

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

Original Application No. 01 of 2025

Tribunal on its own motion **SUO MOTU**
based on the News Item titled "**Effluent in
the Gulf of Mannar is a threat to rare
species**" appeared in the Dinamalar Chennai
edition dated 30.12.2024.

-Vs-

The Principal Secretary to Govt. Of Tamil Nadu,
Department Of Environment,
Climate change and Forests,
Chennai and others.

..... Respondents.

INDEX

S.No	Description	Page No.
1.	REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE THIRD RESPONDENT - THE TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD	1 - 3



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

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..... Respondents.

**REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE THIRD RESPONDENT-
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD.**

I, K.Nalini, D/o. K.Krishnasamy, aged about, 59 years, having my office at 76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai-600032, 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 - TNPCB, Chennai - 600 032 and I am authorized to file this Report on behalf of the Third Respondent of the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and as such I am well acquainted with the facts of the case from the available office records.
2. It is respectfully submitted that based on a news article that was published in the newspaper in Dinamalar Chennai edition dated 30.12.2024 titled "*Effluent in the Gulf of Mannar is a threat to rare species*", the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, (SZ), Chennai took Suo Motu case. The newspaper article stating that the waste water from the houses in the Ramanathapuram area is directly discharged into the downstream of Gulf of Mannar for many years. The marine industries located around and near the coastal areas of the lower Gulf of Mannar is discharging their sewage directly into the sea affecting marine ecosystem thereby decreasing the population of turtles, fishes and oysters.
3. It is respectfully submitted that the Keelakarai Municipality is second grade municipality in Ramanathapuram District. The total extent of the land mass is

*Madam,
Sign with
date please*

K. Nalini
2/5
JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
No.78, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
CHENNAI-600 032.

2.459 sq.kms and it consists of 21 wards, having a population of 44,770 Numbers as per census 2011. The Keelakarai Municipality is generating 3.25 MLD of Sewage. The Keelakarai Municipality's Fecal Sludge Treatment Plant has a capacity of 18 KLD and it has obtained Consent to Establishment from the Board on 05.12.2019 and Valid upto 31.03.2024.

4. It is respectfully submitted that the Joint inspection was conducted on 17.2.2025 by the District Environmental Engineer, TNPCB, Ramanathapuram along with the Municipal Engineer, Keelakarai and found that the Sewage being generated from the Municipal area is discharged into sea at seven locations. The locations of discharge are listed below;

Sl. No	Location	Wards Covered	Sewage Discharge quantity	Latitude & Longitude
1	Vallal Seethkathi Salai (Near Light House Building)	3 Part, 2, 7, 9-part, 12, 17, 18 Part	0.85	9.226449, 78.784132
2	18 Valibar Dharga	1 Part, 8 Part, 9 Part, 13 Part, 16	0.50	9.226224 78.781480
3	Pallakku Dharga	15 Part	0.20	9.226108 78.779925
4	Sea Shore Church	14 Part, 15 Part	0.30	9.226214 78.780577
5	Jetty Palam	18 Part, 11 Part, 19 Part, 3 Part	0.20	9.227577 78.78522
6	Old Customs Office Road	4, 5 Part, 6, 19 Part, 20-part, 21-part, 11 part	0.85	9.228992 78.787925
7	Fisherman Society	19 part, 20 part, 21 part	0.35	9.229462 78.788547

During Joint inspection, the Municipal Engineer, Keelakarai stated that as of now the generated sewage is discharged into the sea without any treatment and they have sent proposals for establishment of Sewage Treatment Plant at survey number 208/8 in Kanjirangudi Village and land acquiring is under process. Samples were collected at Vallal Seethkathi Salai, near light house building and sent to Advanced Environmental Laboratory, Madurai for analysis

3/5

 JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
 TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
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5. It is respectfully submitted that the Commissioner, Keelakarai Municipality has been addressed vide Lr. No. F. No. R77/DEE/TNPCB/RMD/ NGT/2025 Dated: 18.02.2025 to stop the discharge of untreated sewage into Sea and The DEE has recommended that the Board may issue certain direction under Section 5 of the Environment Protection Act, 1986 to the Commissioner, Keelakarai Municipality.

“The Keelakarai Municipality shall take appropriate measures to establish the Sewage Treatment Plant for treating the sewage generated from the house and utilise the same for greening purpose in Keelakarai Municipality instead of disposing into sea.”

6. It is respectfully submitted that based on the DEE's recommendation, the direction has been issued to the Commissioner, Keelakarai Municipality, Keelakarai Taluk, Ramanathapuram District vide Proceedings No. T3/TNPCB/F.003751/Sewage/2025, dated: 26.02.2025 that “The Keelakarai Municipality shall take appropriate measures to establish the Sewage Treatment Plant for treating the sewage generated from the house and utilise the same for greening purpose in Keelakarai Municipality instead of disposing into sea.

Therefore, it is humbly prayed that this Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (Southern Zone) may be pleased to pass such further or other orders as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of this 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, D/o. K.Krishnasamy, working as the Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, having my office at 76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai-600032, 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.

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THE THIRD RESPONDENT- TAMIL
NADU POLLUTION CONTROL
BOARD.**

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

Date:07.03.2025.

Date of hearing on:07.04.2025

