

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREENTRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI
Original Application No.264 of 2020(SZ)

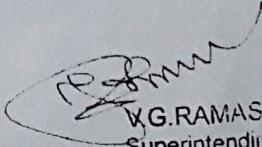
IN THE MATTER OF

Tribunal on its own motion-
SUOMOTU
Based on the News item in The
Hindu, Chennai edition dated
30.11.2020, "Days after rain, water
stagnation continues to plague
Many areas of Chennai".

...Applicant(s)

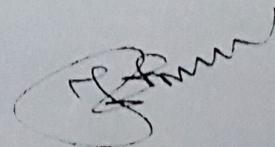
Versus

1. The Principal Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Health and Family Welfare Department, Govt Secretariat, Fort St. George, Chennai, TamilNadu-600009.
2. The Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Department of Environment & Forests, Govt., Secretariat, Fort St., George Chennai, TamilNadu-600009.
3. The Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George, Chennai, TamilNadu-600009.
4. Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George, Chennai, TamilNadu-600009.
5. The Chairman, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, No.76, AnnaSalai, Guindy, Chennai, TamilNadu-600032.


V.G. RAMASWAMI BE
 Superintending Engineer
 C.M.W.S.S. Board
 Chennai - 600 002.

6. Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board, Rep by its Managing Director,
31, Kamarajar Salai, Chepauk, Chennai-600 005
7. The District Collector,
Chennai District,
District Collectorate Office,
No.62, Rajaji salai,
4th Floor, Chennai-600001
8. The District Collector,
Chengalpet District,
Collector office, GST Road,
Chengalpattu-603 001
9. The District Collector,
Thiruvallur District,
First floor Collectorate
,Chennai-602 001
10. The District Collector,
Kanceepuram District,
First floor Collectorate
,Chennai-631 501
11. Greater Chennai Corporation
Rep by its Commissionner,
Ripon Building, Chennai-600 003
12. Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board, Rep by its Managing Director, No. 1,
Pumping Station Road,
Chintadripet, Chennai-600031.

...Respondent(s)



V.G. RAMASWAMI, O.E.
Superintending Engineer
C.M.W.S.S. Board
Chennai - 600 002.

REPORT FILED BY THE 12th RESPONDENT

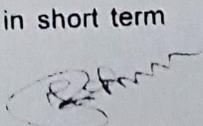
I, V.G. Ramaswami, S/o. V. Gurusamy, Hindu, aged about 58 years now working as Superintending Engineer (Central/ Co-ord) in the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB), Chennai do here by solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows.

1. I am the Superintending Engineer (Central/ Co-ord) of the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB), Chennai and 12th Respondent herein and well acquainted with the facts of the case from the connected files.

2. I humbly submit that the Hon'ble Green Tribunal, Southern Zone has given a direction to the committee members as follows:
"Comprehensive report highlighting the action taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of flooding in that area. In case permanent mitigation measures are yet to be initiated in the above area, action may be initiated on the basis of the directions given by this Tribunal to meet the situation permanently fixing the responsibility of officials/ departments to carry out the same, so that directions can be given to those authorities to implement the action plan in a shorter time line so as to avoid recurrence of such things in future".

3. The Public Works Department (PWD) and Water Resources Organisation (WRO) was designated as the nodal agency by NGT [SZ] for co-ordination and for providing all necessary logistics for this purpose.

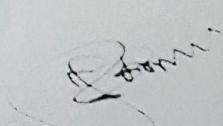
4. I hereby submit the Action plan to be carried out by Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board to avoid flooding, sewer overflow and stagnation in the areas mentioned in the News publications. The action taken report in short term along with Long term proposal are detailed below


