

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE.CHENNAI

Original Application No.109 of2024(SZ)

IN THE MATTERM OF:

Thiru.M.A.Chidambaram & 3 Others

....Applicant(S)

Versus

1. The Member Secretary,

TamilNadu Pollution Control Board and Others

...Respondent(S)

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Through

Dr.D.Shanmuganathan

Standing counsel

National Green Tribunal

Southern Zone

DATE:25.11.2024

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

O.A.NO. 109 of 2024

In the Matter of:

Thiru.M.A.Chidambaram

Thiru.Vaideeswaran.M

Thiru.Mohan.K

Thiru.Senthil Kumar.T

.....Applicants

Versus

1. The Member Secretary,
TamilNadu Pollution Control Board
2. The District Environmental Engineer
TamilNadu Pollution Control Board
3. The Executive Officer
Thirumazhisai Town panchayat
4. The District Collector
Collectorate
5. The Tahsildar
Ponnamallee Taluk

...Respondents

REPORT FILED BY THE 3RD RESPONDENT- EXECUTIVE OFFICER,
THIRUMAZHISAI TOWN PANCHAYAT

I, M.Venkatesh, S/o, Manavalan, aged 59, presently discharging my duties as Executive Officer Thirumazhisai Town Panchayat, Thiruvallur District, is aware of the facts and circumstances of the case , do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely states as follows:

1. The Applicants herein are Thiru. M.A.Chidambaram, Thiru.Vaideeswaran M, Thiru.Mohan.K, Thiru. Senthil Kumar.T filed at the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) on 28.02.2024 seeking for removal of waste being dumped near the water channel at S. No 64/1, Thirumazhisai, Poonamalle Taluk, Thiruvallur District. They alleged that, the dump site is near water channel located in Thirumazhisai area known as the Bangaru Channel which is a main water channel connecting the Chembarabakkam Lake which is near the residence of the applicants which has been illegally converted into a dump yard by the 3rd Respondent.

Response: I understand, that the applicants purchased plots, yet to construct their houses. Around 65 green friends are engaged in Solid Waste Management process in Thirumazhisai Town Panchayat and waste is handled from end to end i.e., collection, transportation, segregation, treatment and disposal at the Resource Recovery Park (RRP). Resource Recovery Park is in S. No. 125 extent of 2 acres 49 cents.

2. Water body is being contaminated by illegal dumping of industrial waste, chemical hazardous waste, agricultural and animal waste, medical waste including domestic waste continuously as well as its surrounding, with the knowledge and consent of the 3rd Respondent thereby polluting the water channel and also blocking the water flow into the chembarabakkam lake which is a source of water for the residents of the locality as it is one of the rain-fed reservoirs from where water is drawn for supply to Chennai City. There are several houses with thousands of people within the area of the water channel which has become a dumpsite.

Response: It is respectfully submitted that, Thirumazhisai Town Panchayat has Resource Recovery Park (RRP) which has many facilities where the segregated waste

is being treated and converted into manure. Industrial estate is situated nearly 1 ½ KM away from the S. No. 64/1. Units at the Industrial estate dispose their waste by themselves by engaging various agents.

3. It is submitted that in this respect a written complaint dated, 03.03.2022 and online complaint dated 13.02.2023 was also lodged by a residential society of the 1st Respondent to prevent the illegal dumping in the said water body. Consequently, the 1st Respondent had issued a show cause notice dated, 24.02.2023 to the 3rd Respondent however, the illegal garbage dumping continues and has not yet stopped.

Response : It is respectfully submitted that, as the complaint lodged by the applicants and nearby residential society, Eternity Villa Owners Welfare Association , No.24, Eternity Phase I, Urbanrise Thirumazhisai , Poonamalle Taluk, Thiruvallur District to prevent illegal dumping to the water body to the 1st Respondent. The 1st Respondent has issued a show cause notice date 24.02.2023. No dumping of waste at S.No. 64/1 by our local authority.

4. It is submitted that due to non-compliance to the show cause notice by the 3rd Respondent, another representation dated, 08.01.2024 was submitted to the 1st Respondent by the Applicants giving a Complaint against dumping of waste by the 3rd Respondent in the Bangaru Channel connecting Chembarabakkam Lake and for taking immediate action for stopping the illegal garbage dumping in the said water body in order to prevent health hazard, pollution of ground water and to prevent to flooding during heavy rains.

