

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

Miscellaneous Application No.07 of 2024

In

Original Application No.55 of 2020

Pattabiraman V.
S/o Mr. V. Venupillai
No. 39, West Mada Street,
Nandambakkam Kudiyurru S.O.,
Kancheepuram District-600089.

...Applicant.

-Vs-

The Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu.
Public Works Department
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600009 & Ors.

...Respondents.

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**Filed by
Thiru.S. Sai Sathya Jith,
Advocate, Chennai.**

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.....Applicant.

-Vs-

1. The Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu.
Public Works Department
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600009.
2. The Additional Chief Secretary
to Govt. of Tamil Nadu
Water Resources Department
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600009.
3. The Municipal Administration and
Water Supply Department
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600009.
4. The Environment, Climate Change
and Forests Department
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600009.
5. The Commissioner,
Tambaram Municipal Corporation
28, Muthuranga Mudali Street,
Tambaram West,
Chennai-600045.

.....Respondents


JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
No.76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
CHENNAI-600 032.

REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE TAMIL NADU
POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

I, K.Nalini, Daughter of Thiru.K.Krishnasamy, aged about 59 years having office at No.76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai 600 032, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

1. I submit that I am working as the Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai and I am authorized to file this report on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and as such I am well acquainted with the facts of the case from available office records.

2. I submit that the Misc. Application has filed before the Hon'ble Tribunal with the following prayers :

“a. direct the respondents to comply with the orders of the Hon'ble NGT order dt.18.07.2022 in OA No.55 of 2020.

b. direct the respondents authorities to restore and maintain the Putheri Lake in its natural and pristine state and

c. admit the application and direct the competent authority including the District Magistrate having jurisdiction to take action on the contempt of the order of this Hon'ble Tribunal and levy a financial penalty on the erring officials”.

3. It is submitted that on 20.1.2025, the Hon'ble Tribunal has impleaded TNPCB as one of the respondent in this OA and passed an order that *“the directions issued in our order dated 18.07.2022 in O.A. No. 55 of 2020 (SZ) must be complied with by the authorities concerned. In particular, the direction specified in Clause (viii) of Para (33) of the Judgment is to be complied with by the Chief Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu.”*


JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
No.76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
CHENNAI-600 032.

4. It is submitted that as per the direction passed by the Hon'ble Tribunal on 20.1.2025, the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board submits the report herein.

5. It is submitted that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) has initiated a Suo Motu proceedings vide Original Application No.55 of 2020 based on the news item published in "Chennai Express" Newspaper Chennai Supplementary dated 03.03.2020 under the caption "Back to the Brink" and after completion of the pleadings the Hon'ble Tribunal "disposed of" the OA on 18.7.2022 with the following directions:-

i. The Tambaram Municipal Corporation and the Greater Chennai Corporation are directed to take appropriate steps to implement the Underground Sewage Scheme of uncovered areas within their respective jurisdiction in a war footing manner, so as to avoid discharge of untreated sewage being let into the Putheri Lake.

ii. The Tambaram Municipal Corporation under whose jurisdiction erstwhile Pallavaram municipal area falls is directed to take steps to implement the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and Other Waste Management Rules, in its letter and spirit and also to implement the directions issued by the Principal Bench of National Green Tribunal in O.A. No. 606 of 2018 and this Bench in several matters where erstwhile Pallavaram Municipality was a party in respect of implementation of Solid Waste Management and Liquid Waste Management in an effective manner.

iii. The District Collector, Chengalpattu District in coordination with the Water Resources Department and Tambaram Municipal Corporation are directed to conduct the survey of the Putheri Lake and fix the boundaries of the Putheri Lake and if there is any encroachment found, then they are directed to take steps to remove the encroachment and protect the water body against encroachment and pollution.

- iv. The Commissioner, Tambaram Municipal Corporation is also directed to implement the recommendations made by the Joint Committee including installation of CCTV Cameras around the Putheri Lake where the possibility of dumping of waste recur, so as to identify the persons who are involving in such illegal activities and to take action against those persons in accordance with law.
- v. The Commissioner, Tambaram Municipal Corporation is directed to register the private tanker lorries who have been permitted to collect the untreated sewage from the residential complex or residences and take steps to install GPS in those tanker lorries and maintain a register to track the movement of such tanker lorries from the point of collection till the point of disposal, so as to ascertain as to whether these tanker lorries are involving in illegal decanting of sewage collected into water bodies without taking the same to sewage treatment plant and if such any instance is noted, then take action against them in accordance with law including termination of the contract, licence, seizure of vehicles and other legal action as provided under the Water (Prevention and Control of pollution), Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, Indian Penal Code and Municipal laws, so as to check such illegal activities.
- vi. The Commissioner, Tambaram Municipal Corporation in coordination with the Water Resources Department is directed to maintain the Putheri lake and make it a pollution free lake.
- vii. The Additional Chief Secretary for Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department and Directorate of Municipal Administration are directed to look in to the proposals if any pending in respect of establishing Underground Sewage Scheme in these areas either from Tambaram Municipal Corporation or from Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board,

then they are directed to take immediate steps to clear the proposals by providing necessary administrative as well as financial sanction and provide necessary funds for that purpose.

viii. The Chief Secretary to Government, State of Tamil Nadu is also directed to monitor the implementations of the directions issued by this Tribunal and to conduct review meetings with the stake holders department at the higher level, so as to supervise the implementation of directions and if any gap found, then they are directed to take appropriate steps to remove the gap and implement the directions in its letter and spirit.

ix. The Chief Secretary to Government, State of Tamil Nadu is directed to carry out the directions issued by this Special Bench of this Tribunal as well as this Bench in similar matters and implementations of directions in O.A. No. 606 of 2018 dealing with Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and implement the directions in its letter spirit, so as to protect the environment which is a primary responsibility of the States.

x. The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board is directed to monitor the implementation of Solid Waste Management and Liquid Waste Management and the implementation of the directions issued by this Tribunal and also the directions issued by the Principal Bench of National Green Tribunal in O.A. No. 606 of 2018 (PB) by the local bodies and if there is any violation or non compliance found, then they are directed to take appropriate action against the erring municipal bodies including Tambaram Municipal Corporation for their lapses by imposing environmental compensation and other legal action as provided under the respective statutes.

xi. The Public Works Department is directed to provide as many necessary box vents if not provided in the radial road formed

dividing this lake so as to ensure free flow of water in the lake on both sides.

xii. The Registry is directed to communicate this order to the official respondents, Block Development Officer- St. Thomas Mount Panchayat Union, Commissioner-Tambaram Municipal Corporation, District Collector-Chengalpattu District, Chairman-Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Engineer-in-Chief, Water Resources Department, the Additional Chief Secretary to Government for Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Environment and Forest Department and also to the Chief Secretary to Government, State of Tamil Nadu for their information and compliance of directions.

