BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

SOUTHERN ZONE AT CHENNAI

Original Application No.107 of 2023

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion Suo Motu based on the news item published in The New Indian Express, dated 09.08.2023, under the caption "Huge pollution risk in 8 Km around NLC" and in The Times of India, Chennai Edition dated 09.08.2023 under the caption "Water near NLC full of Mercury."

With

The Managing Director NLC India Limited, Chennai and Ors.

....Respondents

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

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

Original Application No. 107 of 2023 (SZ)

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion Suo Motu based on the news item published in The New Indian Express, dated 09.08.2023, under the caption "Huge pollution risk in 8 Km around NLC" and in The Times of India, Chennai Edition dated 09.08.2023 under the caption "Water near NLC full of Mercury."

And

The Managing Director
NLC India Limited,
Chennai and Others.

....Respondents.

INTERIM REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE FIFTH RESPONDENT - TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD.

I, A.Shanmugam, S/o.Thiru. Arumugam, aged about 59 years, having office at No., 76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai – 32, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:-

2. I respectfully submit that I am working as the Additional Chief Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai and I am filing this interim report on behalf of the fifth respondent, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and as such I am well acquainted with the facts of the case as per records.

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TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
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3. It is respectfully submitted that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ), Chennai has initiated a Suo Motu on 10.8.2023 in O.A.No. 107 of 2023 based on newspaper Article titled as 'POWERing Pollution: The Environmental and Pollution Impacts of Thermal Power Stations and mining Operation in Neyveli & Parangipettai – August 2023'. The Hon'ble Tribunal has directed the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) to inspect the area, study the water quality of the water bodies near NLC and also to ascertain whether the news is correct or not.

4. It is respectfully submitted that to comply the above Order, the TNPCB has formed an internal committee comprising of the following officers to inspect the area, collect water and soil samples in the areas referred in the study report and submit a detailed report.

1. Dr R.Rajamanickam, Additional Chief Environmental Engineer, TNPCB
2. Thiru. S.Sankarasubramanian, Assistant Director, Advanced Environmental Laboratory, Chennai
3. Dr A.Samuel Rajkumar, Joint Chief Environmental Engineer (Monitoring), Cuddalore
4. Dr R.Umayakunjaram, District Environmental Engineer, Cuddalore
5. Thiru.T.Chitrarasu,Assistant Director, Advanced Environmental Laboratory, Cuddalore

I. FIRST CYCLE OF SAMPLE COLLECTION:

4. It is respectfully submitted that the Committee has inspected the unit of M/s. NLC India Limited and the surrounding areas on 11.08.2023, 16.08.2023, 17.08.2023, 23.08.2023, 29.08.2023 and 28.09.2023. The samples were collected from the following locations.

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S. No	Point of collection	Type
1.	11.596363, 79.465716 Neyveli PCS store Discharge	Surface Water
2.	11.579525, 79.461002 Discharge from NNTPS	Surface Water
3.	11.590535,79.478162 Direct Discharge from TPS-I	Surface Water
4.	11.561055, 79.452025 Discharge from Neyveli TPS II	Surface Water
5.	11.561003, 79.451945 Opposite to Main Gate of Mine II – KootuKudineer Thittam near Valayamadevi	Surface Water
6.	11.58316, 79.467776 Coal Mine Discharge from Mine –I	Surface Water
7.	11.572065, 79.517808 Paravanar River Carrying NLC Mine-II Discharge	Surface Water
8.	11.514743, 79.562468 Walaja Lake	Surface Water
9.	11.595008, 79.446353 Bore well Located near OHT, ThandapaniKoilStreet, Kaikalarkuppam	Ground Water borewell
10.	11.56802 ,79.44848 Artificial Lake located at North side of TS-II, South side of NNTPS, west side of abandoned ash pond	Surface Water
11.	11.51474, 79.56248 Located at Vanadhirayapuram Village	Ground Water borewell
12.	11.617468, 79.664808 Mariyamman Temple, Ayikuppam Village	Ground Water borewell