 V.G. RAMASWAMI
 Superintending
 CMWS
 Chennai - 6

S. No	Area No/ Depot No	Newspaper/ Date of publication	Location	Issues	Action taken report in short term	Long term Proposal	Remarks
2	VII/ 82	Dinamalar/ 30-11-2020, The Times of India/ 08/12/2020	Kallikuppam - West Balaji Nagar, Thendral Nagar, Sakthi Nagar.	<p>Mentioned in News Publication: There is a blockage of underground sewage water. Overflowing sewage become stagnant in the street and creates health problem. Situation becomes worse at rainy seasons. Sewage overflowing from a manhole become stagnant and giving residents of Kallikuppam near Ambathur a tough time.</p> <p>Mentioned in Minutes of Meeting: The ACS/CRA requested CMWSSB officials to check up whether the said areas in Puzhal and Kallikuppam areas covered under UGSS or the storm water drains are carrying sewage in these areas. CMWSSB officials informed that the Kallikuppam (Shakthi Nagar) area in Ambattur is situated below the Red hills tank water level and gets affected due to overflowing of water in the tank foreshore. WRD officials informed that this area is inundating due to lack of the foreshore bund land in this area which has to be formed after evicting the encroachment along the bund alignment. ACS/CRA requested the District Collector to take necessary action to evict the encroachment and WRD to form the bund before the ensuing North East Monsoon.</p> <p>(Action: District Collector, Tiruvallur and WRD)</p> <p>Mentioned in News Publication: There is a blockage of Underground sewage water. Overflowing sewage become stagnant in the street and creates health problem. Situation become worse at rainy reasons. Sewage overflowing from a manhole become stagnant and giving residents of kallikuppam near ambattur a tough time</p>	Regular preventive maintenance is being carried out using Desilting, Jetrodding & Super sucker so as to maintain free flow of sewage in sewer system		GCC has to provide storm water drain to drain rain water as PWD (WRD) has to take action to remove encroachment in the lake area and to construct bund

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3	XII 178	Dinamalar/ 30-11-2020	MGR Nagar, Velachery	<p>Mentioned in News Publication: Sewer water has been stagnant in the 2nd main road & 10th street of this area</p> <p>Sewage water is also mixed with drinking water. Because of this, there is fear among people for spread of infectious disease. They raised a demand to find a solution for this sewage water problem</p>	<p>The existing sewer system is adequate and Regular preventive maintenance is being carried out using Desilting, Jetrodding & Super sucker so as to maintain free flow of sewage in sewer system</p>		<p>The above streets are not having storm water drains. Due to heavy down pours, rain water entered into the existing sewer system and caused sewer overflow. GCC has to provide SWD to drain the rain water</p>
4	X & XIII	Dinamalar/ 30-11-2020	Saligramam, Virugambakkam & Velachery	<p>Mentioned in Minutes of Meeting: CMWSSB to confirm whether the cause of sewage stagnation problem in Swarnaka Apartments in Saligramam, 120 flats in virugambakkam and 1000 flats in MGR Nagar, Virugambakkam is due to blockage of sewage or absence of sewer in that area and report within 1 week with necessary plan to solve it (Action: CMWSSB)</p>	<p>The existing Sewer System in the above location are in adequate condition to ensure the sewer disposal from the above areas</p>		<p>The Jai Swarnaka apartments located at Arcot road, Virugambakkam in Depot 129, Area X. The Rainwater from the part of Arcot Road and 80 feet road have to be drained via Anna Main Road at MGR Canal. During the Monsoon period 2020, the Rain water stagnation has been occurred due to non-functioning of existing Storm water drain. At present the restoration work is in progress by GCC</p>

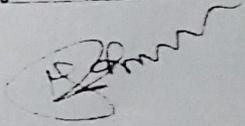
S N o	Area No/ Depot No	Newsp aper/ Date of puplica tion	Location	Issues	Action taken report in short term	Lon g ter m Pro pos al	Remarks
5	Area - X	Dinam alar/ 30-11- 2020	K K Nagar and MGR Nagar	<p>Mentioned in Minutes of Meeting: It is reported that the sewer mains connecting MGR Nagar, K K. Nagar, Ashok Nagar and West Mambalam to Nesapakkam STP are leaking at many locations which creates problems like potholes formation in roads, stagnation of sewage, mixing of sewage water with drinking water and borewells besides health issues.</p> <p>The ACS/CRA requested CMWSSB officials to report the action taken and present status within one week. (Action: CMWSSB)</p>	<p>During the Monsoon period 2020, a cavity has been formed at 3 locations viz. Anna Main Road Jn. Alagirisamy Salai, opposite to Nesapakkam SPS and opposite to Nesapakkam STP. During the execution of defective sewer main at the depth of 7.5 meters for a length of 12 mts and 8.5 mts for a length of 22 mts has been replaced. The existing Sewer System in the above location are in adequate condition to ensure the sewer disposal from the above areas.</p>		GCC has to ensure the function of SWD properly


