

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

OA No 40 OF 2024

IN THE MATTER OF:

NEWS ITEM PUBLISHED ON 25 JANUARY 2024 IN THE EENADU NEWSPAPER
REGARDING DISCHARGE OF LIQUID WASTES IN LAKH LITERS INTO DIFFERENT
RIVERS IN ANDHRA PRADESH

..... Applicant

Vs

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVT OF ANDHRA PRADESH AND OTHERS.

.... Respondents

**AFFIDAVIT FILED BY R3- SRIKAKULAM MUNICIPAL
CORPORATION**

DATE- 20.04.2024



**M/s MADHURI DONTI REDDY
ADVOCATE**

STANDING COUNSEL FOR GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

A.P. POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

#26, S2, Royal Castle, Gill Nagar Extension, Choolaimedu, Chennai – 600 094.

Mobile: 98407 98460 / 63831 21322,

Email: reddymadhuri09@gmail.com

**IN THE HON'BLE NATION GREEN TRIBUNAL,
SOUTHERNZONE CHENNAI**

(Through video conference – Suo Motu)

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 40 of 2024(SZ)

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Chennai

Dt:- 20-04-2024

**MEMORANDUM OF ORIGINAL APPLICATION
(Rule-15 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010)
IN THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

(Through Video Conference - suo motu)

Original Application No. 40 OF 2024 (SZ)

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU
Based on the News Item in Eenadu
Newspaper, dt 25.01.2024, "Liquid
Wastes have been discharged into
Different Rivers in the State of Andhra
Pradesh".

.... Applicant

AND

1. **The Chief Secretary to Govt. of Andhra Pradesh,**
1st Block, 1st Floor, Interim Government Complex,
A.P Secretariat Office, Velagapudi, Guntur
Andhra Pradesh- 522237
Phone:8632441024, Email: cs@ap.gov.in
2. **Special Chief Secretary to Govt. of Andhra Pradesh,**
Department of Environment, Forest, Science and Technology,
4th Ground Floor, Room No:268,
A.P Secretariat Office, Velagapudi, Guntur
Andhra Pradesh- 522237
Phone:8632444438. Email: splcs_efst@ap.gov.in
3. **The Secretary to Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Municipal
Administration and Urban Development Department,**
2nd Block, Ground Floor, Room No:140,
A.P Secretariat Office, Velagapudi, Guntur
Andhra Pradesh- 522237
Phone:8632442024. Email: prlsecy_maud@ap.gov.in


**COMMISSIONER
SRIKAKULAM MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**

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4. **The Chairman, Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board,**
D.No.33-26-14 D/2, Near Sunrise Hospital,
Pushpa Hotel Centre, Chalamavari Street,
Kasturibaipet, Vijayawada -520010.
Phone: 8662463202. Email: chairman@appcb.gov.in
5. **The Principal Secretary, Water Resources Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh,**
Address: 4th Block, 1st Floor Room No:216,
A.P Secretariat Office, Velagapudi,
Guntur - 522237
Phone: 0863-2444248 Email: splcs-wrd@ap.gov.in

... Respondent(s)

COUNTER AFFIDAVIT FILED BY THE RESPONDENT NO 3

I, A.Thameem Ansariya W/o. Manazir Jilani Samoon aged about 35 years, working as the Commissioner, Srikakulam Municipal Corporation, Andhra Pradesh do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state on oath as follows:

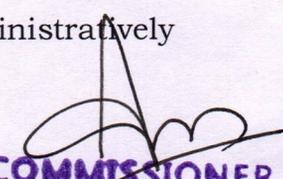
1. I am the 3rd Respondent herein and as such I am well acquainted with a fact of the case.
2. This respondent denies each and every averment made in the Suo Moto application as false and incorrect except those that are specifically admitted herein this counter affidavit.
3. The material allegations in the memorandum are all false. The material averments in the application all not true and correct and are hereby denied.
4. It is submitted that this Hon'ble Tribunal registered a Suo Moto application being O.A 40/20 24 based on a news item dated 25.01.2024 in "The Eenadu" under the heading "Liquid wastes discharged into different River in the state of Andhra Pradesh".

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In the said order the Hon'ble Tribunal observed that untreated liquid wastes are being discharged into the rivers and in Visakhapatnam, it is being let into the sea in the State of Andhra Pradesh and also pointed out that most of the Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) are incomplete.

5. It is submitted that, the river Nagavali flows through Srikakulam town and merged in Bay of Bengal near Kallepalli village of Srikakulam District. Srikakulam is a urban local body and district headquarters of Srikakulam district in the state of Andhra Pradesh with a population of 1,25,953 as per 2011 census. The town was formed on the eastern and western bank of the river Nagavali. Since times immemorial, the sewage water was discharged into River Nagavali. In the past decade, the Srikakulam town has been developing both residentially and commercially and visiting of the pilgrims to the Holy Shrine of "Arasavalli Sun Temple" has increased the discharge of sewage water into River Nagavali.
6. It is respectfully submitted that, to address the merging of sewerage into the River Nagavali, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has taken up the Project under AMRUT 2016-20, "Sewage and Septage Management with Construction of 10MLD STP including Operation & Maintenance in Srikakulam Municipal Corporation with an estimate amount of Rs. 29.83 Crores was administratively sanctioned vide G.O.Ms. No.211 MA & UD (UBS) Dept., Dt.24-05-2017 of MA&UD (UBS) department. to address the merging of sewerage into the River Nagavali, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has taken up the Project under AMRUT 2016-20, "Sewage and Septage Management with Construction of 10MLD STP including Operation & Maintenance in Srikakulam Municipal Corporation with an estimate amount of Rs. 29.83 Crores was administratively


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sanctioned vide G.O.Ms. No.211 MA & UD (UBS) Dept., Dt.24-05-2017 of MA&UD (UBS) department.

