

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

Original Application No.171 of 2021 (SZ)

IN THE MATTER OF

Tribunal on its own 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 drains continues."

...Applicant(s)

Versus

1. The Chief Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,
Government Secretariat, Fort, St. George,
Chennai- 600009.
2. The Additional Chief Secretary to
Government, Public Works Department,
Government Secretariat, Fort, St. George,
Chennai- 600009.
3. The Principal Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu,
Department of Environment,
Climate Change & Forests,
Government Secretariat, Fort,
St. George,
Chennai- 600009.
4. Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,
Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department,
Government Secretariat, Fort, St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu-600009.
5. The Chairman,
TamilNadu Pollution Control Board,
No. 76, Anna Salai, Guindy,
Chennai-600032.

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Superintending Engineer (North East)
C. M. W. S. S. Board,
Chennai-600 002.

6. The Member Secretary,
Chennai Rivers Restoration Trust,
6/103, Dr. D.G.S. Dinakaran Salai,
Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai-600028.
 7. Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board,
Rep, by its Managing Director,
No. 1, Pumping Station Road,
Chintadripet, Chennai 600031.
 8. The District Collector,
Chennai District,
District Collectorate Office,
No. 62 Rajaji Salai, 4th Floor,
Chennai-600001.
 9. Greater Chennai Corporation,
Rep, by its Commissioner,
Ripon Building,
Chennai-600003.
 10. The Superintending Engineer,
SWD, CRRT & Mechanical,
Greater Chennai Corporation,
Ripon Building,
Chennai-600003.
-Respondent(s)

STATUS REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF 7th RESPONDENT- CMWSS BOARD

I, R.Nelson Edmond, S/o. Thiru C.Rajakannu, Christian, aged 59 years working as Superintending Engineer (North East) of Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board having office at No.75, Santhome High Road, MRC Nagar, R.A.Puram Chennai - 600 028 do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

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Superintending Engineer (North East)
C. M. W. S. S. Board,
Chennai-600 002.

1. I am the Superintending Engineer (North East) of the 7th respondent, Board Office now functioning at No.75, Santhome High Road, MRC Nagar, R.A.Puram, Chennai – 600 028 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 7th respondent, 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 07.01.2022.
3. I hereby humbly submit that the independent report on behalf of 7th respondent - CMWSS Board has already been filed and the same was recorded by the Hon'ble Tribunal Court in its ordered dated 23.09.2021. While hearing this case on 07.01.2022, the Learned Board Counsel has been directed as follows :-

“ The respective departments namely, the CMWSSB, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Greater Chennai Corporation are directed to file their independent action taken and progress report for resolving the issue permanently and the nature of steps taken by them and its implementation and improvement (if any) caused on account of the steps so far taken, including the water quality and then submit a report to this Tribunal on or before 22.02.2022 by e-filing.

Accordingly, I submit the independent action taken and progress report for resolving the issue permanently and the nature of steps taken to save the Cooum river Eco system by plugging sewage let outs into Cooum river are detailed below ;

- i. I humbly submit that Joint Committee members inspected at Langs Garden road, Electricity office Link road and Binny road on 17.09.2021.

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Superintending Engineer (North East)
C. M. W. S. S. Board,
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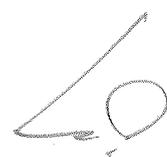
(Signature of Superintending Engineer (North East))
C. M. W. S. S. Board,
Chennai-600 002.

- ii. I submit that the sewage outfall near Langs Garden road at pudupet was plugged by CMWSSB by attending leakages in the existing 300mm ϕ CI sewage pumping main from Link road pumping station to Langs Garden pumping station.
 - iii. I submit that the work of interception and diversion of sewage at EB link road from storm water drain to gravity sewer system was completed and the sewage outfall in this storm water Drain was plugged.
 - iv. I submit that waste water flow observed in the storm water drain at Binny road junction of EB link road in the list of 61 Nos. of additional outfalls identified in Cooum River are in the process of preparing Interception and Diversion proposals to the nearest collection system / Sewage Pumping Stations for plugging of this Outfall as a short term measure and permanent Infrastructure Strengthening as long term measures. The DPRs will be prepared in phased manner. On completion of DPRs, subject will be placed before the Board for necessary approval.
- 4) With regard to the above case, I further submit the same subject of OA Nos 299 / 2013 (SZ), 164 /2014 (SZ), 164/2015 (SZ), 130/2016 (SZ) are pending before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) Chennai in order to save coastal and river eco –systems by plugging sewage let outs into Cooum, and Buckingham Canal as follows.

