

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

**Original Application No.84 of 2022 (SZ)**

IN THE MATTER OF

East Kamaraj Nagar (North)  
Residents Welfare Association  
Represented by its Secretary  
Mr. M.N. Mahendar  
No.14, First East Street, Kamaraj Nagar  
Thiruvanmiyur, Chennai 600 041.

... Applicant(s)

Vs

1. The Commissioner  
Greater Chennai Corporation  
Ripon Building  
No. 53, Raja Muthiah Road, Kannapar Thidal  
Periyamet, Chennai – 600 003
  2. The Managing Director  
Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board  
75, Santhome High Road, Pattinapakkam, Santhome  
Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai -600 028
  3. The Zonal Officer  
Zone – XIII, Greater Chennai Corporation  
No.115, Dr.Muthulakshmi Salai, Adyar  
Chennai – 600 020.
  4. The Area Engineer/Executive Engineer  
Area XIII,  
No.42, 1st Main Road, Indira nagar,  
Adyar, Chennai – 600 020.
- ... Respondent(s)

  
**AREA ENGINEER - XIII  
C. M. W. S. S. Board  
42 1st Main Road,  
Indira Nagar, Adyar,  
Chennai - 20.**

  
**Superintending Engineer (South)  
Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board,  
Chintadripet, Chennai-600 002.**

**REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> & 4<sup>TH</sup> RESPONDENT**

1. I, S.Ravindranathan, S/o K.Subbaiyan, Hindu aged about 59 years, working as Superintending Engineer (South) in the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB), representing the Managing Director who is the 2<sup>nd</sup> respondent and the Area Engineer XIII who is the 4<sup>th</sup> Respondent in the above case.
2. I am herein and well acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case from the connected files.
3. The present Application has been filed seeking the following reliefs:
  - a. To direct the Respondents to take immediate action to prevent mixture of raw sewage from the Sewage Mains to the Storm Water Drain in East Kamaraj Nagar (North) Area;
  - b. To direct the Respondent No.2 and 4 to immediately reconstruct the CMWSSB Mains Chamber in 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> East Kamraj Nagar and Siva Sunder Avenue 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Kamraj Nagar;
  - c. To direct the Respondent No.1 and 3 to reconstruct the Storm Water Drain in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in East Kamraj Nagar;

4. The Respondent herein submits that pursuant to the directions of this Hon'ble Tribunal vide. O.A No.219 of 2015 dated 12.1.2016 the work of enlarging the existing 400mm dia sewer pumping main with a 700mm dia CI sewer pumping main from the Indira Nagar Sewage pumping station to the nearest relay Sewage Pumping station at Lattice Bridge Road Pumping Station has been done to improve the sewage pumping and conveying capacity for treatment and safe disposal at Perungudi Sewage treatment plant. In continuation to the above, the



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sewage outfalls in this area have been plugged. The existing Sewage System is adequate to ensure that there no overflow/ mixing of sewage into the storm water drains.

5. It is further submitted that the mixing of Sewer into the Storm Water Drains occurred during the months of October- December 2021 when there occurred unprecedented rainfall in the city of Chennai and the entire area in East Kamaraj Nagar & Siva Sunder Avenue were affected. The rain water did not drain and were stagnated in the streets entered inside the sewerage system. As the sewerage system of CMWSSB is designed and meant for collecting and conveying sewage only, the unprecedented rain fall lead to surcharge condition and led to backflow of sewage in certain low lying houses. The sewage was immediately removed by using the super sucker machines, private sewer Lorries operated by the CMWSS Board. Also, the dewatering pumpsets of various capacities were arranged to pump out the excess rainwater stagnation to avoid inundation and given quick relief to the public within a few days of excess rainfall.

6. After rainy season there are no issues of recurrent sewer obstruction / leak or overflow from the Maintenance holes or from the sewer mains at 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> Streets and Siva Sunder Avenue 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Kamaraj Nagar East, Thiruvanmiyur, Chennai-41. Further it is noticed that there is no linkage of sewerage system with the storm drains during inspection. The CMWSSB is also not letting out Sewage into the Storm Water Drains. Complaints received from the residents or public pertaining to the water supply and sewage disposal has been attended then and there without any delay.

