

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

**Original Application No. 191 of 2015 (SZ)  
With  
Original Application No. 178 of 2014 (SZ)**

S.P. Muthuraman,  
S/o. S. Ponnusamy,  
No.204, Railway Feeder Road,  
Sankar Nagar Post,  
Thirunelveli District.

...Applicant(s)

Versus

The Union of India,  
Rep. by the Secretary to Government,  
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change,  
Government of India,  
Indira Paryavaran Bhavan,  
Jorbagh Road, Aliganj,  
New Delhi and Ors

....Respondent(s)

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1.	Status/Compliance Report of the Joint Committee filed by the TNPCB with respect to the order of the Hon'ble NGT (SZ) dated 08.06.2021	1 – 22

**Filed by  
Thiru. C. Kasirajan,  
Advocate, Chennai.**

Dear Sir,  
I am writing to you regarding the  
contract for the supply of  
materials for the project.

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**Status/ Compliance Report of Joint Committee submitted to Hon'ble National Green Tribunal with respect to order dated 08/06/2021 in O.A.No.191 of 2015 (SZ) filed by Thiru S.P. Muthuraman tagged with O. A No.178/2014 filed by Thiru. T. Rajamanickam, before Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ)**

Hon'ble NGT (SZ) in its order dated 08/06/2021 in O.A. No. 191 of 2015 & O.A. No.178 of 2014 has directed the following in Para-6, Para-10, Para-11 and Para-12 which is as follows

**Para-6** *"It is seen from the reports that though there is certain progress in the implementation of the action plan but it is not moving at the speed at which it was expected to be implemented. Further, it is not known from the report submitted as to whether on account of temporary measures that are taken by the local bodies including Tirunelveli Municipal Corporation, any improvement has been caused to the water quality in the Thamirabarani River".*

**Para-10.** *"So, the Pollution Control Board as well as the committee are directed to ascertain as to whether the temporary measures taken by the municipality/corporation had achieved any improvement in the water quality in the river and if not, what are the further steps to be taken by Tirunelveli Municipal Corporation as well as other neighbouring municipalities to mitigate the situation of polluting the water in Thamirabarani River. It is a long term grievance of the people to get clean water and save Thamirabarani river from pollution which is the obligation of the State Government to implement and redress".*

**Para-11.** *"The committee as well as the Pollution Control Board are directed to ascertain as to whether the recommendations given by the committee are being implemented by the concerned corporations and municipalities and whether any improvement has caused on account of the implementation of the temporary measures that have been provided in the water quality and if not, what are the further steps proposed to be taken by them to [18] accelerate the completion of these projects and give their specific recommendations as to how this can be implemented in a shorter time line so as to protect the Thamirabarani River from pollution".*

**Para-12.** *"The Joint Committee, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Tirunelveli Corporation, Vickramasingapuram and Ambasamudhram Municipalities and also Kallidaikurichi, Veeravanallur, Mukkudal, Cheranmahadevi, Pathamadai, Gopalamudram, Melaseval & Naranammalpuram Town Panchayats are directed to submit their status report regarding the progress of the work done by them to mitigate the situation of protecting Thamirabarani River as envisaged in the minutes of meeting of the Joint Committee".*

In this regard, the Joint Committee meeting was conducted by the District Collector, Tirunelveli District / Chairman of the Joint Committee with all stake holder departments on 09/07/2021 and the present status of implementation of the action plan by the stake holders department was reviewed and as follows.

During the presentation session, local bodies have informed that much performance could not be shown between the last joint committee meeting conducted on 09/03/2021 due to the State General Election was declared and followed with lock down due to COVID 19 pandemic.

The District Collector instructed that substantial progress has to be shown in implementing the action plan and the same to be reported on or before 21/07/2021 and the following decisions were arrived

**Action to be taken by Tirunelveli Municipal Corporation**

1. *To complete the construction of the remaining 3 DEWATS treatment units by 20/07/2021.*
2. *To plant suitable vegetation/plantation to utilise the treated sewage let out from the DEWATS treatment units*
3. *To conduct a rapid survey to identify the number of domestic sewage outlet let into the irrigational channels (Kodagan channel, Palayamkal channel & Tirunelveli channel) and to arrive the quantity of sewage letout.*
4. *To explore the possibility of transporting the sewage letout from the DEWATS provided at Sindhupoondhurai to the nearest UGSS phase-I so as can be treated in the existing 24.2 MLD Waste Stabilisation Pond treatment system.*
5. *To furnish the details on the status of the proposed UGSS Phase-II & Phase-III in respect of completion of total sewer length, Pumping stations, Lifting stations, Pumping Main Network, Gravity Main Network, Manholes, House service connections, Date of completion & % work completed.*
6. *To furnish the status on the implementation of the SBR based Sewage Treatment Plant proposed at the end of pipe treatment of UGSS Phase-II & III.*
7. *To furnish the status on the implementation of dhobikana with treatment units.*
8. *To furnish the action taken to control illegal discharge of septic tank cleaning waste into River Thamirabarani and details on the imposing of fine and construction of trenches*

**Action to be taken by V.K.Puram & Ambasamudram Municipality:**

9. To expedite the process of obtaining the approval of DPR prepared by TWICL for the treatment and disposal of sewage/sullage letout into irrigational channels from Commissioner of Municipal administration, Chennai in respect of finalising the treatment options and tendering process for necessary implementation.

**Action to be taken by Kallidaikurichi, Veeravanallur, Mukkudal, Cheranmahadevi, Pathamadai, Gopalamudram, Melasevel & Naranammalpuram Town Panchayats:**

10. To expedite the process of obtaining the approval of DPR prepared by TWICL for the treatment and disposal of sewage/sullage letout into irrigational channels from The Director of Town Panchayats, Chennai in respect of finalising the treatment options and tendering process for necessary implementation

**Action to be taken by TNPCB:**

11. Sewage samples to be collected at the outlet of all DEWATS to ascertain the performance of DEWATS treatment units.

**I. The present status of action plan implemented is as below:**

**Tirunelveli Corporation:**

A	Temporary Action Plan	Status of implementation							
1	<p>To provide <b>DEWATS Treatment</b> units (10 Numbers) to treat the sewage let out at 8 major locations along the banks of River Thamirabarani and operate until UGSS Phase-II &amp; III completed.</p> <p>Quantity of sewage estimated: 0.26 MLD</p> <p>Cost : 50 Lakhs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The unit has completed 7 DEWATS units and put into operation.</li> <li>▪ For the remaining 3 DEWATS to be located at Korukkuthurai, Vannarapettai Ramalingar Street &amp; Udayarpatti, structure works were under progress and put into operation on 26.07.2021.</li> </ul>							
B	Permanent Action plan	Status of implementation							
i	<p><b>UGSS-Phase-II</b></p> <p>Estimated quantity: 14 MLD Cost: Rs.296.86 crores</p> <p>Date of commencement - 26-07-2018</p> <p>Date of completion – 25.07.2022.</p>	<p><b>Pumping Station</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>PS-1-Zone-1. Slaughter House</td> <td>Well Civil works completed (60% work completed)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PS-2-Zone-II. Nainarkulam</td> <td>Work to be commenced</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Lifting Station</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>LS-1-Zone-I- Srinivasanagar</td> <td>Well Civil works completed-Compound wall and panel room plastering under progress. (83% work completed)</td> </tr> </table>		PS-1-Zone-1. Slaughter House	Well Civil works completed (60% work completed)	PS-2-Zone-II. Nainarkulam	Work to be commenced	LS-1-Zone-I- Srinivasanagar	Well Civil works completed-Compound wall and panel room plastering under progress. (83% work completed)
PS-1-Zone-1. Slaughter House	Well Civil works completed (60% work completed)								
PS-2-Zone-II. Nainarkulam	Work to be commenced								
LS-1-Zone-I- Srinivasanagar	Well Civil works completed-Compound wall and panel room plastering under progress. (83% work completed)								