34. With the above observations and directions, the Original Application is disposed of”.

6. It is respectfully submitted that the Compliance status for the directions passed in Original Application No. 55 of 2020 in judgment dated 18.7.2022 by the Hon’ble NGT, SZ is submitted as below:

S.No.	Directions	Compliance
i	The Tambaram Municipal Corporation and the Greater Chennai Corporation are directed to take appropriate steps to implement the Underground Sewage Scheme of uncovered areas within their respective jurisdiction in a war footing manner, so as to avoid discharge of untreated sewage being let into the Putheri Lake	Tambaram City Municipal Corporation officials have reported that the Underground sewerage system (UGSS) was provided in most of the areas of Tambaram City Municipal Corporation and laying of UGSS in the remaining areas of Tambaram City Municipal Corporation is under progress. Tambaram City Municipal Corporation officials have reported that the laying of Underground sewerage system in Pammal, Nagalkeni and Pallavaram area of Tambaram City Municipal


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		<p>Corporation is under process and after completion of UGSS line laying work, house service connection will be done by the Tambaram City Municipal Corporation.</p> <p>Tambaram City Municipal Corporation has provided 30 MLD Common Sewage Treatment Plant (CSTP) located at T.S.No. 5/2, 5/6, 5/7 & 5/8, Tambaram village, Tambaram Taluk, Chengalpattu District and the same is under operation.</p> <p>Tambaram City Municipal Corporation officials have reported that this issue has been completely eradicated and the sewage has been stopped from entering the lake. All the sewage that flows from the residences in the Tambaram Corporation has been linked to the Underground Sewage system and the same are being treated at the Treatment Plants before discharge into the approved outlets. However it was noticed that sewage from the surrounding unsewered areas of Tambaram City Municipal Corporation mixes with the storm water drain and flows into the Pallavaram Periya Eri and inturn flows in to the Putheri Lake through storm water drain channel from the northern side of the Putheri lake.</p>
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ii	The Tambaram Municipal Corporation is directed to take steps to implement the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, and other Waste Management Rules, in its letter and spirit and also to implement the directions issued by the Principal Bench of the NGT in O.A. No. 606 of 2018 and this bench in several matters, where the erstwhile Pallavaram Municipality was a party.	Tambaram City Municipal Corporation officials in zone-3 pertaining to Zamin Pallavaram limit disposes the bio degradable solid waste generated through Micro Composting Centers (MCC) and Onsite Compostable Centres (OCC) and the non-biodegradable wastes is taken to the transfer station and being sent to dumpsite at Kolathur Village of Kattangulathur Block, Chengalpattu District.
iii	The District Collector, Chengalpattu District in coordination with the Water Resources Department and Tambaram Municipal Corporation are directed to conduct the survey of the Putheri Lake and fix the boundaries of the Putheri Lake and if there is any encroachment found, then they are directed to take steps to remove the encroachment and protect the water body against encroachment and pollution.	Tambaram City Municipal Corporation has to provide proper Permanent boundary with fencing all along the periphery of the Putheri Lake bund area.
iv	The Commissioner, Tambaram Municipal Corporation is also directed to implement the recommendations made by the Joint Committee including installation of CCTV Cameras around the Putheri Lake where the possibility of dumping of waste recur, so as to	Tambaram City Municipal Corporation has to provide CCTV Camera in vulnerable locations around the Putheri Lake boundary area.

	identify the persons who are involving in such illegal activities and to take action against those persons in accordance with law.	
v	The Commissioner, Tambaram Municipal Corporation is directed to register the private tanker lorries who have been permitted to collect the untreated sewage from the residential complex or residences and take steps to install GPS in those tanker lorries and maintain a register to track the movement of such tanker lorries from the point of collection till the point of disposal, so as to ascertain as to whether these tanker lorries are involving in illegal decanting of sewage collected into water bodies without taking the same to sewage treatment plant and if such any instance is noted, then take action against them in accordance with law including termination of the contract, licence, seizure of vehicles and other legal action as provided under the Water (Prevention and Control of pollution), Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, Indian Penal Code and Municipal laws, so as to check such illegal activities.	Tambaram City Municipal Corporation officials have reported that sewage from the residential complex, individual residences & commercial buildings in the unsewered areas of Tambaram City Municipal Corporation are being collected through sewage tankers and the same is decanted in to the Common Sewage Treatment Plant located at T.S.No. 5/2, 5/6, 5/7 & 5/8, Tambaram village, Tambaram Taluk, Chengalpattu District.


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vi	The Commissioner, Tambaram Municipal Corporation in coordination with the Water Resources Department is directed to maintain the Putheri lake and make it a pollution free lake.	Tambaram City Municipal Corporation officials have reported that this issue has been completely eradicated and the sewage has been stopped from entering the lake. All the sewage that flows from the residences in the Tambaram Corporation has been linked to the Underground Sewage system and the same are being treated at the Treatment Plants before discharge into the approved outlets. However it was noticed that sewage from the surrounding unsewered areas of Tambaram City Municipal Corporation mixes with the storm water drain and flows into the Pallavaram Periya Eri and inturn flows in to the Putheri Lake through storm water drain channel from the northern side of the Putheri lake.
vii	The Additional Chief Secretary for Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department and Directorate of Municipal Administration are directed to look in to the proposals if any pending in respect of establishing Underground Sewage Scheme in these areas either from Tambaram Municipal Corporation or from Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board, then they are directed to take immediate steps to	Tambaram City Municipal Corporation officials have reported that the Underground sewerage system (UGSS) was provided in most of the areas of Tambaram City Municipal Corporation and laying of UGSS in the remaining areas of Tambaram City Municipal Corporation is under progress. Tambaram City Municipal Corporation officials have reported that the laying of Underground sewerage system in Pammal, Nagalkeni and Pallavaram area of Tambaram City Municipal


