

**Report of the Joint Committee constituted by the Hon'ble NGT (SZ), Chennai in respect of
Suo Motu O. A. No. 52 & O. A. No. 67 of 2020 regarding Cauvery River Water Pollution**

I. Back Ground of the Case:

Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ), Chennai has taken up a Suo Motu O. A. No. 52/2020 based on the news published in Dinamalar daily on 28.02.2020 regarding Cauvery River Water Pollution. Subsequently, based on the news published in Dinamalar daily on 09.05.2020 regarding Cauvery River water pollution, the Hon'ble NGT (SZ), Chennai has taken up another Suo Motu O.A. No. 67/2020.

The Tribunal has constituted a joint committee comprising District Collector, Erode, District Collector, Namakkal, Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board, Engineer in Chief, Water Resources Organisation (WRO), Chief Engineer (General), Public Works Department (PWD), Superintending Engineer (SE), PWD (WRO), Upper Cauvery Basin Circle, Superintending Engineer (SE), PWD, WRO, Bhavani Basin Circle, Commissioners of Erode City Municipal Corporation & Pallipalayam Municipality and directed the committee to inspect and report as directed in the Order Dated: 03.03.2020 in O. A. No. 52/2020, Order Dated: 12.05.2020 in O. A. No. 67/2020 and Order Dated: 15.05.2020.

The Engineer-in-chief, WRO and Chief Engineer (General) Public Works Department are designated as Nodal Agency.

Based on the Orders of Hon'ble NGT in O. A. No. 52/2020 Dated: 03.03.2020, the District Collector, Erode has constituted a sub-committee vide Proceedings Dated: 10.03.2020. The District Collector, Namakkal has also constituted a sub-committee vide Proc. Dated: 12.06.2020.

The District Collectors Erode & Namakkal and their respective sub-committee members have inspected the sources of Cauvery river water pollution including textile and tannery industries located on the right & left side of river Cauvery in Erode & Namakkal Districts respectively.

The District Collectors, Erode & Namakkal have filed an interim report before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ). Subsequently the Joint Committee has inspected River Cauvery stretch in the Erode & Namakkal Districts and the industries located on both sides of the River in the close vicinity on 21.09.2020 & 22.09.2020. The Report of the Joint Committee is submitted as below.

II. A brief introduction about River Cauvery and Bhavani flowing in the Districts of Erode & Namakkal:

a. River Cauvery in Erode District:

River Cauvery enters Erode District at Ammapettai in Bhavani Taluk. River Cauvery flows through Bhavani, Erode & Kodumudi Taluks in Erode District. The River Cauvery flows about 88 Km in the District. Cauvery river water is monitored by TNPCB by analysis of water samples collected from the river at Uratchikottai, R.N.Pudur & Vairapalayam on the right bank of River Cauvery.

b. River Cauvery in Namakkal District:

River Cauvery enters Namakkal District at Kumarapalayam in Kumarapalayam Taluk, Namakkal District. River Cauvery flows through Kumarapalayam Municipality, Seerampalayam Village, Avathipalayam Village, Pallipalayam Municipality, Kokkarayanpettai Village Panchayat of Kumarapalayam Taluk, Namakkal District and Pattlur Village, Molasi Village of Thiruchengode Taluk, Namakkal District. The river Cauvery flows for about 64 Km in the jurisdiction of O/o DEE, TNPCB, Kumarapalayam. Cauvery River water quality is being regularly monitored by TNPCB by analyzing the water samples collected from River Cauvery at Kumarapalayam upstream, Kumarapalayam, Seerampalayam, Avathipalayam (Pallipalayam upstream) & Pallipalayam - Vendipalayam Barrage (Pallipalayam Downstream) on the left bank of River Cauvery.

c. River Bhavani in Erode District:

River Bhavani originates from Western Ghats in Nilgiris District and flows through Coimbatore District and then enters Erode District at Bhavanisagar Dam. It flows through Bhavanisagar Town Panchayat, Sathyamangalam Municipality, Gobichettipalayam Taluk, Bhavani Taluk and finally reaches Kalingarayan Anaicut at Bhavani. The River flows about 92 Km in the District. From the Kalingarayan Anaicut, Kalingarayan Canal is branched out from the River Bhavani and it flows through the Erode Taluk. The remaining part of River Bhavani confluences with River Cauvery at Kooduthurai, Bhavani. Bhavani river water is monitored by TNPCB by analysing of water samples collected from the river at Bhavani sagar, Sathyamangalam & Bhavani.