		LS-2-Zone-I-Sathiyaganar	Compound wall under progress. (65% work completed)
		LS-3-Zone-I-Kattabomman Street	Well Civil works completed. (50% work completed)
		LS-4-Zone-I- Pettai Thiruthu Ambethkar Colony)	Compound wall work under progress. (63% work completed)
		LS-5-Zone-II-Karuppanthurai	Retaining wall work under progress (56% work completed)
		L S-6- Zone-III-Karaiyiruppu (New Location)	Compound wall work under progress. (67% work completed)
		LS-7-Zone-III-Alaganeri	Compound wall and panel room work in progress. (68% work completed)
		LS-8-Zone-III-Senthimangalam	Compound wall plastering. (69% work completed)
		LS-9-Zone-III-Sindhupoonthurai	Panel Room work is under progress. (80% work completed)
		LS-10-Zone-III-Kailasapuram	Well Civil works completed. (50% work completed)
		LS-11-Zone-III-Meenakshipuram	Retaining wall work under progress. (69% work completed)
		<b>Other Components</b>	
		Pumping main - 27 km	<b>22.80 km laid</b> (84.44% work completed)
		Gravity main – 224 km	<b>132.92 km laid</b> (59.34% work completed)
		Manhole - 8928 No	<b>5756 No completed</b> (64.47% work completed)
		House service connections (UPVC pipes) - 656.64 km	<b>49.53 km completed</b> (7.54% work completed)
		Inspection chamber - 54720	<b>7511 No completed</b> (13.7 % work completed)
		Road restoration – 395260 Sqm	<b>70410 Sqm (88.01 km) laid</b> (17.81% work completed)
		<b>Over all progress</b>	<b>63.50%</b>
ii	<b>UGSS-Phase-III</b>	<b>Pumping Station</b>	
	Estimated quantity : 34 MLD	PS-5-Zone-5 at Kurichi	Earth work under progress
	Cost : Rs.421.55 crores	PS-6-Zone-6. Kumaresan Nagar	Work to be commenced
	Date of commencement - 23-01-2019	<b>Lifting Station</b>	
	Date of completion – 31.12.2022.	LS-12-Zone-4-Tholkappiyar Street	Well works completed. (55% work completed)
		LS-13-Zone-4-Thirukurippu Thondar street	3rd lift well completed (28% work completed)
		LS-14-Zone-4-Ulagamman Koil Street	Earth work under progress

		LS-15-Zone-4- Maruthi Nagar	Earth work under progress
		LS-16-Zone-4- Senthil Nagar	Earth work under progress
		LS-17-Zone-4 — Kilanatham melur Road	Well works completed (55% work completed)
		LS-18-Zone-4- Thiruvanathapuram	Earth work under progress
		LS-19-Zone-4- Kakkan New colony	Earth work under progress
		LS 20 Zone 4 Andal Nagar	Earth work under progress
		LS-21-Zone-4- Ragumath Nagar	Earth work under progress
		LS-22-Zone-4- Police Colony	Earth work under progress
		LS-23-Zone-4- Saranya Park	Earth work under progress
		LS-24-Zone-4- IOB Colony	Well works completed. (55% work completed)
		LS -25-Zone-4- V.M Chatram Housing Board	Earth work under progress
		LS-26-Zone-4- Achimadam	Earth work under progress
		LS-27-Zone-5- -- Melanatham	Well works completed. (55% work completed)
		LS-28-Zone-5- Karungulam	Well works completed. (55% work completed)
		LS-29-Zone-5- Anbu Nagar	Well works completed. (55% work completed)
		<b>Other Components</b>	
		Pumping main - 37 km	<b>7.46 km laid</b> (20.16% work completed)
		Gravity main – 417 km	<b>26.33 km laid</b> (6.31% work completed)
		Manhole - 16658 No	<b>1320 No completed</b> (7.92% work completed)
		HSC-UPVC - 522 km	<b>0.91km laid</b> (0.17% work completed)
		STP	<b>Descoped</b>
		Inspection chamber - 87064 No	-
		<b>Over all progress</b>	<b>20%</b>
iii	<b>To provide SBR technology STP at a cost of Rs. 98.50 Crores</b>	Status of implementation	
a	To provide <b>two</b> modules of <b>10 MLD &amp; 14 MLD</b> SBR technology <b>STP each</b> to treat the sewage collected from UGSS Phase-I & II.  ➤ Expected to be completed 30.07.2022	<p>It is informed that the proposed SBR based STP for Phase – II has been dropped.</p> <p>It has been proposed to retrofit the existing 24.2 MLD Waste Stabilization Pond (WSP) system in which presently the sewage collected from Phase – I is treated.</p> <p>The retrofitted 24.2 MLD WSP System will be utilized to treat the sewage generated from Phase – I (9MLD) &amp; Phase – II (14 MLD).</p>	

b	Proposed to provide <b>three</b> modules of 10 MLD + 10 MLD + 14 MLD SBR technology <b>STP each</b> to treat the sewage collected from UGSS Phase- III.  ➤ Expected to be completed 30.07.2022	It was informed that under Smart City mission, 10 MLD capacity of STP is to be constructed under SBR technology method to a project cost of Rs. 14.89 crore. For this work, tender received on 19.07.2021 and evolution under progress. Moreover, 10 MLD +14 MLD capacity of STP to be constructed in a Phased manner.
iv	<b>To provide dhobikana</b> at 3 locations with treatment plant at a cost of 4.20 Crores and expected to be commissioned by 30.09.2021	It was informed that construction of dhobikana is proposed at 3 locations namely 1. Karuppanthurai (43.2 KLD), 2. Vannarapettai Thiru kurippu thondar street (43.2 KLD) and 3. Vannarapettai Ettuthogai street (28.8 KLD).  Construction has been started at Vannarapettai Thiru kurippu thondar street and Vannarapettai Ettuthogai street. Photograph enclosed.

## Municipalities:

### 1. Vickramasingapuram Municipality

	Permanent Action Plan	Status of implementation
A	<b>To provide Treatment system to treat the sewage/sullage of quantity 5 MLD let out into North Kodai melaligian channel at 12 locations</b>	
1	<b>Short Term</b>  i. <b>Constructed wet land system</b> at each location at a cost of 5.58 crores ( 6 months) (or) ii. <b>Decentralised STP at each outfall location</b> at a cost of 15.41 crores ( 9 months) (or) iii. <b>Construction of interceptor drain and STP at centralised location</b> at a cost of 14.11 crores (1-2 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The DPR prepared by TWICL during November'2020 is yet to be approved by the Commissioner of Municipal administration, Chennai and work yet to be commenced</li> <li>▪ The Commissioner, has informed that during the meeting conducted on 11.12.2020 by the Commissioner of Municipal Administration has instructed TWICL to undergo resurvey so as to include other sewage discharge points if any joining River Thamirabarani.</li> </ul>
2	<b>Long Term:</b>  <b>UGSS and STP</b> at a cost of 87.9 crores ( 5-10 years)	
B	<b>To Provide FSTP of capacity 30 KLD at a cost of Rs. 315 lakhs to treat the septage waste from Septic tank</b>	Completed and put into trial operation.