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<p>clear the proposals by providing necessary administrative as well as financial sanction and provide necessary funds for that purpose.</p>	<p>Corporation is under process and after completion of UGSS line laying work, house service connection will be done by the Tambaram City Municipal Corporation.</p> <p>Tambaram City Municipal Corporation has provided 30 MLD Common Sewage Treatment Plant (CSTP) located at T.S.No. 5/2, 5/6, 5/7 & 5/8, Tambaram village, Tambaram Taluk, Chengalpattu District and the same is under operation.</p> <p>Tambaram City Municipal Corporation officials have reported that this issue has been completely eradicated and the sewage has been stopped from entering the lake. All the sewage that flows from the residences in the Tambaram Corporation has been linked to the Underground Sewage system and the same are being treated at the Treatment Plants before discharge into the approved outlets. However it was noticed that sewage from the surrounding unsewered areas of Tambaram City Municipal Corporation mixes with the storm water drain and flows into the Pallavaram Periya Eri and inturn flows in to the Putheri Lake through storm water drain channel from the northern side of the Putheri lake.</p>
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viii	The Chief Secretary to Government, State of Tamil Nadu is also directed to monitor the implementations of the directions issued by this Tribunal and to conduct review meetings with the stake holder's department at the higher level, so as to supervise the implementation of directions and if any gap found, then they are directed to take appropriate steps to remove the gap and implement the directions in its letter and spirit.	Not Applicable to TNPCB.
ix	The Chief Secretary to Government, State of Tamil Nadu is directed to carry out the directions issued by this Special Bench in similar matters and implementations of directions in O.A. No. 606 of 2018 dealing with Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and implement the directions in its letter and spirit so as to protect the environment which is the primary responsibility of the State.	Not Applicable to TNPCB.
x	The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board is directed to monitor the implementation of Solid Waste Management and Liquid Waste Management and the implementation of the directions issued by this Tribunal and also the directions issued by the Principal	The Putheri Lake was inspected by the TNPCB official on 18.10.2024. During inspection the following were observed: 1. The said Putheri lake is located in Zone-3 of Tambaram City Municipal Corporation in Zamin Pallavaram Village, Pallavaram Taluk,


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<p>Bench of National Green Tribunal in O.A. No. 606 of 2018 (PB) by the local bodies and if there is any violation or non-compliance found, then they are directed to take appropriate action against the erring municipal bodies including Tambaram Municipal Corporation for their lapses by imposing environmental compensation and other legal actions as provided under the respective statutes.</p>	<p>Chengalpattu District is separated by the Pallavaram - Thoraipakkam Radial Road into two parts namely North and South.</p> <p>2. The overflow of the Pallavaram Periya eri flows to Putheri lake and the overflow of Putheri Lake leads to Pallikaranai Marsh land through Keelkattalai surplus course.</p> <p>3. It was noticed that sewage from the surrounding unsewered areas of Tambaram City Municipal Corporation mixes with the storm water drain and flows into the Pallavaram Periya Eri and inturn flows in to the Putheri Lake through storm water drain channel from the northern side of the Putheri lake.</p> <p>4. The Putheri lake is completely covered with Hyacinth in both the parts of the lake.</p> <p>5. During inspection it was noticed that foaming was found in the overflow water of Putheri lake leads to Pallikaranai Marsh land through Keelkattalai surplus course and immediately sample was collected in the Putheri Lake over flow water by the TNPCB official on 18.10.2024 and sent for analysis to TNPCB laboratory to assess the lake water quality. Report of Analysis reveals</p>
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		<p>that BOD, DO, Fecal Coliform & Total Coliform exceeds the Inland surface water & drinking water standards (ROA enclosed vide Annexure-I).</p> <p>6. Tambaram City Municipal Corporation has to provide CCTV Camera in vulnerable locations around the Putheri Lake boundary area.</p> <p>7. Tambaram City Municipal Corporation has to provide proper permanent boundary with fencing all along the periphery of the Putheri Lake bund area.</p> <p>8. Solid waste was found dumped in some pockets along the Putheri Lake boundary area and it has to be collected properly, segregated and disposed as per the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.</p> <p>9. Tambaram City Municipal Corporation in zone-3 pertaining to Zamin Pallavaram limit disposes the bio degradable solid waste generated through Micro Composting Centers (MCC) and Onsite Compostable Centres (OCC) and the non-biodegradable wastes is taken to the transfer station and being sent to dumpsite at Kolathur Village of Kattangulathur Block, Chengalpattu</p>
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		<p>District.</p> <p>10. Tambaram City Municipal Corporation in Zone-3 pertaining to Zamin Pallavaram limit has provided underground sewerage system for the sewage disposal from the households.</p> <p>11. Tambaram City Municipal Corporation has provided 30MLD Common Sewage Treatment Plant at T.S. No. 5/2, 5/6, 5/7 & 5/8, Tambaram Village, Tambaram Taluk and Chengalpattu District has obtained Consent to Operate from the Board under Water and Air Acts vide Board Proc. No. F.1749MMN/RL/MMN/W&A/2023 dated: 11.08.2023 with validity upto 31.03.2024. The treated sewage is finally discharged into the Adayar river after meeting the inland water standards prescribed by the Board. The STP has provided online connectivity for the parameters pH, TSS, BOD, COD with computer recording arrangement and the same was connected to the Water quality Watch (WQW), TNPCB, Guindy, Chennai. Sewage Sample are being collected by TNPCB regularly from the STP of Tambaram Municipality and analysed through TNPCB laboratory. ROA of treated sewage</p>
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		samples collected from the STP of Tambaram Municipality reveals that all the parameters are within the standards prescribed by the Board (copy of ROA enclosed vide Annexure-II).
xi	The Public Works Department is directed to provide as many necessary box vents if not provided in the radial road formed dividing this lake so as to ensure free flow of water in the lake on both sides.	Not Applicable to TNPCB.

