

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE AT CHENNAI.**

Original Application No.68 of 2016

Mr. P.S. Ramulu

...Applicant

Vs

**The State of Tamil Nadu ,
Chennai & others**

...Respondents

INDEX

S.No	Description	Page No.
1.	INTERIM REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD. (Nodal Agency)	1 - 12

**Filed by
Thiru. C. Kasirajan
Advocate, Chennai.**

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

APPLICATION NO. 68 OF 2016 (SZ)

Mr. P.S.Sri Ramulu,
S/o. Srinivasa Naidu,
Kothur Village & Post,
Via Oomerabad, Gudiyatham Taluk,
Vellore District.

...Applicant

Vs

1. The State of Tamil Nadu,
Rep. By its Secretary,
Environment & Forest,
Fort St. George,
Chennai - 600009.
2. The Chairman,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
76, Mount Road, Guindy,
Chennai - 600032.
3. The District Environmental Engineer,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
Plot No.PP2,SIDCO Industrial Estate,
Vaniyambadi , Vaniyambadi Taluk,
Thirupattur Distrcet -635751
4. The District Collector,
Vellore District.
5. The Revenue Divisional Officer,
Collectorate, Vellore - 09.
6. The Tahsildar,
Gudiyatham Taluk,
Vellore District.
7. Chief Engineer,
State Ground and Surface Water,
Resources Data Centre,
Water Resources Department, Taramani,
Chennai - 600113.
8. The Member Secretary,
Central Ground Water Authority,
West Block-2, Wing-3,
Sector - 1, R.K.Ruram,
New Delhi - 110066.
9. The Regional Director,
CGWB, SECR,


Joint Chief Environmental Engineer,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board

E-Wing, G-Block, Rajaji Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Basant Nagar,
CHENNAI - 600090

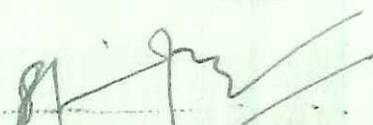
10. M/s. Quality Glue Factory,
Represented by its Proprietor
Mr. S. Venkatraman,
Balur Village,
Kothur Post,
Gudiyatham Taluk,
Vellore District.

...Respondents

**INTERIM AFFIDAVIT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE TAMILNADU
POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (Nodal Agency)**

I, S.Rajan, son of Thiru. M.S.Subramanian, Hindu, aged 56 years,
having office at 6, Auxillium College Road, Gandhi Nagar, Katpadi ,
Vellore -632006 do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

1. I am the Joint Chief Environmental Engineer (Monitoring), Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, (Nodal officer appointed by TNPCB vide Board's Proc. Dt. 12.06.2020 as per the Hon'ble NGT Oder) 6, Auxillium College Road, Gandhi Nagar, Katpadi, Vellore 632006 and I am filing this interim status report as Affidavit on behalf of Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (Nodal Agency) and as such I am well acquainted with the facts of the case from the records.
2. It is respectfully submitted that the 10th respondent unit, one of wet unit M/s Quality Glue Factory is located in S.F No. 254/2A & 2B, 255/2 & 255/1B2 and 256 of Paloor Village, Pernambut Taluk (formerly Gudiyatham Taluk), Vellore District and Manufacturing Glue from unwashed/washed animal skin cuttings. This is an existing small scale unit functioning since May 1991 Consent was issued to the unit manufacturing of 90 T/M glue from unwashed/washed animal skin cuttings and for generation of 67 KLD of trade effluent
vide Board's Proceeding dated

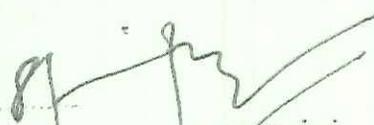

Joint Chief Environmental Engineer
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board
Vellore - 632 006

No.F.0633VBD/RS/DEE/TNPCB/VBD/W&A/2016 Dt. 13.08.2016 with validity up to 30.06.2020 for generation of 67 KLD of trade effluent as follows,

Trade Effluent I (Liming & De liming Process)	40 KLD	Recycling in the process directly.
Trade effluent II (Condensate from Evaporator)	20.250 KLD	Recycling
Trade effluent III (Rejects from Evaporator)	6.75 KLD	Solar evaporation pans.