Response: It is respectfully submitted that, after the show cause notice, officials visited the water channel and the necessary actions have been taken in order to prevent pollution. As mentioned by the applicants, another representation dated

08.01.2024 was submitted to the 1st respondent. Since, no waste is dumped in the area, no pollution caused on the waterbody.

5. The 3rd Respondent has dumped waste to a great extent which is causing effluvia which is ultimately hazardous for the environment and most importantly for the people living in the locality. It is a matter of record that waste has been dumped without any lining or any protective measures. The illegal dumpsite being operated without any legal sanction. The 3rd Respondent has not obtained consent from the Board under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, nor authorization under MSW Rules, 2000 or the Solid Wastes Management Rules, 2016. Further, the site also does not have clearance under the EIA Notification, 2006 – Waste Management facilities which are covered under entry 7 (i) of the Schedule to the Notification. It is submitted that the present site a water channel and its banks cannot be used as a illegal dump yard.

Response: It is respectfully submitted that, with an active solid waste management process functioning in Thirumazhisai Town Panchayat every day, and the waste taken to Resource Recovery Park, no waste is dumped in the water body. From collecting waste from the residents, transporting it and further more segregation is done at the Resource recovery park (RRP). So as mentioned by the applicant, the consent from the board under Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act,1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, nor authorization under MSW Rules, 2000 or the solid wastes management rules,2016 is not required since illegal dumping is not carried out by 3rd respondent.

6. However, despite repeated representations sent to the 1st Respondent, no action has been taken and the illegal dumping continues increasingly more wastes a day, which adds to the

several million tons of waste accumulated at the site. There is no remorse nor do they have a proper plan or remedy for the damage being caused to the dump yard.

Response: It is respectfully submitted that, overall only 700 to 800 kgs of waste which cannot be recycled or reused are stored at the RRP. Measures to control unauthorized dumping from unauthorized private vehicle is monitored by deploying a security near the waterbody.

7. It is submitted that the present illegal dumpsite is at the bund of water channel and its surrounding viz., residents, schools and is unsuitable for the processing of wastes and no permission would have been issued to the 3rd Respondent even if they had sought to obtain prior permissions and operate a waste management facility.

Response: It is respectfully submitted that, Thirumazhisai Town panchayat conducts awareness campaign frequently and they select schools and residents as a major part of the campaign.

8. It is submitted that the land over which garbage and waste is being dumped is on the bund of Bangaru canal and government land next to the canal bund in Survey No. 64/1 which is "Thoppu" Poromoke i.e., Government Land. Furthermore, the 'A' Register for Survey Number 64/1 is classified as "Thoppu," which translates to "Grove." Additionally, the CMDA-approved layout plan designates the land as vacant land owned by the government.

Response: It is respectfully submitted that, the vacant land owned by Government in survey no.64/1, is where the mixed waste is been left and processed and also it is fenced by Green Sheet. At present no waste is dumped in S. No.64/1, as the waste left on S.No 64/1 has been totally removed.

9. It is submitted that the applicants issued a complaint letter to the 4th and 5th respondents dated 08.01.2024 stating the illegal dumping of waste in the Bangaru Channel connecting Chembarabakkam Lake.

Response: It is respectfully submitted that, the 4th and 5th respondents visited the channel and the necessary actions have been taken such as to monitor the unauthorized persons/Organisation dumping the waste in the channel and erected fence the area to control unauthorized dumping.

10. This is a serious public health issue and people have been suffering from the illegal commencement and continuity of dumping waste at the present site by the 3rd Respondent who has let this happen under its administration. A permanent solution is required for this life-threatening issue. The 3rd Respondent has to instantly stop dumping at the site and remediate it.

Response: It is respectfully submitted that, as Thirumazhisai Town Panchayat operates solid waste management practices every day in all the respective zones with 5 tons of waste generated every day in which bio-degradable waste such as food and kitchen waste, green waste are composted using bio-compost/Vermi-compost in Resource Recovery Park, Recyclable materials such as paper, cardboard, glass, bottles are handed over to the respective recycling vendors and overall waste to be dumped in landfills is comparatively reduced.