7. It is respectfully submitted that during inspection on 18.10.2024, TNPCB has collected water samples from the Putheri Lake and the report of analysis obtained from Advanced Environmental Lab, Guindy, Chennai and District Environmental Laboratory, Maraimalai Nagar is enclosed as follows:

Parameter	Result	Drinking Water standards (IS 10500: 2012)	Bathing Water standards
Fecal Coliform	428 MPN/100ml	-	500 (desirable) 2500 (Maximum Permissible)
Total Coliform	12098 MPN/100ml	Shall not be detectable in any 100 ml sample	-

SI.No.	Parameter	Unit	Result	Drinking Water standards (IS 10500: 2012)	Bathing Water standards
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SI.No.	Parameter	Unit	Result	Drinking Water standards (IS 10500: 2012)	Bathing Water standards
1	pH	No.	7.40	6.5 – 8.5	6.5 – 8.5
2	Dissolved Oxygen	mg/l	2.2	-	5 mg/l or more
3	BOD	mg/l	20	-	3 mg/l or less
4	Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	878	500-2000	-
5	Chlorides as Cl	mg/l	280	250 - 1000	-
6	Sulphate	mg/l	109	200 - 400	-
7	Copper	mg/l	<0.004	0.05 – 1.5	-
8	Zinc	mg/l	<0.003	5 - 15	-
9	Cadmium	mg/l	<0.0028	< 0.003	-
10	Lead	mg/l	<0.012	< 0.01	-
11	Nickel	mg/l	<0.008	<0.02	-
12	Total Chromium	mg/l	<0.6	<0.05	-
13	Boron	mg/l	NA	0.5 - 1	-

8. It is respectfully submitted that from the above Report of Analysis reveals that BOD, Fecal Coliform & Total Coliform exceeds and DO is less than the Inland surface water & drinking water standards (ROA enclosed vide Annexure-I).

9. It is respectfully submitted that further during inspection on 10.11.2024 TNPCB has collected water samples from the Putheri Lake and the report of analysis obtained from Advanced Environmental Lab, Guindy,


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Chennai and District Environmental Laboratory, Maraimalai Nagar is enclosed as follows:

Parameter	Result	Drinking Water standards (IS 10500: 2012)	Bathing Water standards
Fecal Coliform	829.7 MPN/100ml	-	500 (desirable) 2500 (Maximum Permissible)
Total Coliform	9678.4 MPN/100ml	Shall not be detectable in any 100 ml sample	-

Sl. No.	Parameter	Unit	Result	Drinking Water standards (IS 10500: 2012)	Bathing Water standards
1	pH	No.	7.01	6.5 – 8.5	6.5 – 8.5
2	Dissolved Oxygen	mg/l	4.0	-	5 mg/l or more
3	BOD	mg/l	21	-	3 mg/l or less
4	Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	1052	500-2000	-
5	Chlorides as Cl	mg/l	205	250 - 1000	-
6	Sulphate	mg/l	80	200 - 400	-
7	Copper	mg/l	<0.004	0.05 – 1.5	-
8	Zinc	mg/l	<0.003	5 - 15	-
9	Cadmium	mg/l	<0.0028	< 0.003	-
10	Lead	mg/l	<0.012	< 0.01	-
11	Nickel	mg/l	<0.008	<0.02	-
12	Total	mg/l	<0.6	<0.05	-


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Sl. No.	Parameter	Unit	Result	Drinking Water standards (IS 10500: 2012)	Bathing Water standards
	Chromium				
13	Boron	mg/l	NA	0.5 - 1	-

10. It is respectfully submitted that from the above Report of Analysis reveals that BOD, Fecal Coliform & Total Coliform exceeds and DO is less than the drinking water standards & Bathing water standards (ROA enclosed vide Annexure-II).

11. It is respectfully submitted that based on the news item published in "Sunday Times of India" Newspaper Chennai dated 10.11.2024 under the caption "Putheri lake foaming up again". Based on the news item the said Putheri lake area was once again inspected by the TNPCB official on 10.11.2024 and the following were observed:

- i) During inspection it was noticed that foaming was found in the overflow water of Putheri lake leads to Pallikaranai Marsh land through Keelkattalai surplus course and immediately sample was collected in the Putheri Lake over flow water by the TNPCB official on 10.11.2024 and Report of Analysis (RoA) is given above.
- ii) The Putheri lake is completely covered with Hyacinth in both the parts of the lake.
- iii) It was noticed that sewage from the surrounding unsewered areas of Tambaram City Municipal Corporation mixes with the storm water drain and flows into the Pallavaram Periya Eri and inturn flows in to the Putheri Lake through storm water drain channel from the northern side of the Putheri lake.
- iv) A motor pump was found fitted by the Tambaram City Municipal Corporation & CMWSSB to an underground sewerage channel in the Erikkarrai road adjacent to the Iswariya Nagar CMWSSB


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pumping station & Putheri lake and the pump hose leads to Putheri lake overflow water. The officials of CMWSSB has reported over phone that the motor pump was kept ready for the Monsoon preparedness plan in order to prevent flooding in that area due to heavy rain.

- v) Solid waste was found dumped in some places of Putheri Lake boundary area.
- vi) Tambaram City Municipal Corporation has to provide CCTV Camera in vulnerable locations around the Putheri Lake boundary area.
- vii) Tambaram City Municipal Corporation has to provide proper fencing all along the boundary periphery of the Putheri Lake bund area.

12. It is respectfully submitted that based on the inspection, the DEE, TNPCB, Maraimalai Nagar has recommended the following directions to the Board on 11.11.2024:

- A. The Tambaram City Municipal Corporation shall expedite the action of providing full-fledged Underground Sewerage System (UGSS) for the entire Tambaram City Municipal Corporation area immediately so as to avoid the entering of sewage into the Pallavaram Periya Eri and Putheri lake.
- B. The Tambaram City Municipal Corporation shall ensure that no sewage from the residential areas/commercial buildings shall be discharged into storm water drain/ water bodies in Tambaram City Municipal Corporation limit and shall take immediate action to plug all the sewage outfalls from the unsewered residential areas/commercial buildings into water bodies and to provide with necessary underground sewerage system in Tambaram City Municipal Corporation.
- C. The Tambaram City Municipal Corporation after connecting the underground sewerage connection for all the individual

residences in the said area shall collect the sewage, transport through the conveyance pipeline and treat and dispose the same in Tambaram City Municipal Corporation Common Sewage Treatment Plant/ to nearby CMWSSB Sewage pumping station

13. It is respectfully submitted that based on the DEE's recommendation, the Board had issued directions on 09.01.2025 under Section 33A of Water(Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 against the Commissioner, Tambaram City Municipal Corporation (Enclosed as Annexure III).