III. The details of effluent generating industries located at 0 to 5 km from River Cauvery & River Bhavani:

Sl.No.	Type of industries	River Cauvery				River Bhavani	
		Jurisdiction of O/o DEE, Erode		Jurisdiction of O/o DEE, Kumarapalayam		Jurisdiction of O/o DEE, Perundurai	
		No. of industries		No. of industries		No. of industries	
		Authorised	Unauthorised	Authorised	Unauthorised	Authorised	Unauthorised
1	Dyeing	150	-	89	21*	39	-
2	Bleaching	253	-	26	5*	12	-
3	Printing	209	-	-	-	-	-
4	Tannery	37	-	-	-	-	-
		649	-	115	-	51	-

* Presently not in operation and the units are regularly monitored by the DCCC, if found any operation notice will be served under section 133 CrPC through DCC.

a. Details of effluent generation:

Sl.No.	Type of industries	Jurisdiction of O/o DEE, Erode		Jurisdiction of O/o DEE, Kumarapalayam		Jurisdiction of O/o DEE, Perundurai	
		Quantity of effluent generated (KLD)		Quantity of effluent generated (KLD)		Quantity of effluent generated (KLD)	
		Authorised	Unauthorised	Authorised	Unauthorised	Authorised	Unauthorised
1	Dyeing	25150.2	-	5995.8	-	4789.75	-

2	Bleaching	19230.1	-	2030.76	-	1575.15	-
3	Printing	2061.3	-	-	-	-	-
4	Tannery	2007.1	-	-	-	-	-
		48448.70	-	8026.64	-	6364.90	-

Note: Authorised dyeing and tannery industries have provided Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) treatment system. The bleaching and printing industries have either provided ZLD or have conventional ETP.

b. Status of Paper manufacturing industries in the vicinity of Bhavani River

In Sathyamangalam Taluk, 12 Paper Industries are in operation (6 Kraft Paper Units & 6 Writing and Printing Paper Units) using waste paper as raw material. Kraft Paper Industries are recycling the entire quantity of untreated/ treated effluent in their process. Printing paper industries reuse 75% of treated waste water in the process and the remaining 25% treated waste water is utilized on land for irrigation.

IV. River Cauvery Water Quality assessment done by TNPCB for the period Jan 2019 to July 2020

The consolidated report of analysis of the Cauvery river water for the period 2019 - 2020 is enclosed as Annexure - I. The range value of the Cauvery River water quality parameters collected and assessed by TNPCB between Jan 2019 to July 2020 is submitted as below.

a. Cauvery River Water Quality range values (Erode District)

Sl. No.	Parameters	Point of sample collection/ Values		
		Uratchikottai	R.N.Pudur	Vairapalayam
1.	Temperature (°C)	19 - 32	28 - 40	28 - 40
2.	pH	7.08 - 8.41	6.44 - 8.39	7.05 - 8.46
3.	Conductivity (µmhos/cm)	254-520	179 - 1123	224 - 1060
4.	Dissolved Oxygen mg/l	5.5- 8.4	0.4 - 8.9	0.6 - 8.3
5.	Bio Chemical Oxygen Demand mg/l	0.2- 2.6	0.3 - 23.3	0.4 - 15
6.	Nitrates - N mg/l	0.012 - 0.28	0.019 - 0.399	0.016 - 0.940
7.	Nitrite - N mg/l	0.004 - 0.098	0.001 - 0.056	0.003 - 0.248
8.	Ammonia - N mg/l	1.12 - 1.68	1.12 - 2.24	1.12 - 2.24
9.	Fecal Coliform MPN/100 ml	21 - 70	4.5 - 430	22 - 370
10.	Total Coliform MPN/100 ml	58 - 170	94 - 940	70 - 930

Note: The presence of fecal and total coliform indicates the discharge of sewage into River Cauvery.

b. Cauvery River Water Quality range values (Namakkal District)

Sl. No.	Parameters	Point of collection/Values				
		Kumarapalayam Municipal Head Works	Kumarapalayam	Seerampalayam	Avathipalayam	Pallipalayam

3.	Conductivity (µmhos/cm)	301 - 512	238 - 548	204 - 534	287 - 606	254-1016
4.	Dissolved Oxygen mg/l	5.6 - 6.9	4.6 - 7.8	5.3 - 8.5	0.2 - 3.4	1.6 - 8.2
5.	Bio Chemical Oxygen Demand mg/l	0.3 - 3.1	0.2 - 6.9	0.3 - 3.6	0.2 - 6.9	0.2 - 12
6.	Nitrates - N mg/l	0.021 - 0.43	0.028 - 0.45	0.063 - 1.146	0.114 - 0.5	0.093 - 0.4
7.	Nitrite - N mg/l	0.001 - 0.099	0.003 - 0.956	0.003 - 0.894	0.002 - 0.495	0.001 - 0.894
8.	Ammonia - N mg/l	1.12 - 2.24	0.56 - 3.36	0.56 - 2.24	0.56 - 2.24	0.56 - 3.36
9.	Fecal Coliform MPN/100 ml	21 - 170	110 - 630	9.3 - 310	11 - 120	58 - 940
10.	Total Coliform MPN/100 ml	70 - 390	350 - 1400	41 - 840	11 - 280	140 - 2200

Note: The presence of fecal and total coliform indicates the discharge of sewage into River Cauvery.

c. Bhavani River Water Quality range values (Erode District)