THIRUMAZHISAI TOWN PANCHAYAT

Thirumazhisai is a Town Panchayat located in the Thiruvallur district of Tamil Nadu. It is part of Poonamallee Taluk and covers an area of approximately 6 square kilometers. According to the 2011 Census, Thirumazhisai has a population of 19,733 and is divided into 15 wards. The town panchayat comprises 5,220 houses and 190 commercial establishments.

The Tamil Nadu Small Industries Development Corporation Limited (TANSIDCO), established in 1970 by the Government of Tamil Nadu, plays a significant role in facilitating the promotion and development of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the state. TANSIDCO operates under the purview of the Thirumazhisai Industrial Estate Manufacturers Association.

Thirumazhisai Town Panchayat is home to one private school, one Government High School, and two Government Elementary Schools.

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| PRIVATE SCHOOL | Chennai Public School |
| ELEMENTARY SCHOOL | Prayambath Elementary Govt. School Udaiyur Koil Govt. School |
| HIGH SCHOOL | Sundharam Government Higher Secondary School |

There are **10 Marriage halls** in Thirumazhisai and details are below:

| S.No | NAME | ADDRESS |
|------|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | G.K.R Mahal | T.H.Road,Thirumazhisai |
| 2 | K.V.Mahal | T.H.Road,Thirumazhisai |
| 3 | JNR Mandapam | Gundumedu, T.H.Road, Thirumazhisai |
| 4 | M.S.S Mahal | South Madaveethi, |

| | | |
|----|-------------------------------|--|
| | | Thirumazhisai |
| 5 | M.S.S Mini Hall | South Madaveethi, Thirumazhisai |
| 6 | Kai Thari Mandapam | Melanda Madaveethi, Thirumazhisai |
| 7 | Pushpa Durai Mandapam | South Madaveethi, Thirumazhisai |
| 8 | Sadayappa Kalyana Mandapam | Bangalore Highway Road, Thirumazhisai |
| 9 | Anna Samuthaya Kudam | Kavalcheri Road, Thirumazhisai |
| 10 | Samuthaya Kudam | Thirumazhisai Town Panchayat, Thirumazhisai |

Temples:

- ❖ Arulmighu Othandeeswarar temple - Ward No: 14 - Street Name - TH Road,
 - ❖ Arulmighu Jeganadha Perumal temple, and Thirumazhisai Azhwar temple - Ward No: 10 - Street Name - Southmada Street,
 - ❖ Arulmighu Veetirundha Perumal temple - Ward No: 11 - Street Name - V P Koil Street
- are the temples located in Thirumazhisai.

Thirumazhisai Town Panchayat is located 24 kilometers from Chennai and lies along the Chennai-Bengaluru National Highway and the Thiruvallur-Chennai State Highway. The bus terminus in Thirumazhisai, named Perarignar Anna Centenary Bus Terminus, has a capacity to accommodate approximately 153 buses. The Town Panchayat collects a commercial tax of ₹150 per month from commercial establishments and a house tax of ₹30 per month from residential properties.

PART-II
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES IN
THIRUMAZHISAI TOWN PANCHAYAT

Solid waste management (SWM) is conducted on a daily basis in Thirumazhisai Town Panchayat. A total of 65 "Green Friends" are engaged in SWM activities. After the morning roll call, Green Friends collect waste from all households daily, ensuring the waste is segregated before placing it in the respective bins in their designated vehicles.

The Town Panchayat employs 12 permanent staff members and 65 Green Friends for SWM operations. The equipment utilized includes 3 tractors, 6 electric vehicles, 21 manual pushcarts, and other necessary tools such as dustbins, baskets, brooms, uniforms, gloves, masks, ID cards, and soap. The Panchayat ensures all registers are properly maintained.