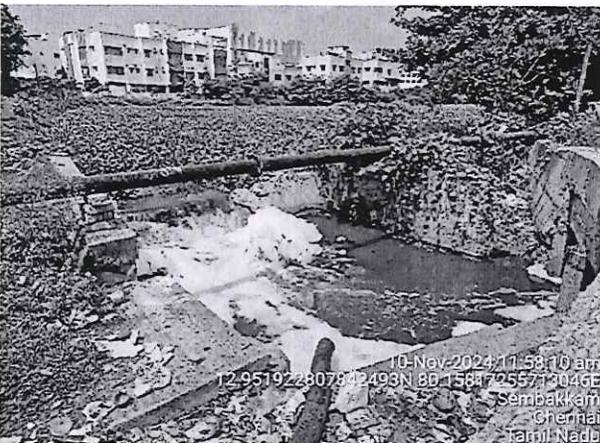
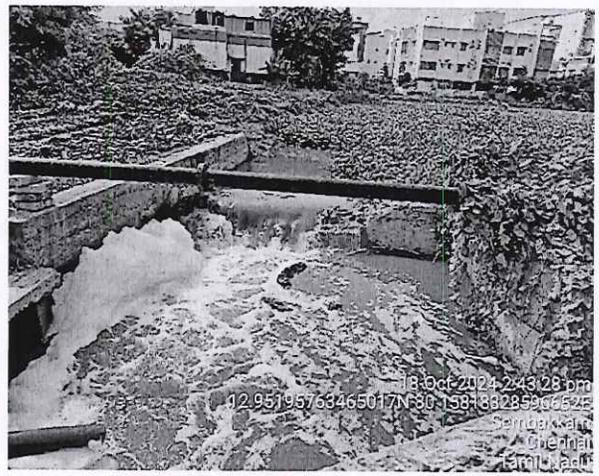
14. It is respectfully submitted that in due compliance of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone, Chennai Order in Miscellaneous Application No. 07 of 2024 and in Original Application No. 55 of 2020 (SZ) the Putheri lake area was once again inspected by the TNPCB official on 15.04.2025 and the following were observed:

- i) During inspection it was noticed that the overflow water of Putheri lake leads to Pallikaranai Marsh land through Keelkattalai surplus course and sample was collected in the Putheri Lake over flow water by the TNPCB official on 15.04.2025 and sent for analysis to TNPCB laboratory to assess the lake water quality. Sample analysis report was awaited. Report of Analysis will be submitted to the Hon'ble NGT (SEZ) after receiving the ROA from the laboratory.
- ii) Some portion of the Putheri lake is covered with Hyacinth in both the parts of the lake.
- iii) It was noticed that sewage from the surrounding unsewered areas of Tambaram City Municipal Corporation mixes with the storm water drain and flows into the Pallavaram Periya Eri and inturn flows in to the Putheri Lake through storm water drain channel from the northern side of the Putheri lake.
- iv) Solid waste was found dumped in some places of Putheri Lake boundary area.


JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
No.76, MOUNT SALAI, GUNDIRY,
CHENNAI-600 032.

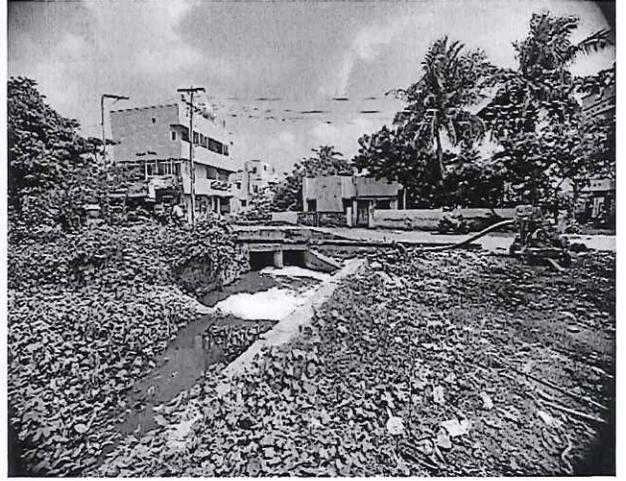
- v) Tambaram City Municipal Corporation has to provide CCTV Camera in vulnerable locations around the Putheri Lake boundary area.
- vi) Tambaram City Municipal Corporation has to provide proper fencing all along the boundary periphery of the Putheri Lake bund area.

