

BEFORE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, WESTERN ZONE BENCH,
AT PUNE

Original Application No.111 of 2024 WZ.

News Item Title " Layer of Toxic
Foam Floats on the Surface of Indrayani
River in Pune.

..... Applicant.

VERSUS

Maharashtra Pollution Control Board
and Others.

..... Respondents.

**Counter Reply/ Objections of the R.No.9 to the Additional
Affidavit filed on behalf of the R.No.1**

The Respondent No.9 has carefully gone through the Additional Affidavit filed on behalf of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board and would like to submit our objections to the assessment of total EDC amounting to Rs.17,10,00,000/- by the MPCB as under-

1. Respondent No.9 say and submits that Vadgaon Nagarpanchayat has been established on 03.02.2018 with the population of 14595 as per year 2011 census at the time of establishment and preset population as per the Census of 2011 year. The copy of the documentary evidence about the last available Census-Record is enclosed and marked as an **Annexure-I**. The total income from the revenue resources of Vadgaon Nagarpanchayat from the revenue resources for the last financial year has been Rs.14,60,60,764/- and total expenditure is 139807075.95/- for the year ended 31.03.2024. The copy of the Income and Expenditure Account of the year ended 31.03.2024 is enclosed and marked as an **Annexure-II**.

2. The R.No.9 has already filed a detailed Affidavit in reply to the main Application dated 23.12.2024 which is at pages 64 to 81.
3. The R.No.9 has further filed the Progress Report dated 10.06.2025 at pages 261 to 266.
4. This Hon'ble Tribunal has made the Chief Secretary, Government of Maharashtra as the R.No.12 and also made the National River Conservation Directorate, Department of Water Resource, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India, New Delhi through its Director/ Deputy Director as the R.No.13 vide Order dated 02.09.2025. A copy of the said Order is at **Annexure-III**.
5. The R.No.9 has already taken effective stop gap arrangements and steps to make improvement in the existing sewage collection, primary treatment and segregation of sewage finding its way into river as under-
 - a) Vadgaon Nagarpanchayat also proposed in accordance with In Situ Grey Water treatment sewage treatment on an experimental basis at the Nagar Panchayat level, at Smashanbhumi and Dattanagari Nalla in the city, in order to prevent sewage water directly enter into Nalla. Further rain water from excavating both sides of the drain, stone pitching is placed on both sides of the drains, small seepage ponds, Kardali, Alu etc. type of plantation, mesh has been installed to collect the solid waste from the drain as stop-gap arrangements at present.

- b)** A detailed project report on waste water is proposed and as an immediate action to be taken until it is implemented, approval has been taken under Nagarpanchayat Special Meeting Resolution No. 1258 dated 04/08/2023 regarding Natural On-site Treatment of waste water, it is proposed to implement it in a comprehensive manner. Accordingly, making small natural dams, widening and deepening, planting trees on both sides, removing solid waste and cleaning, installing nets, sprinkling stones on both sides of the drains, installing nets, making retention ponds etc. to prevent any further discharge of waste water into river.
- c)** Till final approval from State, Vadgaon Nagarpanchayat have taken intermediate action as a short terms' measures on sewage like-
- i)** Tapping of direct entry of sewage into Nallas by screening Nets.
 - ii)** Regular cleaning of Nallas, Widening of Nallas has been done with Stone pitching and plantation have been done.
 - iii)** Housing Society are being enlightened and promoted to build and operate their STP plants. Thus, regular visits and inspection of societies are done to have operational STP.
 - iv)** Regular promotion of Septic tank in individual household to avoid direct sewage into Nallas.

6. Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran gives only technical approval and sanction and accordingly it has given technical approval for providing STP of Rs.16,97,28,246.08/- on 14.10.2024. The DPR is already submitted to PMRDA, which has further submitted to NRCD. A copy of Recapitulation Sheet in respect of total cost of Rs.16,97,28,246.08 is enclosed and marked as an **Annexure – IV**.
7. In fact, unless and until NRCD grants approval to the disbursement of funds for construction of STP, the R.No.9 is unable to take any steps for the construction of STP without availability of funds. It is more surprising that when the proposed cost of STP and Disposal Arrangement is Rs. 16,97,28,246.08, the MPCB has imposed/ proposed EDC of Rs. 17,10,00,000/-, which is much more than the proposed cost of STP and other arrangements. In fact, unless and until NRCD is heard and declines to grant approval, no EDC should have been imposed. It is submitted that instead of imposition of EDC, the sanctioned amount of NRCD can be directly utilized in a time bound manner to provide sewage collection, treatment, and disposal as well as utilization thereof by preventing discharge into river. Hence, it is prayed that the EDC may not be kindly imposed to comply with the above conditions.

