

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI
OA No. 78/2020 (SZ)**

Status Report of the Joint Committee

**(As per Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone, Chennai
Order dated 05.06.2020 in OA No. 78/2020)**

1. Background

The Hon'ble NGT, Southern Bench in the matter of O.A. No. 78/2020 vide order dated 05.06.2020 has directed as follows:-

"...05. So considering the circumstances , we feel it appropriate to appoint a joint committee consisting of (1) District Collector, Chennai District (2) Senior Officer from Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (3) Senior Officer from Chennai Rivers Restoration Trust and (4) Public Works Department (Water Resources Department) to inspect the area in question and submit a factual and action report, including launching of prosecution against violators, if they are traced out and imposition of environment compensation and also to provide suggestions and recommendation for remedial measures to restore the water body and keep it pollution free.

06. There are other cases also pending in respect of certain aspects regarding water bodies before this Tribunal. The Committee can consider this aspect as well while preparing the action plan and protecting this waterbody. The Chennai Rivers Restoration Trust is designated as the Nodal Agency for Coordination and providing necessary logistics for this purpose. Two months time is granted to the Committee to submit the report. The Committee shall send the report to this Tribunal through e-mail or e-filing at ngtszfiling@gmail.com.

2. About Committee

In accordance to Hon'ble NGT direction, CRRT communicated the Order and requested for nomination from respective departments. Nominations were received and the Committee constituted with the following members:

1. Smt. Yoga Jothi, RDO (South), Chennai District,
2. Er. M. Malaiyandi, JCEE (Monitoring), TNPCB, Chennai,
3. Er. S. Muthiah, Superintending Engineer, PWD, Palar Basin Circle, Chennai,
4. Dr. S.Viswanathan, Environmental Specialist & Nodal Officer, CRRT, Chennai,

3. Scope of the Committee as per Order

- To inspect the area in question and submit factual and action report including launching of prosecution against violators if they are traced out and imposition of environment compensation.
- To provide suggestions and recommendations for remedial measures to restore the waterbody and keep it pollution free.
- There are other cases also pending in respect of certain aspects regarding water bodies before this Tribunal. The Committee can consider this aspect as well while preparing the action plan and protecting the water body.

4. Site Inspection:

An inspection was carried out from Saidapet Bridge to Jafferkhanpet Bridge on 18.8.2021 along with the line departments **(Photos are enclosed)**.

Observation:

1. Out of 4 drains, wastewater flow was observed from 3 storm water drain outlets.

Discussion:

- Currently, out of 4 outfalls sewage flow is observed in 3 outfalls. The CMWSSB Assistant Engineer informed that in this particular stretch to plug and divert the sewage, interception and diversion pipelines are being laid to intercept and divert the sewage to nearby pumping station and then conveyed to treatment in Nesampakkam Sewage Treatment Plant. This work is taken up under Adyar River Restoration Project.
- The CMWSSB Assistant Engineer informed that 85% of work is over and the entire work will be completed by the end of September 2021.
- The PWD Engineer informed that widening and desilting undertaken by PWD in this particular stretch has been fully completed.

5. Sewage Management undertaken by CMWSSB to keep the Adyar river pollution Free

As part of eco restoration of River Adyar undertaken by CMWSSB under the aegis of CRRT, the Interception and Diversion arrangements had been proposed with weir arrangements by which any lean sewage flow will be intercepted and conveyed through interceptor pipelines to the nearest pumping station and excess flow from the storm water drain will automatically flow into the river especially during the rainy seasons. The design of the I&D arrangements comprised of about 10 kms of pipelines with diameters ranging from 300 mm to 1200 mm.

The mitigation proposals for the 30 outfalls within Chennai city comprised of 7 packages pertaining to Interception and Diversion works and 7 packages pertaining to construction of Modular STPs along the bank of the river through which the sewage will be treated and partially reused for proposed plantation works in the banks of the river and the balance to be disposed into the river for maintaining the ecological flow. The Modular STPs are based on Activated Sludge process using Moving Bed Bio - Reactors.

Due to site conditions and other actions taken by CMWSSB and other departments, two numbers of I&D works originally contemplated had to be dropped. Likewise, of the 7 Modular STPs originally proposed by the Consultant, 5 nos have been dropped as alternate proposals such as diversion of the sewage from the Storm Water Drains to the nearby existing collection system network or to the nearest sewage pumping stations had been formulated by CMWSSB.

Moreover, CMWSSB had also taken up execution of Underground Sewerage Scheme for Ramapuram, Manapakkam and due to the preparation of DPR for providing comprehensive UGSS to Nandampakkam, the proposed I&D and Modular STP works had to be dropped which resulted in the reduction of Modular STPs as the works taken up are permanent measures to mitigate sewage outfalls into River Adyar.

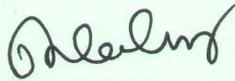
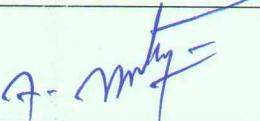
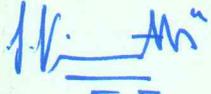
The 5 Packages of I&D works under execution by CMWSSB aims to plug 30 nos outfalls wherein the sewage flowing into the River Adyar will be diverted to the nearby CMWSSB sewerage infrastructure or for treatment in the proposed two Modular STPs. The treated water from the modular STPs will be discharged back into the Adyar River as per CPCB/TNPCB Norms.

The above I & D works are expected to be completed by December 2021. Of the 2 modular STPs to be executed by CMWSSB, 1 is under execution, 1 is under tender evaluation. The above STP works are expected to be completed by December 2022.

6. Conclusions:

The mitigation proposals for the 3 outfalls within this particular stretch between Alandur to Jafferkhanpet Bridge (CH: 8200 to CH: 10850) covering the areas of Burma Colony, Defense Colony, SIDCO Industrial Estate and Kalaimagal Nagar under the Jurisdiction of Depot 170 comprised of 2 nos of Interception works with collection system of 400mm to 1000mm dia CI pipes

with 102 Nos of Manholes for a total length of 3127 m from Alandur to Jafferkhanpet bridge on the Right Bank of River Adyar. The collected sewage is conveyed to SIDCO main pumping station for onward disposal and treatment in Nesapakkam Sewage Treatment Plant. The work has been awarded for a contract value of Rs. 14.035 cr with contract period of 18 months. The work has commenced on 25.09.2019 and as on date about 85% of the work has been completed and the work is programmed to be completed by September 2021. After completion of the Interception works, there will be no sewage disposal from the 3 storm water drains within this stretch.

S.No.	Committee Members	Signature
1	Smt. Yoga Jothi, RDO Chennai District	
2	Er. M. Malaiyandi, JCEE (Monitoring), TNPCCB, Chennai	
3	Er. S.Muthiah, Superintending Engineer, PWD, Palar Basin Circle, Chennai	
4	Dr. S.Viswanathan, Environmental Specialist & Nodal Officer, CRRT	

Field Inspection Photos

