

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 – 600 009.
2. The Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Public  
Works Department,  
Government Secretariat, Fort, St. George,  
Chennai – 600 009.
3. The Principal Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu,  
Department of Environment,  
Climate Change & Forests,  
Government Secretariat, Fort, St. George,  
Chennai – 600 009.
4. Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,  
Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department,  
Government Secretariat, Fort, St. George,  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 009.
5. The Chairman,  
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, No. 76,  
Anna Salai, Guindy,  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 032.

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 – 600 028.
7. Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & 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,  
No. 62 Rajaji Salai, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor,  
Chennai – 600 001.
9. Greater Chennai Corporation,  
Rep, by its Commissioner,  
Ripon Building, Chennai – 600 003.
10. The Superintending Engineer,  
SWD, CRRT & Mechanical,  
Greater Chennai Corporation,  
Ripon Building, Chennai – 600 003. ....Respondent(s)

**STATUS REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF 7<sup>th</sup> 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:

1. I am the Superintending Engineer (North East) of the 7<sup>th</sup> respondent, Board Office now functioning at No.75, Santhome High Road, MRC

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

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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 23.03.2022.

3. I hereby humbly submit that the status report on behalf of 7<sup>th</sup> respondent - CMWSS Board has already been filed and the same was recorded by the Hon'ble Tribunal Court in its ordered dated 23.03.2022. While hearing this case on 23.03.2022, the learned Board Council has directed as follows:-

.....4. *It is seen from the status report submitted by the 7th respondent that it is an integrated project dealing with protection of Cooum River, Adyar River and Buckingham Canal in respect of which O.A. No. 299 of 2013 and connected cases are considered by this Tribunal.*

5. *The report more or less replicates part of the report filed by them in that case. It is also mentioned in the report that due to non removal of encroachments along Buckingham Canal, they were not able to complete the underground sewage system in some portion of the area. Here also they have not mentioned the timeline within which the removal work will be completed. State Authorities have not filed any statement showing timeline within which the encroachments will be removed and make the area free for undertaking the work by Greater Chennai Corporation as well as the CMWSSB.*

6. *Greater Chennai Corporation, CMWSSB, PWD and District Collector are directed to file their further reports regarding the action taken by them to remove the encroachments and facilitate the other regulators to carry out their work and what is the timeline within which they may be able to complete the same.*

7. *The Pollution Control Board is also directed to ascertain the improvement made in that area on account of the works said to have been carried out by the Greater Chennai Corporation as well as CMWSSB and file a report regarding the same. We feel that this case can also be posted to the date 11 on which O.A. No. 299 of 2013 and other connected cases are posted. They are directed to file the further progress cum action*



Superintending Engineer (North East)  
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*taken report on or before 26 05 2022 by e-filing in the form of Searchable PDF/OCR Supportable PDF and not in the form of Image PDF along with necessary hardcopies to be produced as per Rules.*

8 The Registry is directed to communicate this order to all the respondents

9 For consideration of further reports, post on 26 05 2022.

Accordingly, the Action Taken Report for the removal of encroachments along Buckingham canal is submitted

- i) Nearly 11 Nos. of sewage outfalls along the Buckingham Canal has been plugged already and work is under progress for plugging around 5 Nos. of outfalls by executing various mitigation works like "Enlargement of existing sewer main", "Laying of pumping mains", "Construction of road side pumping stations" etc. Further the proposals will be prepared to plug the remaining sewage outfalls along the Buckingham Canal.
- ii) A correspondence for conducting Joint Committee meeting was sent to the office of Collector of Chennai, GCC, PWD, TNPCB, TNUHDB and CRRT on 05.04.2022.
- iii) The Joint Committee meeting was convened at the O/o.S.E(WRD) – PWD, Chepauk on 05.05.2022. The representatives from Collectorate, GCC, PWD, CMWSSB, TNPCB, CRRT and TNUHDB have participated the meeting.
- iv) Based on the discussions held during the Joint Committee meeting, a correspondence was sent to the PWD authorities and requested to establish the boundaries on both the banks of Buckingham canal and enumerate the encroachers, so as to arrive all further course of action to facilitate the state regulators to proceed with the work of plugging the outfalls.



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Upon clearing the encroachment and furnishing the boundary line by PWD, CMWSSB can formulate a method to plug the sewage outfall and may submit the timeline to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal.

I hereby submit that as the 7<sup>th</sup> respondent, CMWSSB is coordinating with the officials of Collectorate, GCC, PWD, TNPCB, CRRT and TNUHDB in identifying the outfalls and take action to prevent sewage let out into the Buckingham canal.

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

Solemnly affirmed at Chennai )  
 on this 26<sup>th</sup> day of May , 2022 )  
 and signed his name in my )  
 presence. )

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

Before me

  
 48/2021.  
 Advocate, Chennai

I. Rollence Samuel.  
 57, LC, MHC, CH - 10A.