

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

Original Application No.171 of 2021(SZ)

IN THE MATTER OF

Tribunal on its on motion-suo motu  
based on the News item published in  
The New Sunday Express News Paper  
Edition Dated: 11.07.2021, " Illegal  
diversion of sewage into  
Storm Water Drain continues "

----- Applicant(s)

Versus

1. The Chief Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,  
Government Secretaria, Fort, St.George,  
Chennai-600 009.
2. The Additional Chief Secretary to Government,  
Public Works Department,  
Government Secretaria, Fort, St.George,  
Chennai-600 009.
3. The Principal Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu,  
Department of Environment,  
Climate Change & Forests,  
Government Secretaria, Fort, St.George,  
Chennai-600 009.
4. Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,  
Municipal Administration & Water Supply Department,  
Government Secretaria, Fort, St.George,  
Chennai-600 009.
5. The Chairman,  
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,  
No.76, Anna Salai, Guindy,  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu-60032.
6. The Member Secretary,  
Chennai Rivers Restoration Trust,  
No.6/103, Dr. D.G.S. Dinakaran Salai,  
Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai-600 028
7. Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board  
Rep. by its Managing Director,  
No.1, Pumping Station Road,  
Chintadripet, Chennai-600 031.
8. The District Collector,  
Chennai District,  
District Collectorate Office,

9. Greater Chennai Corporation,  
Rep. by its Commissioner,  
Ripon Buildings, Chennai-600 003

10. Superintending Engineer,  
SWD, CRRT & Mechanical,  
Greater Chennai Corporation,  
Ripon Buildings, Chennai-600 003

**Report submitted on behalf of the Greater Chennai Corporation, the Respondent 9 and 19.**

I, K.Vijayakumar S/o K.Karuppanan, Hindu, aged about 56 years, having office at Greater Chennai Corporation, Ripon Buildings, Chennai-600 003, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

2. I am the Superintending Engineer, SWD, CRRT & Mechanical of Greater Chennai Corporation and I am well acquainted with the facts of the case from the records and as such I am filing this affidavit on behalf of the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Respondent, the Greater Chennai Corporation.

3. I further submit that, in order to ascertain the genuineness of the allegations made in the news paper report and also the violations, as per the directions of Hon'ble Tribunal a Joint Committee was constituted Consisting of (1) a Senior Officer from the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB), (2) a Senior Officer from Chennai Rivers Restoration Trust, (3) a Senior Officer from Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board(CMWSSB) and (4) The Superintending Engineer, SWD, CRRT & Mechanical, Greater Chennai Corporation to inspect the areas which were specified in the newspaper reports and report of the constituted Joint Committee meeting is filed herewith.

4. I respectfully submit to the Hon'ble Tribunal the following facts:

(i) Inspection was carried out by,

1. Dr. R. Umayakunjaram, District Environmental Engineer, TNPCB.
2. Dr. S. Viswanathan, Environmental Specialist, CRRT.
3. R. Kandasamy, Superintending Engineer ( N.E.), CMWSSB.
4. V. Kannaian, Executive Engineer (SWD, CRRT), Greater Chennai Corporation.

Along with the department officials at Langs Garden Road, E.B. Link Road and Binny Road on 17.09,2021 and it is submitted that there is no encroachment in these stretches.

(ii) The sewage outfall near Langs Garden Road at Pudupet was plugged by Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board(CMWSSB) by attending leaks in the 300 mm dia CI pumping main from Link Road pumping station to Langs Garden pumping station.

(iii) The work of interception and diversion of sewage at EB Link Road from SWD gravity sewer system is under progress by CMWSSB and it is said to be completed by 31.10.2021.

(iv) Waste Water flow was observed in the storm water drain at Binny Road junction of EB link Road.

(v) In order to mitigate sewage out falls for prevention of pollution of river Cooum, CMWSSB official told that they are carrying out the work of interception and diversion of storm water drain to the nearest collection system/pumping station.

(vi) The interception and diversion arrangements had been proposed with weir arrangements by which any learn sewage flow will be intercepted and conveyed through interceptor pipelines to the nearest pumping station and excess flow from the storm water drain will automatically flow into the river especially during rainy seasons.