Dated this 5th November 2025 at Pune

For Respondent No.9



Advocate

DISTRICT CENSUS HANDBOOK : PUNE

DISTRICT PRIMARY

Location code number	District/ CD Block/ Town	Total/ Rural/ Urban	Area in Square Kilometre	Number of households	Total population (including institutional and houseless population)			Population in the age-group 0-6		
					Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
					1	2	3	4	5	6
521	Pune - District	Total	15,643.00	2,151,503	9,429,408	4,924,105	4,505,303	1,104,959	586,665	518,294
		Rural	14,826.80	779,972	3,678,226	1,903,440	1,774,786	440,102	235,248	204,854
		Urban	816.20	1,371,531	5,751,182	3,020,665	2,730,517	664,857	351,417	313,440
0238	Junnar	Total	1,380.67	80,227	373,987	189,294	184,693	40,268	21,364	18,904
		Rural	1,380.67	80,227	373,987	189,294	184,693	40,268	21,364	18,904
		Urban	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
0239	Ambegaon	Total	1,039.37	50,357	235,972	119,226	116,746	24,375	12,993	11,382
		Rural	1,030.80	46,130	217,096	109,583	107,513	22,090	11,816	10,274
		Urban	8.57	4,227	18,876	9,643	9,233	2,285	1,177	1,108
555557	Manchar (CT)	Urban	8.57	4,227	18,876	9,643	9,233	2,285	1,177	1,108
0240	Shirur	Total	1,553.99	72,887	348,303	182,149	166,154	43,193	23,411	19,782
		Rural	1,517.36	66,309	321,644	167,526	154,118	39,264	21,260	18,004
		Urban	36.63	6,578	26,659	14,623	12,036	3,929	2,151	1,778
555673	Koregaon Bhima (CT)	Urban	19.56	3,192	13,116	7,220	5,896	1,954	1,073	881
555674	Sanaswadi (CT)	Urban	17.07	3,386	13,543	7,403	6,140	1,975	1,078	897
0241	Khed	Total	1,362.22	92,284	421,471	221,726	199,745	52,550	28,173	24,377
		Rural	1,323.14	66,818	320,782	167,045	153,737	37,917	20,229	17,688
		Urban	39.08	25,466	100,689	54,681	46,008	14,633	7,944	6,689
	Rajgurunagar (Khed)									
555861	(CT)	Urban	4.50	5,910	25,146	12,899	12,247	2,822	1,536	1,286
555862	Chakan (CT)	Urban	17.12	10,232	41,113	22,194	18,919	6,233	3,373	2,860
555863	Kharabwadi (CT)	Urban	6.91	2,377	9,200	5,033	4,167	1,524	799	725
555864	Nanekarwadi (CT)	Urban	5.09	3,598	12,654	7,442	5,212	2,000	1,109	891
555865	Medankarwadi (CT)	Urban	5.46	3,349	12,576	7,113	5,463	2,054	1,127	927
0242	Mawal	Total	1,081.80	52,182	263,426	138,600	124,826	34,429	17,943	16,486
		Rural	1,059.55	43,032	219,784	115,137	104,647	28,962	14,993	13,969
		Urban	22.25	9,150	43,642	23,463	20,179	5,467	2,950	2,517
556053	Wadagaon (CT)	Urban	10.70	3,416	14,595	7,583	7,012	1,921	1,044	877
556054	Khadkale (CT)	Urban	4.49	2,998	13,435	6,971	6,464	1,814	978	836
556055	Kusgaon Bk. (CT)	Urban	7.06	2,736	15,612	8,909	6,703	1,732	928	804
0243	Mulshi	Total	1,029.20	38,014	171,006	90,053	80,953	23,041	12,266	10,775
		Rural	1,011.21	31,552	145,373	76,032	69,341	19,060	10,097	8,963
		Urban	17.99	6,462	25,633	14,021	11,612	3,981	2,169	1,812
556201	Hinjavadi (CT)	Urban	8.33	2,856	11,459	6,294	5,165	1,747	939	808
556202	Pirangut (CT)	Urban	9.66	3,606	14,174	7,727	6,447	2,234	1,230	1,004
0244	Haveli	Total	942.83	148,561	658,928	347,842	311,086	88,769	47,787	40,982
		Rural	896.78	137,704	611,631	322,760	288,871	81,937	44,124	37,813
		Urban	46.05	10,857	47,297	25,082	22,215	6,832	3,663	3,169
556326	Dehu (CT)	Urban	5.66	1,381	6,133	3,178	2,955	660	361	299
556327	Wagholi (CT)	Urban	33.67	7,743	33,479	17,767	15,712	4,915	2,623	2,292
556328	Yewalewadi (CT)	Urban	6.72	1,733	7,685	4,137	3,548	1,257	679	578
0245	Pune	Total	10.02	7,537	29,965	16,309	13,656	4,128	2,218	1,910
		Rural	10.02	7,537	29,965	16,309	13,656	4,128	2,218	1,910
		Urban	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
0246	Daund	Total	1,301.62	68,006	331,046	171,166	159,880	40,992	22,101	18,891
		Rural	1,288.19	66,488	324,183	167,717	156,466	40,309	21,753	18,556
		Urban	13.43	1,518	6,863	3,449	3,414	683	348	335
556432	Daund (CT)	Urban	13.43	1,518	6,863	3,449	3,414	683	348	335
0247	Purandhar	Total	1,072.41	40,919	189,323	96,340	92,983	20,007	10,628	9,379
		Rural	1,067.92	38,424	178,095	90,638	87,457	18,761	9,988	8,773
		Urban	4.49	2,495	11,228	5,702	5,526	1,246	640	606
556541	Shivatkar (Nira) (CT)	Urban	4.49	2,495	11,228	5,702	5,526	1,246	640	606
0248	Velhe	Total	569.13	11,428	54,516	27,504	27,012	6,213	3,210	3,003
		Rural	569.13	11,428	54,516	27,504	27,012	6,213	3,210	3,003
		Urban	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
0249	Bhor	Total	851.73	34,948	167,663	84,902	82,761	18,745	9,865	8,880
		Rural	851.73	34,948	167,663	84,902	82,761	18,745	9,865	8,880
		Urban	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
0250	Baramati	Total	1,368.33	79,373	375,185	193,451	181,734	41,984	22,635	19,349
		Rural	1,355.30	74,920	355,839	183,444	172,395	39,688	21,397	18,291
		Urban	13.03	4,453	19,346	10,007	9,339	2,296	1,238	1,058

