

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
WESTERN ZONE BENCH AT PUNE
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 63/2023

Arif Nawaz M. M. Iraqi

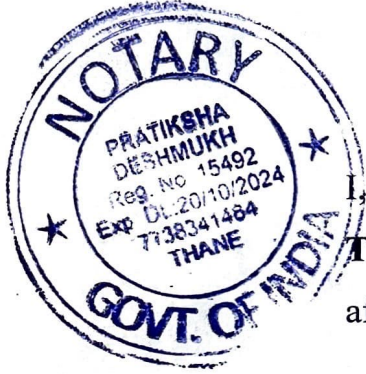
... Applicant

V/s.

Thane Municipal Corporation & ors.

... Respondents

ADDITIONAL AFFIDAVIT-IN-REPLY



I, **Manisha Madan Pradhan**, the Chief Environment Officer of **Thane Municipal Corporation**, do hereby state on solemn affirmation as under:

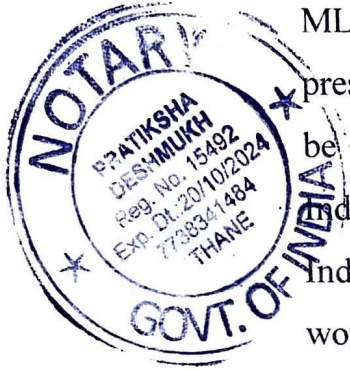
1. I am filing this affidavit pursuant to order dated 09/02/2024 passed in above matter. I am filing this affidavit in furtherance to the affidavit dated 21/09/2023 filed on behalf of Thane Municipal Corporation. I tender my apology for delay in filing present affidavit.
2. I submit that in Diva area at present sewage generation is 32 MLD. I say that at present there is no Municipal Sewage Treatment Plant in Diva ward committee. I however submit that there are 21 STP in private complexes which carryout treatment about 9.6 MLD of sewage. I say that balance 22.40 MLD sewerage is primarily treated through septic tanks /soak pits and the excess primarily treated water is discharged in nearby Nalla. I submit that Thane Municipal Corporation has also initiated work on treatment of water in nallas by insitu phythoremediation and bioremediation based treatment

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similar to Restoration of Nalla with ecological unit (RENEU) which is develop by Scientist of National Environment Engineering Research Institute (NEERI).

3. I say that Thane Municipal Corporation has proposed STP of 106 MLD capacity in Diva which would be sufficient to take care of present as well as future needs of the area. I say that said STP is to be constructed in Amrut Mission 2.0 scheme of Government of India, under which 25% cost would be borne by Government of India, 25% cost by State of Maharashtra and balance 50% cost would be borne by Thane Municipal Corporation. I say that project is already approved by State High Power Committee of Government of Maharashtra. I say that pursuant to approval of State High Power Committee, project is approved by the Apex Committee of the Central Government. I say that Thane Municipal Corporation has already initiated the process of preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR), so as to ensure that immediately after receipt of approval of Central Government, tender can be floated and work can be started so that project can be started at earliest. I say that project is likely to be commissioned in next 3 years.

4. I say that, the implementation of sewerage scheme in Diva area is going to take around 3 Years which is a long term process; therefore TMC has planned short term process of Restoration of Nalla with ecological unit (RENEU) which is in-situ low cost waste water treatment technology. I say that presently sewage in Diva area is primarily treated through septic tanks /soak pits. I say that said water thereafter flows through various nallas in the area. I say that, in this system flowing water is passed through screen, silt trap, solar