Solid Waste Management Resource Recovery Park (RRP)

The SWM Resource Recovery Park is located at S. No. 125, Kavelchery Road, Thirumazhisai Revenue Village, covering an area of approximately 2.32 acres. The facilities available at the RRP include:

- Bio Compost Pit
- Windrow Platform
- Shredding Machine
- Baling Machine
- Sieving Machine

- Weighing Machine
- Plastic Carry Bag Shredding Machine
- Chicken Waste Compost Facilities
- Borewell with Water Facilities
- Compost Storage Room
- Worker Rest Room
- Duck Pond

Proposed Facilities

The following facilities are planned for future implementation:

- Dry Waste Storage Room
- Additional Windrow Platform
- Conveyor Belt for Mixed Waste Segregation
- Baling Machine for Plastic Waste

Daily SWM Activities

The daily activities carried out as part of the SWM practices in Thirumazhisai Town Panchayat are as follows:

- Morning roll call and oath-taking by Green Friends.

- Allocation of areas to Green Friends.
- Door-to-door waste collection and source-level segregation of waste.
- Collection of user charges.
- Measurement and transportation of waste from secondary points.
- Organic waste windrow formation in sheds.
- Processing of food waste in the biogas plant.
- Composting of chicken waste in designated pits.
- Vermicomposting processes.
- Compost sieving, packing, and maintenance of the duck pond.
- Kitchen garden activities.
- Awareness programs for the public.
- Sale of compost.



Door to Door Collection by Green friends



Door to Door Collection by Green friends inspected by Supervisor





The segregated waste is been weighed in weighing machine



Segregated bio degradable waste is weighed in Secondary Collection



Green friends collecting the reusable materials from Public through RRR centre

Awareness Campaigns And Waste Reduction Initiatives

As reducing waste generation is a key strategy to save costs, conserve natural resources, and preserve the environment, regular awareness campaigns are conducted to educate the public on source segregation. These campaigns are carried out in schools and colleges, door-to-door, and through street shows, audio songs, presentations, and posters. The objectives of these campaigns include:

- Sensitizing people about solid waste management and their responsibilities.
- Promoting awareness on waste segregation at the source using pamphlets and posters.
- Ensuring non-littering of public spaces.
- Encouraging a culture of cleanliness among citizens.
- Raising awareness about the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle).
- Advocating against single-use plastics with the statement: *My Waste, My Responsibility* (என் குப்பை - என் பொறுப்பு).



Awareness Programme as rally in streets



Awareness Programme through pamphlets



Awareness Programme in a community about source segregation



Students visits the Thirumazhisai Town panchayat shed as part of their activity



Awareness Program in community



Awareness Programme for a Self-help groups

Cleaning Activities

Cleaning activities are conducted every Saturday in various locations, including bus stands, lakes, parks, religious sites, tourist attractions, slums, crematoriums, burial grounds, and drainage areas.



Street Cleaning



Green friends cleaning near ponds



Green friends cleaning outside in schools



Hotspot Cleaning



Putting Bleaching powder after cleaning the hotspot area



Green friends segregating the waste in streets



Hotspot Cleaning at Night



Hotspot Cleaning at Night



Sewage Cleaning

Waste Processing Practices

Segregated waste is transported to the waste processing site using tricycles or battery-operated vehicles. Secondary segregation is conducted in the processing shed. Biodegradable waste is processed at the Resource Recovery Park (RRP) through bio-composting or vermi-composting methods. The manure generated is distributed to vendors, farmers, and kitchen garden enthusiasts who collect it directly.

Reuse of Biodegradable Waste

1.Bio-energy Production: Biodegradable waste is utilized as a renewable energy resource, manure, fertilizers, and compost after decomposition.

2.Processing Techniques:

- Larger kitchen waste is broken down into smaller parts using a shredder machine for efficient processing.
- Plastics are compressed into smaller sizes using a baling machine for storage and transportation. These are collected by cement factories for use as fuel.
- Compost is sieved using a sieving machine, and the final product is distributed to farmers and kitchen garden users.

3.Recyclable Materials: These are sold to scrap dealers.

4.Construction and Demolition Waste: This is stored in designated areas and utilized for road construction. A new storage facility is being developed at the RRP to store construction waste.