Photographs taken during inspection of Putheri Lake on 18.10.2024

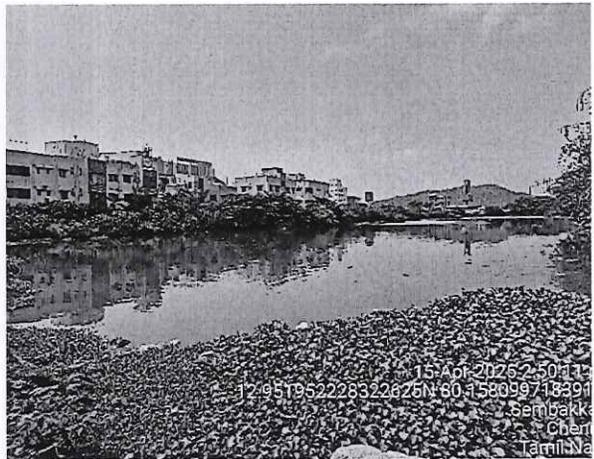


Photographs taken during inspection of Putheri Lake on 18.10.2024

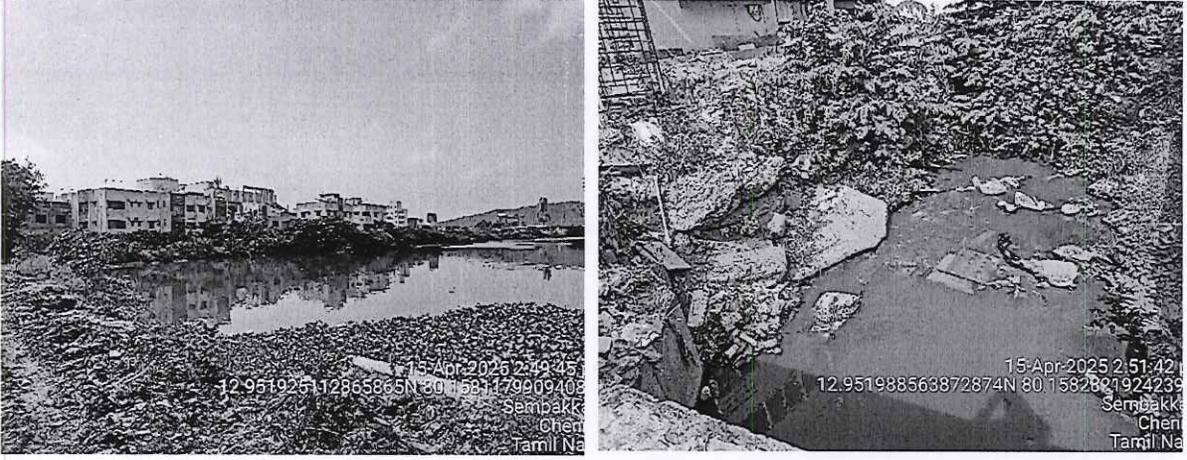
Reddy
JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
No.76, MOUNT SALAI, GUNDIRY,
CHENNAI-600 032.



Photographs taken during inspection of Putheri Lake on 15.04.2025



Lakshmi
JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
No.76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
CHENNAI-600 032.



15. It is respectfully submitted that in view of the above, the DEE, MM Nagar has recommended vide letter dated 15.04.2025 to issue direction to the Commissioner, Tambaram City Municipal Corporation under Section 33A of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 as amended in 1988 to comply the following:

- i) The Tambaram City Municipal Corporation shall expedite the action of providing full-fledged Underground Sewerage System (UGSS) for the entire Tambaram City Municipal Corporation area immediately so as to avoid the entering of sewage into the Pallavaram Periya Eri and Putheri lake.
- ii) The Tambaram City Municipal Corporation shall ensure that no sewage from the residential areas/commercial buildings shall be discharged into storm water drain/ water bodies in Tambaram City Municipal Corporation limit and shall take immediate action to plug all the sewage outfalls from the unsewered residential areas/commercial buildings into water bodies and to provide with necessary underground sewerage system in Tambaram City Municipal Corporation.
- iii) The Tambaram City Municipal Corporation after connecting the underground sewerage connection for all the individual residences in the said area shall collect the sewage, transport through the conveyance pipeline and treat and dispose the same in Tambaram City Municipal Corporation Common Sewage Treatment Plant/ to nearby CMWSSB Sewage pumping station.


 JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
 TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
 No.76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
 CHENNAI-600 032.

Therefore, it is prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal (SZ), may be pleased to pass such order or other orders as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and necessary in the circumstances of the case and thus render justice.


JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
No.76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
CHENNAI-600 032.

VERIFICATION

I, K.Nalini, Daughter of Thiru.K.Krishnasamy, aged about 59 years having office at No.76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai 600 032, do hereby verify that the contents of above report are true to the best of my knowledge through records.


JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
No.76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
CHENNAI-600 032.



Annexure - I

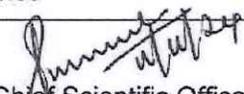
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY M.M.Nagar
Report of Analysis

ROA No.713/2024-25 dated:11.11.2024.

Name and address of the sender	District Environmental Engineer Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, M.M.Nagar		
Nature and number of samples	1 numbers of trade effluent /sewage samples/Lake water	Sample quantity	2.5L
Date and Time of Sample Collection	18.10.2024 01.05 PM	Date and Time of Sample receipt at lab	18.10.2024 07.00 PM
Point of collection	1	Putheri Lake water sample collected adjacent to Ishwariya Nagar pumping station (Board's cost)	

S.No	DEE Code no		AEE/PVM/ 3032	
	Lab code No		1317	Tested as per APHA 22 nd Edition 2012
	Parameters	Unit		
1	pH @ 25°C	No.	7.40	Electrometric method
2	Total Suspended Solids @ 105° C	mg/L	5	Gravimetric method
3	Total Dissolved Solids @ 180° C	mg/L	878	Gravimetric method
4	Chloride as Cl ⁻¹	mg/L	280	Argentometric method
5	Sulphate as SO ₄ ²⁻	mg/L	109	Turbidimetric method
6	BOD	mg/L	20	Winkler's method
7	COD	mg/L	96	Open reflux method
8	Copper	mg/L	<0.004	AAS method
9	Zinc	mg/L	<0.003	AAS method
10	Cadmium	mg/L	<0.0028	AAS method
11	Lead	mg/L	<0.012	AAS method
12	Nickel	mg/L	<0.008	AAS method
13	Total Chromium	mg/L	<0.6	AAS method
14	Hexavalent Chromium	mg/L	<0.05	Colorimetric method
15	Percent Sodium	%	1.092	Calculation method
16	TKN	mg/L	<2	Kjeldahl titration method
17	SAR	mg/L	24	Titration & Flame photometric method
18	Boron	mg/L	NA	AAS method

NA – Not Analysed


 Deputy Chief Scientific Officer (Lab)
 TNPCB, DEL M.M.Nagar



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TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY M.M.Nagar
Report of Analysis

ROA No.714/2024-25 dated:11.11.2024.