Sl. No.	Parameters	Point of collection/ Values		
		Bhavanisagar	Sathyamangalam	Bhavani
1.	Temperature (°C)	21 - 30	22 - 31	18-32
2.	pH	6.52 - 7.81	6.38 - 7.85	6.67 - 8.33
3.	Conductivity (µmhos/cm)	114 - 224	134 - 438	203 - 1207
4.	Dissolved Oxygen mg/l	4.7 - 7.9	4.7 - 7.9	4.8 - 8.1
5.	Bio Chemical Oxygen Demand mg/l	0.2 - 3.1	0.3 - 2.5	0.2 - 3.6
6.	Nitrates - N mg/l	0.035 - 0.268	0.043 - 0.219	0.056 - 0.399
7.	Nitrite -N mg/l	0.006 - 0.104	0.007 - 0.195	0.005 - 0.214
8.	Ammonia - N mg/l	1.12 - 2/24	1.12 - 2.24	1.12 - 3.36
9.	Fecal Coliform MPN/100 ml	21 - 170	13 - 63	21 - 170
10.	Total Coliform MPN/100 ml	63 - 390	49 - 110	94 - 430

Note: The presence of fecal and total coliform indicates the discharge of sewage into River Cauvery and Bhavani.

V. Drinking water intake from River Cauvery

a. Erode City Municipal Corporation (Erode District)

The Erode City Municipal Corporation draws water from the river at various intake wells and water is treated in water treatment plants. Erode Corporation has 9 water intake wells and water treatment plants for all the intake points. The dedicated water supply scheme is being implemented for Erode Corporation which will be completed by December 2020 after which above intake wells will not be used.

b. Kumarapalayam Municipality (Namakkal District)

The Kumarapalayam Municipality draws water from the river Cauvery at Cauvery Nagar intake well and treating and pumping the treated water through eight overhead tanks (OHT).

c. Pallipalayam Municipality (Namakkal District)

The Pallipalayam Municipality draws water from the river Cauvery at Samayasangili intake wells by treating and pumping the treated water through eight overhead tanks (OHT).

Treated water after meeting the drinking water standards is supplied to public. The Report of Analysis (ROA) of Cauvery river treated water reveals that the parameters are within the drinking water standards. The copies of ROA of Cauvery river treated water analysed by TWAD Board at Vairapalayam, Erode District, Kumarapalayam & Pallipalayam, Namakkal District are enclosed vide Annexure - II.

VI. Water Quality Status of streams joining with River Cauvery

a. Erode District:

Pitchaikaranpallam, Notchipallam, Sunnambu odai and Perumpallam odai are four water streams flowing across Erode City Municipal Corporation and joins with River Cauvery at various locations. Residential and industrial areas are located along these streams stretches. The consolidated report of analysis of the water collected from these streams is submitted as Annexure - III. The values of the parameters are submitted as below.

Sl.No	Parameters	Inland surface water discharge Standards	Pitchaikaran pallam	Nochipallam	Sunnambu odai	Perumpallam
1.	pH	5.5-9.0	7.39 – 8.05	7.69 – 8.67	7.64-8.24	7.47-8.20
2.	TSS (mg/l)	30	12-124	44-68	48-52	52
3.	TDS (mg/l)	2100	580 - 1852	1464-2656	1076-1644	604-832
4.	BOD (mg/l)	20	6-135	12-22	18-27	4.8-20
5.	COD (mg/l)	150	48-336	64-136	64-104	56-88
6.	Faecal Coliform MPN/100 ml	100	31	38	94	39

b. Namakkal District:

i) Kumarapalayam Municipality

Cauvery Nagar, Pusarikadu, Kalaimakal Street, Palakarai and Manimekalai street are major water streams flowing across Kumarapalayam Municipal limit and joins with River Cauvery at various locations. Residential and industrial areas are located along these streams stretches. The consolidated report of analysis of the water collected from these streams is submitted as Annexure - IV. The values of the parameters are submitted as below.

S. No	Parameters	Inland surface water discharge Standards	Cauvery Nagar	Pusarikadu	Kalaimakal Street	Palakarai	Manimekalai st
1.	pH	5.5-9.0	7.07	6.59	6.55	7.01	7.41
2.	TSS (mg/l)	30	16	128	52	48	5.6
3.	TDS (mg/l)	2100	348	1116	780	640	1596
4.	BOD (mg/l)	20	2.0	145	25	20	25

3.	Fecal Coliform MPN/100 ml	100	43	700	310	210	330
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ii) Pallipalayam Municipality

Vasantha Nagar, Alampalayam burial ground, GH Avarangadu, Cauvery bridge (L), Cauvery bridge (R), Pudhan Sandhai, Cauvery Thadam (Nagam Koil) and Oilkara Street are eight major water streams flowing across Pallipalayam Municipal limit and joins with River Cauvery at various locations. Residential and industrial areas are located along these streams. The consolidated report of analysis of the water collected from these streams is submitted as Annexure V. The values of the parameters are submitted as below.

