

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL SOUTHERN ZONE
BENCH AT CHENNAI**

Original Application No. 259 of 2020(SZ)

&

Original Application No. 02 of 2021(SZ)

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU based on the News Item in The Indian Express, Newspaper dt: 09.12.2020, "Andhra town Eluru hit by „mystery“ illness, traces of lead, nickel in blood samples", News Item in The Times of India, Newspaper dt: 08.12.2020, "Heavy metal content in water caused mysterious disease in AP", & News Item in NDTV, dt: 09.12.2020, "Lead, Nickel found in blood of people with mystery illness in Andhra Pradesh.

And

The Chief Secretary of Govt. of Andhra Pradesh and Others

...Respondent(s)

With

Tribunal on its own motion - SUO MOTU based on the News item in The Hindu, edition dated 15.12.2020, Kolleru (West Godavari Dt.) "Mystery illness raises concerns over Kolleru pollution".

And

The Chief Secretary to Govt. of Andhra Pradesh & Ors.

...Respondent(s)

REPORT FILED BY THE 4TH RESPONDENT APPCB
23-01-2023



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COUNSEL FOR 4TH Respondent APPCB

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

ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 259 OF 2020 & 02 OF 2021 (SZ)

With

Original Application No.02 of 2021 (SZ)

In The Matter of:

Tribunal on its own motion Suo Motu based on the news item in The Indian Express, Newspaper dt. 09.12.2020, "Andhra town Eluru hit by „mystery“illness, Traces of lead, nickel in blood samples", News item in The Time of India, Newspaper Dt. 08.12.2020, "Heavy metal content in water Caused mysterious disease in Andhra Pradesh" & News item in NDTV, dt. 09.12.2020, "Lead, Nickel found in blood of people with Mystery illness in Andhra".

.....Applicant (s)

Verses

The Chief Secretary of Govt. of Andhra Pradesh And Ors.

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K. Srinivas 18.01.23

Joint Chief Environmental Scientist (FAC),
Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board
Vijayawada.

Progress Report

on

Comprehensive Scientific Study to save Kolleru Wildlife Sanctuary and Wetland of Kolleru

Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPCB) has awarded the study to carry out the “Comprehensive scientific study to save Kolleru wildlife sanctuary and wetland of Kolleru” to CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) vide notification of award no. APPCB-12023/2/2021-SS-CL-APPCB-569 dated 09.11.2022 and amendment No. APPCB-12023/2/2021-SS-CL-APPCB-762 dated 07.12.2022. Accordingly, after acceptance of the work order, the following CSIR-NEERI team had carried out the reconnaissance during the period December 21-23, 2022 within the Kolleru wildlife sanctuary.

1. Dr. Shaik Basha, Senior Principal Scientist & Head
2. Ms. Ramya Sanam, Principal Scientist
3. Dr. Meganathan P. R. Senior Scientist
4. Mr. Hari Rama Kumar, Technical Officer

The team had a meeting with Regional Officer (RO) of APPCB, Eluru, Irrigation Department and Forest Department. RO, APPCB and Irrigation department briefed about the major and minor drains entering in to the Kolleru wildlife sanctuary and water quality sampling locations. Accordingly, the site visit was undertaken to the major and minor drains during December 21-23, 2022. On December 22, 2022, the Forest Department showed the wetlands in the study area and also showed the boundaries of the Kolleru wildlife sanctuary. During the survey, the team had visited 23 inlet drains (both major and minor), upputeru outlet drain, villages surrounding the Kolleru sanctuary and the wetlands that fall under the jurisdiction of Forest Department. The team also visited the Madhavapura Kolleru lake being maintained by the Forest Department. Accordingly, the locations for lake water sampling have been decided.

The secondary data was requested from APPCB, Irrigation Department and Forest Department. Accordingly, the team will be collecting the data from the respective departments for the study. The GPS coordinates and the status at each survey location were noted and depicted in the following section. Based on the

reconnaissance, the detailed sampling plan is being prepared and the sampling of the study area will be started in the last week of January 2023.