 V. G. RAMESH
 Superintending Engineer
 CMWSSB
 Chennai

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6	XIV	Dinamalar/ 10-12-2020	Pallikaranai, Medavakkam, Jalladianpettai	<p>Mentioned in Minutes of Meeting: It is reported that sewage from this area are stagnating in this area and creates pollution. Also during rainy seasons, the rain water mixes with sewage water as there is no UGSS facility. During continuous rains the rain water flows on roads of Sivagami Nagar and Nallathambi Nagar. WRM Consultant, TNDRA informed that these areas are below the maximum water level of Pallikaranai and it is necessary to explore the feasibility of pumping facility in this area. The ACS/CRA requested the officials of GCC and CMWSSB to plan for short term measure and long term measure with timelines to solve the above issues within next week. (Action: GCC, CMWSSB)</p> <p>Mentioned in News Publication: Rain water mixed with sewage, stagnant in roads for many days due to continuous rain</p>	<p>CMWSSB has initiated Dial for septic tank clearance for clearing the septic tank to the areas wherever sewer system is not available. sewer lorries are used to clear the septic tanks whenever public made bookings</p>	<p>Pallikaranai: 1) Providing comprehensive Sewerage Scheme to Pallikaranai was sanctioned by Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee of JnNURM on 03.01.2009 for Rs.5861.00 lakhs and later revised to Rs.9215.00 lakhs. 2) Physical progress so far achieved is 93%. 3) The work was commenced on 20.11.2020 and the scheduled date of completion was 30.11.2022</p> <p>Jaladampettai: For providing comprehensive sewerage scheme to Jalladampettai, DPR has been prepared for Rs. 90 Crore. Awaiting for Funds.</p>	<p>Medavakkam: Medavakkam is situated at out of the GCC city limit. Hence, CMWSSB has no proposal for it.</p>
7	XIV	Dinamalar/ 10-12-2020	Sivakami Nagar & Nallathambi Nagar, Medavakkam	<p>Mentioned in News Publication: There is no underground sewage facility in this area. So, sewage released into SWD</p>			<p>The Sivakami Nagar and Nallathambi Nagar area are not covered under CMWSSB limit and located in Medavakkam Panchayath where there is no UGSS facility.</p>

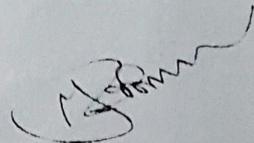
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8	XIV	Dinamalar/ 10-12-2020	Sai Balaji Nagar	Mentioned in News Publication Sewer water is stagnant for many days in the streets of Paikaranasa, Sai Balaji Nagar	The Sai Balaji Nagar consists of 36 Streets located in Depot 189 in which UGSS work has been completed in 2 streets CMWSSB has initiated Dial for septic tank clearance for cleaning the septic tank to the areas wherever sewer system is not available sewer lorries are used to clear the septic tanks whenever public made bookings	For the balance 34 streets, DPR for UGSS is under preparation and after getting fund tie up, work will be taken up. Further it is informed that work will be completed within 8 months from the date of commencement	No SWD arrangements in 35 streets except only one main street having SWD. GCC has to provide storm water drain to drain rain water arrangement s in 35 streets except only one main street having SWD. GCC has to provide storm water drain to drain rain water
9	XIV	Dinamalar/ 10-12-2020	Rajaji Salsi, Amaravathi Nagar, Jalladiyanpettai	Mentioned in News Publication: Pits dug out for laying drinking water pipeline were not closed properly	Pits mentioned in the news publication are closed	The Jalladempet WSS is nearing completion and the major pipeline work is in progress along Amaravathi Nagar, Rajaji Salsi as the scheme is proposed for commissioning shortly. On completion of pipeline work, the road will be handed over to GCC by the end of August 2021 time for restoration.	