A Mini Bio-gas Plant in Shed where the waste is converted into gas



Waste is furthermore segregated in shed by green friends



Bio-degradable segregated Waste is formed as a windrow



Windrow formation



Cow dung is poured over the windrow for further decomposition



Water is poured in windrow to lock the moisture



Water poured in pits



Earthworms are inserted for Vermi-composting



Vermi-Composting pit



Compost is being sieved using shiver machine



Plastics are been baled in baling machine and kept in separate place



Compost is packed and ready for sale

Daily Waste Management In Thirumazhisai

Thirumazhisai generates approximately 5.7 tons of waste daily, which is managed as follows:

1. Organic Waste: Food, kitchen, and green waste are composted at the RRP using bio-composting and vermi-composting methods.

2. Recyclable Waste: Materials such as paper, cardboard, glass, and bottles are handed over to recycling vendors.

3. Residual Waste: Only 700–800 kilograms of non-recyclable or non-reusable waste is securely stored in government-specified dump yards.

This strategy minimizes the load on landfills and helps protect the environment. These practices are implemented daily across all wards of the Thirumazhisai Town Panchayat.

PART – III**WASTE MANAGEMENT AND SEWAGE TREATMENT IN
THIRUMAZHISAI TOWN PANCHAYAT**

1. Every housing developer in Thirumazhisai Town Panchayat has taken responsibility for managing the waste collected within their respective societies. However Chennai Residential Developer Pvt. Ltd., which manages 1,296 flats, has been found dumping unsegregated waste in public areas for the past four months. As a Bulk Waste Generator, the company is responsible for managing the waste generated within its premises. On November 11, 2024, the Thirumazhisai Town Panchayat issued a notice to Chennai Residential Developer Pvt. Ltd. regarding this violation.

There are few more developers are in Town Panchayat namely

1. M/s Chennai Luxury Home Developers Pvt. Ltd.

Address: Registered office No 1, SIDCO Estates, Guindy , Chennai- 600032.

2. M/s Chennai Green Woods Pvt. Ltd.

Address: Level 5 , Diamond Dune, No323, Ponamallee Highway,

Amaindhakarai, Chennai 600029

3. M/s Chennai Residential Developers Pvt Ltd.

Address: No.36/1, Gandhi Mandapam Salai, Kotturpuram Chennai

4. M/s Ramkey Wavoo Developers Pvt Ltd.

Address: No.323 level 5 Diamond Dune, Ponamallee, Amaindhakarai,

Chennai-29

2. The Thirumazhisai Town Panchayat operates a Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) with a capacity of 3MLD per day. The Underground Sewage System connects all 15 wards of the town

panchayat, and the sewage is treated regularly at the STP. The treated water is discharged into the Coovum River near Paruthipattu. In addition, the STP also treats sewage from three municipalities, Poonamallee Municipality, Thiruverkadu Municipality, and Thirunindravur Municipality. The plant is monitored at regular intervals to ensure proper functioning. It is important to note that none of the housing developers are utilizing the Underground Sewerage System (UGSS).

3.A formal request was submitted by the Town Panchayat to the District Collector's office on 07.10.2024 to identify suitable land within the District for establishing a waste management site. The Town Panchayat has not received any response or further communication regarding the status of this request.

VERIFICATION

I, M.Venkatesh, S/o, Manavalan, aged 59, presently discharging my duties as Executive Officer Thirumazhisai Town Panchayat, Thiruvallur District, solemnly affirm that the contents of this report are true to the best of my knowledge based on the records and I have not suppressed any facts.

Date:21.11.2024

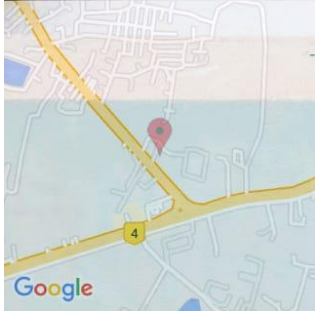

EXECUTIVE OFFICER,
THIRUMAZHISAI TOWN PANCHAYAT

AFTER CLEARING THE WASTE





SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT



373, Nazarathpettai, Thirumazhisai, Tamil Nadu 600072, India

Nazarathpettai

Tamil Nadu

India

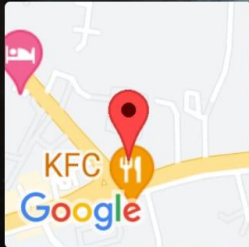
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Thirumazhisai, Tamil Nadu, India

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