S. No	Parameters	Inland surface water discharge Standards	Vasantha Nagar (Navabrin dha)	Alampalaya m Burial Ground	GH Avarankadu	Cauvery Bridge (L)	Cauvery Bridge (R)	Pudhan Sandhai	Cauvery Thadam (Nagam Koil)	Oilkara Street
1.	pH	5.5-9.0	7.30	7.06	6.66	7.02	6.60	6.99	6.76	7.33
2.	TSS (mg/l)	30	40	28	20	16	20	52	48	88
3.	TDS (mg/l)	2100	2332	876	732	1136	668	812	956	988
4.	BOD (mg/l)	20	6.3	9	6	12	15	<2	9	20
5.	COD (mg/l)	150	72	56	48	64	88	32	72	192
6.	Fecal Coliform MPN/100 ml	100	260	210	140	68	82	4	27	310

VII. Status of sewage treatment plants

a. Erode City Municipal Corporation limit

Erode City Municipal Corporation has 60 wards and has the population of 4,98,121 (based on 2011 census), having 1.00 lakhs households. 33.75 MLD of sewage is generated from Erode City Municipal Corporation limit. The Corporation has installed a sewage treatment plant of capacity 50.55 MLD at Peelamedu Village, Vendipalayam. At present, 15000 Households are connected to sewage treatment plant through UGDSS. 6.00 MLD of Sewage generated from these 15000 Household is conveyed to Sewage Treatment Plant (STP). The treated sewage after meeting the standards is discharged into Perumpallam odai which finally joins with River Cauvery. The Corporation has reported that the UGSS for another 75000 households will be completed before May 2022. The sewage generated from remaining 10000 Households are treated through septic tank.

TNPCB has issued directions among the other directions to the Commissioner, Commissionerate of Municipal Administration, Chennai to instruct Commissioner, Erode Corporation as below vide Board's Proc. dt 01.08.2018.

"The local authorities of villages, towns and cities along the river Cauvery shall ensure proper channelization and proper treatment of domestic sewage generated from the villages/ towns along the bank of River Cauvery and Kalingarayan Canal through sewage treatment plants

and shall ensure to comply with the sewage discharge norms notified under the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986”.

The corporation has provided adequate capacity of STP (50.55 MLD). The Corporation has assured to provide UGSS to the remaining 75000 Households before May 2022. Hence, after the implementation of UGSS for the remaining areas, the disposal of around 27.75 MLD of sewage into water bodies will be prevented.

b. Kumarapalayam Municipality

Kumarapalayam Municipality has 33 wards and the population of 71,594 (based on 2011 census). About 5.60 MLD of sewage is generated from Kumarapalayam Municipal limit. Kumarapalayam Municipality has informed that a STP will be provided under “Nadanthai Vazhi Cauvery” scheme through PWD (WRO). At present, the untreated sewage from Kumarapalayam Municipality joins with River Cauvery.

c. Pallipalayam Municipality Limit

Pallipalayam Municipality has 21 wards with a population of 40,140 (based on 2011 census). 4.34 MLD of sewage is generated from Pallipalayam Municipal limit. Pallipalayam Municipality has informed that a STP will be provided under “Nadanthai Vazhi Cauvery” scheme through PWD (WRO). At present, the untreated sewage from Pallipalayam Municipality joins with River Cauvery.

d. Sathyamangalam Municipality limit into River Bhavani

Sewage generated from Sathyamangalam Municipality, Part of Bhavani Municipality and other local bodies along the River reaches River Bhavani.

Sathyamangalam Municipality has constructing a STP of capacity 4 MLD for the treatment of sewage generated and is nearing completion.

e. Bhavani Municipality limit

Bhavani Municipality has 27 wards with a population of 39,225 (based on 2011 census). 3.50 MLD of sewage is generated from Bhavani Municipal limit. Bhavani Municipality has informed that the proposal for the establishment of STP is under process through the PWD (WRO) under “Nadanthai Vazhi Cauvery” scheme. A part of untreated sewage from Bhavani Municipality joins with River Bhavani and rest with River Cauvery.

VIII. Details of action taken by TNPCB and District Co-ordination Committee against the violating industries

The details of action taken by TNPCB O/o. District Environmental Engineer, Erode, O/o. District Environmental Engineer, Perundurai and O/o. District Environmental Engineer, Kumarapalayam against the violating industries through TNPCB and DCC so as to prevent River Water Pollution are submitted as below.

Based on the Hon'ble High Court Order Dated: 04.07.2007 & 09.08.2007 in W. P. Nos. 5494/1998 & 30153/2003, District Co-ordination Committee (DCC) has been constituted in Erode District during the year 2009 and Namakkal District during the year 2011. Subsequently it is reconstituted as per the G.O. Ms. No. 23, Dated: 01.03.2018 and functioning till date.