Integrated Cooum River Eco – Restoration Project:

CMWSSB has taken up the implementation of 15 sub-projects. The work components consists of 10 nos of Interception & Diversion arrangements along the river and 3 nos of Modular Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) for treatment of the diverted Sewage at Chetpet, Nungambakkam and Maduravoyal, one 10 MLD Sewage Treatment Plant (TTUF) at Langs Garden and 1 Under Ground Sewerage Scheme (UGSS) at Nerkundram. Work on 14 sub-projects is in progress as detailed below:

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C. M. W. S. S. Board,
Chennai-600 002.

Interceptor and Diversion works, Modular STPs and Nerkundram UGSS:

Sl. No	Description of Work	Work in Progress and %	Status of Work/Remarks
1	Interception and Diversion works :Package 1 – Chintadripet	100	Work completed.
2	Interception and Diversion works Package 2 - I & D – Chetpet	100	Work completed. To be plugged after commissioning of the Modular STP(Package XI)
3	Interception and Diversion works Package 3 - I & D – Nungambakkam	100	Work completed. To be plugged after commissioning of the Modular STP(Package XII)
4	Interception and Diversion works: Package 4 - I & D - Metha Nagar	100	Work completed.
5	Interception and Diversion works Package 5 - I & D - Anna Nagar	100	Work completed.
6	Interception and Diversion works Package 6 - I & D - Langs Garden Road	99	Trial commissioning is in progress. To be plugged after commissioning of the 10 MLD TTUF at Langs Garden road
7	Interception and Diversion works Package 7 - I & D - South Cooum River Road	99	Trial commissioning is in progress. To be plugged after commissioning of the 10 MLD TTUF at Langs Garden road
8	Interception and Diversion works Package 8 - I & D – Aminjikai	100	Work Completed.
9	Interception and Diversion works Package 9 - I & D - NSK Nagar	-	Due to encroachment and non settlement of court case, the work order is cancelled.

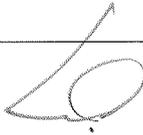
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10	Interception and Diversion works Package 10 - I & D - Anna Nagar	100	Work Completed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outfalls to be plugged- 2Nos.
11	Modular STP – Package 11 –1.0 MLD, College Road, Chetpet	99	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical work completed on 30.11.2021. • Trial operation defect rectification and performance testing are in progress and will be completed at the earliest.
12	Modular STP- Package 12 – 1.2 MLD- Nungambakkam	69.4	Work under progress status : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collection tank -64%- * Civil work completed • Control Room-66%-Work under progress • MBBR vessels 2 Nos- 85%-Fabrication work is in progress • Tube settler vessels -2 Nos 85%-Fabrication work is in progress • Filter feed tank 2 Nos- 88.5%-Fabrication in progress • Filter vessels, Chlorination and sludge system-To be started. • Electro mechanical, PLC and Instrumentation works to be started after completion of structural works. • Mechanical supplies to be received for executing the work and will be completed at the earliest.
13	Modular STPs- Package 13 –0.6 MLD – Maduravoyal		Work dropped