### 2. Ambasamudram Municipality

	Permanent Action Plan	Status of implementation
A	<b>To provide Treatment system to treat the sewage/sullage of quantity 4.12 MLD let out into Nathiyunni Channel at 8 locations</b>	
1	<b>Short Term</b>  <b>Constructed wet land system</b> at each location at a cost of 4.58 crores ( 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The DPR prepared by TWICL during</li> </ul>

	months) (or) <b>Decentralised STP at each outfall location</b> at a cost of 12.16 crores ( 9 months) (or) <b>Construction of interceptor drain and STP at centralised location</b> at a cost of 12.2 crores (1-2 years)	Novenber'2020 is yet to be approved by the Commissioner of Municipal administration, Chennai and work yet to be commenced  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Commissioner, has informed that during the meeting conducted on 11.12.2020 by the Commissioner of Municipal Administration has instructed TWICL to undergo resurvey so as to include other sewage discharge points if any joining River Thamirabarani.</li> </ul>
	<b>Long Term:</b> <b>UGSS and STP</b> at a cost of 79.94 crores ( 5-10 years)	
B	<b>To Provide FSTP of capacity 30 KLD at a cost of Rs. 315 lakhs to treat the septage waste from Septic tank</b>	Under completion

### Town Panchayats:

S.No	Name of Town Panchayat	Permanent Action Plan	Status of implementation
1	Kallidaikurichi	<p><b>To provide Treatment system to treat the sewage/sullage of quantity 3 MLD let out into Kannadian channel at 20 locations</b></p> <p><b>Short Term</b></p> <p><b>Constructed wet land system</b> at each location at a cost of 3.61 crores (6 months) (or) <b>Decentralised STP at each outfall location</b> at a cost of 12.53 crores (9 months) (or) <b>Construction of interceptor drain and STP at centralised location</b> at a cost of 9.99 crores (1-2 years).</p> <p><b>Long Term</b></p> <p><b>UGSS and STP</b> at a cost of 60.12 crores ( 5-10 years)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The DPR prepared by TWICL during March'2021 is yet to be approved by the Director of Town Panchayats, Chennai and work yet to be commenced.</li> </ul>
2	Veeravanallur	<p><b>To provide Treatment system to treat the sewage/sullage of quantity 2.79 MLD let out into Kannadian channel at 26 locations</b></p> <p><b>Short Term</b></p> <p><b>Constructed wet land system</b> at each location at a cost of 3.33 crores ( 6 months) (or) <b>Decentralised STP at each outfall location</b> at a cost of 10.67 crores ( 9 months) (or) <b>Construction of interceptor drain and STP at centralised location</b> at a cost of 11.68 crores (1-2 years)</p> <p><b>Long Term</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The DPR prepared by TWICL during March'2021 is yet to be approved by the Director of Town Panchayats, Chennai and work yet to be commenced.</li> </ul>

		<b>UGSS and STP</b> at a cost of 50.75 crores ( 5-10 years)	
3	Mukkudal	<p><b>To provide Treatment system to treat the sewage/sullage of quantity 1.5 MLD let out into Drainage channel at 7 locations</b></p> <p><b>Short Term</b></p> <p><b>Constructed wet land system</b> at each location at a cost of 1.72 crores ( 6 months) (or) <b>Decentralised STP at each outfall</b> location at a cost of 4.94 crores ( 9 months) (or) <b>Construction of interceptor drain and STP</b> at centralised location at a cost of 7.04 crores (1-2 years)</p> <p><b>Long term</b></p> <p><b>UGSS and STP</b> at a cost of 39.57 crores ( 5-10 years)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The DPR prepared by TWICL during March'2021 is yet to be approved by the Director of Town Panchayats, Chennai and work yet to be commenced</li> </ul>
4	Cheranmahadevi	<p><b>To provide Treatment system to treat the sewage/sullage of quantity 1.97MLD let out into Kannadian channel at 11 locations</b></p> <p><b>Short Term</b></p> <p><b>Constructed wet land system</b> at each location at a cost of 2.28 crores ( 6 months) (or) <b>Decentralised STP at each outfall</b> location at a cost of 7.64 crores ( 9 months) (or) <b>Construction of interceptor drain and STP at centralised</b> location at a cost of 8.66 crores (1-2 years)</p> <p><b>Long Term</b></p> <p><b>UGSS and STP</b> at a cost of 51.89 crores ( 5-10 years)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The DPR prepared by TWICL during March'2021 is yet to be approved by the Director of Town Panchayats, Chennai and work yet to be commenced</li> </ul>
5	Pathamadai	<p><b>To provide Treatment system to treat the sewage/sullage of quantity 1.6 MLD let out into Kannadian channel at 8 locations</b></p> <p><b>Short Term</b></p> <p><b>Constructed wet land system</b> at each location at a cost of 1.85 crores ( 6 months) (or) <b>Decentralised STP at each outfall</b> location at a cost of 6.26 crores ( 9 months)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The DPR prepared by TWICL during March'2021 is yet to be approved by the</li> </ul>

		(or) <b>Construction of interceptor drain and STP</b> at centralised location at a cost of 4.51 crores (1-2 years)	Director of Town Panchayats, Chennai and work yet to be commenced
		Long Term <b>UGSS and STP</b> at a cost of 50.24 crores ( 5-10 years)	
6	Gopalamudram	<b>To provide Treatment system to Treat the sewage/sullage of quantity 1.4 MLD let out into Palayamkal channel at 19 locations</b>	
		Short Term <b>Constructed wet land system</b> at each location at a cost of 1.73 crores ( 6 months) (or) <b>Decentralised STP at each outfall</b> location at a cost of 6.84 crores ( 9 months) (or) <b>Construction of interceptor drain and STP at centralised location</b> at a cost of 8.12 crores (1-2 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The DPR prepared by TWICL during March'2021 is yet to be approved by the Director of Town Panchayats, Chennai and work yet to be commenced</li> </ul>
		Long Term <b>UGSS and STP</b> at a cost of 41.55 crores ( 5-10 years)	
7	Melasevel	<b>To provide Treatment system to treat the sewage/sullage of quantity 0.53 MLD let out into Kannadian channel at 13 locations</b>	
		Short Term <b>Constructed wet land system</b> at each location at a cost of 0.72 crores ( 6 months) (or) <b>Decentralised STP at each outfall</b> location at a cost of 3.08 crores ( 9 months) (or) <b>Construction of interceptor drain and STP at centralised location</b> at a cost of 4.73 crores (1-2 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The DPR prepared by TWICL during March'2021 is yet to be approved by the Director of Town Panchayats, Chennai and work yet to be commenced</li> </ul>
		Long Term <b>UGSS and STP</b> at a cost of 40.36 crores ( 5-10 years)	
8	Naranammalpuram	DPR Not prepared	

## II. Monitoring of River Thamirabarani

River Thamirabarani is being monitored by TNPCB at **9 locations** every month under MINARS programme from Road Bridge near Madura Coats Ltd, V.K.Puram to Seevalaperi, near Cremation Ground as follow.

