

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

Original Application No. 164 of 2017 (SZ)

IN THE MATTER OF;

M. Dhamotharan  
Son of Marappan  
3/38, Gate Thottam  
Mannarai  
Tiruppur – 641 607

.. Applicant

Versus

The Secretary to Government  
Environment and Forest Department  
Government of Tamil Nadu  
Secretariat, Fort St. George  
Chennai and others

.. Respondent

**ACTION TAKEN REPORT WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

I Er.A.Arul,M.E., aged 47,Executive Engineer, WRD., Lower Bhavani Basin Division, Erodehereby submit the Action Taken Report as follows.

In Compliance of above case, the Member Secretary, Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai, had constituted a joint Committee comprising the following officials.

SI.No	Name and designation of the Officer	Committee
1.	Dr. K. VijayaKarthikeyan, District Collector, Tiruppur	Member
2.	Smt. H.D. Varalaxmi, Sc. E/ AD, CPCB, Bengaluru	Member
3.	Er. K.Senthivinayagam, DEE, TNPCB,Tiruppur, North	Member
4.	Er. A.Shanmugam, DEE, TNPCB, Tiruppur, South	Member
5.	Shri.K.Sivakumar,Commissioner,Municipal Corporation, Tiruppur	Member
6.	Er. V. Damodharan, Executive Er., PWD, Erode	Member
7.	Dr. T. Rajesh, Scientist, CSIR – NEERI, Chennai	Member
8.	Dr. S. Mathava Kumar, Associate Prof., IIT, Chennai	Member

Based on the order of the Honourable National Green Tribunal, Dated 28.09.2021, the following Action taken report is submitted.

**It is respectfully submitted that this Honourable Tribunal is seized of the issue relating to removal of encroachment from NallarOdai and to make the lake free from any polluted water.**

**Series of directions were issued for restoring the dysfunctional Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) by the Public Works Department.**

It is respectfully submitted that the SarkarPeriyapalayam Tank (Nanjarayan Lake) is located in Sarkarperiyapalayam Village in UthukuliTaluk, Tirupur District. The NallarOdai is feeding the Sarkarperiyapalayam Tank. This tank is classified as WRD tank and under the maintenance of Water Resources Department. It is with regret submitted that dyeing factories in the upstream side of the tank discharges their untreated effluents into the NallarOdai, which flows into the tank. Further, the Sewage Water of the Tirupur Corporation also mixes with the tank through this NallarOdai, as a result, it creates water pollution and other health hazards to the public living in the locality.

It is respectfully submitted that the TDS value of the impounded tank water was high in the range of about 2500 to 3200, which makes the water unsuitable for agriculture. The Ayacutdars belonging to the tank are badly affected due to this problem. As a measure of solving this perennial issue, the Government had sanctioned Rs.4.00 crore from the "Environment Protection and Renewable Energy Fund" during the year 2014-2015 vide G.O. No. 80, Environment and Forest (EC2) Department dated 10.09.2014. Based on the Government order, during March 2015, to restore the tank in good condition, work relating to installation of a sewage treatment plant of 1.5 MLD capacity, desilting the salt laden soil from the tank bed, diversion channel to divert the polluted water from the diversion weir to the treatment plant, reconstruction of sluices etc., were undertaken.

It is respectfully submitted that the sewage treatment plant in SarkarPeriyapalayam Tank is designed in such a way that the waste water from the NallarOdai is diverted through a baby canal and enter into the STP, having a capacity of 1.5 MLD for treatment. The treated water from the sewage treatment plant is to be let into the Sarkarperiyapalayam tank. The excess waste water, if any, is diverted through baby canal located along the periphery tank and let into the downstream side without entering the Sarkarperiyapalayam tank.

It is respectfully submitted that handover the treatment plant proposal to Tirupur Municipal Corporation is under the consideration of the Government.

It is humbly submitted that this Honourable Tribunal, in its order dated 10.06.2021, directed the Public Works Department to take up steps for revamping the STP without any further delay and to operate the STP so as to reduce the organic pollutants in the NallarOdai and to diverted the treated water into the lake.

It is humbly submitted that the inflow of 1.5 MLD into the STP is found to be predominantly industrial (dyeing) effluent rather than domestic sewage. Since plant is designed for treating only domestic sewage, it is incapable of treating industrial effluent. Therefore, even if the plant is operational, the WRD cannot take over the plant for maintenance. It is felt that the plant needs to be re-designed/modified and or upgraded to treat both industrial and domestic sewage. In this context, a meeting was convened by the District Collector, Tirupur on 26.07.2021 and instructions were issued to the TirupurMunicipal Corporation, to take over the STP from the Water Resources Department. Based on such instructions, a combined inspection was made by the Commissioner, Tirupur Municipal Corporation along with their officials of the Water Resources Department and the STP consultants on 30.07.2021. A meeting was also conducted to specifically explore the possibility of re-designing the STP for its current inflow in the baby canal. It was ascertained that, due to urbanization of outskirts in and around TirupurMunicipal Corporation, theprevailing inflow in the baby canal gets increased and as

such, 10 MLD capacity of STP is required. Therefore, it was insisted that the existing STP should be re-designed/modified or upgraded to 10 MLD capacity from 1.5 MLD for accommodating the current inflow from NallarOdai. Accordingly, an estimate was prepared by the STP consultant On 31.08.2021, and has sent the above proposal to the Commissioner, Tirupur Municipal Corporation.

Further, it is respectfully submitted that periodical meetings are being conducted among officials of the Water Resources Department Pollution Control Board Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department and STP consultants in co-ordination with the District Collector on this subject. The Pollution Control Board officials are also monitoring various dying units located in the District in order to strictly comply with the pollution control norms.

It is respectfully submitted that the preventing the untreated effluent from mixing into the lake are the main focus entrusted with the Pollution Control Board of the District. After the lockdown norms were exempted and/or lifted, the industries started functioning on an accelerated mode. The Pollution Control Board has also been advised to adhere to polluter pay principle/norms as enunciated by the Honourable Supreme Court in various cases relating to environmental pollution. Unless the dying units are prevented or prohibited from letting out the untreated effluents into the lake, the issue relating to cleansing the lake cannot be sorted out. The Government, in its various efforts and interventions, are resorting to zero-tolerance in this matter. The various orders issued by this Honourable Tribunal are periodically implemented. There were several meetings and/or review meetings periodically conducted and all the concerned wings of the Government are taking out all efforts to ensure that the STP is made functional soon. Once the STP is operational, the issue will no longer survive for consideration of this Honourable Tribunal. At the same time, the issue involved in this case requires a longer period and it is assured that all the related departments of the Government are wholly and fully involved in ensuring compliance of the various orders passed by this Honourable Tribunal.

It is therefore humbly prayed that this Honourable National Green Tribunal may be pleased to accept this report and to grant adequate time for reporting the operationalization of the STP before this Honourable National Green Tribunal and pass further suitable orders and thus render justice.

Dated at Chennai on this the **22** Day of November 2021.

  
Executive Engineer, WRD.,  
Lower Bhavani Basin Division,  
Erode-2