7. It is humbly submitted that upon inspection of the Machine holes chambers at 1st to 4th streets and in Siva Sunder Avenue 1st and 2nd Streets in Kamaraj Nagar East, Thiruvanmiyur, Chennai-41, the chambers are found in good and serviceable condition and there is no leakage of sewage. All the Maintenance holes (Chambers) in the streets in East Kamaraj Nagar and Sivasunder Avenue in Thiruvanmiyur area are in good and serviceable condition for which photos of such maintenance holes are put up for perusal of this Honourable Court. These maintenance hole chambers are periodically desilted and flushed out as a part of regular preventive maintenance measure to ensure free flow of sewage by gravity to the nearest sewage pumping station. Further it is submitted that the existing maintenance hole stated as 50 years old is incorrect and it is in good condition and the same does not require to be rebuilt now.

8. It is respectfully submitted that the complaint mentioned in the letter given by the zonal health officer vide letter dated 22.06.2021 to the Area Engineer XIII, based on the complaint "illegal draining of sewage to SWD" given by Thiru.V.Ramakrishnan vide complaint registration no. 701MKS dated 15.04.2021 was rectified by plugging the illegal sewer connection found inside the storm water drain.

9. Even after several preventive actions, repeated complaints regarding the mixing of sewage into the storm water drain was reported by the petitioner. Hence a joint inspection was conducted along with the Petitioner, and GCC officials on the allegations of ingress of sewage into the storm water drain. It is humbly submitted that upon joint inspection by CMWSSB and GCC officials, It was noticed that three Machine holes were in dilapidated condition and it was also stated that seepage of sewage into the adjacent SWD and requested to rectify the same.



**AREA ENGINEER - XIII**  
**C. M. W. S. S. Board**  
**42 1st Main Road,**  
**Indira Nagar, Ambar,**  
**Chennai - 20.**



**Superintending Engineer (South)**  
**Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board,**  
**Chintadripet, Chennai-600 002.**

Accordingly, the above mentioned Machine holes have been dismantled and reconstructed immediately.

10. Even after several preventive actions, repeated complaints regarding the mixing of sewage into the storm water drain was reported by the petitioner. Hence a joint inspection was conducted along with the Petitioner, and GCC officials on the allegations of ingress of sewage into the storm water drain. In this regard, yet another joint inspection was carried out at the above location and it was noticed that sullage/ sewage water from L.B.Road SWD is backflowing into the East Kamaraj Nagar Storm water drain. Upon checking it is found that some of the Commercial establishments along Lattice Bridge road in Area-XIII in spite of having regular sewage connections with CMWSSB are letting out sullage/sewage water illegally into the storm water drain which affects the residents of East Kamaraj Nagar. The Respondent herein has communicated this transgression committed by these commercial establishments to the GCC, for taking immediate action.

11. Further at the terminal point of the Storm water drain in Lattice bridge road, a bunch of BSNL cables crossing the drain obstructs the flow leading to stagnation/ reverse flow in the drain at the East Kamaraj nagar. In this regard, the officials of GCC has arranged for removal of silt in the storm water drain and also made necessary arrangements for rerouting of BSNL cables. Hence it is submitted that there is no sewage flow inside the storm water drain from the CMWSSB sewerage system as per the site inspection.



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C. M. W. S. S. Board  
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Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board,  
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12. It is respectfully submitted that the Respondent Board has attended to the sewer complaints received from the Resident public and the Petitioner's Association immediately without any delay. Also the periodical desilting and flushing of sewer system is being done as a part of regular preventive maintenance measure to ensure free flow of sewage by gravity to the nearest sewage pumping station using the mechanized vehicles like Jet rodding Vehicles, desilt auto and super sucker machines to avoid sewer obstruction/ overflow complaints. It is further reaffirmed that there is no flow/ let out of sewage from the CMWSSB sewer system into the storm water drain in the suit area. Further it is submitted that the existing machine hole chambers which are stated as 50 years old is incorrect and it is in good serviceable condition and the same does not require any reconstruction at present. However in event of any damages to these machine holes in future, the same will be repaired/ reconstructed as and when required.

Hence, it is therefore humbly prayed that this Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (Southern Zone) may be pleased to accept my response on behalf of the Board and thus render Justice.



**AREA ENGINEER - VIII  
C. M. W. S. S. Board  
42 1st Main Road  
Indira Nagar, Adyar,  
Chennai - 20.**

Solemnly affirmed at Chennai  
on this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August 2022  
and signed his Name in my  
presence



**Superintending Engineer (South)  
Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board,  
Chintadripet, Chennai-600 002.**

Before me



48/1/2021.

Advocate, Chennai  
**I. Rollence Samuel.**  
57, LC, MHC, CH - 104

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And others

.... Respondents

Report filed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Respondent

Gautam S.Raman  
Counsel for Respondents 2 and 4  
CMWSSB