S. No	Point of sample collection
1	Road bridge near M/s. Madura Coats Limited
2	Railway Bridge near Ambasamudram
3	Kallidaikurichi Road bridge
4	Thirupudaimaruthur Temple Backside
5	Road bridge near M/s. Sun Paper Limited
6	Road bridge near Tirunelveli Collectorate
7	Mainmoortheeswaram
8	Vellakovil
9	Seevalaperi near Cremation Ground

From the report of analysis of the water samples collected from April'2020 to June'2021 (14 samples) the following observations were made.

1. The water quality of River Thamirabarani collected at all **9 locations** satisfies **Class A\*** standards for all parameters except for BOD & Total Coliform.
2. **BOD** satisfies **Class A\*** / **Class B\*\*** standards for **4 locations** and remaining **5 locations** satisfies **Class B\*\* standards**.
3. **Total Coliform** satisfies **Class A\*** standards for **4 locations** and remaining **5 locations** satisfies **Class B\*\* standards**.
4. **COD** was in the range of **4 mg/L to 56 mg/L** in the entire stretch of River Thamirabarani.
5. The Heavy metals as analysed such as Arsenic, Cadmium, Copper, Lead, Total Chromium, Zinc, Manganese, Iron, Fluoride & Cobalt are found within drinking water standards.
6. **Total Coliform** is between **25 MPN/100 ml to 350 MPM/100ml** in the river stretch between **Tirunelveli Collectorate Bridge** to **Seevalaperi** where Tirunelveli City Sewage in mixed in between the stretch.
7. **The Fecal Coliform** is between **11 MPN/100ml to 120 MPN/ml** in the river stretch between **Tirunelveli Collectorate Bridge** to **Seevalaperi** where Tirunelveli City Sewage in mixed in between the stretch.

**Note- Class A\*** standards - (Drinking water source without conventional treatment but after disinfection)

**Class B\*\* standards** - (outdoor bathing).

The values of range of DO,BOD,TSS and Fecal Coliform as noticed in the 9 sampling locations for the River water samples collected during 2020-21(14 Samples) is as below:

S. No	Station Name	DO mg/L	BOD mg/L	TSS mg/L	Fecal Coliform MPN/100 mL
1	Road bridge near M/s. Madura Coats Limited	6.1 – 8.6	<2 – 2.6	2 – 8	< 1.8 – 4
2	Railway Bridge near Ambasamudram	6.6 – 8.4	<2 – 2.8	2 – 20	<1.8 – 14
3	Kallidaikurichi Road bridge	6.2 – 9	<2 – 3.2	2 – 20	<1.8 – 17
4	Thirupudaimaruthur temple backside	6 – 8.3	<2 – 2.9	2 – 16	1.8 – 17
5	Road bridge near M/s. Sun Paper Limited.	6.1 – 8.2	<2 – 3	4 – 18	2 – 17
6	Road bridge near Tirunelveli Collectorate	6.1 – 8	2.05 – 3.07	4 – 12	11 – 70
7	Mainmoortheeswaram	6 - 8	2.05 – 3.1	4 - 18	17 – 94
8	Vellakovil	5.6 – 7.6	2.2 – 3.2	4 – 16	6.8 – 94
9	Seevalaperi near cremation ground	6 – 7.5	2.2 – 3	4 – 14	11 - 120

It can be noticed that the fecal coliform value increases at Station No. 6 Road bridge near Tirunelveli Collectorate, Station No. 7 Mainmoortheeswaram, Station No.8 - Vellakovil & Station No.9 Seevalaperi near cremation ground and this may be due to the mixing of Tirunelveli city sewage from Korukkuthurai to Mainmoortheeswaram river stretch which is reflected in the above three station.

The Tirunelveli Municipal Corporation has proposed 10 numbers of DEWATS treatment units along the stretch of river Thamirabarani as a temporary measure to treat the sewage let into river Thamirabarani at 8 major outfalls (between Kurukkuthurai & Manimoortheeswaram) to reduce the pollution load to River Thamirabarani until UGSS Phase – II & Phase III are completed. Out of 10 DEWATS, 7 numbers were put into operation as below.

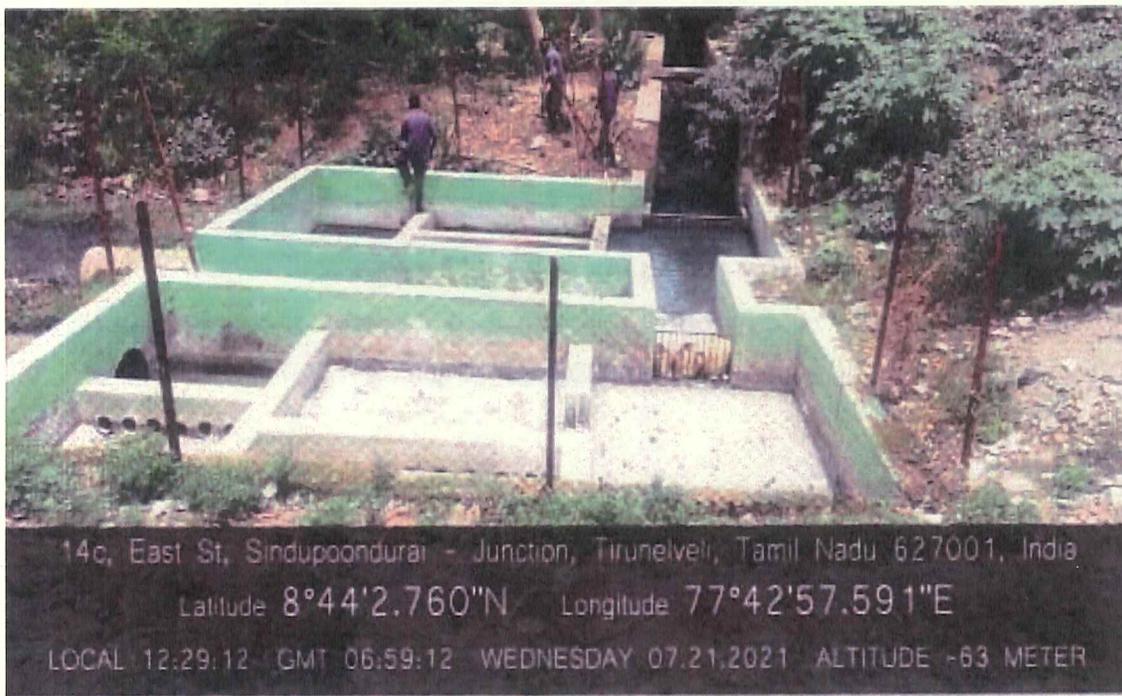
Sl. No	DEWATS Locations	Date from which put into operation
1	Kailasapuram	August '2020
2	Meenakshipuram	August '2020
3	Sindhupoondhurai	August '2020
4	Kokkirakulam(Opp. to Collectorate)	August '2020

5	Kokkirakulam(Mariamman Kovil Street)	February' 2021
6	Meenakshipuram Anna Street	March' 2021
7	Vannarapettai Valaiyapathi Street	July' 2021

**Photograph taken on 21/07/2021 showing the DEWATS Treatment units provided by Tirunelveli Municipal corporation after cleaning during July'2021**



