

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

Original Application No. 80 of 2021(SZ)

IN THE MATTER OF

Tribunal on its own motion suo moto
based on then news item in the Times of India
News Paper, Coimbatore Edition, dated: 14.02.2021,
"Stench from check dam makes life miserable"

... Applicant

Versus

The Principal Secretary to Government
Public Works Department Chennai and Others

... Respondents

**STATUS REPORT
FILED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF TOWN PANCHAYATS**

I, Dr. R.Selvaraj, I.A.S., S/o Thiru. S.Ramasamy, Indian, aged 52 years, presently discharging my duties as Commissioner of Town panchayats, having office at Urban Administrative Building, 75, Santhome High Road, Chennai – 28, file this status report, as follows:

1. It is submitted that this Hon 'ble Tribunal on its own motion suo moto, based on the news item in the Times of India News Paper, Coimbatore Edition, dated: 14.02.2021, published with headings

"Stench from check dam makes life miserable", was taken on file in the above Original Application.

2. It is submitted that when the matter was taken up for hearing on 10.03.2022, this Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to direct the Commissioner of Town Panchayats, to file an action taken report. The same is hereby complied with, by filing this Status Report. The interim status reports already filed by the Joint Committee and the respective Town Panchayats may be read as part and parcel of this Status Report.
3. It is submitted that this Hon'ble Tribunal by its order dated 09.03.2021, directed to constitute a Joint Committee to inspect the site and submit its report. The Joint Committee after inspection submitted interim report before this Tribunal on 08.04.2021, wherein the following main recommendations were made:
 - i). The Veerapandi of Town Panchayat, shall be directed to construct and operate the STP for the treatment of sewage water generated from the Veerapandi Town Panchayat immediately.
 - ii). The Veerapandi Town Panchayat shall provide In-situ bioremediation techniques as short term remedies such as phytoremediation, construct Wetlands and microbial Bioremediation for wastewater treatment in Eazhu Erumai Pallam, as suggested by the CPCB immediately, until the construction and operation of STP commences.
 - iii). Veerapandi Town Panchayat shall also continue to process and dispose the Municipal Solid Waste as per the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 effectively.

iv). The Periyanaickenpalayam Town Panchayat shall be directed to construct and operate the Phytoremediation treatment system for the treatment of sewage water generated from the periyanaickenpalayam Town Panchayat.

4. It is pertinent to mention here that the Gudalur Town Panchayat was upgraded as Municipality, vide G.O.Ms.No.81, MA & WS (Election) Dept, dated 14.10.2021. Hence, the administration of Gudalur Town has been transferred to the Director of Municipal Administration.

5. It is submitted that the Commissioner of Town Panchayat has already granted funds and enabled the Veerapandi and Periyanaickenpalayam Town Panchayats to complete the following short term measures, as recommended by the Joint Committee:

i). The Veerapandi Town Panchayat has already completed the construction of Phytoremediation treatment system at Burial Ground in Ward No.2 (Near Pallam), at the cost of Rs.4,20,000/-, to treat the discharging from the residential hamlets such as ward No.2, Ward No. 5 , Ward No.6 and Ward No.11.

ii). Similarly the Periyanaickenpalayam Town Panchayat has also completed the construction of Phytoremediation treatment system with an estimate of Rs.6,70,000/-, at periyappallam (near Kasthuripalayam Burial Ground), to treat the discharge of waste waters from the residential hamlets of Ward No.4.

- iii). The Periyanaickenpalayam Town Panchayat has already commissioned FSTP with capacity to process 25,000 K.L. at an estimate of Rs.2.48 Crores in 1.5 Acres of lands, near Resource Recovery Park at Ward No.5. This facility has been availing to treat the sewage waters collected from septic tanks of individual households in Periyanaickenpalayam and Veerapandi Town Panchayat, by tanker lorries and decanting.
 - iv). The proposal to expand the above existing FSTP to process additional capacity of 25,000 KL at the cost of Rs.1.20 Crores, has been submitted by the Town Panchayat. For which, the administrative sanction has been already granted by the Commissioner of Town Panchayat, vide Na.Ka.No.9471/2015/B5, dated 19.11.2021. The preparatory process for tender was already completed after obtaining technical sanction and the last date for submitting bid is published as 12.04.2022. The work order will be issued after finalizing the tender.
6. It is submitted that the waste and storm water from the hamlets of Veerpandi and Periyanaickanpalayam Town Panchayat have been drained into the Ezhu Erumai Pallam Canal. As mentioned supra, in order to prevent the pollution and contamination by letting the sewage water into canals, the Town Panchayat has commissioned common FSTP to treat the sewage water collect from individual septic tanks of households. In addition to that the Town Panchayat has been creating awareness among its domiciles, on importance of maintenance of septic tanks, periodical cleaning of the same and information of availability of Tankers for collection of sewage waters and decanting at the above FSTP.

7. It is submitted that the Town Panchayats are directed to monitor the water samples at regular intervals and arrest the contamination and pollution of water at the culminating points through periodical inspection and testing water samples. The Town Panchayat has informed that the Pollution Control Board has lifted water samples and sent to lab and the result is not yet received.

It is therefore prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to accept this Status Report/Action Taken Report on file and pass such further other orders deems so fit to the case and thus render justice.


Commissioner of Town Panchayats
Commissioner of Town Panchayats
M.R.C. Nagar, Chennai - 600 028.