VIII. a. Action taken by the O/o. District Environmental Engineer, TNPC Board, Erode

- In Erode, industries such as textile dyeing 104 Nos, bleaching 225 Nos, tannery 30 Nos are under operation. All these industries have obtained consent of Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board. No unauthorized dyeing/ bleaching/ tannery industries are under operation in Erode.
- These industries have provided individual effluent treatment plants for the treatment of waste water generated. Recovered water is reused in the process. Sludge generated is transported to cement industries for co-processing.

The year wise details of action taken by TNPC Board against the violating industries through the District Co-ordination Committee, Erode is submitted as below,

Year	No. of industries issued with orders for disconnection of power supply			
	Dyeing	Bleaching & Printing	Tannery	Total
2016-2017	20	55	12	87
2017-2018	30	33	6	69
2018-2019	9	31	2	42
2019-2020	14	31	-	45
Apr 2020 – Sep 2020	9	15	1	25

VIII b. Action taken by the O/o. District Environmental Engineer, TNPC Board, Perundurai:

- In O/o DEE, TNPCB, Perundurai, industries such as textile dyeing 39 Nos, bleaching 12 Nos, are under operation along the river Bhavani. All these industries have obtained consent of Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board. No unauthorized dyeing/ bleaching industries are under operation in the jurisdiction of O/o DEE, TNPCB, Perundurai.
- These industries have provided individual effluent treatment plants for the treatment of waste water generated. Recovered water is reused in the process. Sludge generated is transported to cement industries for co-processing.

The year wise details of action taken by TNPC Board against the violating industries through the District Co-ordination Committee, Erode is submitted as below,

Year	No. of industries issued with orders for disconnection of power supply			
	Dyeing	Bleaching & Printing	Tannery	Total
2016-2017	27	3	-	30
2017-2018	31	-	1	32
2018-2019	11	-	2	13
2019-2020	20	1	-	21
Apr 2020 – Jun 2020	-	-	-	-

VIII. c. Action taken by the O/o. District Environmental Engineer, TNPC Board, Kumarapalayam

- a. 89 Nos of textile dyeing and 26 Nos bleaching units are functioning in the jurisdiction of O/o DEE, TNPCB, Kumarapalayam. All these industries have obtained consent of Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board.
- b. These industries have provided individual effluent treatment plants for the treatment of waste water generated. Recovered water is reused in the process. Sludge generated is transported to cement industries for co-processing.

The year wise details of action taken by TNPC Board against the violating industries through the TNPCB Board/District Co-ordination Committee, Namakkal is submitted as below,

Year	No. of industries issued with orders of disconnection of power supply				Eviction
	Dyeing		Bleaching		Unauthorized units
	TNPCB	DCC	TNPCB	DCC	DCC
2018-2019	3	10	0	5	142
2019-2020	19	9	10	5	141
Apr 2020 – Sep 2020	0	16	0	10	73
Total	22	35	10	20	356

IX. Details of action taken by TNPCB against the violating industries after recommencement of industries during COVID-19 Lock down period and after the orders of the Hon'ble NGT in O.A.No 52 & 67 / 2020 dated 03/03/2020:

After the National Lock down in the COVID-19 pandemic period, the industries were permitted to recommence their operation in phased manner. The following table shows the details of action taken against the violating industries subsequent to the orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ), Chennai dated 03.03.2020 in O.A. No 52/2020.

Sl. No.	Jurisdiction	No. of industries issued with disconnection of power supply through DCC (between March 2020 and September 2020)			
		Dyeing	Bleaching & Printing	Tannery	Total
1	O/o. DEE, TNPCB, Erode	9	15	1	25
2	O/o. DEE, TNPCB, Perundurai	3	-	-	3
3	O/o. DEE, TNPCB, Kumarapalayam	16	10	-	26

X. Environmental Compensation collected

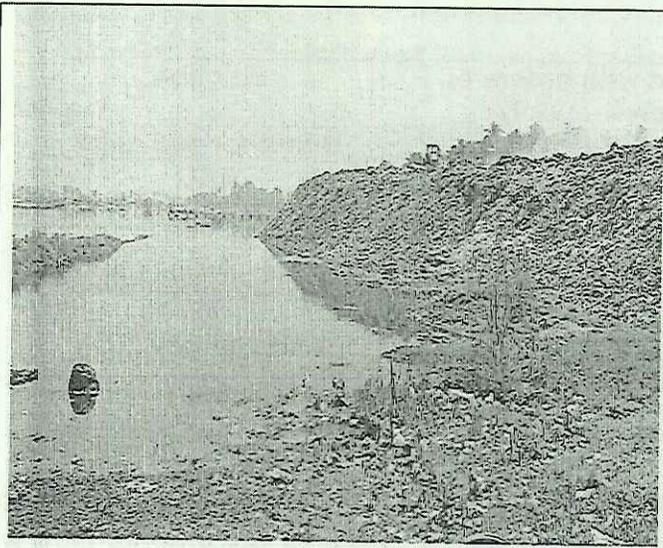
Based on the orders of Hon'ble NGT in O.A.No.1038/2018 dt 10.07.2019 and in O.A.No.593/2017 dt 19.02.2019 and 28.08.2019, environmental compensation from violating industries are collected by TNPCB and District Co-ordination Committee as detailed below.