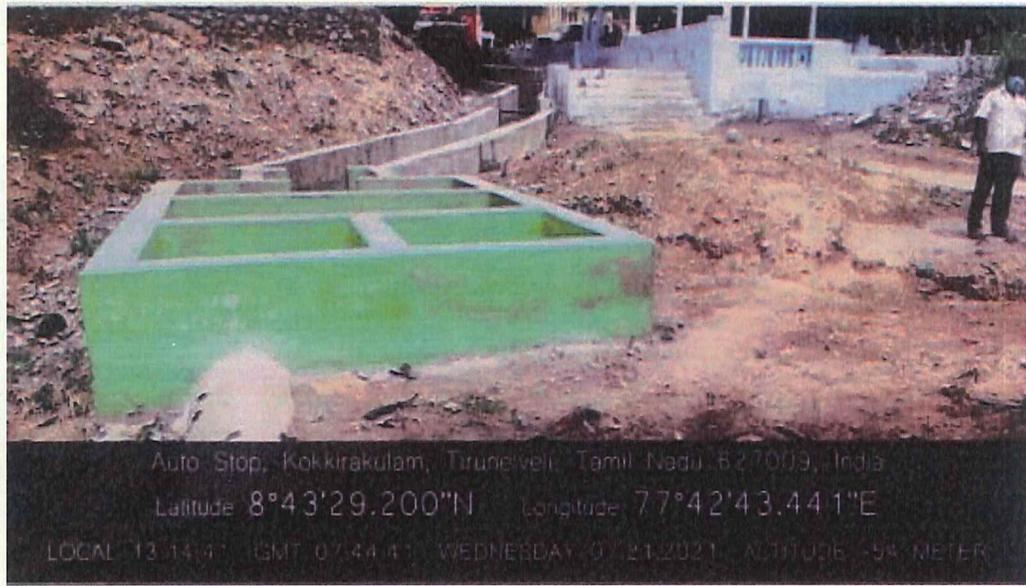
**Kailasapuram – in operation**



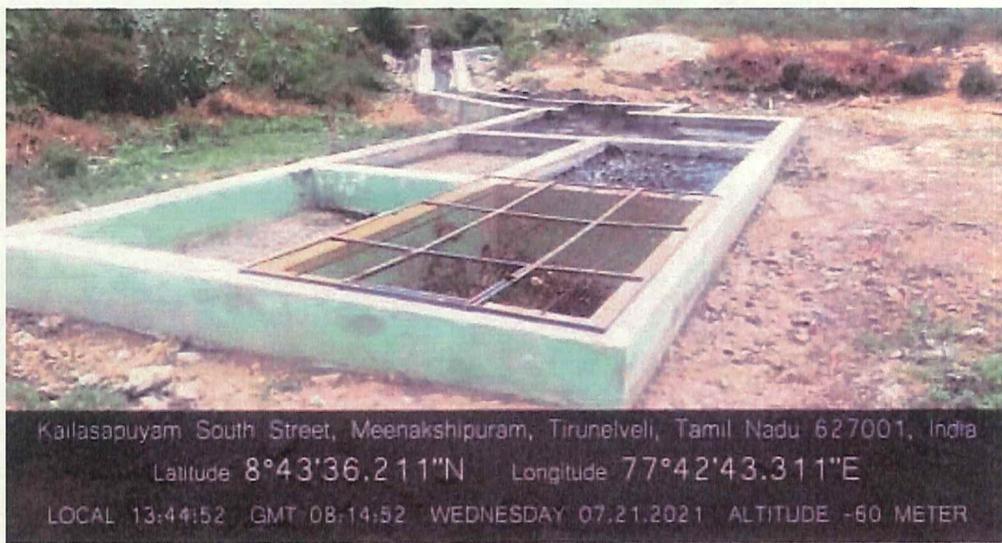
**Sindhupondhurai – in operation**



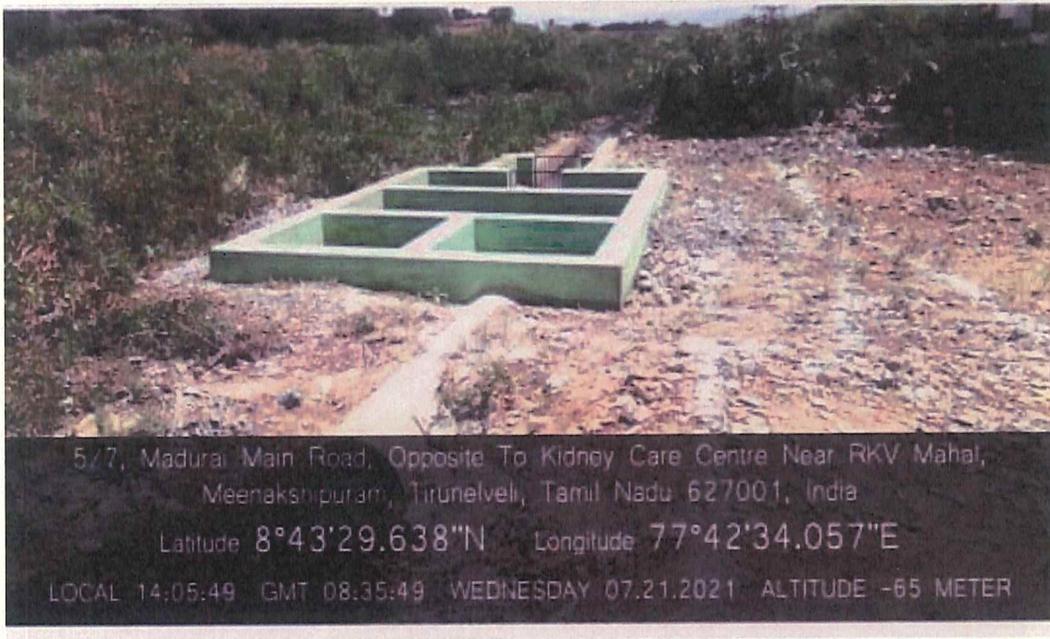
**Kokkirakulam (opposite to Collectorate)– in operation**