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13.	11.573015, 79.611106 Kanjamanadanpettai pond water	Surface Water
14.	11.536934, 79.43294 NLC Supplied Water at U.Mangalam Tank	Ground Water tank
15.	11.611015, 79.465224 At Block-22 Pump House(Jawahar College)	Ground Water borewell
16.	11.557013, 79.562686 Iyyan Lake	Surface Water
17.	11.523577, 79.762972 Vedhavan House, Pudukuppam Village	Ground Water borewell
18.	11.525248 ,79.762342 Pudukuppam Village	Ground Water borewell - pipe
19.	11.516401, 79.74471 Karikuppam Village Fish Pond	Surface Water
20.	11.51545,79.740301 Buckingham Canal near the Thermal Power Plant	Surface Water
21.	11.515833, 79.742616 Karikuppam Village	Ground Water Hand pump
22.	11.550328 , 79.532898 Mine I Outlet Veenageni	Surface Water
23.	11.538715 , 79.458366 Romapuri Matharakuppamvadakkuvellur	Surface Water
24.	11.549235 , 79.459217 Vadakkuvellur Pond near Sivan koil	Surface Water
25.	11.54687 , 79.46910 Tholkappaiarnagar	Ground Water borewell
26.	11.5522566 , 79.459706 Muappaneri Village	Surface Water

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DETAILS OF SOIL SAMPLES

S.No	Point of collection
1.	11.589208, 79.446177 Paddy Filed within one kilometer from NNTPS Stack
2.	11.5543, 79.5625 Agriculture land near Ayyan Lake
3.	11.51955, 79.743695 Karrikuppam Village Agriculture Land near Thermal Power Plant
4.	11.547806, 79.456759 KarumbuThottam Vadakkuvellur
5.	11.546422, 79.462478 Vadakkuvellur by pass
6.	11.5479011, 79.464587 Pallitheru Vadakku Vellore(ash)

5. It is respectfully submitted that as per '*POWERing Pollution*' report, 26 numbers of samples were collected in Feb 2023 and 11 numbers of samples were collected in April 2023 from areas surrounding M/s. NLCIL & M/s. IL&FS Tamilnadu Power Company. In order to know the correctness of the report, the committee had taken the samples in the same locations as mentioned in the article. A total of 32 samples (Surface water-17, Ground Water-9, Soil-6) were collected by the committee of TNPCB and handed over to CUBE Environment Laboratory, IIT Madras for analysis. The reports revealed that the parameter Mercury was well within the prescribed standards.

II. SECOND CYCLE OF SAMPLE COLLECTION:

6. It is respectfully submitted that further, the Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 15.03.2024 ***"As the very same issue regarding the Mercury content in the drinking water, which is reported in the newspaper based on the lab report furnished by the NGO, to eliminate any kind of doubt, we direct the TNPCB***

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to collect samples again and send them to the same lab who has furnished the report to the NGO, based on which, the news item was published. The same sample can be tested by the TNPCB in a normal mode available to them and collect both the reports and furnish it before the next date of hearing".

7. It is respectfully submitted the water and soil samples were collected by the team of officials of TNPCB on 03.04.2024 at the same locations once again and sent them to the following laboratories for analysis (analyzed by NGO and TNPCB lab).

A. Chennai Mettex Lab Private Limited, Chennai.

B. Tamilnadu Test House, Chennai.

C. Advanced Environmental Lab, TNPCB, Chennai/Cuddalore.

D. IIT Madras , Cube, Taramani Chennai.

A. <u>SURFACE WATER:</u>

During the time of sample collection on 03.04.2024, no flow was observed at the following locations:

(i) Centre store,

(ii) TPS outlet Karuvetti,

(iii) Neyveli PCS store discharge.

Hence samples could not be collected at these places.

Surface water samples were collected from the following locations:

(i) Discharge from Neyveli TPS II,

(ii) Opposite to Main Gate of NLC Mine 2 Kootu Kudineer Thitam near Valiyamadevi,

(iii) Walaja Lake,

(iv) Iyyan Lake,

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(v) Vadakku vellur Ammeri ,

(vi) TPS 2 Outlet location.

8. It is respectfully submitted that as per the TNPCB test reports the mercury levels are 0.027mg/l, 0.014 mg/l, 0.018 mg/l, 0.01 mg/l, 0.019 mg/l, 0.027 mg/l respectively in the above places and all other heavy metals values are within the limit as per standards IS: 2296:1982 standard and also TNPCB standards (Class E – Water for irrigation, industrial cooling and controlled waste disposal). It is respectfully submitted that as per the reports of private labs, that mercury and selenium are below limit of quantification in the above locations.