S. No.	TNPCB District offices	Environmental Compensation Collected by TNPCB & DCC (in Rs.)	Total (in Rs.)

2.	O/o. DEE, TNPCB, Perundurai	800,000 + 10,00,000/-	18,00,000/-
3.	O/o. DEE, TNPCB, Kumarapalayam	3,70,000/-	3,70,000/-
Total			1,35,93,663/-

XI. Solid Waste Management for the prevention of leachate from dump site mixing with River Cauvery:

On the right bank of River Cauvery at Vairapalayam, the erst. while Municipal Solid waste dump site of Erode City Municipal Corporation is located. The Erode City Municipal Corporation drinking water pumping station is located at the downstream of this site. The Corporation had dumped about 80,850 m3 of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) in that site. The leachate generated from this site was earlier mixed with river Cauvery.

	
<p>Municipal Solid Waste dumpsite located at the right bank of River Cauvery at Vairapalayam, Erode before biomining</p>	<p>Present Status of Municipal Solid Waste dumpsite after biomining</p>

XI a Action taken by TNPCB

TNPCB has issued directions under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to the Commissioner, Commissionerate of Municipal Administration, Chennai to instruct Commissioner, Erode Corporation to stop dumping of municipal solid waste on the banks of River Cauvery at Vairapalayam, Erode and to comply with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 vide Board's Proc. Dt. 01/08/2018.

The Erode City Municipal Corporation has cleared and processed the entire MSW dumped at Vairapalayam MSW dump site. At present, no MSW is available at the MSW dump site. This will prevent the flow of MSW leachate into River and carryover of municipal solid waste in river water during rainy seasons and flood.

XII. Formation of Textile CETPs in Erode & Namakkal Districts:

To further improve the Cauvery and Bhavani River water quality and to strengthen the monitoring mechanism to prevent illegal disposal of effluent by individual industries, on the instruction of TNPCB, the textile association have proposed to provide textile CETPs in Erode & Namakkal Districts. After commissioning of the CETPs, the individual effluent treatment plants provided by the units will be closed and effluent generated from these industries will be conveyed to CETPs for treatment.

S. No.	No. of CETPs proposed	GFA (Rs. in Lakhs)	Plant Capacity (MLD)	No. of member units	Consent status	Land available (acres)
A	Erode (Erode District)					
	5*	91085.80	22.2	249	CTE Issued	27
B	Bhavani (Erode District)					
	3	39989	12	118	CTE Issued	18.04
C	Kumarapalayam (Namakkal District)					
	2**	30700	8	210	Yet to obtain CTE	38.89

Note:

* - 4 CETPs for the treatment of entire quantity of Trade effluent generated from the existing textile units and 1 CRMS is for the treatment of final reject generated from its member units.

** - 1 CRMS is for the treatment of final reject generated from the existing consented textile industries and 1 CETP for the treatment of entire quantity of Trade effluent generated from the unauthorized textile industries

Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board, Erode, Perundurai, Kumarapalayam, Environmental Engineer (Flying Squad), Erode and District Administration, Erode & Namakkal are monitoring the industries operated in Erode & Namakkal Districts and monitoring River Cauvery & River Bhavani as detailed above. Surprise and night inspections are also being carried out. Violating industries found discharging effluent/ not operating ETP are issued with orders for closure and disconnection of power supply immediately. Environmental Compensation is collected by TNPCB and District Co-ordination Committee.

Joint Committee Observations:

As directed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ), Chennai the joint committee had a meeting with the District Administration of Erode & Namakkal. The joint committee has inspected Erode, Bhavani, Kumarapalayam and Pallipalayam on 21/09/2020 and 22/09/2020. The observations are submitted as below.

1. The District Collector, Erode & District Collector, Namakkal, District Revenue Officer, Namakkal, Revenue Divisional Officer, Erode, Superintending Engineer, WRD, Erode (Bhavani basin circle), Executive Engineer, WRD, Erode (Lower Bhavani Basin Division), Executive Engineer, WRD, Mettur division (Trichy region), Joint Chief Environmental Engineer (Monitoring), TNPCB, Salem, Commissioner, Erode city Municipal Corporation, Erode, Commissioner, Kumarapalayam Municipality, the Commissioner, Pallipalayam

the River Cauvery, River Bhavani, the streams joining with River Cauvery and Bhavani.