**Kokkirakulam Mariamman koil street – in operation**



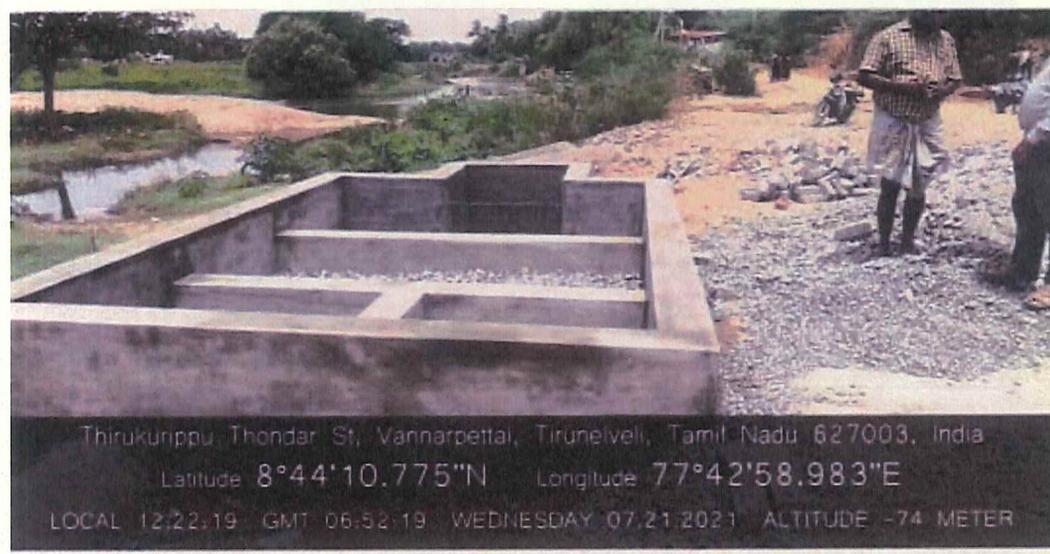
**Meenakshipuram – in operation**



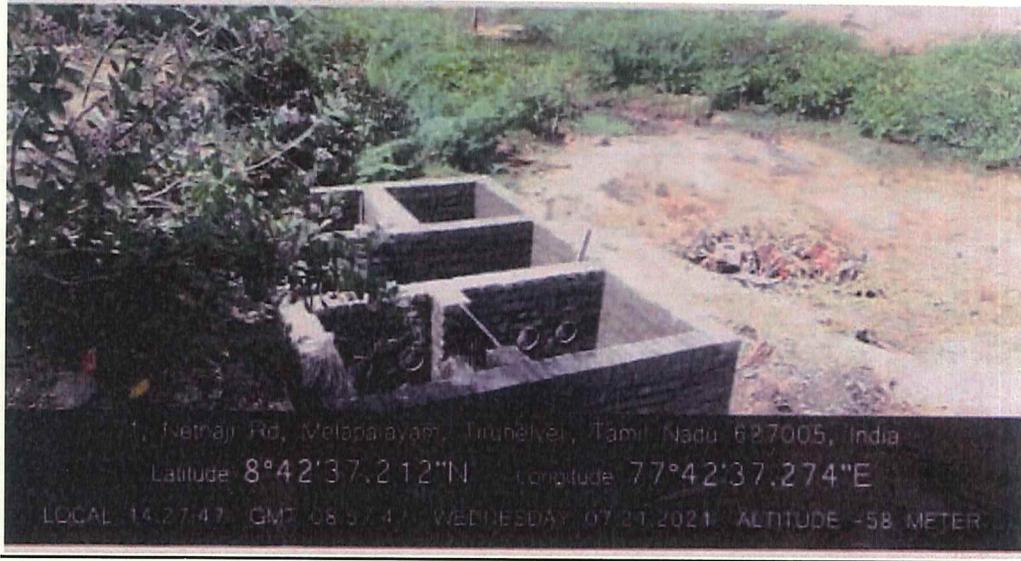
**Meenakshipuram Anna street - in operation**



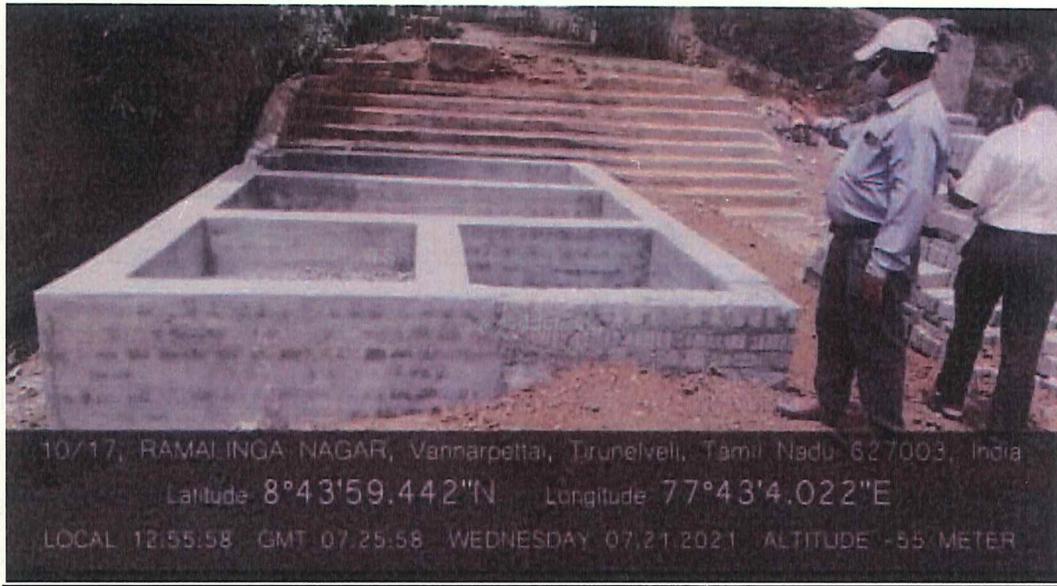
**Vannarapettai Valaiyapathi street – in operation**



**Udayarpatti – under construction**



**Kurukuthurai – under construction**



**Vanarapettai Ramalinga street - under construction**

The performance of DEWATS Treatment units with respect to parameters TSS & BOD based on the sewage samples collected at the inlet and outlet of DEWATS is details below.

S.No	Location	TSS mg/L			BOD mg/L		
		Inlet of filter bed	Outlet of filter bed	% reduction	Inlet of filter bed	Outlet of filter bed	% reduction
1	<b>Kailasapuram</b>						
	12.08.2020	88	26	<b>70</b>	99	81	<b>18.2</b>
	08.07.2021	172	418	-	205	336	-
2	<b>Meenakshipuram</b>						
	12.08.2020	94	26	<b>72</b>	75	66	<b>12</b>

3	<b>Meenakshipuram – Anna street</b>						
	18.03.2021	2018	188	<b>91</b>	333	167	<b>50</b>
	08.07.2021	910	316	<b>65</b>	338	225	<b>33</b>
4	<b>Sindhupoondhurai</b>						
	12.08.2020	56	22	<b>60</b>	64	48	<b>25</b>
	18.03.2021	74	130	-	167	212	-
	08.07.2021	26	18	<b>30</b>	123	199	-
5	<b>Kokkirakulam (opp. to Collectorate)</b>						
	12.08.2020	212	338	-	125	130	-
	18.03.2021	710	296	<b>58</b>	252	197	<b>22</b>
	08.07.2021	7866	1668	<b>78</b>	308	338	-
6	<b>Kokkirakulam Mariamman Kovil Street</b>						
	19.02.2021	76	138	-	65	108	-
	08.07.2021	376	454	-	215	245	-
7.	<b>Vannarapettai Valaiyapathi Street</b>						
	08.07.2021	4614	342	<b>92</b>	306	215	<b>30</b>

From the above table, the reduction in TSS & BOD values are noticed in the DEWATS where the system is operated efficiently and in certain DEWATS the values of TSS & BOD for the samples collected at outlet of DEWATS was higher than at the inlet of DEWATS which is due to in efficient operation, clogging of sewage in the filter bed and stagnation of sewage.

The DEWATS were cleaned by Tirunelveli Municipal Corporation to remove blockage due to suspended materials and filter bed material changed for effective operation during the month of July'2021. Hence samples were collected on 21/07/2021 after cleaning at the inlet and out let of all 7 DEWATS and sent for analysis to TNPCB lab and ROA awaited.