And another dry unit in the same premises of M/s Quality Glue Factory - Unit - B , S.F No. 254/2A2, 2B, 255/2, 256, Paloor Village , Pernambut Taluk (Formerly Guidyatham Taluk), Vellore District for the manufacturing of Glue Powder - 2000 Kgs./Day and issued consent vide Proc. No. F.0967VBD/OS/DEE/TNPCB/VBD/W&A/2017 Dt. 02.04.2017 with validity up to 31.03.2025.

3. It is respectfully submitted that the applicant Thiru.P.S.Ramulu, Kothur Village, Pernambut Taluk, Vellore District has filed an application before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) in application No.68 of 2016 with a prayer to
- i) Direct the respondents 1 to 9 to restrain the tenth respondent industry M/s. Quality Glue factory from carrying on the Glue manufacturing activity at Paloor Village, Kothur Post, Pernambut Taluk (formerly Gudiyatham Taluk), Vellore District.
 - ii) Direct the respondents 1 to 6 to carry out the remedial activities for restoration of ecology in villages Paloor, Machampattu and Kothur.


 Joint Chief Environmental Engineer
 Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board
 Vellore - 632 006

- iii) Issue closure order to the tenth respondent industry.
- iv) Pass other just and necessary orders as may be deemed fit and proper in the circumstances of the case and render justice”.

4. It is respectfully submitted that, the Hon'ble NGT in its order dated : 03.03.2020 has directed to appoint a joint committee comprising of Senior Officer of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Regional Office, Chennai, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB), Officer from the Central Ground Water Board and Chief Engineer, State Ground and Surface Water Resources Data Centre to inspect the area in question and ascertain the manner in which the 10th respondent unit is functioning and whether it is complying with the condition imposed in the consent order and whether the water quantity that has been used by them has been properly accounted for and whether they are fully complying with the ZLD norms as directed to be maintained in the consent order. The source of water, the nature of the area as to whether it is an "Over Exploited Area" with critical water scarcity, the TDS level in and around the industry and the controlled areas, to find out whether there was any effect on the ground water TDS level on account of the function of the tenth respondent unit and if the general condition of the TDS is more in that area, the source of the same and the remedial measures by which the same can be solved and if there is any violation found, then what is the action taken by them in this regard including imposition of environmental compensation and submit a detailed comprehensive report to this Tribunal within a period of two months. Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) will be the nodal agency for co-ordination and for providing all necessary logistics for this purpose.


Joint Chief Environmental Engineer
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board
Vellore - 632 006

5. It is respectfully submitted that as per the above said direction of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, the Joint Committee filed its first joint committee interim inspection report on 04.09.2020 and based on that the Hon'ble tribunal has issued the following orders vide order Dt. 17.09.2020 and directed that ,

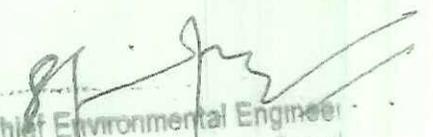
- i) It was mentioned in the report that in order to ascertain the reason for higher values of TDS in the ground water and to identify any impact of groundwater due to operation of the industry, Hydro Geological study has to be conducted by reputed agencies like Central Ground Water Board, SERC, Chennai or NGRI, Hyderabad or any other agency and also recommended that the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board can utilise the environmental compensation fund for conducting the study and ultimately if it found that it was due to the operation of this unit, then the amount can be recovered from them.
- ii) Instead of that, we feel that the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) themselves can conduct the study through their Scientists, and help the committee to assess the environmental compensation and also ascertain the reason for the high TDS found in that area.
- iii) They can also identify the reason as well as sources for the presence of high TDS in that area and identify the units which are responsible for the same and suggest the remedial measures for rectifying the same and while imposing the environmental compensation after identifying the unit responsible, they can also consider the question of including the expenses incurred for conducting the study to be recovered from such persons based


Joint Chief Environmental Engineer
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board

on the contribution made by them for such pollution.