Name and address of the sender	District Environmental Engineer Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, M.M.Nagar		
Nature and number of samples	1 numbers of trade effluent /sewage samples/Lake water	Sample quantity	2.5L
Date and Time of Sample Collection	18.10.2024 01.10 PM	Date and Time of Sample receipt at lab	18.10.2024 07.00 PM
Point of collection	1	Putheri Lake water sample collected adjacent to Ishwariya Nagar pumping station (Board's cost)	

S.No	DEE Code no		AEE/PVM/ 3033	
	Lab code No		1318	Tested as per APHA 22 nd Edition 2012
	Parameters	Unit		
1	DO	Mg/L	2.2	Winkler's method

Deputy Chief Scientific Officer (Lab)
TNPCB, DEL M.M.Nagar



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TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
ADVANCED ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY
No. 76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
CHENNAI - 32.
TEST REPORT

Report of Analysis No. **October-2301 /2024 - 2025/ Dated:23.10.2024**

Name and Address of the sender.	:	The District Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Maraimalai Nagar		
Nature and number of samples	:	1 Number of Microbiology Sample	Sample quantity 300ml	Sealed in 300ml glass Bottle
Date and time of sample collection	:	18.10.2024 13.15 PM	Date & time of sample receipt at the lab	21.10.2024 at 12.30 PM
Point of Collection	1	Putheri Lake sample water sample collected adjacent to Ishwariya Nagar Pumping Station		
Analysis Starting date	:	21.10.2024	Analysis Completion Date	23.10.2024

Sl. No.	DEE Code No.	Unit	AEE/PVM/3034	Test Method
	Lab Code No.		Oct-2301	
	Parameters			
1	Fecal Coliform	MPN/100ml	428	APHA 23rd Edn 2017,-9223 A,B
2	Total Coliform	MPN/100ml	12098	APHA 23rd Edn 2017,-9223 A,B

N.V. Lim
Chief Scientific Officer
AEL, TNPCB, Chennai-32.
23/10/24

[Signature]
23/10/24



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Annexure - II

TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY M.M.Nagar
Report of Analysis

ROA No. 761/2024-25 dated: 17.12.2024.

Name and address of the sender	District Environmental Engineer Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, M.M.Nagar		
Nature and number of samples	1 numbers of trade effluent /sewage samples/Lake water	Sample quantity	2.5L
Date and Time of Sample Collection	10.11.2024 12.50 PM	Date and Time of Sample receipt at lab	11.11.2024 10.55 AM
Point of collection	1. Putheri Lake water sample collected adjacent to Ishwariya Nagar CMWSSB Sewage Pumping Station		

S.No	DEE Code no		AEE/PVM/ 3058	
	Lab code No		1416	Tested as per APHA 22 nd Edition 2012
	Parameters	Unit		
1	pH @ 25°C	mg/L	7.01	Electrometric method
2	Total Suspended Solids @ 105° C	mg/L	4	Gravimetric method
3	Total Dissolved Solids @ 180° C	mg/L	1052	Gravimetric method
4	Chloride as Cl-1	mg/L	205	Argentometric method
5	Sulphate as SO42-	mg/L	80	Turbidimetric method
6	BOD @ 27° C 3 days	mg/L	21	Winkler's method
7	COD	mg/L	120	Open reflux method
8	Copper as Cu	mg/L	<0.004	AAS method
9	Zinc as Zn	mg/L	<0.003	AAS method
10	Cadmium as Cd	mg/L	<0.0028	AAS method
11	Lead as Pb	mg/L	<0.012	AAS method
12	Nickel as Ni	mg/L	<0.008	AAS method
13	Total Chromium Cr+3	mg/L	<0.6	Colorimetric method
14	Hexavalent Chromium as Cr+6	mg/L	<0.05	Colorimetric method
15	Percent Sodium	mg/L	38	Titration method
16	Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen as (N)	mg/L	<2	Iodometric method
17	Sodium Absorption Ratio	mg/L	2.6	Flame Photometric method
18	Boron	mg/L	NA	AAS method

P. Anand
Deputy Chief Scientific Officer (Lab)
TNPCB, DEL M.M.Nagar



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TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY M.M.Nagar
Report of Analysis

ROA No. 762/2024-25 dated: 17.12.2024.

Name and address of the sender	District Environmental Engineer Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, M.M.Nagar		
Nature and number of samples	1 numbers of trade effluent /sewage samples/Lake water	Sample quantity	2.5L
Date and Time of Sample Collection	10.11.2024 12.55 PM	Date and Time of Sample receipt at lab	11.11.2024 10.55 AM
Point of collection	1	Putheri Lake water samples collected adjacent to Ishwariya Nagar CMWSSB Sewage Pumping Station	

S.No	DEE Code no		1417	
	Lab code No		AEE/PVM/ 3059	Tested as per APHA 22 nd Edition 2012
	Parameters	Unit		
1	DO	Mg/L	4.0	Winkler's method

Deputy Chief Scientific Officer (Lab)
TNPCB, DEL M.M.Nagar



TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD



Proceedings No.T3/TNPCB/000562/NGT O.A 55 of 2020/2024, Dated: 09.01.2025

Sub: TNPCB – Hon'ble NGT (SZ) in O.A No. 55 of 2020 Dated: 18.07.2022 – SUO MOTU - News item published in "Chennai Express" dated 03.03.2020 under the caption "Back to the Brink" – Direction under Section 33A of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 as amended – Issued – Regarding

Ref:

1. Hon'ble NGT (SZ) Order dated: 18.07.2022 & 12.09.2024 in O.A No. 55 of 2020.
2. Board Proc. No. T6/ TNPCB/ F.5656/ STP/ 2021-1 dated:18.06.2021
3. Lr No: DEE/TNPCB/MMN/NGT O.A. No. 55 of 2020, dated: 11.11.2024

Whereas, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) has initiated a Suo Motu based on the News item published in "Chennai Express" Newspaper Chennai Supplementary dated 03.03.2020 under the caption "Back to the Brink".

