

From

Commissioner,  
Coonoor Municipality,  
Mount Road,  
Coonoor-643101

To

Dr. A.K.Nathan,  
Managing Director,  
ENSYS Technologies Pvt. Ltd.,  
Ashok Nagar, Chennai.

**ROC No. H2/1659/2020**

**Dated. 30.03.2021**

Sir,

**Sub:** Preliminary comments on the draft report on the study of outfall into the water bodies of Coonoor Municipal limits-reg.

**Ref :** Draft report received on 25.03.2021.

We are in receipt of the Draft Report on 25.03.2021. The Draft Report is being circulated among the Engineering and Public Health sections of the Municipality for the correctness of data and scrutiny. A copy of the report is submitted to the District Collector also, for comments.

Meanwhile the following preliminary comments are submitted.

1. In Coonoor Municipal limits, out of the total 12584 households, 1724 House Holds are having Septic tank & soak pit arrangements. and 2474 Households are having Leach pit arrangements. The sewage generated from the rest of the population/households may safely be considered as reaching the water bodies.
2. The above figure, prima facie suggests that the volume of discharges in to the water bodies is not proportionate to the water supplied by the Municipality. As suggested in the report, much of the population is using water from other sources, including ground water.
3. The picked-up Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) of 800 mg/L is a big surprise. There is no industrial discharge within the limits of Coonoor Municipality. The Tea factories located in the periphery of the town are also generating very meagre quantities of wash water, in the order of 500 to 1000 LPD, for which they have adequate area of Tea plantation to dispose.

4. It is to be noted that the samples collected by the Joint Inspection Committee and analysed at the TNPCB Laboratory has TDS around 150mg/L only.
5. The report needs to incorporate the feasible technologies for treatment, considering the availability of suitable lands for providing the Sewage Treatment Plants, including the preliminary cost estimate.
6. The feasibility of Phyto-remediation methods such as `Natural Biological Systems` etc., which are involving very low operation and maintenance and energy requirement may be explored and suggested.

In this backdrop, it is informed that the Hon`ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) is constantly monitoring the progress on preventing the sewage discharges into the water bodies, and directed Coonoor Municipality to file regular Progress Report, during the hearings. The next hearing in this matter is scheduled on 5<sup>th</sup> Aril, 2021. Moreover, District Collector is also pursuing the matter.

Hence, I request that your visit to Coonoor Municipality may be scheduled at the earliest, to inspect the available sites for providing the Sewage Treatment Plants, the feasible technological options, based on the availability of land, its terrain etc., so that the recommended /desired option for each outfall may be finalised and included in the Report.

*30/03/21*  
*30/03/21*  
Commissioner  
Coonoor Municipality  
*30/03/21*

Copy submitted to :

✓ District Collector, Nilgiris.

Copy to :

1. District Environmental Engineer, TNPCB,
2. AEE, PWD, Udhagamandalam.