Apart from the above mentioned location, Surface water samples were also collected from the following locations:

a) Discharge from NNTPS ,
b) Direct Discharge from TPS I,
c) Coal Mine Discharged from Mine I ,
d) Paravanar River Carrying NLC Mine II discharge ,
e) Artificial lake located at North side of TS II south side of NNTPS, west side of abandoned ash pond, Kanjamanadanpettai Pond water,
f) Karrikuppam Village Fish Pond,
g) Buckingham canal near the thermal power plant,
h) Ramopuri,Mantharakuppam Vadakkuvellur,
i) Vadakkuvellur Pond near sivan koil and
j) Muppaneri village

9. It is respectfully submitted that as per the TNPCB report and reports of private labs, the Mercury and selenium levels are below limit of quantification and all other heavy metals values are within the limit as per standards IS:

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2296:1982 standard and also TNPCB standards (Class E – Water for irrigation, industrial cooling and controlled waste disposal)

B. <u>GROUND WATER:</u>

Ground water samples collected from the following locations

i. *Bore well located near the OHT Thandapani koil street Kaikalarkuppam*
ii. *Vanadhirayapuram Village*
iii. *NLC supplied water at U. Mangalam Tank*
iv. *Karikuppam Village*
v. *Tholkappaiyarnagar*

As per the TNPCB report and Reports of private labs, the Mercury and selenium are below limit of quantification in the above places.

Ground water samples were also collected from the following location **Vellankulam and Pudukuppam Village**

As per the TNPCB report Mercury level is 0.005 mg/l and 0.007 mg/l respectively

as against the standard of 0.001 mg/l and selenium level is below limit of quantification. However Reports of private labs, the Mercury and selenium levels are below limit of quantification.

C. <u>SOIL SAMPLES:</u>

i. <u>VADAKUVELLUR KARUMBU THOTTAM LOCATION:</u>

As per the TNPCB report shows that Selenium level is 2.31 mg/Kg as against the standard of 1.0 mg/kg and all other parameters are within the limit as per standards. As per private lab (M/s. Tamilnadu House Private Limited) report, the arsenic level is 16.7 mg/kg as against the standard of 12 mg/kg and all other parameters are within the limit as per standards.

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ii. VADAKUVELLUR BYEPASS LOCATION:

As per the TNPCB Lab report show that the Zinc Level is 459 mg/kg as against the standard of 250 mg/kg, the Nickel level is 51.54 mg/kg as against the standard of 45 mg/kg and the Selenium level is 6.77 mg/kg as against the standard of 1.0 mg/kg. All other parameters are within the limits as per standards. As per the private lab (M/s. Chennai Mettex Lab Private Limited) report the Zinc level is 600mg/Kg as against the standard of 250 mg/kg and all other parameters are within the limit as per standards.

iii. AGRICULTURE LAND NEAR IYYAN LAKE AND PADDY FILED WITHIN ONE KILOMETER FROM THE STACK OF NNTPS LOCATIONS:

As per the TNPCB report show that all the parameters are within the limit as per standards and as per Private lab (M/s. Tamil nadu House Private Limited) report arsenic level is 15.4 mg/Kg as against the standard of 12 mg/kg and Total Chromium level is 67.7 mg/Kg as against the standard of 64 mg/kg (67.7/64) respectively and all other parameters are within the limit as per standards.

iv. KARIKUPPAM VILLAGE AGRICULTURAL LAND NEAR THERMAL POWER PLANT AND PALLITHERU VADAKKU VELLORE.

It is respectfully submitted that as per the TNPCB and Private labs reports shows that heavy metals parameters as within the limit as per standards.

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INFERENCE OF SECOND CYCLE OF ANALYSIS:

A. As per the reports of private labs,

a) The parameters Mercury and selenium were below the limit of quantification (BLQ) in the 19 number of surface water samples collected.

b) The parameters Mercury and selenium were below the limit of quantification (BLQ) in the 09 number of ground water samples collected.

c) The parameters Mercury and selenium were below the limit of quantification (BLQ) in the 06 number of soil samples collected.

d) However the heavy metals such as zinc, Arsenic, Nickel and Total Chromium were present in 4 places out of 6 numbers of soil samples collected.