2. On 21.09.2020, the flow of water in River Cauvery was @ 18000 cusecs.
3. Water samples have been collected from River Cauvery, River Bhavani and water streams joining the rivers at the following locations:

Sampling Locations of River
1. River Cauvery at NTADCL Water Intake Point, Erode
2. River Cauvery at the upstream of Pitchaikaranpallam Odai mixing point
3. Confluence of River Bhavani with River Cauvery at Kumarapalayam Bridge
4. River Bhavani before confluencing with River Cauvery at Kooduthurai
5. River Cauvery at Erode Corporation Water Pumping House at Vairapalayam after mixing of Pitchaikaranpallam Odai with river
6. Treated Water from Erode Corporation Water Pumping House at Vairapalayam
7. River Cauvery at Cauvery nagar, Kumarapalayam
8. River Cauvery at Manimekalai street, Kumarapalayam
9. River Cauvery at Avathipalayam, Pallipalayam
10. River Cauvery RS road near railway line, Pallipalayam
Sampling Locations of Water streams joining with river Cauvery
1. Mixing point of Pitchaikaranpallam Odai with River Cauvery
2. Upstream of Pitchaikaranpallam Odai at Ellapalayam lake
3. Mixing point of Cauvery nagar drain with river Cauvery at Kumarapalayam
4. Mixing point of Ayyan Thottam odai with river Cauvery at Manimekalai street, Kumarapalayam
5. Mixing point of RS Nagar Odai with river Cauvery at Alampalayam crematorium, Pallipalayam
6. Mixing point of Samayasangili Odai with river Cauvery at Avathipalayam, Pallipalayam
7. Mixing point of Sengadu odai with river Bhavani at Kadayampatti

4. LBP canal is opened for irrigation. Seepage water from LBP (Lower Bhavani Project) irrigation area and Kalingarayan canal irrigation areas were noticed in Pitchaikaranpallam Odai and other streams joining the River Cauvery on the right bank in Erode District. Hence there was a good flow of water in the stream.
5. The Erode City Municipal Corporation has provided 50.55 MLD capacity of sewage treatment plant (STP) for the treatment of entire quantity of sewage generated from Erode City Municipal Corporation limit. Sewage generated from 15000 Household is treated in the STP. The sewage generated from remaining 85000 Households of Erode City Municipal Corporation not covered under the UGSS was found discharged into the Pitchaikaranpallam and other streams joining River Cauvery. The Erode City Municipal Corporation has proposed to complete the UGSS for the remaining areas before May 2022.

6. A part of the sewage generated from Bhavani Municipality was found joining River Bhavani through Sengadu Odai at Kadayampatti, Bhavani and the rest joins with river Cauvery.
7. Random inspections were carried out in the dyeing and tannery industries located at Erode, Bhavani of Erode District and Kumarapalayam and Pallipalayam of Namakkal District.

Sl. No.	Name of the industry & location	Type of Industry	Observations
1.	M/s. India Dyeing Mills, Erode	Dyeing	The unit was found operating ZLD System satisfactorily.
2.	M/s. Imperial Dyeing, Erode	Dyeing	The unit has installed and operated a new emerging technology MVR evaporator in addition to the existing RMS and was found operating ZLD System satisfactorily.
3.	M/s. Venkateshwara Prime Tannery, Erode	Tannery	The unit was found not in operation. ETP components and ZLD system were in operable condition.
4.	M/s. Ranga Tannery, Erode	Tannery	The unit was found operating ZLD System satisfactorily.
5.	M/s. Saravana Leather Processors, Erode	Tannery	The unit was not in operation and found to be locked.
6.	M/s. Gokul Raja Dyeing, Erode	Dyeing	The unit was found not in operation and the improvements works for the existing ZLD system like replacement of RO membranes and installation of MEE were under progress
7.	M/s. Sri Raam Dyeing Factory, Bhavani	Dyeing	The unit was found operating ZLD System satisfactorily.
8.	M/s. Sathish Saya Salai, Bhavani	Dyeing	The unit was found operating ZLD System satisfactorily.
9.	M/s. Amman Dyeing, Bhavani	Dyeing	The unit was found operating ZLD System satisfactorily.
10.	M/s. V.K.S Textiles (formerly M/s. United processors), Kumarapalayam	Dyeing	The unit was found operating ZLD System satisfactorily.
11.	M/s. Vari Colours Pvt Ltd, Pallipalayam	Dyeing	The unit was found operating ZLD System satisfactorily.
12.	M/s. Sri Murugan dyeing, Pallipalayam	Dyeing	The unit was found operating ZLD System satisfactorily.

8. The Committee has inspected the MSW legacy waste dump site at the right bank of River Cauvery at Vairapalayam. After the issue of suitable direction under Section 5 of Environment Protection Act vide TNPC Board's Proc. dt 01.08.2018, the Erode City Municipal Corporation has removed and processed 80850 m³ of MSW dumped at Vairapalayam on the right bank of River Cauvery at Erode District. Hence the leachate mixing with River Cauvery has been stopped completely. Presently, the Erode City Municipal Corporation is treating the MSW in 27 micro compost centres.
9. The Committee has inspected the water supply intake point of Erode City Municipal Corporation at River Cauvery, Vairapalayam, Erode located at 200m downstream of mixing point of Pitchaikaranpallam odai with River Cauvery. Raw and treated water samples are

