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BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL (SOUTHERN ZONE)

CHENNAI

ORIGINAL APPLICATION No: 178 of 2021 (SZ)

Tribunal on its own motion - SUO MOTU Based on the
News item published in Dinamalar Newspaper. Chennai
Edition. Dated 19.07.2021, "Non Maintenance of Sewage
Treatment plant : People suffer from strong stench"

..... Applicant(s)

Versus

1. The Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,
Department of Environment & Forests,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu - 600 009.
2. Additional Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu.
Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu - 600 009.
3. The Chairman,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB),
No.76, Anna Salai, Guindy,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu - 600 032.
4. Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board,
Rep. by its Managing Director,
No. I, Pumping Station Road, Chintadripet,
Chennai - 600 002.

...Respondent(s)

REPORT FILED BY THE 4th RESPONDENT

I, V.A.Elumalai, S/o. P.Arumugham, Hindu, aged about 58 years now working as Area Engineer X in the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board, Chennai do here by solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows.

1. I am the Area Engineer X of the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB), Chennai and 4th Respondent herein and well acquainted with the facts of the case from the connected files.
2. I humbly submit that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone has admitted this case Suo motu based on a News item published in the Newspaper Dinamalar, Chennai Edition, dated 19.07.2021 alleging that due to improper of maintenance of the MGR Nagar Sewage Treatment plant, located near Shakthi Ganesha Temple street, MGR Nagar in ward 138 of Kodambakkam Zone, causing emanating of foul smell and hardship to the people in the locality and issued directions as follows:

The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) is directed to inspect the area in question and ascertain as to

- i) whether the Sewage Treatment Plant in question is functional or non - operational
- ii) whether it meets the standard provided, if not, what is the deficiency found
- iii) what are all the remedial measures to be taken to rectify the same
- iv) they are also directed to ascertain as to whether the treated sewage from that Sewage Treatment Plant meets the standard & criteria provided for the same.
- v) If not, what is the remedial measure to be taken by the persons who are managing the same to resolve the issue permanently
- vi) If any violation is found, regarding the consent or other permission granted, then they are directed to ascertain the violations and assess the environmental compensation payable by the violators as has been directed by the Principal Bench of National Green Tribunal in similar matters on the basis of the guidelines given by the Central Pollution Control Board.

V. A. Elumalai
26/8/2024
 Area Engineer X
 Area -X, CMWSSB,
 No.9, Muthukrishnan St,
 T.Nagar, Chennai -17.

3. I humbly submit that the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) is responsible for the Implementation and Maintenance of Water supply and Sewerage facilities in the Greater Chennai City. The city has been divided into five sewerage zones with one sewage treatment plant each. Each zone has specified nos. of sewage pumping stations for collection and disposal. The sewage generated in the city are collected and conveyed through a gravity collection system and collected at a nearest Sewage pumping Station. The collected sewage is further pumped to the Sewage Treatment plant for further treatment and safe disposal as per the standards prescribed by the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB).
4. I humbly submit that the Complaint site at MGR Nagar is an old, defunct sewage pumping station site and not a Sewage treatment plant. Due to rapid urbanization of Chennai City, core areas like West Mambalam, Saidapet, Ashok Nagar, K.K.Nagar, Nesapakkam, Vadapalani, Jafferkhanpet, Ekkaduthangal etc., have undergone exponential growth in population resulting in increased usage of water and generation of sewage in the Kodambakkam Zone, thus resulting in need of upgradation of water distribution and sewage disposal network. Accordingly, the Board has chalked out plans to improvise the above systems for better hygienic environment in the above areas. In order to enhance the conveying and disposal capacity of the sewer network, in the early 2000, under the Chennai City River Conservation Project (CCRCP) scheme, new pipe lines were laid and additional Sewage pumping stations (SPS) were constructed. During such course, a 3shift operation, 12MLD capacity Sewage Pumping Station commissioned in the year 1975 at MGR Nagar to pump the sewage collected in the above areas has been discontinued from operation in the year 2005. The entire sewage generation from various pumping station including the above MGR Nagar Pumping Station and its local generation has been diverted through a common gravity interceptor to a New HT relay Sewage Pumping station of 80MLD capacity at Nesapakkam for final disposal.

V. A. Elumalai
26/8/2024
Area Engineer X
Area -X, CMWSSB,
No.9, Muthukrishnan St,
T.Nagar, Chennai -17

5. I humbly submit that, since 2005 the suction and collection wells of the defunct MGR Nagar Sewage Pumping Station are being used only as the discharge point of the raw sewage pumped from various Pumping Station namely Saidapet "A", "B", "C", Sathyamurthy Block, Thiru Nagar, Bharathidasan Colony Sewage Pumping Station and the same is immediately conveyed without storage through a common gravity main to the relay Sewage Pumping Station at Nesapakkam. During the above process, neither the collected sewage is pumped nor any treatment is done. The issues of foul smell emanating from the complaint site has been raised by few residents residing adjacent to the Sewage Pumping station corapound wall was recently received and the board has taken all possible measures to control the odour level at its minimum.

All periodical measures including erection of ventilating column and desilting of wells is being carried out to control the odour. At present there is no complaint of any foul smell emanating from the MGR Nagar Pumping station site received from the resident public of this area.

6. Hence, It is therefore humbly prayed that, this Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) may be pleased to accept my response on behalf of the Board and thus render Justice.

Solemnly affirmed at Chennai on this
 26th day of August 2021 and signed
 his name in my presence

V. A. Srinivasulu
 26/8/2021
 Area Engineer X
 Area -X, CMWSSB,
 No.9, Muthukrishnan St,
 T.Nagar, Chennai -17.

BEFORE ME

[Signature]
 K. Gopi
 S.No. 702/06
 16 Law Chamber
 Higher Building
 Ch-104

20/10/5

Air Ventilation Column Fixed at (Old Nesapakkam) MGR Nagar Relay SPS



- 000006

Thirumathi. Elavarasi. AEE, Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board Officer inspected at (Old
Nesapakkam)

MGR Nagar Relay SPS in 24.08.2021 at 3.30PM



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Thru. S.Ravindranathan, SE (S/W), CMWSS Board Officer Inspected at (Old Hasapakkam)
MGR Nagar Belay SPS in 19.08.2021 at 11.00AM



Handwritten signature

Thiru. V.A.Elumalai. Area Engineer - X, CMWSS Board Officer inspected at (Old Nesapakkam)
MGR Nagar Relay SPS in 24.08.2021 at 11.30AM



Before the National Green Tribunal (Southern Zone)

Chennai,

O.A.No.178 of 2021 (SZ)

Tribunal on its own motion - SUO MOTU Based on the News item published in Dinamalar Newspaper. Chennai Edition, Dated 19.07.2021, "Non Maintenance of Sewage Treatment plant: People suffer from strong stench"

: 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 4TH RESPONDENT

G.JANAKIRAMAN

Counsel for 4th Respondent