- iii) The committee is directed to submit a further report in this regard in view of the above observation made.
 - v) The committee is directed to submit the report to this Tribunal on or before 24.11.2020 by e-filing along with necessary hard copies as per rules.
6. It is respectfully submitted that as per the Hon'ble NGT order (Dt. 17.09.2020) of the above, the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has carried out hydro-geological investigation with sample collection to identify the reason for presence of high Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) in and around the unit of M/s. Quality Glue Factory at Paloor Village, Pernambut Taluk (formerly Gudiyatham Taluk), Vellore District, between 19th and 20th of November 2020 in the presence of TNPCB officials and submitted report to the Hon'ble NGT and requested to the Hon'ble tribunal for extending time up to June 2021 to complete the field study and submit final report on presence of high TDS in an around the unit of M/s Quality Glue at Paloor village , Pernambut Taluk (formerly Gudiyatham Taluk), Vellore District vide committee report Dt. 23.11.2020 and salient gists of field study were also mentioned in the status report as follows :

- i) Major Rivers flowing in the area are Mallattar and Geddar, which originates in from Andra Pradesh. 29 numbers of water samples were collected in upstream and downstream sides of Mallattar and Geddar Rivers covering the area of M/s. Quality Glue Factory at Balur village.
- ii) The water samples are being analyzed for major cations and anions which are the major constituents contributing to the TDS.


Joint Chief Environmental Engineer
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board
Vellore - 632 006

- iii) The study area underlined by hard rock composed of granitic and granitic gneiss and overlain by River alluvium.
 - iv) Presently water is flowing in the River Malattar and Geddar and groundwater recharge due to rainfall has been observed during the field study. This field season is presumed as monsoon season.
 - v) During monsoon, normally the groundwater quality improves due to rainfall recharge. It may not reflect the actual water quality conditions of the area.
 - vi) To get a clear picture of the groundwater quality in the area, it is proposed to conduct hydro-geological studies and groundwater sampling during the post monsoon and pre-monsoon periods also i.e. during January 2021 and May 2021 respectively.
7. It is respectfully submitted that as per the Hon'ble NGT vide its order dt.17.12.2020 as ordered the following,
- i) As per order dated 17.09.2020, this Tribunal had considered the earlier report submitted by the Joint Committee and thereafter, directed the committee to conduct further inspection and take samples to ascertain the sources and reasons for the presence of high level TDS in that area and also suggest the methods by which this can be resolved and posted the case to 24.11.2020 for that purpose and on 24.11.2020, it was adjourned to 17.12.2020 notification.
 - ii) When the matter came up for hearing today through Video Conference, Sri. R. Prabakar represented the applicant. Sri. Dr. V.R. Thirunarayanan represented respondents 1, 4 to 7, Sri. C.

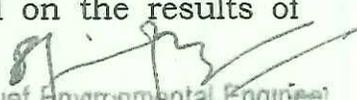

Joint Chief Environmental Engineer
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board.
Vellore - 632 006

Kasirajan through M/s. Meena represented respondents 2 & 3, and Sri. R. Gopinath represented 10th respondent.

- iii) We have received an interim report submitted by the committee which was received on 16.12.2020 wherein, they have mentioned that the water sampling will have to be done during monsoon, post-monsoon and also during pre-monsoon season for the purpose of ascertaining the real nature of the water and the source of high level TDS as directed by this Tribunal.
- iv) The learned counsel appearing for the applicant submitted that inspection was conducted at the time when the factory was not functioning, during Covid-19 lockdown period and a direction may be given to the committee to inspect the area again and collect the water samples so as to ascertain the present status of the water quality in that area.
- v) The committee itself has opined that the water samples will have to be collected for both the seasons namely, pre-monsoon and post-monsoon. The apprehension of the applicant that the water samples will not be taken again is without any basis, as they will have to collect the water samples for the purpose of ascertaining the real nature of water quality and the source of high level TDS be found in that area, as observed by the committee members in the report referred to above.
- vi) The committee wanted time up to June-2021 for submitting the final report. The monsoon will be over by December-2020 and the test can be conducted during January-2021 and the report can be filed by February-2021 by the committee.


Joint Chief Environmental Engineer
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board
Yellare - 632 006

- vii) So considering the circumstances, we feel that time can be granted till 23.02.2021 for the committee to submit the report by e-filing in the form Searchable PDF/OCR Support PDF and in the form of Image PDF along with necessary hardcopies to be produced as per Rules.
8. It is respectfully submitted that as per the Hon'ble NGT order, further the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has collected the Ground Water Samples at different locations of 32 Nos. in and around the complaint unit of M/s. Quality Glue Factory at Paloor village area on 6th February 2021 in the presence of TNPCB officials and the water samples were analyzed in NABL accredited Laboratory M/s G - Lens Innovation Pvt. Ltd. Arumbakkam, Chennai. The report of analysis received from the lab were submitted to Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), Chennai so as to get the interpretation/inferences and recommendations based on the report of analysis of water samples in perspective of Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) .
9. It is respectfully submitted that the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) vide their e-mail letter Dt. 21.02.2021 has stated and informed the following;
- i) **“ Interpretation of analytical results and report writing underway. The final report will be submitted to you (TNPCB) through Regional Director, CGWB within a week (i.e on or before 03.03.2021) for further needful action ”.** (The copy of the letter is submitted vide Annexure. I)
10. It is respectfully submitted that the committee is yet to inspect complaint area of the unit once again based on the results of