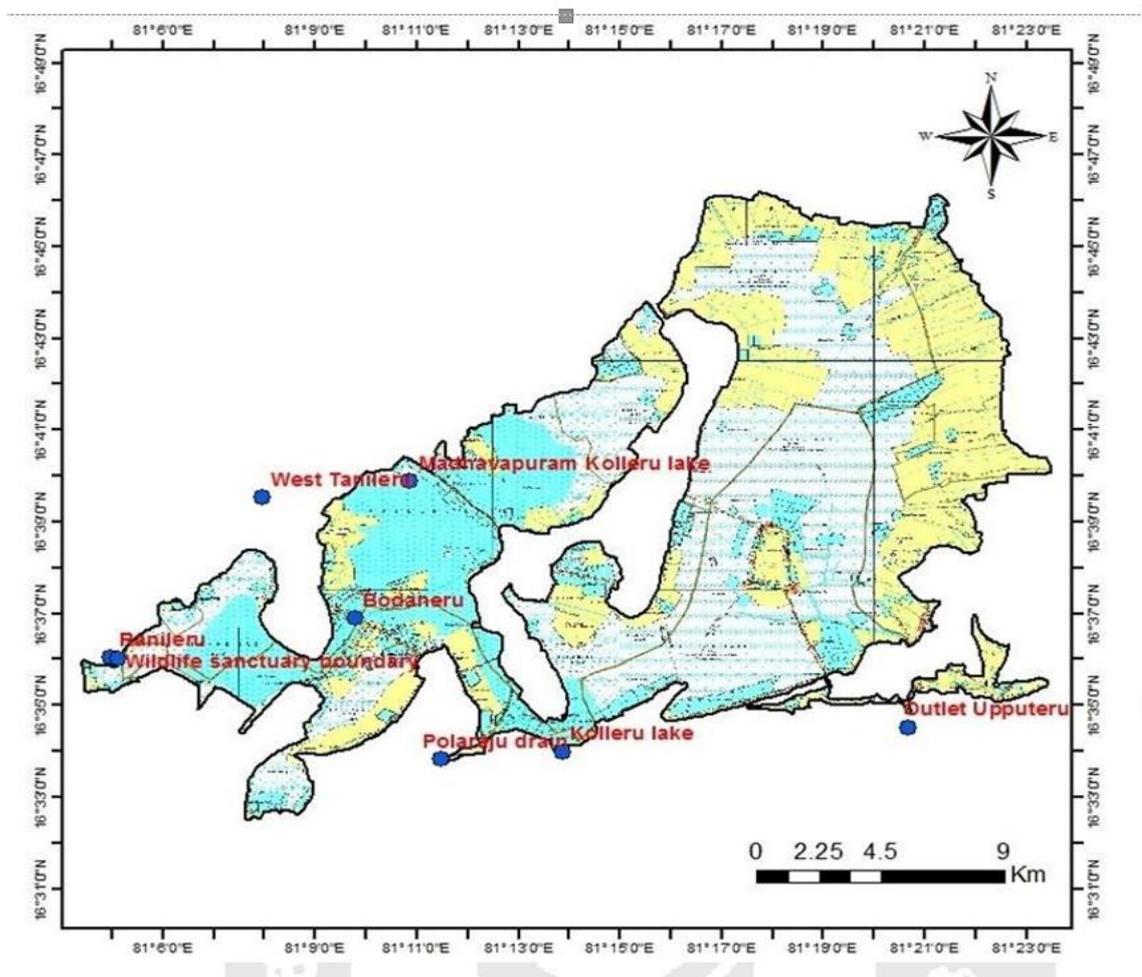


Figure 1: Map showing the Kolleru wildlife sanctuary

K. Srinivas
K. Srinivas 18.01.23

Joint Chief Environmental Scientist (FAC),
Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board
Vijayawada.