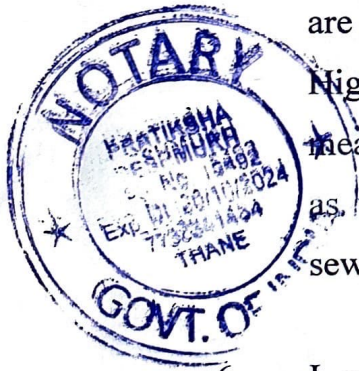


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diffused aerator, Gabion distribution biomat as well as floating rafter, which are fitted in nallas. I say that flowing water is naturally cleaned by process of sedimentation, Bacterial action, filtration, Absorption, precipitation and decomposition. I say that, this process can remove about 70% impurities in the water and does not require pumping nor requires electricity. I say that these steps are being taken as and by way of stop gap arrangement so as to minimize pollution till the STP proposed for the area becomes functional. TMC has initiated a pilot project with this technology and after studying the results of this pilot project the scope of treatment will be extended to treat all the Nallas. I say that project will be completed and treatment will be started in about next 12 months.

5. I submit that in Mumbra area about 32.5 MLD sewage through sewerage network and nallah interception is treated through TMC's STP's and Balance 2.3 MLD sewage is treated in private STP which are constructed in various Complexes viz. Minar Residency, Sukun Nights, Venus, SK Residency etc in Mumbra and Kausa area. It means in Mumbra area totally 34.8 MLD is being treated in TMC's as well as Private STP's. I therefore submit that entire 100% sewage is being treated in Mumbra.



6. I submit that purpose of EDC is to make funds available for execution of projects for protection of environment and to ensure that the projects are not delayed for want of funds. I say that Thane Municipal Corporation has already earmarked funds required for aforesaid projects and is working in right earnest to ensure early completion of projects. I say that if environment costs are imposed, Thane Municipal Corporation is likely to come in financial

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difficulties, which is likely to delay the work on the project. It therefore is most humbly submitted that environment cost may not be imposed on Thane Municipal Corporation.

7. I Say that, Thane Municipal Corporation has taken up the following additional measures to conserve and preserve environment :



- Rain Water Harvesting: All the layout open spaces / amenity spaces of housing societies and new constructions/ reconstructions / additions on plots having area not less than 500 sq.mt. shall have Rain Water Harvesting structures
- ii) Deep Clean Drive: The deep clean drive program is initiated by the Government of India as well as Maharashtra Government was also started in TMC area. TMC regularly clean various streets, Roads, Footpaths, gardens and Playgrounds. Corporation is also involving individuals and group of citizens as well as NGO's, Students to contribute to a pollution free environment.
- iii) Nalla Cleaning : Thane Municipal Corporation every year carried out pre-monsoon Nalla cleaning. In year 2023-24 TMC has cleared all existing nalla. Total 1,75,462 sq.mt. area of are cleaned and 93,460 Cubic Slush is removed and 100 trash arrestors are installed on Nallas.
- iv) Amrut Abhiyan 2.0 : Thane Municipal Corporation is rejuvenating 15 lakes and under State Lake Conservation Programme (SLCP). Thane Municipal Corporation is rejuvenating 6 lakes in which lake water quality, Green area will improved and will add aesthetic value in environment.
- v) National Clean Air Programme : Thane Municipal Corporation has taken 123 e-Bus on GCC contract, along with

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other projects like conversion of Wood crematorium on PNG, Tree Plantation, installation of mist fountain at chowks, strengthening of material recovery facility centre, etc.

vi) Thane Municipal Corporation has carried out 50,000 Miyawaki plantation in TMC area in year 2023-24.

8. I say that, I am filing this affidavit to bring on record steps taken by Thane Municipal Corporation. I crave leave to file further affidavit in reply as and when required.

9. I say that what is stated hereinabove is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Solemnly affirmed at Thane

This 25th day of April, 2024

m. prachem
Deponent
मुख्य पर्यावरण अधिकारी
ठाणे महानगरपालिका ठाणे

Identified by me

Advocate

Before me



BEFORE ME

Pratiksha R. Deshmukh

PRATIKSHA R. DESHMUKH
ADVOCATE & NOTARY GOVT. OF INDIA
Gala No. 1, Bhiwandiwala Terrace
Building, Near Axis Bank,
Court Naka, Thane (W) - 400 601

NOTED & REGISTERED

Sr. No. 2298 Date 25 APR 2024

