

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN BENCH, CHENNAI.**

Original Application No. 99 of 2021(SZ)

Tribunal on its own motion Suo Motu
based on the News item in the Times of
India Newspaper Chennai edition dated
5.4.2021 under the caption "Chennai you
are breathing micro plastic"

Vs.

The Chief Secretary to Government
Tamil Nadu, Chennai and Ors

...Respondents

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**FILED BY
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

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**AFFIDAVIT FILED BY THE NODAL OFFICER OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE -
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD.**

I, V.Thiagarajan, son of H. Vaitheeswaran, Hindu, aged about 58 years,
having my office at No.76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai - 32, do hereby
solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:-

1. I am the Deputy Director (Lab), Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, and I
am filing this affidavit on behalf of the Nodal Agency namely, TNPC Board as
such I am well acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case from the
records available and I am competent to swear this affidavit.

2. It is respectfully submitted that, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal,
Southern Bench, Chennai has passed order dated 16.04.2021 among other things
inter alia as follows:

*Para10: The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) is directed to
submit a report regarding the allegations made in the newspaper report and its
impact on environment, what are all the regulatory mechanism provided by the
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and other regulators to curb such probable
pollution that is likely to be caused on account of micro plastic which is likely to
emanate from the plastic waste that is being generated by the public.*


DEPUTY DIRECTOR (LABS)
Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board,
76, Mount Salai, Guindy,
Chennai-600 032.

Para 15: They are directed to submit their independent report as directed before this Tribunal on or before 28.05.2021”.

3. It is respectfully submitted that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) in O.A. No. 99/2021 (SZ) vide its order dated 16.6.2021 directed inter alia that:

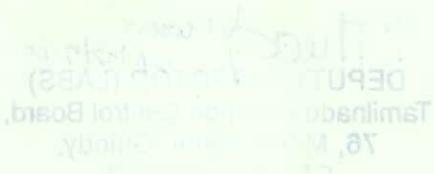
“..... to appoint a Joint Committee to consider this aspect. So, we constitute Joint Committee consist of 1) Senior Scientist from Central Pollution Control Board, Integrated Regional Office, Chennai, 2) Senior Scientist from Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board as designated by its Chairman and 3) Scientist having expertise in this filed from Center for Environment, Anna University, Chennai to inspect the area in question and also consider the problem that has been projected in the newspaper reports and come with a suitable recommendations and suggestions as to how this can be mitigated in an effective manner”.

Tamil Nadu Pollution Control will be the nodal agency for coordination and providing necessary logistic for this purpose.

The Committee is directed to take water samples from the nearby wells in and around the Perungudi dumpyard and also consider the air samples from the available monitoring station near that place and also in Chennai area so as to find out whether micro plastic particles are found in groundwater as well as in the atmosphere which is being unknowingly consumed by the public resulting in other unknown diseases as well”

4. In this regard it is respectively submitted that as per the above directions of the Hon'ble NGT, a joint committee was constituted with the following members from Centre for Environmental studies, Anna University, TNPCB and Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).


DEPUTY DIRECTOR (LABS)
Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board,
76, Mount Salai, Guindy,
Chennai-600 032.



The members are

1. Dr. S.Kanmani, Director,
Centre for Environmental Studies,
Anna University, Chennai – 600 025.
2. Thiru.V.Thiagarajan,
Deputy Director (Labs),
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
Chennai – 600 032.
3. Smt. B.M. Poornima,
Scientist 'D'
Central Pollution Control Board,
Regional Office, Chennai.

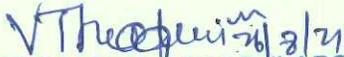
A meeting of the Joint committee was held on 16.08.2021 at 3.00pm in the matter of O.A. No.99/2021 (SZ) filed before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Chennai based on the News item published in the Times of India Newspaper, Chennai edition dated 05.08.2021 under the caption "Chennai you are breathing micro plastic and micro plastic found in water near corporation dump yards to discuss the road map for the sampling and analysis. The copy of the minutes of the meeting is submitted herewith as **Annexure-1**.

The following decisions were made in the Joint committee meeting:

- Sampling locations of water samples from the nearby areas of dumping sites of Perungudi and Kodungaiyur are to be surveyed and identified and also the air quality monitoring locations are proposed on 25.08.2021 and 26.8.2021.

- As for as the analysis of the micro plastics in water and air it was requested by the members to get the details of the procedures and techniques for the analysis of the micro plastics from the Central Institute of Plastics Engineering Technology (CIPET).