Details of the Reconnaissance conducted during December 21-23, 2022

S. No	Location Details	Location Photo	GPS Co-ordinates	Remarks
	<p>Irrigation Dept, PCB officials and CSIR-NEERI team joined for survey on 21-12-2022</p>			<p style="text-align: center;">Introduction and Briefing of Kolleru</p>
1.	<p>SI 17 Appana kodu</p> <p>Minor drain</p>		<p>N 16°39'13.536" E 81°05'24.3132"</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7.5 km length • Avg width 2-5 mts • Origin Kotturu village • aqua water discharges

S. No	Location Details	Location Photo	GPS Co-ordinates	Remarks
2.	SL 3 Vatluru Major Drain		<p>N 16°38'46.086" E 81°05'17.6748"</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Origin KC Eastern canal • Length 12.5 km • Avg width 20 - 30 mts • Runoff during 1st crop • No discharges • No industries
3.	SI No 2 Pedapadu major drain		<p>N 16°37'34.95" E 81°04'32.5308"</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length 10.1km • Width 20-30 mts • Bridge width 7.9 mts • Mondial vagu confluence in this drain which is a minor notified drain • Some other minor drain confluence this major drain • Aqua and field discharges • Mondikodu minor drain run parallel • Length 2km

S. No	Location Details	Location Photo	GPS Co-ordinates	Remarks
4.	SL: 6 Ragakodu drain minor notified		<p>N 16°37'20.37" E 81°03'57.1968"</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length: 4.8km • Avg width:4-5 mts • Origin point : veranda kunta chru • Discharges: aqua and paddy <p>SL No 64</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chandraiah kodu notified minor drain • 2km Length <p>SL No 16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mondikodu of veramma kunta notified minor drain • 3.7 km Length

S. No	Location Details	Location Photo	GPS Co-ordinates	Remarks
5.	SL 16 Mondikodu of veramma kunta notified minor drain		Near to N 16°37'20.37" E 81°03'57.1968"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At this coconut trees Other minor drains are located Mondikodu of veramma kunta & Chandraiah kodu
6.	SL: 1 Ramileru Major Drain		N 16°36'14.4" E 81°04'19.434"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Length: 10.1 km Avg width: 25- 40 mts Origin point : kc Canal Discharges: some local minor drains aquaponds and fields Other remarks: Discharges from locals

S. No	Location Details	Location Photo	GPS Co-ordinates	Remarks
7.	SL: 15 loyeru medium drain		N 16°35'58.4592" E 81°04'24.6288"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length: 8.3km • Avg width: 5-10 mts • Origin point : koniki • Discharges: aqua and agri fileds • minor drain adjoins to this drain
8.	SL: 7 jalipudi medium drain		N 16°42'11.556" E 81°07'35.1948"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length: 11.2 km • Avg width: 5-10 mts • Origin point : GC canal • Discharges: eluru town domestic waste discharge • Other remarks: lakshmi Narayan rice mill land mark
9.	SL: 21 Pedakodu minor drain		N 16°40'22.4148" E 81°10'52.1652"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length: 4 km • Avg width: 4-6mts

S. No	Location Details	Location Photo	GPS Co-ordinates	Remarks
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Origin point : koteswara durga puram drain two minor drains • Madhapuram confluence of above minor drains with pedakodu • Discharges: aqua and domestic • Drain is located adjacent to cattle shed behind babool plants
10.	SL: Seshaihkodu medium drain Drain comes with in contour		N 16°40'36.5088" E 81°11'48.7932"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mondikodu diverges into with kokkirai Lanka kodu & seshaihkodu • Length: 0.9 km • Avg width: 20-40mts • Discharges: aqua and domestic Remarks : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mondikodu confluence and some quantum moves to

S. No	Location Details	Location Photo	GPS Co-ordinates	Remarks
				<p>Seshaiahkodu and some part moves with kokkirai Lanka kodu at merges with kolleru</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seshaiahkodu is an extension of mondikodu
11.	<p>SL: 87 Unnotified</p> <p>Drain comes with in contour</p>		<p>N 16°39'21.888" E 81°12'04.8132"</p>	<p>Seshaiahkodu medium drain</p> <p>At this point Seshaiahkodu merges with kolleru</p> <p>Length: 0.9 km</p> <p>Avg width: 20-40mts</p> <p>Origin point : mondikodu</p> <p>Discharges: aqua and domestic</p>
12.	<p>SL: 26 notified kd puram</p> <p>Drain minor Koteswara durga puram</p>		<p>N 16°40'32.3868" E 81°10'47.8668"</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Length: 5.4 km Avg width: 3-5mts Origin point :chatsparru <p>Discharges: aqua and domestic</p>