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14	Modular STP – Package 14 - 10 MLD TTUF at Langs Garden	41	<p>Work under progress status :</p> <p>Civil works:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admin building cum air blower (97.60%) • Raw sewage sump (86.57%) • Inlets works (92.52%);Anoxic tank (82.50%) • Aeration tank- 2Nos(37.50%)Piling completed ;Aeration(59.50%)- Raft completed; wall shuttering in progress • Secondary clarifier (93.50%);Disc filter((80.25%) • UF and Chemical house (84.75%)-Pile work completed; UV and product water sump (84.75%) • Sludge sump and centrifuge building-(50.99%) • Transformer and DG yard-To be started-2% <p>Mechanical works:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screen, MBBR media, UV disinfection and Grit mechanism supplies commenced from October. Air blower erection under progress. • Works are expected to be completed at the earliest.
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15	<p>Package 15 - UGSS – Nerkundram</p> <p>UGSS work in Nerkundram comprises of 5 zones namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zone 1: Valliammai Nagar • Zone 2: NT Patel Road • Zone 3: Janakiraman colony • Zone 4: Gangai Amman Koil • Zone 5: Ponnammallee High Road 	40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Presently Works are under progress in Zone 1, 2 and 4 and programmed to complete the entire work at the earliest. ➤ In Zone-5, Road cut permission awaited from NHAI for both zone 5 & 1. Once road cut permission obtained; work will be commenced and will be completed at the earliest. ➤ In Zone-3, enter upon permission for the construction of SPS is awaited from GCC. Once enter upon permission issued by GCC, work will be commenced and will be completed at the earliest possible time.
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On completion of the above works, 37 nos of Sewage Outfalls into River Cooum 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 Connections to households. This scheme will be completed in 2023. 'Consent to Establish (CTE)' was obtained from TNPCB for Modular STPs at Chetpet and Nungambakkam on 09.09.2021 and for TTUF at Langs Garden on 24.08.2021. The raw sewage collected will be treated in the Modular STPs and will be let out into water bodies as per TNPCB norms.

Apart from the above outfalls, a Joint committee comprising of officials from CMWSSB, PWD, GCC, DTP, CMA and CRRT, inspected the outfalls into River Cooum from Paruthipattu to its mouth and identified 81 nos of additional outfalls carrying sewage, of which, 20 nos of Outfalls are outside Chennai city. The outfalls outside city limit has to be taken care by respective Municipalities and Town Panchayats.


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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 will be prepared in phased manner. On completion of DPRs, subject will be placed before the Board for necessary approval.

Mitigation of Sewage Outfalls in Drains of Cooum and Buckingham Canal, Drains of Adyar and its Drains:

Administrative Sanction has been accorded by the Government vide G.O. (Ms) No. 107 MA&WS (MW1) Dept, dt: 20.08.2019. Till date, work Order has been issued for 6 nos of I&D works and 30 nos of Infrastructure Strengthening works amounting to Rs. 364.80 crores and works are under progress. On completion of 36 works, 19 numbers of outfalls will be plugged under the ongoing Mitigation of Sewage Outfalls - Phase I works.

As CMWSSB has already completed the comprehensive Under Ground Sewerage Schemes to Thiruvottiyur, Madhavaram, Puthagaram, Kathirvedu, Kathivakkam, Sholinganallur, Perungudi, Surapet, Karapakkam, UllagaramPuzhuthivakkam and have commenced the UGS Scheme for Ramapuram, Manapakkam, Nerkundram, Pallikaranai and Mugalivakkam, the outfalls into drains in these areas will be mitigated on providing Sewerage Connections to households.

Moreover, due to non removal of encroachments along Buckingham canal by PWD and TNUHDB, CMWSSB is not in a position to take up the Interception and Diversion proposals along B-Canal and also due to site constraints for proposals for drains of River Cooum and Adyar. Hence, CMWSSB is in process of preparing alternate proposals.

The action taken by Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board for the mitigation of Sewage Outfalls for prevention of pollution of River Cooum and Buckingham Canal and the status of the ongoing works is hereby submitted before the Hon'ble Green Tribunal for consideration. On observing the progress of the Interception and Diversion works, Under Ground Sewerage Scheme (UGSS) and Modular STPs, the proportion of impurities causing pollution to the Cooum river due to the sewage discharge is minimized.

It is therefore prayed that this Hon'ble National Green Tribunal may be pleased to accept the report and pass suitable order or orders as this Hon'ble National Green Tribunal may deem fit and thus render justice.



Superintending Engineer (North East)
C. M. W. S. S. Board,
Chennai-600 002.

Solemnly affirmed at Chennai)(
on this 21st day of February, 2022)(
and signed his name in my)(
presence.)(
)

Before me
leg E No. #02/2006
(K. Gopi)

Advocate, Chennai
No. 16, Law Chambers
High Court Building
Ch-104.
Advocate, Chennai

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...Applicant(s)

Versus

7. Chennai
Metropolitan Water
Supply and Sewerage
Board, Rep. by its
Managing Director,
No.1, Pumping
station road,
Chindadripet,
Chennai – 600 002.

**INDEPENDENT REPORT FILED ON
BEHALF OF CMWSS BOARD**

M/s. G.JANAKIRAMAN

COUNSEL FOR RESPONDENTS