5. It is respectfully submitted that for the above works to be executed and for the preparation of the Joint Committee report, a considerable time is required


DEPUTY DIRECTOR (LABS)
Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board,
76, Mount Salai, Guindy,
Chennai-600 032.

hence it is humbly requested that the Hon'ble NGT(SZ) may extend the time limit by another eight weeks for the submission of Joint committee report .

Under the above circumstances, it is humbly prayed that this Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) may pleased be grant further eight weeks time to file report and pleased to pass such further or other orders as it deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of this case and thus render justice

V. Thiagarajan 26/8/21
DEPUTY DIRECTOR (LABS)
Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board,
76, Mount Salai, Guindy,
Chennai-600 032.

BEFORE ME

VERIFICATION

I, V. Thiagarajan, son of H. Vaitheeswaran, working as Deputy Director (Lab), Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai - 600032, do hereby verify that the contents of the above report are true to the best of my knowledge through records.

Verified at Chennai on this 26th day of August 2021.

V. Thiagarajan 26/8/21
DEPUTY DIRECTOR (LABS)
Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board,
76, Mount Salai, Guindy,
Chennai-600 032.

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76, Mount Salai, Guindy,
Chennai-600 032.

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Minutes of the Joint Committee meeting held on 16.08.2021 at 3.00pm in the matter of O.A. No.99/2021 (SZ) before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Chennai based on the News item published in the Times of India. NEWSPAPER, CHENNAI EDITION DATED 05.08.2021 UNDER THE CAPTION "CHENNAI YOU ARE BREATHING MICRO PLASTIC AND MICRO PLASTIC FOUND IN WATER NEAR CORPORATION DUMP YARDS.

Present :

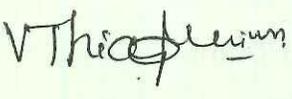
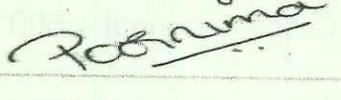
1. Dr. S. Kanmani, Director,
Centre for Environmental Studies,
Anna University,
Chennai – 600 025.
2. Thiru. V. Thiagarajan,
Deputy Director (Labs),
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
Chennai – 600 032.
3. Smt. B.M. Poornima,
Scientist 'D'
Central Pollution Control Board,
Regional Office, Chennai – 600 058.

The Deputy Director (Labs), TNPCB briefed the Hon'ble NGT order dated June 16, 2021 to the joint committee and requested the committee members to give suggestions on no. & sampling locations, parameters and third party for analyzing the samples. As per the NGT direction, the site inspection has to be done in and around the Perungudi and Kodungaiyur dump yards and also to monitor Ambient air, surface & ground water for micro plastic particles. The following decisions were made during the meeting:

1. To visit the Perungudi and Kodungaiyur sites on 25.08.2021 by committee members for finalizing the sampling locations for the monitoring.
2. To finalize the parameters for the surface & ground water which are to be analyzed. All the 12 parameters including the micro plastics were finalized for the ambient air quality monitoring.

3. To identify the NABL accredited laboratory for the analysis of surface, ground water samples and air samples other than plastics.
4. The committee members decided to analyze the air & water samples from samples Central Institute of Plastics Engineering Technology (CIPET) for plastics. The Deputy Director (Labs) was requested to enquire and get the details from CIPET for analysis.
5. The monitoring of the ambient air & water in and around the Perungudi and Kodungaiyur sites was decided to carry out on 26.08.2021.
6. The Deputy Director (Labs) was requested by committee members to seek 6 weeks' time from Hon'ble NGT for the submission of report.
7. Members requested Deputy Director (Labs) to arrange the logistics for monitoring and site visit on August 25-26, 2021.

The meeting ended with thanks to the members.

Dr.S.Kanmani, Director, Centre for Environmental Studies, Anna University, Chennai – 600 025.	
Thiru.V.Thiagarajan, Deputy Director (Labs), Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai – 600 032.	
Smt. Poornima B.M., Scientist 'D' Central Pollution Control Board, Regional Directorate Office, Chennai-58	

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CHENNAI.**

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**AFFIDAVIT FILED BY THE NODAL
OFFICER OF THE JOINT
COMMITTEE - TAMIL NADU
POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD in
NGT O.A.No.99 OF 2021.**

Advocate for Respondent:

Date:26.08.2021

Hearing date on 27.08.2021