S. No	Location Details	Location Photo	GPS Co-ordinates	Remarks
				
13.	<p>SL: 5 notified mondikodu</p> <p>Medium drain</p>		<p>N 16°43'48.27" E 81°09'45.2628"</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length: 10.7km • Avg width: 20-50mts • Origin point :eluru asthma hospital • Discharges: agriculture and domestic • Other remarks: Here at this point 10 UT medium drain of GC canal merges here

S. No	Location Details	Location Photo	GPS Co-ordinates	Remarks
14.	SL: 8 notified kovali Major drain		N 16°44'18.3192" E 81°11'56.1192"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length: 8.7 km • Avg width: 20-40mts • Origin point : Godavai Eluru Canal UT Discharges: agriculture and domestic

S. No	Location Details	Location Photo	GPS Co-ordinates	Remarks
	<p>22-12-2022 Discussion with Forest Department Officials prior to survey of KWLS</p>			<p>Key Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GO 120 issued by Revenue dept for kolleru lake • 14000 acres private land in kolleru revenue notified GO • 74 villages in kolleru region • Fisheries Dept : Aqua Information
15.	<p>Gudivakalanka Forest Dept KWLS Point</p>		<p>N 16°39'53.5644" E 81°10'52.284"</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neary 200 species of birds in kolleru birds • Birds count and birds specs information with forest department

S. No	Location Details	Location Photo	GPS Co-ordinates	Remarks
				
Kolleru Sanctuary Villages				
16.	Pratikodu lanka		N 16°37'30.6732" E 81°14'51.864"	Village located in KWLS

S. No	Location Details	Location Photo	GPS Co-ordinates	Remarks
17.	Paidi chintapadu		N 16°38'52.386" E 81°16'21.3708"	Village located in KWLS
18.	Gokarnapuram village / kollerikota		N 16°38'49.488" E 81°17'42.9252"	Village located in KWLS

S. No	Location Details	Location Photo	GPS Co-ordinates	Remarks
19.	Penchikalamarru		<p>N 16°36'37.4472" E 81°18'36.054"</p>	<p>Upputeru Outlet</p>
20.	Atapaka Forest dept Bird Sanctuary		<p>N 16°34'06.7152" E 81°13'36.0588"</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atapaka lake area is 300km • Surrounded by bund

S. No	Location Details	Location Photo	GPS Co-ordinates	Remarks
				

Item No. 02(i) & (ii):

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

(Through Video Conference)

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Date of hearing: 02.12.2022.

CORAM:

HON'BLE Smt. JUSTICE PUSHPA SATHYANARAYANA, JUDICIAL MEMBER

HON'BLE Dr. SATYAGOPAL KORLAPATI, EXPERT MEMBER

O.A. No. 259 of 2020(SZ)

For Applicant(s): Suo Motu.

For Respondent(s): Mr. Basu represented
Mrs. Madhuri Donti Reddy for R1 to R7.

O.A. No. 02 of 2021(SZ)

For Applicant(s): Suo Motu.

For Respondent(s): Mr. Basu represented
Mrs. Madhuri Donti Reddy for R1 to R8.

ORDER

1. Pursuant to our order dated 24.05.2022, the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board has passed an award dated 09.11.2022 to conduct the comprehensive scientific study in order to protect the Kolleru Lake (Ramsar designated wetland) and remove the encroachments and handover the entire area to the Forest Department and also to maintain the lake area in the Wildlife Sanctuary in an effective manner and make the lake pollution free.
2. The scope of the work and methodology has also been given in the said award which includes even the demarcation of the Wildlife Sanctuary and the Kolleru Lake along with the notified and un-notified drains.

3. The period of the study is given as 12 months, including submission of the final report to the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board subject to certain terms and conditions including force majeure.
4. As the above scientific study is relevant for the disposal of this case, we need to necessarily adjourn the case for the follow up.
5. Let the matter be listed again on **23.01.2023** to give us the progress of the award dated 09.11.2022 of the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board.

Sd/-

Smt. Justice Pushpa Sathyanarayana, JM

Sd/-

Dr. Satyagopal Korlapati, EM

O.A. No. 259/2020(SZ) &
O.A. No. 02/2021(SZ)
02nd December 2022. AD.