(vii) The projects under implementation by CMWSSB are as follows:

Laying of interceptors and diversion of sewage at Langs Garden from Chainage 2500-4200m left bank and allied works-Package VI

This project comprises of 30 Nos of machine holes, 855m gravity sewer main at Langs Garden road of size 600mm dia to 1200mm dia, 900m of Pumping main from Gandhi Irvin Bridge Road to Langs Garden Road pumping station. Construction of pumping station at Gandhi Irvin bridge road. The work is 90% completed and scheduled date of completion is 31.10.2021.



Superintending Engineer,  
Storm Water Drain Department  
Greater Chennai Corporation

Laying of interceptors and diversion of sewage at South Cooum Road from Chainage 4300-5400m left bank and allied works-Package VII.

This project comprises of 26 Nos of machine holes, 710m of gravity sewer main at Langs Garden road of size 500mm dia and 700mm dia, 800m of Pumping main from South Coovam river Road to Langs Garden Road pumping station, Construction of sewage pumping station at South Coovam River Road. The work is 97% completed and scheduled date of completion is 31.10.2021.

(viii) Further CMWSSB is executing the work of 10MLD sewage treatment plant at Langs Garden Road. The scheduled date of completion is 15.03.2022.

Upon completion of interception and diversion works at Langs Garden road, South Cooum river Road, construction of 10MLD sewage treatment plant at Langs Garden Road 6 Nos outfalls at Langs Garden Road 4 Nos of outfalls at South Cooum river Road will be plugged.

Mitigation of Sewage Outfalls:

The Government has accorded in Principal approval for a total project cost of Rs.2371 Crores for the Mitigation of Sewage Outfalls in the drains of River Cooum including River Adyar, and Buckingham canal and its associated drains. 46 Nos of Interception and Diversion works and 39 Nos of Infrastructure strengthening works have been proposed under Phase I for a total project cost of Rs.1001 crore covering 385 outfalls. In Phase II, long term works to cover inadequacies in the sewage infrastructure are to be addressed.

Administrative Sanction has been accorded by the Government for Rs.1001 crore vide G.O(Ms).No.107, MA & WS(MW1) Dept., dated 20.08.2019. Till date tenders have been called for 11 Nos of I & D works and 41 Nos of Infrastructure totaling Rs.755.41 Crore. Work order has been issued for 6 I & D works and 28 Infrastructure Strengthening works and these works are under progress.

5. I respectfully submit that during the year 2018, after inspecting around 37,100 premises in the city, the City Corporation had told Express

in 2018 that 461 illegal sewage connections to storm water drains had been identified and the 461 illegal sewer connections have been plugged.

6. I respectfully submit that an amendment to the Chennai City Municipal Corporation Act, 1919, for the fines for illegal connections were fixed at Rs.5,000 for ordinary (ground-two floors) residential buildings and Rs.10,000 for ordinary commercial buildings.

7. The fines for Special (ground-floors) were fixed at Rs.25,000 for residential buildings and Rs.50,000 for commercial buildings. For multi storeyed residential buildings, a fine of Rs.1 lakh is to be imposed and Rs.2 lakhs for commercial buildings.

8. Action is being taken by zonal level authorities to impose fines.

9. It is respectfully requested the Hon'ble Court may be pleased to accept the above report and pass such orders as this Hon'ble court may deem fit and proper in the circumstances of the case and thus render justice.

Solemnly affirmed and signed )  
his name in my presence on )  
this the ... <sup>26</sup>... day of )  
October, 2021. )

Superintending Engineer,  
Storm Water Management  
Greater Chennai Corporation

Before me,  
 2291/2019  
119, Addl. Law Chambers,  
High Court, Ch-104.  
Advocate, Madras.

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TRIBUNAL SOUTHERN ZONE Original Application  
No.171 of 2020 (SZ)**

**IN THE MATTER OF Tribunal on its on  
motion-suo motu based on the News  
item published in The New Sunday  
Express News Paper Edition  
Dated:11.07.2021,  
“Illegal diversion of sewage into  
Storm Water Drain continues”  
----- Petitioner**

**-Vs-**

**The Commissioner,  
Greater Chennai Corporation,  
Ripon Building, Chennai- 600003,  
and**

**The Superintending Engineer,  
SWD,CRRT & Mechanical,  
Greater Chennai Corporation,  
Ripon Buildings,  
Chennai-600003 – Respondent.**

**COUNTER AFFIDAVIT OF THE  
9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> RESPONDENT**

**Ms. P.T Ramadevi  
Counsel for Respondents**