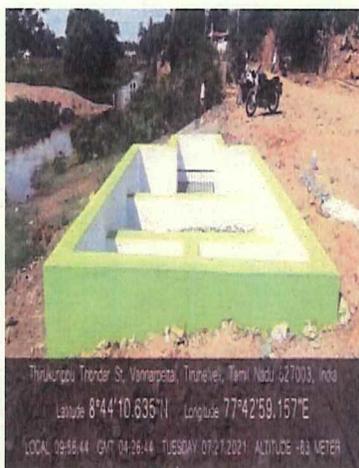
The quality of River Thamirabarani was monitored on 08.07.2021 at upstream of DEWATS & Downstream of DEWATS and the values of BOD & TSS are as follow.

Parameters	Korukkuthurai River Bridge (Upstream of existing all 7 DEWATS)	Kokkirakulam River Bridge (Downstream of 5 DEWATS)	River Bridge Mainmoortheeswaram (Downstream of 7 DEWATS)
TSS in mg/L	44	18	12
BOD in mg/L	4.7	3.45	2.95

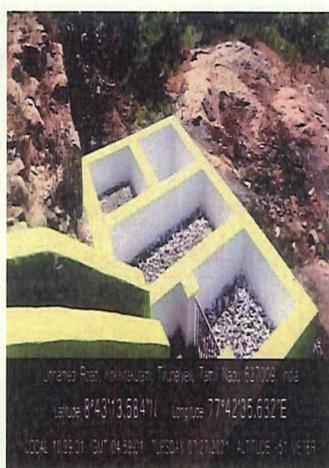
From the above values it was noticed that parameter TSS & BOD values have been reduced in the river Thamirabarani at the downstream of DEWATS when compared to the upstream of DEWATS.

The Tirunelveli Corporation is in the process of construction of the remaining 3 DEWATS units proposed at Korukkuthurai, Udayarpatti and Vannarapettai Ramalinga street and the above said 3 DEWATS were put into operation on 26.07.2021

The photograph showing the remaining three DEWATS put into operation on 26.07.2021 is as below.



Udayarpatti



Kurrukuthurai

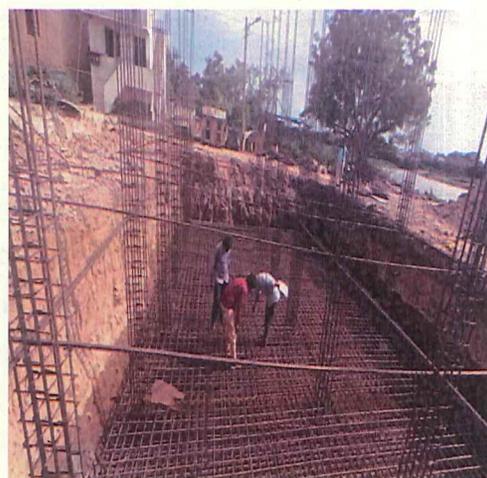


Vannarapettai Ramalinga street

Also the Tirunelveli Corporation has proposed construction of dhobikana with ETP at 3 locations namely 1. Karuppanthurai (43.2 KLD), 2. Vannarapettai Thiru kurippu thondar street (43.2 KLD) and 3. Vannarapettai Ettuthogai street (28.8 KLD). The construction has been started at Vannarapettai Thiru kurippu Thondar Street & Vannarapettai Ettuthogai street (photograph enclosed).



Vannarapettai Thirukuripputhondar Street washing ghat



Vannarapettai Ettuthogai Street washing ghat

**III. The Status of compliance of the joint Committee recommendations is as below**

S. No	Recommendations	Status of compliances
1	<p>The corporation has informed that action plan for temporary treatment of Sewage of 0.26 MLD was submitted only for Sewage water directly let into the River Thamirabarani. Committee is of the opinion that sewage pollution causing to any water bodies needs to be addressed, so the corporation shall prepare action plan for remaining sewage being discharged without treatment other than the Thamirabarani river.</p>	<p>Action plan to be furnished.</p> <p>It was informed that a survey is proposed to be conducted to identify number of domestic sewage outlet let into irrigation channels</p>
2	<p>The Corporation has informed that the temporary DEWATS system provided in the flood plain zone is not affected during the recent flood of January 2021. In order to verify the claim made by the corporation, TNPCB shall inspect the site to assess the status as well as functioning/ working efficiency of temporary treatment system &amp; its maintenance and submit the report with evidences.</p>	<p>No damage to the structures of DEWATS were noticed during inspection by TNPCB.</p> <p>All the 7 DEWATS put into operation were cleaned by Tirunelveli Municipal Corporation to remove blockage due to suspended materials and filter bed material changed for effective operation during the month of July'2021.</p> <p>Hence samples were collected on 21/07/2021 after cleaning at the inlet and out let of all 7 DEWATS and sent for analysis to TNPCB lab and ROA awaited.</p>
3	<p>Even though corporation claims that the system is not affected due to flood. Committee is of the opinion that any activities being carried out in flood plain zone found to be in violation, so PWD shall issue necessary notice to corporation to stop &amp; relocate the activities from flood plain zone.</p>	<p>The Corporation has addressed a letter dated 09.07.2021 to EE, PWD, Tirunelveli for getting necessary permission for the locating of DEWATS in flood plain area of River Thamirabarani.</p>
4	<p>The Tirunelveli Corporation shall complete the construction of DEWATS treatment in the left out location namely Korukkuthurai, Vannarapettai Ramalingar Street &amp;Udayarpatti and put into operation after obtaining necessary permission from PWD.</p>	<p>The remaining 3 DEWATS units proposed at Korukkuthurai, Udayarpatti and Vannarapettai Ramalinga street were put into operation by 26/07/2021.</p>

5	DEWATS technology includes specific vegetation to reduce pollution load, which is not completed so far. Corporation shall take necessary steps to complete the work within a month.	It was informed that Corporation has planned to plant 200 Nos of sapling in each DEWATS location in consultation with forest department by end of July'2021.
6	The Tirunelveli Corporation shall periodically maintain the DEWATS treatment units in operation for removal of solids captured and the filtration bed materials to be regularly replaced for effective operation.	All the 7 DEWATS put into operation were cleaned by Tirunelveli Municipal Corporation to remove blockage due to suspended materials and filter bed material changed for effective operation during the month of July'2021.  The Corporation has also proposed to transport the sewage let out from DEWATS provided at Sindhupoondhurai to the nearest UGSS Phase-I instead of letting into River and expected to complete by 31/07/2021.
7	The Tirunelveli Corporation shall explore the possibility of providing temporary treatment units to treat the sewage let into irrigation channel namely Kodagan Channel, Palayamkal Channel, Tirunelveli Channel to reduce pollution load.	The Tirunelveli corporation has proposed to conduct a survey to identify the number of domestic sewage outlet let into irrigation channels
8	The Tirunelveli Corporation shall expedite the completion of the UGSS Phase-II& Phase-III and to adhere to the time schedule.	The Tirunelveli Corporation has informed that UGSS Phase-II& Phase-III are under progress and expected to be completed by 25/07/2022 and 31/12/2022 respectively.
9	The Tirunelveli Corporation shall take necessary action to obtain Consent to Establish from TNPCB for the proposed Sequential Batch Reactor based Sewage Treatment Plant.	Agreed to comply with
10	The Tirunelveli Corporation shall take necessary action to assess the quantity of effluent to be generated from the dhobikana to be setup and the details on the Effluent Treatment Plant proposed and to commence the establishment of the plant after obtaining Consent to Establish of the TNPCB.	It was informed that construction of dhobikana is proposed at 3 locations namely1. Karuppanthurai (43.2 KLD), 2. Vannarapettai Thiru kurippu thondar street (43.2 KLD) and 3. Vannarapettai Ettuthogai street (28.8 KLD).  Construction has been started at Vannarapettai Thiru kurippu thondar street and Vannarapettai Ettuthogai street. Photograph enclosed.
11	The Tirunelveli Corporation shall take necessary action to explore all possibilities to utilise the treated sewage for beneficial use	It was informed that a letter has been addressed to joint Director of Agriculture, Tirunelveli for the utilisation of treated sewage for social forestry and for grass farming.