B. As per the TNPCB lab reports,

a) The parameter Mercury was present in the 6 places out of 19 numbers of surface water collected in the range of 0.01 mg/l to 0.027 mg/l. However the heavy metals are within the limit as per standards IS 2296:1982 standard.

b) The parameter selenium was below the limit of quantification (BLQ) in 19 numbers of surface water collected.

c) The parameters Selenium, Zinc and Nickel were present in the 2 places out of 6 numbers of soil samples collected.

d) The parameters such as heavy metals were within the limit as per standards in the 4 places out of 6 places.

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III. THIRD CYCLE OF SAMPLE COLLECTION:

It is respectfully submitted that further, documentary films pertaining to M/s. NLC India Limited was uploaded in the YouTube by **"Poovulagu" YouTube channel**. Based on this, for the 3rd time on 17.12.2024 TNPCB collects soil and water samples from the same locations as collected by NGO and the collected samples were handed over to the Advanced Environmental Laboratory Chennai and IIT Cube, Taramani Chennai.

A. The Reports of M/s. Cube Environment Lab, IITM, Taramani Chennai

i. The parameters Mercury and selenium were below the limit of quantification (BLQ) in the 17 number of surface water samples collected.

ii. The parameters Mercury and selenium were below the limit of quantification (BLQ) in the 09 number of ground water samples collected.

iii. The parameters Mercury, Selenium, Arsenic were below the limit of quantification (BLQ) in the 06 number of soil samples collected.

iv. The heavy metals such as Zinc, Nickel and Total Chromium were within the limit for 06 number of soil samples collected.

B. The Reports of The TNPCB Lab

i. The parameter Mercury was present in the 15 places out of 17 numbers of surface water collected in the range of 0.0012 mg/l to 0.115 mg/l. In 2 locations the mercury was below the limit of quantification. However the selenium is not analysed for water samples and soil samples by the TNPCB.

ii. The parameter Mercury is below the limit of quantification (BLQ) in the 02 number of ground water samples collected and in the one ground water sample the mercury is within the limit as per Drinking

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water standard (IS 10500 2012).

iii. The parameter Mercury is present in the range 0.0025 mg/l to 0.0626 mg/l (against the value of 0.001 mg/l) in the 06 number of ground water samples collected and the locations are as follows

1. Vanadhirayapuram Village
2. NLC Supplied Water at U.Mangalam Tank
3. At Block-22 Pump House(Jawahar College)
4. Vedhavan House, Pudukuppam Village
5. Pudukuppam Village
6. Karikuppam Village

iv. The parameters Total chromium is below the limit of quantification for 6 numbers of soil samples collected.

v. The parameters Zinc, Mercury and Nickel were within the limit for 6 numbers of soil samples collected.

10. It is respectfully submitted that in continuation of the above, Debate on Public importance under Rule 55 of Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly raised by Hon'ble. Thiru. T. Velmurugan, Member of Legislative Assembly, Panruti Constituency, TNPCB constituted a Technical Committee vide proc. dated 18.06.2025 comprising of following members to inspect, identify and assess all the possible sources of Heavy metals such as Mercury, Nickel, Lead, Cadmium etc. and its possible contamination by collecting and analyzing surface/groundwater samples and soil samples in the surrounding areas of Neyveli & Parangipettai and in all other places mentioned in "POWERing Pollution" report and to submit a comprehensive report regarding the same within three months.:

1. Dr. Balaji Kannan,
   Professor and Head,
   Dept. of Soil and Water conservation Engineering,

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Agricultural Engineering College and Research Institute,
Tamil Nadu Agricultural University,
Coimbatore

2. Dr.S.R Singara Subramanian,
Professor and Head,
Department of Earth Sciences,
Annamalai University,
Annamalai Nagar,
Chidambaram

3. Dr.P.Balamadeswaran,
Head of the Department,
Department of Mining Engineering,
CEG Campus, Guindy,
Anna University, Chennai

