

**Joint Committee Inspection report based on the orders of the
Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in O.A. NO.76/2020
dated 03.06.2020.**

Date of Inspection: 15.07.2020.

Officers Present:

1. Dr.N.Preethi Parkavi, B.S.M.S.,
Revenue Divisional Officer, Thiruvallur Division,
Thiruvallur.(Representing the District Collector, Thiruvallur)
2. Er.C.Podupanithilagam, M.E.,
Executive Engineer, W.R.D., P.W.D.,
Kosasthalayar Basin Division, Thiruvallur.
3. Er.P.Senthur Pandey, District Environmental Engineer,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Thiruvallur.
4. Tr.P.Narayanan, Commissioner, Avadi Municipal Corporation,
Avadi, Thiruvallur.

* * * * *

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal on its own motion SuoMotu based on the news item in Dinamalar Chennai edition Newspaper dated 1.6.2020 "Danger of Lake getting Polluted due to mixing of Sewage and waste water " has registered a case in O.A. NO.76/2020(SZ) and in its order dated 03.06.2020 directed to " appoint a joint *committee comprising of the District Collector, Thiruvallur District , Superintending Engineer, Public Works Department,(PWD), Water Resources Organization(WRO), Thiruvallur District, the Tamilnadu State Pollution Control Board and Municipal Commissioner, Avadi City Municipal Corporation to inspect the area in question and submit a factual and action taken report in this regard*

Also directed the Committee to ascertain as to whether the tanker lorries are undertaking the work of collection and disposal of waste water are being registered and having necessary permission of the municipal

corporation and whether they are maintaining the records from where it is collected and where it is discharged.

The Committee was directed to trace out the person who are responsible for such illegal activities and suggest the course of action to be taken against those people including initiation of prosecution which the regulating authorities are expected to carry out.

The Committee was also directed to submit an action Plan(longterm and short term with shorter time for its implementation) for the purpose of remedying this situation and protecting the aforesaid water body in future including removal of encroachment if any which has been done unauthorizedly. The committee is also directed to assess the Environmental compensation against the violators .”

Based on the receipt of the order, the joint committee has conducted inspection on 15.07.2020 in the area in question and submitted the report as follows.

The Arafath lake is situated in S.F.No. 567 of Thirumullaivoyal village in Avadi taluk of Thiruvallur District. It is located amidst residential colonies within the catchment area of the lake. It abuts the Avadi-Thirupathi main road on the eastern side.

Arafath Lake forms one of the important constituent of the chain of lakes, which feeds to Ambattur tank in the downstream. Arafath lake has a free catchment area of 0.07 sq.km. As per the memoir, the water spread area is 61.0.0 hectare. However, the available water spread area is 13.02 hectare only. The maximum discharge as per the memoir is 233 cusecs and calculated discharge from local drain is 123 cusecs. Hence total discharge is 356 cusecs.

The committee observed that during night time sewage/sullage water collected by tanker lorries was let into the Arafath lake through storm water inlet near Suzuki showroom in Ambathur – Thiruvallur main road in Thirumullaivoyal village. In this regard the Thirumullaivoyal T-10

Sub-Inspector of Police registered a case in CR.No. 457/2020 u/s 277 IPC on 31.05.2020 against the lorry driver of TN 09 B 4964 who let the sewage water in the Arafath lake through the above said place. The committee instructed the Inspector of Police, Thirumullaivoyal, to check this inlet point periodically and take stringent action against them. The Commissioner, Avadi City Municipal Corporation addressed that a meeting had been already convened with the private sewage tanker lorry owners and instructed them to dispose the untreated sewage in the sewage treatment plant provided by Avadi City Municipal Corporation and assured before the committee to ensure it. The committee suggested to cover the storm water drain with a sealed concrete/ steel cover and the drain should be constructed with cover slab to a further distance of 10 meters to avoid the illegal disposal of untreated sewage and the work should be completed by the Avadi city Municipal Corporation before three months as a short term plan.

The Committee inspected the lake portion in S.F.No.568 where the drainage water(sullage) let into the lake in 9th street of Saravana nagar of Manigandapuram which drains from first to fourteenth street of Saravana nagar of Manigandapuram. The drainage was constructed few years back by the Avadi city Municipal Corporation . There is no drainage facilities found in first and second cross streets of 9th street of Saravana nagar which is adjacent to lake. People residing in this area used to let their drainage outlet directly into the lake. Since no proper drainage facilities available in the first and second cross streets of 9th street of Saravana nagar the residents facing flooding of drainage water when the Arafath lake attains its full tank level. Every monsoon season the residents from this area used to damage the tank surplus weir and thus create law and order issue.The Committee observed that there was no discharge of Industrial Effluent into the Arafath lake.