S.No	STP Capacity	Administrative Sanction	Coverage Area
1	10 MLD	G.O.Ms. No.211 MA & UD (UBS) Dept., Dt.24-05-2017 of MA&UD (UBS) department	The sewerage flow generated from zone-1, 2 & 4 is considered for STP under AMRUT 2016-20, Phase II.

7. It is submitted that the work was entrusted to the L1 bidder and agreement was concluded by SE (PH) Visakhapatnam EPC Agt. No. 02/2017-18 Dated 24-01-2018. The work was grounded in the year 2018.
8. It is submitted that, the Government has instructed to hold all the works where the physical and financial progress is less than 25% vide Memo No. 732792/UBS/2018, Dt: 24.06.2019 of MA&UD Department. The contracting agency had executed only 15% of work at that point of time. Subsequently, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has accorded permission to take up the construction of STP and further extension of agreement time was granted up to 31-03-2022 as requested by the contracting agency time to time.
9. It is submitted that, due to imposition of lockdown during COVID - 19 1st and 2nd Waves, the construction of STP plant has got further delayed.
10. It is submitted that, the present stage of STP construction is 23.34% as on date, despite several reminders to the contracting agency to speed up the work. In this juncture, the contracting agency has requested for the closing of agreement for the above work on 01-10-2021. Further, after careful examination of this issue, the Chief Secretary and Engineer-in-Chief, Public Health

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instructed to close the agreement and prepare a revised estimate for the completion of balance work. The present stage of construction of 10 MLD STP is as follows:

- Wet well -- 80% of civil work completed.
- Septage holding tank -- 100% civil work completed.
- HT Substation -- Grade slab level Completed.
- SBR basin -- Around walls upto 1.2 m height completed.
- CCT -- Side wall upto 1.00 m height completed.
- Admin Building -- Plinth beam and grade slab completed.

11. It is submitted that, as per instructions of the higher authorities, the revised estimate proposal submitted to the ENC (PH), Tadepalli for Rs.3750.00 Lakhs as per SSR 2022-23 including O&M and also requested administration sanction for an additional amount of Rs.1417.00 Lakhs to meet the expenditure for balance components and also requested permission to call tenders for the balance component of the work. In this connection, the Special Chief Secretary to Govt. issued Memo to dovetail the balance PNB loan amount i.e., Rs. 2041.78 lakhs of SWD and Rs.577.60 lakhs of STP totaling Rs.2619.38 lakhs to be utilized for construction of balance STP project work vide Memo No. 1851372/ UBS/ 2022, Dt. 09-06-2023. The O&M cost of Rs.533.01 lakhs may be borne by the ULB from its own funds.

12. It is submitted that this subject was placed before the council and resolute to meet the expenditure of balance STP work by Municipal Corporation funds.

13. It is submitted that, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has accorded the Project for establishment of "Sewage and Septage

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Management and recycle and reuse of treated water” under AMRUT 2.0 to the Srikakulam Municipal Corporation for the year 2023 with an estimate amount of Rs. 53.66 Crores vide G.O.Ms. 12, of MA& UD Department Dt. 20-01-2023. The Srikakulam Municipal Corporation has proposed the work “Providing New Sewerage Network, 5 MLD STP, Sump Cum Pump House and Pumping Mains in Srikakulam Municipal Corporation” and thereby protecting the River Nagavali from merging of sewerage water and to dispose treatedsullage and septage water in to the River Nagavalli by reducing the pollutants to the desired limits.The Detailed Project Report is under preparation by the ULB.

S.No	STP Capacity	Administrative Sanction	Coverage Area
1	5 MLD	G.O.Ms. 12, of MA& UD Department Dt. 20-01-2023	The sewerage flow generated from zone-3 and 7 new merged villages is considered for STP under AMRUT 2.0

14. It is submitted that, the present generated sewerage in the Srikakulam town is 16.65 MLD. The Srikakulam Municipal Corporation has taken up construction of Two STPs with total capacity of 15.00 MLD.
15. It is submitted that the Srikakulam Municipal Corporation has taken above steps for prevention and control of water pollution and water quality improvement along the banks of River Nagavali. It is stated that all possible steps and measures are being taken so that the environment is protected for the future generation.
16. It is submitted that this respondent craves leave of this hon'ble tribunal to raise the additional counter in the course of proceedings, if required.

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The above circumstances, it is humbly prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal maybe pleased to pass an appropriate order in the above OA No. 40 of 2024 and pass such further or other orders, as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case and thus render justice.

Solemnly affirmed and signed
his name in my presence
on this ___ th day of March, 2024

Before Me

Advocate

VERIFICATION

I, A.Thameem Ansariya W/o. Manazir Jilani Samoon aged about 35 years, working as the Commissioner, Srikakulam Municipal Corporation, Andhra Pradesh on behalf of the respondent 3 do hereby verify and state that the contents of the above paras of the Affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, based on information and records available.

Hence verified on this _____ day of March, 2024.


Deponent
COMMISSIONER
SRIKAKULAM MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
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DT/EP

Wet Well



Blower Building



SBR BASIN



SBR BASIN



CCT



Admin Building



HT Sub Station



Septage Holding Tank