4. Dr. Sultan Ahmed Ismail,
Ecologist & Soil Biologist,
Member, State Planning Commission,
Government of Tamil Nadu

11. It is respectfully submitted that, the technical expert committee inspected the study area on 22.07.2025 and 23.07.2025. During the inspection, 4 sets of relevant environmental samples were collected from the site. The collected samples were handed over to 4 NABL accredited laboratories namely

A. AEL, TNPCB, Chennai

B. Central Pollution Control Board, Bengaluru

C. SGS India Private Limited, Testing Laboratory, Chennai and

D. Tamilnadu Test House, Chennai for analysis.

12. It is respectfully submitted that, the results obtained were sent to the technical expert committee to submit their comprehensive report along with their specific recommendations.

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13. It is respectfully submitted that, meeting was held on 04.12.2025 in the TNPC Board office with the technical expert committee members along with the JCEE(M) Cuddalore, DEE Cuddalore and officials of Advanced Environmental Laboratory, Cuddalore. The technical expert committee members stated that they had submitted their individual reports and there were differences of opinion regarding the preparation of a comprehensive report and asked for guidance of TNPCB.

During the meeting, the following views were given by the technical expert committee members:

A. Dr. Balaji Kannan, Professor, TNAU stated that since there is variation in the results obtained from the four laboratories, he has done only mapping of heavy metal values against the standards for the groundwater and surface water. He also added that the difference in results obtained from the laboratories might be due to precision of equipments used and methodology used for analysis.

B. Dr. Singara Subramanian of Annamalai University stated that the maxima and minima values of heavy metals were used for interpretation, concluding that the high levels of Chromium, Cadmium, Nickel and Selenium observed in ash (based on WHO standards) are primarily due to lignite combustion leading to fly ash and bottom ash generation, while the presence of Mercury is attributed to burning of fossil fuels and other anthropogenic activities.

C. Dr. Balamadeswaran, Anna University stated that arithmetic mean of all four values analysed in 4 labs were considered. He also stated that heavy metals in water samples are at or near detection limits and soil/ vegetation/ ash/ lignite and thimble samples shows natural availability expected in mineral rich lignite soil.

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D. Dr. Sultan Ahmed Ismail stated that maximum values were considered for the reason for best interest for ecology and ecosystem and concluded that discharge from TPS and coal mine discharges is the source for heavy metal contamination in groundwater. He also added that immediate identification and mitigation of contamination source is critical.

14. It is respectfully submitted that, the four committee members stated that the exact source of contamination is difficult to confirm without a full investigation of hydrogeology, wind patterns, and nearby industries such as NLC, TAQA and IL&FS. Hence, the source of contamination cannot be identified with the present data.

15. It is respectfully submitted that due to difference in the value of the parameters analysed by different labs and difference of opinion in the interpretation of analytical results by the experts, the TNPCB has decided to engage a reputed organization/technical institution to undertake a detailed scientific study entitled "***Comprehensive Study on Spatial Distribution, Source Apportionment of Heavy metals presence/contamination in Environmental media in the surrounding areas of Neyveli & Parangipettai and in all other places mentioned in POWERing Pollution and recommendation on appropriate mitigation / remedial measures***" to validate the presence and concentration of heavy metals, particularly mercury, identify potential sources of contamination, and recommend appropriate mitigation measures. The terms of reference of proposed study including the study area, study period, scope of the study and Reporting & Deliverables is as below:

Study Area:

Sampling area as mentioned in the 'POWERing Pollution' article and additional locations, if required, which shall comprise of ground Water samples, surface

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Water samples, soil samples, ash samples, bottom ash samples, fly ash samples, lignite samples and coal samples.

Study period: 3 - 6 months

Scope of the Study:

The scope of the work to be carried out should cover the following aspects:

1.1. Review of Existing Data and Reports

a. Review and critical evaluation of existing monitoring data, technical reports, studies, and findings related to heavy metal contamination in the study areas, including the POWERing Pollution report and other relevant publications.

b. Identification of data gaps and refinement of study objectives based on the review.