The Commissioner Avadi city municipal corporation assured to construct a leak proof sump in the 9th street of Saravana nagar near the border of Arafath lake where all the drains of first to fourteenth street of

Saravana nagar of Manigandapuram are collected and the sullage water will be carried to the sewage treatment plant then and there as a short term plan. The Tahsildar, Avadi was instructed to complete the survey work within a week and demarcate the boundary of lake to the officials of Avadi city Municipal corporation.

The above sump work should be completed by the Avadi City municipal Corporation within a month of time as a short term plan until then sewage/sullage water should be lifted from the existing drain itself and should be carried to the sewage treatment plant. Hereafter no sewage/sullage water should be disposed to the Arafath lake. The Commissioner, Avadi Municipal corporation should prepare a detailed project report to construct a underground sewerage system(UGSS) for Manigandapuram residential area and should be implemented within a period of two years as a long term plan. Further, drainage facilities should be made for the residents of first and second cross streets in 9th street of Saravana nagar within a period of three months as a short term plan.

Water samples were collected from the storm water drain (sullage) let into the Arafath lake in 9th street of Saravana nagar of Manigandapuram and also from the Arafath Lake to assess the water quality . The analysis reports are enclosed as Annexure -1 to 3.

The analysis results of the Water samples collected by the committee for the parameters such as pH,TSS,TDS,BOD,COD,Fecal coliform indicate that the Lake Pollution is due to mixing of untreated sewage/sullage from the nearby residential areas.

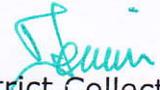
The Committee perused the encroachment details available with the Public Works Department and found 38 encroachments in the Lake S.F.No. 567. The Form 3 notice already issued by the Public Works Department to all the encroachers. The Tahsildar, Avadi was instructed to survey the field within a week and ensure the above encroachments. Further, if there is any other encroachments found during the survey the same has to be communicated to the nodal officer within two weeks of time.

The Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Thiruvallūr should take expeditious steps for early removal of encroachments as a long term plan by abiding the due course of law procedures and eviction should be completed within a year. The damaged portion of tank surplus weir in Arafath lake was sealed using concrete by the Public Works department. The Executive Engineer ,PWD should prepare an action plan to protect the foreshore area, construction of weir, construction of surplus course up to Ambattur lake and other restoration works of Arafath lake. The restoration work should be completed within two years of time as a long term plan.

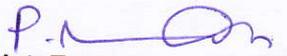
The action plan for the restoration of Arafath lake summarized as below:

SHORT TERM PLAN			
S.NO	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	DEPARTMENT	TIME SCHEDULE
1.	Providing cover slab for existing storm water drain and extent its length for 10 meter near Suzukhi showroom in Ambattur to Thiruvallur main road.	Commissioner, Avadi City Municipal corporation	3 months
2.	Construction of sump in 9 th street of Saravana nagar, Manigandapuram	Commissioner, Avadi City Municipal corporation	1 month
3.	Surveying of Lake area and demarcating the boundary and assessment of encroachments	Tahsildar, Avadi	1 week
4.	Providing drainage facilities for the residents of first and second cross streets in 9 th street of Saravana nagar	Commissioner, Avadi city Municipal corporation	3 months

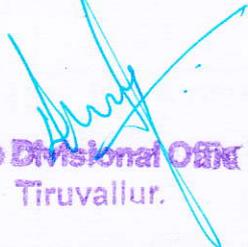
LONG TERM ACTION PLAN			
1.	Construction of under ground sewerage system (UGSS) for Manigandapuram residential area.	Commissioner, Avadi city Municipal corporation	2 Years
2.	Eviction of encroachments in the Arafath lake area	Executive Engineer, PWD/WRD, Thiruvallur	6 Months
3.	Restoration of lake by providing protection arrangements in the foreshore area, construction of weir, construction of surplus course up to Ambattur lake.	Executive Engineer, PWD/WRD, Thiruvallur	2 Years


District Collector
Thiruvallur


Executive Engineer, PWD, WRD.,
Kosasthalaiyar Basin Division,
Thiruvallur


District Environmental Engineer,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
Thiruvallur


Commissioner,
Avadi City Municipal Corporation,
Avadi


Revenue Divisional Officer
Tiruvallur.