Vadgaon Nagarpanchayat
Vadgaon Nagarpanchayat Office, Main Bazarpath, Vadgaon. Tal - Mawal. DIST -Pune - 412106

Form No. 81
(See rule No. 387)

Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31.03.2024

Account code	Item/Head of Account	Schedule No	Current year Amount(Rs) 31.03.2024	Previous year Amount(Rs) 31.03.2023
1	2	3	5	4
	INCOME			
11	Tax Revenue	A	75674536.61	38523044.25
12	Assigned Revenue and Compensation	B	0.00	250.00
13	Revenue Grants, Contribution and Subsidies	C	11776023.00	15262409.00
14	Rental Income from Municipal Properties	D	963950.00	829725.00
15	Fees, User charges & Fines	E	52467267.51	55473952.24
16	Sales and Hire Charges	F	1430267.00	1419409.00
17	Income from Interest	G	2688524.20	4365978.00
18	Deposits Forfeited/Non Refundable Deposits etc	H	0.00	0.00
19	Other Income	I	1060195.68	1128086.17
	Total Income		146060764.00	117002853.66
	EXPENDITURE			
21	Establishment Expenses	J	23112799.00	26401981.00
22	Administrative Expenses	K	36864162.42	27249757.00
23	Interest and Finance Charges	L	26196.65	15856.18
24	Repairs and Maintenance of Assets	M	29370756.00	6427371.00
25	Purchase for Operation & programme implementation	N	20145966.00	15958583.00
26	Depreciation	O	30287195.88	13447066.69
27	Revenue Grants, Contributions and Subsidies given	P	0.00	0.00
28	Provisions and Writes off	Q	0.00	0.00
29	Reserve Fund & Misl. Expenses	R	0.00	0.00
	Total Expenditure		139807075.95	89500614.87
	Add : Closing Stock		0.00	0.00
	Less : Opening Stock		0.00	0.00
			0.00	0.00
	Gross surplus/(deficit) of income over expenditure before prior period items		6253688.05	27502238.79
	Add: Prior period item(Net)			
	Gross surplus/(deficit) of income over expenditure after prior period items		6253688.05	27502238.79
	Less: Transfer to Reserve Funds			
	Net balance being surplus/deficit c/f to Mun Fund		6253688.05	27502238.79

The above Income & Exp a/c is prepared on the basis of figures & information as provided by the Vadgaon Naarpanchayat

As per our report of even date.