1.2. Study Area Delineation and Sampling Design

a. Pictorial delineation of the study areas covering Neyveli, Parangipettai, and all other locations identified in the POWERing Pollution report.

b. Preparation of a scientifically robust sampling plan ensuring adequate spatial coverage and representation of impacted and control locations.

c. Selection of sampling locations considering proximity to coal mines, thermal power plants, ash disposal sites, industrial units, water bodies, agricultural lands, and habitations.

d. To conduct Hydrogeological and wind study.

1.3. Environmental Sampling and Field Investigations

a. Collection of samples from relevant environmental media, including:

i. Surface water and groundwater,

ii. Soil and sediment,

iii. Fly ash and coal samples,

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iv. Ambient air/particulate matter and dust (where applicable),

v. Agricultural produce and other relevant matrices, as considered necessary.

b. Field sampling shall be carried out in accordance with CPCB, BIS, ISO, and ASTM standards and best practices, with appropriate quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) measures.

c. Seasonal sampling (pre-monsoon and post-monsoon) to capture temporal variability in contaminant levels.

d. Geo-tagging and photographic documentation of sampling locations to ensure traceability and transparency.

1.4. Laboratory Analysis of Heavy Metals

a. Analysis of collected samples in NABL-accredited laboratories for heavy metals, including chromium, lead, cadmium, mercury, arsenic, nickel, and other relevant elements.

b. Comparison of analytical results with applicable BIS, CPCB, WHO, and other relevant regulatory standards and guidelines.

1.5. Spatial Distribution and Trend Analysis

a. Assessment of the spatial distribution of heavy metals across different environmental media using GIS-based mapping and geospatial analysis tools.

b. Identification of concentration gradients, hotspots, and temporal trends, where data permits.

1.6. Source Identification and Apportionment

a. Application of appropriate source apportionment techniques (statistical analysis, receptor models, geochemical signatures and other scientific methods) to identifythe heavy metals including mercury and quantify contributions from various sources, including:

i. Lignite mining and combustion activities,

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ii. Fly ash generation, handling, and disposal,

iii. Industrial operations,

iv. Other anthropogenic and natural sources.

1.7. Environmental and Human Health Risk Assessment

a. Assessment of potential environmental, ecological, agricultural, and human health risks associated with detected heavy metal concentrations.

b. Evaluation of exposure pathways and identification of vulnerable receptors and sensitive locations.

1.8. Recommendations for Mitigation and Remedial Measures

a. Formulation of short-term and long-term mitigation measures to reduce heavy metal contamination.

b. Recommendation of remedial strategies for contaminated environmental media, including technological, managerial, and regulatory interventions.

c. Prioritization of actions based on risk levels and feasibility.

Reporting and Deliverables

a. Submission of an Inception Report detailing methodology, sampling plan, and timelines.

b. Periodic progress reports, as required.

c. Submission of a Final Comprehensive Report including:

i. Sampling details and QA/QC documentation,

ii. Laboratory analytical results,

iii. Spatial maps and source apportionment findings,

iv. Risk assessment outcomes, and

v. Actionable mitigation and remediation recommendations.

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16. It is respectfully submitted that, the technical institutions: 1.Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, 2.Anna University, Chennai, 3.National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Chennai were requested to furnish Expression of Interest to carry out the above said detailed scientific study along with detailed proposal including cost estimate for the study based on Terms of reference prepared by the TNPC Board and it is under progress.

Therefore, it is humbly prayed that this Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (Southern Zone) may be pleased to pass such order or further other orders as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of this case and thus render justice.

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VERIFICATION

I, A.Shanmugam, S/o.Thiru. Arumugam, working as the Additional Chief Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai having office at No.76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai 600 032, do hereby verify that the contents of above are true to the best of my knowledge through records.

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BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL SZ AT CHENNAI
Original Application No.107 of 2023

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion Suo Motu based on the news item published in The New Indian Express, dated 09.08.2023, under the caption "Huge pollution risk in 8 Km around NLC" and in The Times of India, Chennai Edition dated 09.08.2023 under the caption "Water near NLC full of Mercury."

With

The Managing Director NLC India Limited, Chennai and Ors.

...Respondents

Interim Report filed on behalf of the fifth respondent- Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board

Date of filing : 24.02.2026

Date of hearing : 25.02.2026

Thiru.S.Sai Sathya Jith,
Advocate for 5th Respondent: TNPCB.