

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

ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 4/2021

IN THE MATTER OF

Tribunal on its own motion-SUO MOTU Based on The  
News Item in Deccan Chronicle Newspaper, Edition Dated  
18.12.2020, "Noise pollution turns deathly in Hyderabad's  
Residential areas"

... Applicant(s)

Versus

1. The Principal Secretary to Govt of Telangana  
Environment, Science & Technology,  
Telangana Secretariat  
Hyderabad – 500022
2. The Chairman  
Telangana Pollution Control Board  
A-3, Paryavaran Bhavan  
Sanath Nagar Industrial Estate  
Hyderabad, Telangana- 500018
3. The District Collector  
Hyderabad District  
Nampally, No.5-8-505  
Chirag Ali Lane, Abids  
Hyderabad, Telangana- 500001
4. The Metropolitan Commissioner  
Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority  
Swarna Jayanthi Complex  
Sanjeeva Reddy Nagar Road  
Ameerpet, Hyderabad, Telangana- 500038
5. The Municipal Commissioner  
The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation  
CC Complex Tank Bund Road  
Lower Tank Bund  
Hyderabad- 500063
6. The Commissioner of Police  
Hyderabad City  
Basheerbagh  
Hyderabad- 500004

.....Respondents

**Affidavit of Respondent No.5**

I, D.S. Lokesh Kumar , S/o Sri Soma Raju, aged 42 years, working as Municipal Commissioner, The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, having office at CC Complex, Tank Bund Road, Hyderabad- 500063, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:-

  
Commissioner,  
Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation

1. I am presently working as Commissioner in the fifth Respondent Municipal Corporation and I am well aware of the facts and circumstances of the case from the records available with me.
2. I submit that this Hon'ble Tribunal on 7/1/2021, had listed a suo motu PIL in O.A.4/2021 based on the newspaper report published in Deccan Chronicle newspaper, Edition, dated 18.12.2020 under the caption "**(Noise pollution turns deathly in Hyderabad's residential areas)**"
3. This Hon'ble Tribunal passed the following order :-

*"5. On going through the allegations in the newspaper report, we are satisfied that there arises a substantial question of environment which requires the interference of this Tribunal for resolving the issue permanently. So the matter is admitted.*

*6. Sound pollution will have greater impact on health and it is an unnoticed menace by the authorities. The impact of noise pollution on health of the people has been considered by the Hon'ble Apex Court and also this Tribunal in several cases Whenever such issues were brought to the notice of these forums. In spite of that no effective steps have been taken by the authorities to control the noise pollution, so as to ensure safe and healthy life of the people in the residential area. Right to sound sleep, right to peaceful life are also part of the Right to Life as enshrined under Article 21 of the Constitution India and being Constitutional machinery, the State authorities as well as each Departments are duty bound to ensure the same to its subjects.*

*7. When the matter came up for hearing for admission today through Video Conference, Smt. H. Yasmeen Ali represented respondents 1, 3 & 6, Sri. Sai Krishnan through Sri. Lakshmi Narasimhan represented respondents 2 & 4 and Sri. D. Srinivas represented 5<sup>th</sup> respondent. Service is complete.*

*8. In order to ascertain the nature and source of noise pollution and the mechanism provided by the authorities to curb the same to bring it within the norms provided by the regulating authorities, we feel it appropriate to appoint a Joint Committee comprising (1) The District Collector, Hyderabad District (2) a Senior Officer from Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA) (3) The Municipal Commissioner of the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (4) The Commissioner of Police of Hyderabad City (5) a Senior Officer from the Telangana State Pollution Control Board (TSPCB) as designated by its Chairman to inspect the areas in question and ascertain the noise level and also submit a factual as well as action taken report, if there is any violation found.*

*9. The committee is also directed to ascertain the mechanism that has been provided by the regulating authorities to prevent such noise pollution being caused in the city, what are all the mechanisms provided to implement the provision of Noise Pollution Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000 in the City in tune with the directions given by the Principal Bench of National Green Tribunal in O.A. No. 519 of 2016 (Hardeep Singh and others Vs. SDMC and others) and connected cases and what is the nature of action taken including prosecution or imposition of penalty against those persons who are violating the norms and doing certain things apart from the provisions of Noise Pollution (Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000.*

*10. They are also directed to provide an action plan for mitigating the situation and make the life of the people peaceful, so that necessary directions can be given to the authorities to implement the same so as to resolve the issue permanently.*