12	The Vickramasingapuram & Ambasamudram Municipality shall finalise the mode of short term treatment options for the treatment and disposal of grey water and to expedite the work immediately.	The DPR prepared during November'2020 is yet to be approved by the Commissioner of Municipal administration, Chennai and work yet to be commenced
13	The Vickramasingapuram & Ambasamudram Municipality shall take necessary action to prioritize the septic tanks for cleaning and ensure that the vehicle engaged for septic tank cleaning disposes the septic tank waste only to FSTP for further treatment and disposal.	Action plan to be furnished by The Vickramasingapuram & Ambasamudram Municipality.
14	The Town Panchayats mentioned in the report shall take necessary action to prepare DPR for the treatment and disposal of the sewage /sullage let into irrigation channels/ Thamirabarani river	The DPR prepared during March'2021 is yet to be approved by the Director of Town Panchayats, Chennai and work yet to be commenced.

#### **IV. Public participation in the protection and restoration of River Thamirabarani**

The District Collector, Tirunelveli has conducted a meeting with NGO's and Govt. Officials on 20.07.2021 where in the following activities were discussed to be carried out for the restoration of River Thamirabarani.

1. Removal of Seemaikarivelam & Amalai plant growth from River Thamirabarani.
2. To plant sapling along the banks of River Thamirabarani
3. To provide proper sanitation facilities at Mukkudal River bank to facilitate for public coming for taking bath.
4. To provide solar lamps along the banks of River Thamirabarani
5. To impose fine to the public who leave the clothes after taking bath in the River at Papanasam Temple area.
6. To ban washing of vehicles, cattle bathing, open defecation and throwing of plastic materials along the banks of River Thamirabarani.
7. To establish sports health center, near to River Thamirabarani and to create awareness to the students and public once in a month.
8. To conduct Marathon, Cycling insisting the protection of River Thamirabarani.
9. To celebrate "Thamirabarani Day" by way of conducting competition among school children.
10. To issue postal stamp of River Thamirabarani to know the significance of the River.

### Recommendations:

The following action is requested to be taken by the Local bodies to expedite the commencement and completion of action plan

1. The Tirunelveli Corporation shall complete the construction of DEWATS treatment in the left out location namely Korukkuthurai, Vannarapettai Ramalingar Street&Udayarpatti and put into operation after obtaining necessary permission from PWD.
2. The Tirunelveli Corporation shall periodically maintain the DEWATS treatment units in operation for removal of solids captured and the filtration bed materials to be regularly replaced for effective operation.
3. The Tirunelveli Corporation shall conduct study on the number of sewage and outfall and quantity of sewage let into irrigation channel namely Kodagan Channel, Palayamkal Channel, Tirunelveli Channel and to furnish the report.
4. The Tirunelveli Corporation shall expedite the completion of the UGSS Phase-II & Phase-III and to adhere to the time schedule.
5. The Tirunelveli Corporation shall take necessary action to obtain Consent to Establish from TNPCB for the proposed Sequential batch Reactor based Sewage Treatment Plant.
6. The Tirunelveli Corporation shall complete the construction of dhobikana with Effluent Treatment Plant proposed and to commence the establishment of the plant after obtaining Consent to Establish of the TNPCB.
7. The Tirunelveli Corporation shall take necessary action to explore all possibilities to utilise the treated sewage for beneficial use.
8. The Vickramasingapuram & Ambasamudram Municipality shall expedite the process of obtaining the approval of DPR prepared by TWICL for the treatment and disposal of sewage/sullage let out into irrigational channels from Commissioner of Municipal administration, Chennai in respect of finalising the treatment options and tendering process for necessary implementation
9. The Vickramasingapuram & Ambasamudram Municipality shall take necessary action to **prioritize** the septic tanks for cleaning and ensure that the vehicle engaged for septic tank cleaning disposes the septic tank waste only to FSTP for further treatment and disposal.
10. The Town Panchayats Kallidaikurichi, Veeravanallur, Mukkudal, Cheranmahadevi, Pathamadai, Gopalamudram & Melasevel & Naranammalpuram Town Panchayats shall take necessary action to expedite the process of obtaining the approval of DPR prepared by TWICL for the treatment and disposal of sewage/sullage let out into irrigational channels from The Director of Town Panchayats, Chennai in respect of finalising the treatment options and tendering process for necessary implementation.
11. The Naranammalpuram Town Panchayat shall take necessary action to prepare DPR for the treatment and disposal of the sewage /sullage let into irrigation channels/ Thamirabarani River.

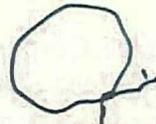
12. In order to expedite the implementation work, it is suggested to have a monitoring committee consisting members from said Corporation, Municipalities & Town Panchayats. The committee shall be chaired by the Corporation Commissioner or DMA and the work progress on implementation of Action plan shall be reviewed periodically at least once in a month.



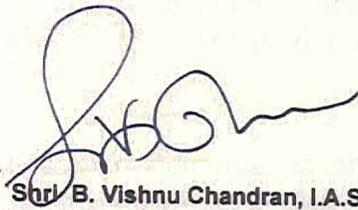
**Shri. R. Rajkumar,**  
[Scientist 'D', CPCB,  
Regional Directorate, Chennai  
Member, Joint Committee



**Shri. A. Romal Ferric Pinto Fdo,**  
[District Environmental Engineer,  
TNPCC, Tirunelveli]  
Member, Joint Committee



**Shri. T. Annadurai**  
[Executive Engineer, PWD/WRD  
Thamirabarani Basin Division]  
Member, Joint Committee



**Shri. B. Vishnu Chandran, I.A.S**  
[Commissioner, Tirunelveli Corporation]  
Member, Joint Committee



**Shri. V. Vishnu, I.A.S**  
[District Collector, Tirunelveli District]  
Chairman, Joint Committee

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

Original Application No. 191 of 2015  
(SZ)  
With  
Original Application No. 178 of 2014  
(SZ)

S.P. Muthuraman,  
S/o. S. Ponnusamy,  
No.204, Railway Feeder Road,  
Sankar Nagar Post,  
Thirunelveli District.

...Applicant(s)

Versus

The Union of India,  
Rep. by the Secretary to Government,  
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate  
Change,  
Government of India,  
Indira Paryavaran Bhavan,  
Jorbagh Road, Aliganj,  
New Delhi and Ors

....Respondent(s)

**STATUS/COMPLIANCE REPORT OF THE  
JOINT COMMITTEE FILED BY THE  
TNPCCB WITH RESPECT TO THE ORDER  
OF THE HON'BLE NGT (SZ) DATED  
08.06.2021**

Advocate for Respondent: TNPCCB  
Thiru. Kasirajan  
Advocate, Chennai.

Dated: 28.07.2021

Date of hearing: 30.07.2021

