department GO(MS) No.72 dated 12.07.2017 to a value of Rs. 123.19 Crores.

Of the original 14 sub projects (7 nos of Interception and Diversion works and 7 nos of Modular Sewage Treatment Plant works) prepared for the mitigation of sewage outfalls within Chennai city into River Adyar, CMWSSB has taken up 10 works, of which 7 nos of Interception and Diversion works and 3 nos of Modular STP works (1 no of Modular STP undertaken by CMWSSB for Kundrathur Town Panchayat) are under execution along River Adyar.

The progress of ongoing works under Adyar CRRT are detailed below:

Sl. no	Description of Work	Physical progress of works %	Expected date of completion
1	Package 1 - I & D - Adyar & Kotturpuram	100	Work completed
2	Package 2 - I & D - Greenways Road & Kotturpuram TNSCB	Proposal dropped. (TNSCB proposed to demolish and reconstruct new Kotturpuram slum tenements & 3 nos of SWD in Greenways avenue is carrying only rain water)	
3	Package 3 - I & D - Nandanam Extension, Turn Bulls Road & Radhakrishnapuram Slum	100	Work completed
4	Package 4 - I & D - Mambalam Canal	100	Work completed
5	Package 5 - I & D - Guindy & Ekkattuthangal	100	Work Completed
6	Package 6 - I & D - Samiyar Thottam, Jafferkhanpet & MGR Drain	100	Work completed
7	Package 7 - I & D - Nandambakkam	67	30.06.2023
8	Package 8 - Modular STP - Kotturpuram	100	Work completed
9	Package 9 - Modular STP - Mambalam Canal (P1)	Proposal dropped due to enlargement of sewer and improvement of pumping main taken up under CRRT - Phase I - Plugging of outfalls under Adyar drains project.	
10	Package 10 - Modular STP - Mambalam Canal (P2)	100	Work completed
11	Package 11 - I & D - MGR drain - Revised proposal	60	30.06.2023
12	Package 12 - Modular STP - Manapakkam	Proposal dropped due to ongoing sewerage schemes in Manapakkam and Ramapuram. For Nandambakkam UGSS, tender has been called for fixing due date as 01.11.2022.	
13	Package 13 - Modular STP - Nandambakkam		
14	Package 14 - Modular STP - Nandambakkam		
15	Package 15 - Modular STP - Kundrathur drain	Work commenced on 01.07.2022 and preliminary works are under progress.	

On completion of the above works, 39 nos of Sewage Outfalls into River Adyar within Chennai city will be plugged.

CMWSSB has completed the Under Ground Sewerage Schemes for Porur. The collected sewage from Porur has to be discharged into the terminal pumping station of Ramapuram SPS. Porur Under Ground Sewerage Scheme is under trial commissioning. At present, CMWSSB is executing the Under Ground Sewerage Schemes to Manapakkam, Ramapuram and Mugalivakkam and works are under progress. For the work of providing UGSS for Nandambakkam, tender has been called for fixing due date as 01.11.2022. On completion of these UGS schemes, CMWSSB will be providing Sewer Connections to all households of these areas, in order to prevent the unauthorized letting out of Sewage into River Adyar.

It is also informed that, CRRT appointed M/s. WAPCOS Ltd as consultant to identify sewage outfalls into drains of River Adyar. The consultant identified 20 nos of outfalls into Manapakkam canal which then drains into River Adyar. The sewage flow into these outfalls is due to domestic flow from Mugalivakkam, Kolapakkam and mainly from the residents of Manapakkam area. Out of 20 nos outfalls, 6 nos outfalls were found to be dry. The interception and diversion proposals for 14 nos outfalls along with Modular STP proposal were provided by the consultant. As the UGS schemes are in progress, it was decided that after providing HSCs, the actual flow may be assessed and the revised proposal may be taken up later.