Joint Chief Environmental Engineer
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board
Vellore - 632 006

report of analysis after getting from the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) so as to ascertain the impacts of unit, if any on the ground water environment quality in the complaint area and correspondingly to study the operational performances of the unit with respect to Zero Liquid Discharge with imposing the Environmental Compensation (EC) by the joint Committee as per Hon'ble NGT order Dt. 17.09.2020.

11. Further the committee shall assess the Environmental Compensation, if the unit which is responsible for the cause of high TDS in complaint area, cause of environmental damage etc., and also suggest the remedial measures for rectifying the same based on the inspection again by the joint committee.

Prayer

Under the above circumstances, it is humbly prayed that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal may be pleased to give extension of time period up to 30th April, 2021 so as to ensure the following further works and inspections as given below for the complaint filed by the petitioner, finalise the report and submit to the Hon'ble NGT,

- i) Interpretation of analytical results and reports are still awaited from Central Ground Water Board (CGWB).
- ii) To inspect the complaint area again by the joint committee based on analytical results and reports to be given by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) as per the Hon'ble NGT order Dt. 17.12.2020.
- iii) Based on the further inspection by the joint committee the Environmental Compensation (EC) if any against the


Joint Chief Environmental Engineer
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board
Vellore - 632 006

above unit of M/s. Quality Glue Factory to be assessed
by the joint committee.


Joint Chief Environmental Engineer
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board
Vellore - 632 006.

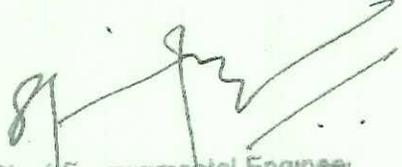
BEFORE ME

VERIFICATION

I, S. Rajan , son of Thiru. Thiru. M.S.Subramanian , working as
Joint Chief Environmental Engineer (Monitoring), Tamil Nadu
Pollution Control Board, 6, Auxillium College Road, Gandhi Nagar,
Katpadi, Vellore 632006 do hereby submit that the above contents
are true to the best of my knowledge and belief through records.

Verified at Chennai on this day 22nd of February 2021.

Encl: Annexure .I


Joint Chief Environmental Engineer
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board
Vellore - 632 006.

Annexure - I

Re: Subject : O/o. JCEE (M), Vellore Zone - Ground Water / Surface Water interpretation data to file the status report to the Hon'ble NGT O.A. 68 of 2016 through the Joint Committee – Requested – Reg.

1 message

Dr. M. Panneer <panneerm-cgwb@gov.in>
To: tnpbjceevlr@gmail.com

21 February 2021 at 14:41

Sir,

In response to your telephonic discussions, this is to inform you that final results of analysis (RoA) of groundwater samples collected during post monsoon received on 20.02.2021 from yours side (TNPCCB). Interpretation of analytical results and report writing underway. The final report will be submitted to you through Regional Director, CGWB with in a week (i.e. on or before 03.03.2021) for further needful action.

With regards

Dr. M. Panneer
Scientist - B,
Ministry of Jal Shakti,
Central Ground Water Board,
Dept. of Water Resources, RD & GR, SECR, E - 1, C - Block, Rajaji Bhavan, Besant Nagar, Chennai.
Pin - 600 090 (M) +91 - 7338882120

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN
TRIBUNAL SOUTHERN ZONE AT
CHENNAI.**

Original Application No.68 of 2016

Mr. P.S. Ramulu

...Applicant

Vs

**The State of Tamil Nadu ,
Chennai & others**

...Respondents

**INTERIM REPORT FILED ON BEHALF
OF THE TAMIL NADU POLLUTION
CONTROL BOARD. (Nodal Agency)**

**Advocate for Respondent No.2 & 3
Thiru.Kasi Rajan,
Advocate, Chennai.**

Date:22.02.2021.

Date of hearing on:23.02.2020