Whereas, based on the Hon'ble NGT (SZ) order dated 18.07.2022 and 12.09.2024 in O.A. No. 55 of 2020, TNPCB Officials inspected the Putheri lake on 18.10.2024 and reported the present compliance status of the directions vide Letter No: DEE/TNPCB/MMN/NGT O.A. No. 55 of 2020, dated: 11.11.2024 as follow,

1. The sewage from the surrounding unsewered areas of Tambaram City Municipal Corporation mixes with the storm water drain and flows into the Pallavaram Periya Eri and inturn flows in to the Putheri Lake through storm water drain channel from the northern side of the Putheri lake.
2. The Putheri lake is completely covered with Hyacinth in both the parts of the lake
3. During inspection it was noticed that foaming was found in the overflow water of Putheri lake leads to Pallikaranai Marsh land through Keelkattalai surplus course
4. Tambaram City Municipal Corporation officials have reported that this issue has been completely eradicated and the sewage has been stopped from entering the lake. All the sewage that flows from the residences in the Tambaram Corporation has been linked to the Underground Sewage system and the same are being treated at the Treatment Plants before discharge into the approved outlets.

Whereas, based on the news item published in "Sunday Times of India" Newspaper Chennai dated 10.11.2024 under the caption "Putheri lake foaming up again", TNPCB officials inspected the Putheri lake area on 10.11.2024 and reported the following observations,

1. During inspection it was noticed that foaming was found in the overflow water of Putheri lake leads to Pallikaranai Marsh land through Keelkattalai surplus course and immediately sample was collected in the Putheri Lake over flow water by the TNPCB official on 10.11.2024 and sent for analysis to TNPCB laboratory to assess the lake water quality. Sample analysis report was awaited. Report of Analysis will be submitted to the Hon'ble NGT (SEZ) after receiving the ROA from the laboratory.
2. The Putheri lake is completely covered with Hyacinth in both the parts of the lake.
3. It was noticed that sewage from the surrounding unsewered areas of Tambaram City Municipal Corporation mixes with the storm water drain and flows into the Pallavaram Periya Eri and inturn flows in to the Putheri Lake through storm water drain channel from the northern side of the Putheri lake.
4. A motor pump was found fitted by the Tambaram City Municipal Corporation & CMWSSB to an underground sewerage channel in the Erikkarrai road adjacent to the Iswariya Nagar CMWSSB pumping station & Putheri lake and the pump hose leads to Putheri lake overflow water. The officials of CMWSSB has reported over phone that the motor pump was kept ready for the Monsoon preparedness plan in order to prevent flooding in that area due to heavy rain.
5. Solid waste was found dumped in some places of Putheri Lake boundary area.
6. Tambaram City Municipal Corporation has to provide CCTV Camera in vulnerable locations around the Putheri Lake boundary area.
7. Tambaram City Municipal Corporation has to provide proper boundary with fencing all along the periphery of the Putheri Lake bund area.
8. Further, during inspection on 18.10.2024, TNPCB has collected water samples from the Putheri Lake and the report of analysis obtained from Advanced Environmental Lab, Guindy, Chennai and District Environmental Laboratory, Maraimalai Nagar reveals that BOD, DO, Fecal Coliform & Total Coliform exceeds the Inland surface water & drinking water standards.



TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD



Whereas TNPCB has already issued directions to Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 as amended for not providing Underground Sewerage System (UGSS) in the unsewered areas and for providing Common Sewage Treatment plant by connecting UGSS line vide Board Proc. No. T6/ TNPCB/ F.5656/ STP/ 2021-1 dated:18.06.2021

Under the above circumstances and as no action taken for the compliance of previous directions, the DEE, TNPCB, Maraimalai Nagar has recommended to issue necessary directions under the Section 33A of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 as amended in 1988 to the Commissioner, Tambaram City Municipal Corporation.

In light of the above facts, the Board has decided to issue directions to the Commissioner, Tambaram City Municipal Corporation under Section 33A of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 as amended.

Now therefore, in the exercise of the powers vested under Section 33A of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 as amended the Board hereby issues following directions to the Commissioner, Tambaram City Municipal Corporation to comply within period of one month,

1. The Tambaram City Municipal Corporation shall expedite the action of providing full-fledged Underground Sewerage System (UGSS) for the entire Tambaram City Municipal Corporation area immediately so as to avoid the entering of sewage into the Pallavaram Periya Eri and Putheri lake.
2. The Tambaram City Municipal Corporation shall ensure that no sewage from the residential areas/commercial buildings shall be discharged into storm water drain/ water bodies in Tambaram City Municipal Corporation limit and shall take immediate action to plug all the sewage outfalls from the unsewered residential areas/commercial buildings into water bodies and to provide with necessary underground sewerage system in Tambaram City Municipal Corporation.
3. The Tambaram City Municipal Corporation after connecting the underground sewerage connection for all the individual residences in the said area shall collect the sewage, transport through the conveyance pipeline and treat and dispose the same in Tambaram City Municipal Corporation Common Sewage Treatment Plant/ to nearby CMWSSB Sewage pumping station

Failure to comply with the above said directions within the prescribed time period will attract necessary action as per the provisions in the said Act.

The action taken report on the above said directions shall be furnished to this office within fifteen days from the date of receipt of this Proceedings.

The receipt of this proceeding shall be acknowledged.

[Signature]
For Chairperson

To

The Commissioner,
Tambaram City Municipal Corporation,
No. 28, MuthurangaMudali Street,
West Tambaram,
Chennai 600 045.

[Signature]
10/01/25

Copy Submitted to

1. The Principal Secretary to Government,
Environment, Climate Change & Forests Department,
Secretariat, Chennai - 600 009.
2. The Principal Secretary to Government,
Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department,
Secretariat,
Chennai - 600009
3. The Director of Municipal Administration,
No.75, Urban Administrative Building,
Santhome High Road,
Chennai - 600 028

Copy To:

1. The Joint Chief Environmental Engineer,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
Chengalpattu- For follow up and report.
2. The District Environmental Engineer,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
Maraimalai Nagar - For follow up and report.
3. Technical file.

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL
GREEN TRIBUNAL,
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI
Miscellaneous Application No.07 of 2024
In
Original Application No.55 of 2020**

Pattabiraman V.
S/o Mr. V. Venupillai
No. 39, West Mada Street,
Nandambakkam Kudiyurru S.O.,
Kancheepuram District-600089.
...Applicant.

-Vs-

The Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu.
Public Works Department
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600009 & Ors.

**REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION
CONTROL BOARD**

**Advocate for Respondent: TNPCB
Thiru.Sai Sathya Jith,
Advocate, Chennai.**

Date:16.04.2025.

Date of hearing on:17.04.2025