Regarding discharge of untreated sewage into River Adyar behind airport, as per instructions of the Additional Chief Secretary to Govt, MA&WS Dept, a joint inspection was carried out by CMWSSB officials along with GCC officials on 05.05.2022. During inspection, it is noticed that 2 nos of outfalls which were reported as dry by the consultants are found to be wet. 4 nos of outfalls are found to be in dry condition and hence no action is required. 2 outfall points are inspected on both sides of Manapakkam canal at Kolapakkam from the Storm Water Drains running along Kundrathur Main Road. Discharge from third outfall point is also from Kolapakkam area. These 3 nos of outfalls fall outside city limit and don't come under the purview of CMWSSB and needs to be taken care by Kundrathur Municipality.

Out of the remaining 13 nos of outfalls, on completion of Mugalivakkam UGSS 10 nos of outfalls will be plugged and on completion of Manapakkam UGSS 3 nos of outfalls will be plugged.

The above details pertaining to Manapakkam canal along with inspection report have been submitted by CMWSSB to the Hon'ble NGT against O.A No. 41/2020 (SZ).

However, as per the instructions, it was decided to intercept and divert the flow from Manapakkam canal, at the confluence point treating the raw sewage in the Modular STP as per TNPCB norms before letting into the Adyar River, as a temporary measure. CMWSSB has requested PWD, vide ref 6th cited, to allocate the land in Survey No. 170/6, Nandambakkam village available between the bund and newly constructed compound wall portion for construction of Modular STP. But, WRD requested CMWSSB to send a detailed report with clarifications for the conditions posed and hence the proposal may be considered and for submitting the same to the Government vide ref 10th cited.

As an alternate proposal, it was also decided to construct a Sewage Pumping Station and intercept the Manapakkam canal at Manapakkam main road, Indira nagar and pump it to nearby pumping station which is under construction at Indira Nagar under Manapakkam UGS Scheme by laying pumping main of suitable size. CMWSSB also requested HR & CE dept to make necessary arrangements for alienation of land of size 10m X 8m at Manapakkam main road adjacent to Manapakkam Canal in Survey No. 426 of Manapakkam Village in Thiruperumbudur taluk belonging to Arulmigu Prasanna Vinayagar temple for construction of Sewage Pumping Station. But, HR&CE Dept informed CMWSSB that, land required cannot be allocated, stating department rules, which says, land will only be allocated if it benefits the HR&CE department vide ref 9th cited.

Meanwhile, M/s. Tamilnadu Water Investment Company Ltd (TWIC) has been appointed as the consultant by TNUIFSL, for preparation of Detailed Feasibility Report for Mitigation of Sewage Outfalls into River Adyar, River Cooum and Buckingham canal. TWIC is now carrying out the work of identifying the location of sewage outfalls and the quantity of sewage discharged into the waterways. After, TWIC submits the Detailed Feasibility Report, CMWSSB will be in a position to carry out any temporary measure to plug sewage outfalls into River Adyar in Manapakkam area.

As mentioned above, CMWSSB is undertaking necessary measures to prevent discharge of untreated sewage into River Adyar behind Chennai Airport and UGS schemes are under progress in Manapakkam and Mugalivakkam area.

Hence, it is requested that the interim Environmental Compensation may not be levied against CMWSSB, since CMWSS Board is not directly letting out any sewer into the waterways in this case.


17/10/22
Jas MANAGING DIRECTOR

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

Original Application No. 15 of 2021 (SZ)

Tribunal on its own motion-SUO MOTU
Based on the News item in the Hindu
English Newspaper dated:05.01.2021,
& In Dinamalar Tamil Newspaper
dt: 05.01.2021, "White foam Observed
in Cooum stretch near Napier Bridge"

... Applicant(s)

Versus

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

...Respondent(s)

**REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE
6TH RESPONDENT - TAMIL NADU
POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD.**

Advocate for Respondent: TNPCB
Thiru. Sai Sathyajith
Advocate, Chennai.

Date: 28.10.2022

Date of Hearing: 31.10.2022