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10	XIV	Dinamalar/ 10-12-2020	Pallikaranai Wetland	Mentioned in News Publication. Central Government Team suggestions : If we stop throwing garbage , remove encroachments, stop releasing sewage alone will help protect the natural water flow	CMWSSB has initiated Dial for septic tank clearance for clearing the septic tank to the areas wherever sewer system is not avialble. sewer lorries are used to clear the septic tanks whenever public made bookings	1 Velachery Laxmi Nagar excess sewage to the quantum of 3.5 MLD is now to be diverted with expansion of capacity of pumping main. The proposal is in progress and will get completed in one year. The underground sewerage scheme for Ullagaram and Puzhuthivakkam has been completed and house service connections are in progress. The entering of sullage and sewage will stop in a period of one year. The UGSS for Pallikaranai work is also in progress and it is expected to complete on 31.11.2022. II. Works Required and proposed. 1. The DPR for execution of Madipakkam underground sewerage scheme for a value of Rs.205.00 crores is ready and requires fund. 2. The left over unchecked / unauthorized settlement sewage flow has to be intercepted from the drains and treated through Modular STPs required total capacity: 15 MLD, Cost : Rs.60.00 crores, subject to land availability: 0.35 acres / 1500 sqm. per MLD. The proposal is sent to District Forest Officer on 05.12.2020. But there is no response from the Forest Department. Awaiting for fund. 3. The DPR for Okkiyam Thukraipakkam UGSS covering Depots 193, 194 & 195 is ready .The estimate is Rs.232 Crores and awaiting for fund.	


 V.G. RAMASWAMI, B.E.
 Superintendent Engineer
 CMWSB
 Chennai

11	XIV	Palavakkam and Kottivakkam area along ECR	<p>Mentioned in Minutes of Meeting: With regards to the reports on stagnation of sewage water in Palavakkam and Kottivakkam areas, the Managing Director, CMWSSB informed that the area will be inspected to confirm whether sewage is being released into vacant plots and if so, the action plan to solve the problem will be furnished during the next meeting. (Action: MD, CMWSSB)</p>	<p>At present there is no UGSS in palavakkam and kottivakkam. All the residents in this area are having septic tank arrangemets</p> <p>CMWSSB has initiated Dial for septic tank clearance for clearing the septic tank to the areas wherever sewer system is not avialbe. sewer lorries are used to clear the septic tanks whenever public made bookings</p>	<p>The Kottivakkam and Palavakkam areas located on both side of East Coast Road, covering Depots 183 & 185 where the preparation of Detailed Project Report for the UGSS was completed, this DPR is included in the combined UGSS scheme for Kottivakkam, Pallavakkam, Nellankarai, Injambakkam & Okkiyam Thoraipakkam. The total estimate cost for the above said 5 location is Rs.750 Crores and awaiting for the fund allocation.</p>
12	XIV	Pallikaranai	<p>Mentioned in Minutes of Meeting: The possibility of constructing underground storage tanks for storing flood water of the drains flowing into wetlands without any usage of its water like Pallikaranai swamp and use the water after recycling. (Action: CMWSSB and WRD)</p>		<p>As per the minutes dated 07.12.2020 the following work is propoposed, Modular STP with Tertiary Treatment facility of capacity 15 MLD at the cost of rs. 60 Crores & period of completion is 24 months subject to availability of land 1500 Sq.m per MLD. The proposal is sent to District Forest Officer on 05.12.2020. But there is no response from the Forest Department.</p>

5. The short term/temporary and permanent measures by CMWSSB to avoid flooding and sewer overflow, stagnation in the areas as mentioned in the News publications is hereby submitted before the Hon'ble Green Tribunal for consideration.



V. G. R. SRINIVASAN
 Superintendent Engineer
 C.M.W.S.S.B.
 Chennai - 600 022

Before the National Green Tribunal (Southern Zone)

Chennai,

O.A.No.264 of 2020 (SZ)

Tribunal on its own motion-SUO
MOTU Based on the News item in
The Hindu, Chennai edition dated
30.11.2020, "Days after rain, water
stagnation continues to plague
Many areas of Chennai".

: Applicant

Vs.

Chennai Metropolitan Water
Supply and Sewerage Board
(CMWSSB) represented by its
Managing Director, Santhome
Road, MRC Nagar, Chennai – 28.

: Respondent

REPORT FILED BY 12TH RESPONDENT

G.JANAKIRAMAN
Counsel for 12th Respondent