- collected and analysed. The report of analysis reveals that the drinking water is supplied to the public after meeting the standards.
10. The Committee has inspected Cauvery Nagar public drainage and Ayyan Thottam Odai public drainage at Kumarapalayam, Namakkal District mixing with River Cauvery at left bank.
 11. After the admission of Suo Motu cases O.A No. 52 & 67/2020 in Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ), Chennai, the TNPCB and District Administration, Erode have taken action against 25 violating industries & the TNPCB, Kumarapalayam and District Administration, Namakkal have taken action against 26 violating industries through the District Co-ordination Committee and disconnected the power supply of the units.
 12. As per the orders of Hon'ble NGT in 1038/2018 dt 10.07.2019, Erode has been declared as Severely Polluted Area based on the Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI) arrived by Central Pollution Control Board. Subsequently, TNPCB, Erode & Perundurai have collected Rs.1.32 crores from the violating industries. TNPCB, Kumarapalayam has collected Rs.3.70 Lakhs from the violating industries.
 13. On the instruction of TNPCB, the textile association have proposed five common effluent treatment plants (CETPs) at Erode, three CETPs at Bhavani & two CETPs at Kumarapalayam for the existing processing industries having individual effluent treatment plants (IETPs) for the effective implementation of Zero Liquid Discharge. The Association of All Textile Processors at Erode have purchased 27 acres of land and have obtained consent for establishment from TNPCB. The CETP management at Bhavani have purchased 18 acres of land. The CETP management at Kumarapalayam have purchased 38.89 acres of land.
 14. One CRMS and one CETP at Elanthakuttai and Sowthapuram villages of Kumarapalayam Taluk, Namakkal District for the existing processing industries having individual effluent treatment plants (IETPs) and for the unauthorised units for the effective implementation of Zero Liquid Discharge. The CETP management at Kumarapalayam have purchased 38.89 acres of land.
 15. The Report of Analysis of the raw water samples (before treatment in the water treatment plants) collected by the Joint Committee from River Cauvery and Bhavani at Various locations in Erode and Namakkal Districts reveals that the parameters are within permissible limits prescribed.

Recommendations:

1. TNPCB shall install continuous online surface water quality monitoring stations in river Cauvery, Bhavani and Kalingarayan Canal.
2. The urban local bodies located along the banks of River Cauvery and Bhavani not having STPs shall provide sewage treatment plants of adequate capacity for the treatment of sewage generated from the urban local bodies.
3. The Sathyamangalam Municipality shall expedite the construction and commissioning of STP at Sathyamangalam.

4. The Erode City Municipal Corporation shall complete the UGSS for the remaining areas at the earliest as committed for the collection and conveyance of Sewage to STP.
5. Adequate powers have been delegated to the District Co-ordination Committee vide G.O Ms No. 23, E&F Department dated: 01.03.2018. The TNPCB and the District Co-ordination Committee shall collect hefty Environmental Compensation from the repeated violating industries found discharging untreated effluent into water streams/ land and shall be prosecuted.
6. The Erode City Municipal Corporation shall explore the possibilities of reusing the treated sewage from the STP by the prospective industries / Agriculturists.
7. The TNPCB shall have close monitoring of the industries. In case of any unauthorised units causing pollution to the environment, it shall be brought to the notice of either DCC/ TNPCB Board office and action shall be taken for the disconnection of power supply, disconnection of water supply, seizure of materials, sealing of unit's premises/ machinery and eviction. Criminal case shall be filed against the land owner and environmental compensation shall be imposed on the land owners and occupier of the unit as already instructed by the TNPCB vide Circular dated: 22.09.2020.
8. Additional Engineers shall be posted to the O/o District Environmental Engineers, TNPCB, Erode, Perundurai & Kumarapalayam for effective monitoring of industries and water bodies.
9. Special subsidies or Interest free loans may be made available to the existing industries which are ready to adopt environment friendly technologies in the treatment of their trade effluent.
10. Financial assistance within the legal frameworks may be provided to the tiny/ small textile industries for their share towards the formation of proposed CETPs.
11. The environmental compensation collected may be utilized for the restoration of water bodies in the respective districts.
12. Frequent inspection shall be carried out by DCC by getting inputs from revenue/Local Body/NGO/Residents Associations/Visual and print media etc.
13. A dedicated mobile number may be designated and widely published in the press for receiving complaints about polluting industries.
14. An exclusive public grievance day may be organised by the DCC at the respective municipal office by giving wide advance publicity so that the affected public and other good Samaritan can complain about issues concerning Environment. Police, Revenue, Local body, EB, PWD/WRD, Health and Pollution Control Board officials of District level shall attend such exclusive grievance meeting for taking appropriate decisions immediately.
15. The local bodies while giving approvals for new layouts and regularising the existing layouts, disposal of sewage through appropriate drainage system should be made mandatory.
16. Repeated violators may be booked under Goondas Act through District Co-ordination Committee.

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[Signature]
SE, PWD (WRO)
Bhavani Basin Circle

R. Thirumala
JCEE(M), TNPCB 1/10/20
Salem

[Signature]
District Collector
Namakkal
3/2

[Signature]
District Collector
Erode