For M/s. P. D. Kale & Associates

Chartered Accountants

F. R. N. 138903W



(CA. P. D. Kale)

Proprietor

M. No. 131482

Place : Pune. Date : 30.05.2025

UDIN : 25131482BMHUPK3405

We confirm above Profit & Loss account & related notes to be correct.

For & on behalf of the Vadgaon Nagarpanchayat


Accountant


Chief Officer

Item No.3 to 6

(Pune Bench)

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
WESTERN ZONE BENCH, PUNE**

[THROUGH PHYSICAL HEARING (WITH HYBRID OPTION)]

**ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO.111 OF 2024 (WZ)
[Earlier Original Application No.273 of 2024 (PB)]**

News item titled "Layer of toxic foam floats on
Surface of Indrayani River in Pune", appearing
In Hindustan Times dated 12.02.2024

WITH

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO.15 OF 2025 (WZ)

Pratik Dnyanoba Wanjale

.... **Applicant**

Versus

Central Pollution Control Board & Ors.

.... **Respondents**

WITH

**ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO.189 OF 2024 (WZ)
[Earlier Original Application No.945 of 2024 (PB)]**

Sadananda Heggadal Math

.... **Applicant**

Versus

State of Maharashtra & Ors.

.... **Respondents**

WITH

**ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO.115 OF 2024 (WZ)
[Earlier Original Application No.530 of 2024 (PB)]**

News item titled "Hundreds of fish found dead
In Indrayani River at Dehu", appearing
in The Times of India dated 15.03.2024

Date of hearing : 02.09.2025

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DINESH KUMAR SINGH, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. VIJAY KULKARNI, EXPERT MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. PRASHANT GARGAVA, EXPERT MEMBER**

Applicant : None present

Respondents: Ms. Manasi Joshi, Advocate along with Ms. Pooja Natu, Advocate for R-1 O.A. Nos.111/2024 and 115/2024 and for R-2 in O.A. No.189/2024
 Mr. Shivshankar Swaminathan, Advocate for R-2 in O.A. No.111/2024 and for R-3 in O.A. No.189/2024
 Ms. Swati Pandit, Advocate for R-4 in O.A. No.111/2024 and for R-1 in O.A. No.189/2024
 Mr. Dattatray Devale, Advocate for R-3 in O.A. NO.111/2024 and for R-4 in O.A. No.189/2024
 Mr. Ram S. Shahane, Advocate for R-6 in O.A. No.111/2024
 Ms. Diana Thomas, Advocate holding for Mr. Abhijeet M. Hartalkar, Advocate for R-8 in O.A. No.111/2024
 Mr. Saurabh Kulkarni, Advocate along with Mr. Adwait Gokhale, Advocate for R-10 in O.A. No.111/2024
 Mr. Ajay Gadegaonkar, Advocate for R-11 in O.A. No.111/2024 and for R-5 in O.A. No.115/2024
 Ms. Mukta Ranade, Advocate for R-9 in O.A. No.111/2024
 Mr. Aniruddha Kulkarni, Advocate along with Mr. Savyasachi Bharadwaj, Advocate for-12 in O.A. No.111/2024, for R-1 in O.A. No.15/2025 and for R-2 in O.A. No.115/2024
 Mr. Vinod N. Rathod, Advocate, holding for Mr. Shrikant Waghmare, Advocate for R-3 in O.A.No.115/2024

ORDER

1. In compliance with our previous order dated 11.06.2025, the learned Chief Secretary, Government of Maharashtra has filed an affidavit-in-reply dated 29.08.2025, wherein it is made clear that a meeting of all the stakeholders was convened on 22.05.2025. For conservation, revitalization and rejuvenation of Indrayani river, instructions have been issued in the meeting to the Commissioner, Pune Metropolitan Region Development Authority (PMRDA) to prepare a comprehensive proposal for the purpose, under the River Improvement Programme of the Government of India for the management of domestic sewage for urban and rural areas on the banks of Indrayani river. Further it is made clear that since the applicable scheme pertains to the Central Government, there is no concrete time-bound information available with the answering respondent as to by when the said proposal will be approved and when the funds will be made available in this regard. It is further mentioned therein that the Government of Maharashtra

is pursuing with the Central Government for approval to the proposal and shall undertake the necessary steps after the approval by the Central Government.