*11. The Commissioner of Police, Hyderabad will be the nodal agency for co-ordination and also for providing necessary logistics for this purpose.*

*12. The committee is directed to submit the report to this Tribunal on or before 26.02.2021 by e-filing in the form of searchable PDF/OCR Support PDF and not in the form of Image PDF along with necessary hardcopies to be produced as per rules.*

*13. The Registry is directed to communicate this order to the official respondents and also members of the committee immediately through e-mail along with the copy of the paper report and the gist of the Suo Motu proceeding with amended full cause title so as to enable them to comply with the direction and for filing their independent response to the allegations made in the newspaper report and filing the report as directed by this Tribunal.*

Commissioner,  
Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation

14. For appearance of parties, consideration of report and for completion of pleading, post on 26.02.2021."

4. I submit that vide letter dated 9/2/2021, I had addressed a letter to the 6<sup>th</sup> Respondent being a nodal agency, to convene a meeting to comply with the orders of this Hon'ble Tribunal.

Accordingly a meeting of the Joint Committee was convened on 10/2/2021 and the Joint Committee has framed the following action plan to control the noise levels in Residential areas of Hyderabad City, after elaborate discussions:

- i. Identifying the Noise Hotspots that are existing under the jurisdiction of Hyderabad City.
- ii. Identifying the Silence Zones i.e. places around Schools, Hospitals, Courts and Govt. Offices. Erecting of sign boards indicating **"No Horn Zone"**.
- iii. Awareness on honking of horns unnecessarily, usage of speakers and loud speakers, sensitisation on the silence zones, reducing of machinery noise etc.
- iv. All the Station House Officers of Hyderabad City Police, both Law & Order and Traffic Wings will effectively monitor the noise pollution and take legal action including booking of cases, where ever the violations are noticed.
- v. Special Drives on the usage of non-designated, prohibited horns and modified silencers which are causing higher noise levels than the prescribed and will take action against violators by imposing penalties to ensure strict compliance.
- vi. Cases will be booked against the violators under Hyderabad City Police Act, M.V. Act and also under Environmental Act.
- vii. A Loud Speaker or a Public address system or any sound producing instrument or a musical instrument or a sound amplifier will not be allowed to use at night time except in closed premises for communication within, like auditoria, conference rooms, and community halls or during a public emergency.
- viii. Implementation of the MV Act Section 119 and 120 with regard to horns and silencers respectively. Both Police and Transport departments will carry out the implementation.
- ix. Verifying the compliance of the vehicles noise as per the standards given by CPCB under Environment (Protection) Act at the manufacturing stage. This will be achieved by random checks of the different category of the vehicles will be conducted along with Transport authority at the Dealers and manufacturers located in Hyderabad City.
- x. To control the noise pollutions caused by Fire Crackers, in various celebrations etc.



- xi. Industrial Noise Consent Condition and compliance: TSPCB is stipulating the noise standards while issue of the CFO and the compliance verification will be carried out.
  - xii. Set-up and publicize helpline in Hyderabad City for complaints against reported non-compliance: In Hyderabad City Police help lines like Dial-100, Hawk-eye, WhatsApp including its website are available to receive complaints. In addition to this other civic agencies like TSPCB and GHMC were also set-up their toll free number/helpline number for the purpose of reporting grievances.
5. As far as this Respondent is concerned, the following action is being taken to control the noise levels in the Residential areas of Hyderabad City:
- a. The GHMC has erected "No Horn" signs where ever it is applicable as per the rules.
  - b. The GHMC is not allowing any construction activity at night time, which is reducing the Noise Pollution.
  - c. The GHMC is identifying the commercial activities in Residential areas and taking necessary action as per the rules.
  - d. The GHMC is doing campaign about the Noise pollution by erecting sign boards and other activities.
  - e. The GHMC is controlling the selling of crackers with the help of other departments.
  - f. The GHMC will implement the Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000 under Environment Protection Act, 1986.
6. I submit that the orders of this Hon'ble Tribunal dated 7/1/2021 has been complied in letter and spirit by this respondent and the same may be taken on record.

Solemnly affirmed at Hyderabad ( )  
On this the 26<sup>th</sup> day of Feb ( )  
2021 and signed his name in ( )  
My presence ( )

  
Before me  
Commissioner,  
Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation

Advocate: Hyderabad

  
CHIEF VETERINARY OFFICER  
GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

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**Affidavit of Respondent**  
**No.5**

D. Sreenivasan  
Counsel for Respondent No. 5