2. Learned counsel Mr. Aniruddha Kulkarni, representing respondent No.12 – Chief Secretary, Government of Maharashtra, has stated that the Deputy Director, National River Conservation Directorate, Department of Water Resource, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India, New Delhi should be impleaded in this matter, the same being a necessary party, because approval is held up at their end. He states that, that is the only Authority which could make it clear as to by when the funds would be released so that further time/period would be fixed for achieving the target. In view thereof, we direct the Registry to implead “National River Conservation Directorate, Department of Water Resource, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India, New Delhi, through its Director/Deputy Director” as respondent No.13 in the case in hand i.e. O.A. No.111/2024 and issue notice to the said Authority along with a copy of this order, returnable within four weeks, with a direction to engage a lawyer to represent them or to appear in person through VC, as the case may be, and file their reply-affidavit.

3. Learned counsel Mr. Aniruddha Kulkarni, representing respondent No.12 – Chief Secretary, has prayed that the directions issued in para No.1 of its order dated 11.06.2025 to the Chief Secretary, State of Maharashtra to show cause as to why no one has appeared to represent her before us, may be revoked/withdrawn. We make it clear that since no response was received from the learned Chief Secretary, State of Maharashtra till 11.06.2025, nor anyone had appeared on that date, we had issued the said

directions. Now since the learned Chief Secretary, State of Maharashtra is represented by learned counsel Mr. Aniruddha Kulkarni and filed affidavit-in-reply, referred to above, on their behalf, the said direction contained in para No.1 of order dated 11.06.2025 stands withdrawn.

4. From the side of respondent No.3 – PMRDA, learned counsel Mr. Dattatraya Devale has appeared and submitted Progress Report dated 01.09.2025 about the steps taken by the PMRDA in Indrayani Improvement Scheme, which is taken on record.

5. Put up these matters for next consideration on 07.11.2025.

Dinesh Kumar Singh, JM

Dr. Vijay Kulkarni, EM

Dr. Prashant Gargava, EM

September 02, 2025

O.A.NOs.111/2024, 15/2025, 189/2024 & 115/2024 (WZ)

npj

VADGAON MAVAL NAGAR PANCHAYAT
VADGAON MAVAL SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT & ALLIED WORKS
TAL. MAVAL DIST. PUNE
RECAPITULATION SHEET

Sr. No.	Name of Subwork	Cost in Rs.
Zone-1		
1	Nalla Intersection 1	611824.00
2	Nalla Intersection 2	594074.00
3	Gravity Main (I & D 1 to I & D 2)L-400 m, D-350 mm	1855376.00
4	Gravity Main (I & D 2 to PS 1)L-100 m, D-250 mm	443938.00
5	Rising Main PS 1 to STP (L-100m Dia.- 300mm)	775813.00
6	Sewerage Treatment Plant MBBR Capacity 5.5 Mld	62902858.33
7	Pumping Station at STP (Dia.- 6m)	6613313.00
8	Discharge , head- 25 m, Minimum 35 HP	17071846.00
9	Solar Provision	5585728.00
10	Trial Run (STP-1)	16348785.00
Total Cost of Zone -1		112803555.33
Zone-2		
1	Nalla Intersection 3	584256.00
3	Rising Main PS 2 to STP (L-1700m Dia.- 150mm)	5442729.00
4	Pumping Station at STP (Dia.- 3m)	3254252.00
6	Discharge head- 20m, Minimum 5 HP	12903195.00
8	Desludging Vehicle (1 vehicle)	3500000.00
Total Cost of Zone -2		25684432.00
Net Cost(zone -1 & zone -2)		138487987.33
Add 18 % GST charges		24927837.72
Technical Sanction by MJP (1%)		1384879.87
Total Cost		16,48,00,705.00
Add 2.99% PMC Charges		4927541.08
Total Cost		16,97,28,246.08



Xadhane
 Consultant
 Geospatial studio,
 Pune



Z. Wad
 Engineer
 Vadgaon Maval Nagarpanchayat

[Signature]
 Chief Officer
 Vadgaon Maval Nagarpanchayat

[Signature]
 Executive Engineer
 Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran,
 Division No. 2, Pune-411001.

[Signature]
 Superintending Engineer
 Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran
 Circle, Pune-411001

Technically Sanctioned for Rs. 16,97,28,246/- Net
 (Rs. Sixteen Crore Ninety seven lakhs
 Twenty Eight thousand Two hundred forty
 six only.)
 Form No. 85 Item No. 122 for the month 10/2024.

[Signature]
 CHIEF ENGINEER (I)
 (Pune Region)
 Maha. Jeevan Pradhikaran,
 Pune-411001.