

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI  
Original Application No.139 of 2024**

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU  
based on the News Item in The Hindu,  
Chennai edition, Newspaper dt:  
28.04.2024, under the caption, "Activists  
worried over garbage dumped on  
Kodaikanal ghat road".

And

Department of Rural Development  
& Panchayat Raj,  
Through its Principal Secretary,  
Chennai and Ors.

.....Respondents

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

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.....Respondents

**REPLY AFFIDAVIT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE THIRD  
REPENDENT – TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

I, K.Nalini, Daughter of Thiru.K.Krishnaswamy, Hindu, 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 am the Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai and I am authorized to file this reply on behalf of the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent and as such I am well acquainted with the facts of the case available from the office records.
2. It is respectfully submitted that on 14.5.2025, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone has taken a **SUO MOTU** in its own motion based on the News Item in The Hindu, Chennai edition, Newspaper dated:28.04.2024, under the caption, "Activists worried over garbage dumped on Kodaikanal ghat road".
3. It is respectfully submitted that as per the direction passed on 14.5.2024 by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, (SZ), Chennai, the report is submitted herein.

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

4. It is respectfully submitted that based the News item published in "The Hindu" on 28.04.2024, that Adukkam Panchayat is dumping the garbage on the hill side of the ghat road which leads to Environment Pollution and also home stays near to Poondi, Poomparai are also dumping their waste on the hill side, a letter was sent to the Assistant Director of Panchayats, Dindigul District and the Block Development Officer, Kodaikanal on 20.5.2024 to take necessary action so as to comply with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 **(copy is enclosed as Annexure - 1)**.
5. It is respectfully submitted that the said dumping site was inspected by the AEE, TNPCB, Dindigul on 22.05.2024 and the following observations are made:
  1. It was noticed that 0.5 Acres of Land in Survey No.5/2A was earmarked as Municipal Solid Waste dump site for Adukkam Panchayat.
  2. It was noticed that unsegregated waste from Perumal Malai hamlet was dumped inside the above said premises.
  3. The local body was involved in segregation and cleaning up of waste in the Municipal Solid Waste dump site.
6. It is respectfully submitted that after inspection by the DEE, TNPCB, Dindigul has sent a letter dated 22.5.2024 to Block Development Officer, Kodaikanal to expedite the segregation and scientific disposal of Municipal solid waste dumped in the dump site. **(copy is enclosed as Annexure - II)**.
7. It is respectfully submitted that a Committee has been formed by the District Collector involving the following officials. The Project Director, District Rural Development Agency, Assistant Director of Panchayats, Assistant Director of Town Panchyats, Food Safety Officer, District Forest Officer, Police officer, the DEE, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Dindigul officials on 22.05.2024 **(copy is enclosed as Annexure - III)**.
8. It is respectfully submitted that a Committee was instructed by the District Collector to conduct a field survey to verify whether plastic and other wastes are dumped on both sides and slopes of the road from Kodaikanal ghat Road to Kodaikanal entrance and also to create awareness in this regard among roadside vendors.

9. It is respectfully submitted that on 23.05.2024, the Committee was inspected the ghat roads of Kodaikanal. **(Photographs is enclosed as Annexure – IV)**
10. It is respectfully submitted that the Municipal solid waste which was dumped at the above said site at Adukkam Panchayat was segregated and disposed as per Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016. The local body has informed that 2 Ton of compostable waste was disposed as per Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules 2016 and the segregated plastic waste of 0.4 Ton will be disposed through authorized recycler. The photographs showing the present status are enclosed herewith.

Under the above circumstances, 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, Daughter of Thiru.K.Krishnaswamy, Hindu, 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.

**BEFORE ME**

Solemnly affirmed at Chennai  
 On this the day 24<sup>th</sup> of May 2024  
 and signed his name in my presence.

**ADVOCATE**



Plastic Pollution Free Tamilnadu

## TAMILNADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD



<p><b>From</b> Er. P.Manimaran., M.E., MBA., District Environmental Engineer , Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Collector Office Campus, Dindigul-624 004.</p>	<p><b>To</b> The Assistant Director, Panchayats, Dindigul District.</p> <p>The Block Development Officer, Kodaikanal Panchayat Union, Kodaikanal Taluk.</p>
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Letter No. DEE/TNPCB/DGL/F.NGT.139 of 2024/2024 Dated:20 .05.2024

Sir,

**Sub:** TNPC Board, O/o District Environmental Engineer, Dindigul – Hon'ble National Green Tribunal Case No.O.A.No 139 of 2024 (SZ) – Regarding Environment damage due to dumping of garbage in Kodaikanal hills – Request for Action taken – Reg.

**Ref:**

1. Hon'ble NGT (PB), New Delhi Case No.O.A.No 606 of 2018 dated: 20.08.2018.
2. Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi Application No.353/2016 & 412/2017 Dated:22.11.2018.
3. The Hindu Newspaper news dated : 28.04.2024
4. Hon'ble NGT (SZ), Chennai Case No.O.A.No 139 of 2024 (SZ) dated: 14.05.2024 (Copy enclosed)

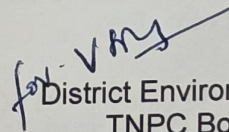
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With respect to the reference 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> cited above wherein the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal order referred to the Central Government enacted Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 to regulate the solid waste management activities by virtue of the powers conferred under Sections 3, 6 and 25 of the Environment Protection Act, 1986 (Act No. 29/1986). These Solid Waste Management Rules 2016 are applicable to all local bodies. Each local body has been assigned the responsibility of establishing basic infrastructure for the collection, storage, sorting, transportation, processing and disposal of waste generated within its jurisdiction. As mentioned in Rule 4 of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, the waste generator shall coordinate with the respective local body to dispose the waste. Responsibilities have been set to avoid dumping and proper disposal of waste.

In the reference 3rd cited, it has been mentioned that the solid waste generated in Dindigul District, Kodaikanal circle, Adukam panchayat, Adukam panchayat near Perumal Hill are being dumped in the hills and the environment is being affected due to the dumping of waste generated from shops in Kodaikanal hill and hostels in Bundi and Boompara areas.

Based on the above press release, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) Chennai has taken up the case mentioned in the reference 4<sup>th</sup> on its own initiative (SUO MOTU).

Therefore, it is instructed that the solid wastes generated in the Adukam Panchayat mentioned in the press release should be properly managed as per the Solid Waste Management Rules 2016. Further, as the report has to be submitted to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal regarding the action taken in this regard, it is requested to submit the report in this office without delay.

  
District Environmental Engineer,  
TNPC Board, Dindigul

Encl:

Copy of Hon'ble NGT (SZ), Chennai Case No.O.A.No 139 of 2024 (SZ)  
order dated: 14.05.2024



Plastic Pollution Free Tamilnadu

## TAMILNADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD



<p><b>From</b> Er. P.Manimaran., M.E., MBA., District Environmental Engineer , Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Collector Office Campus, Dindigul-624 004.</p>	<p><b>To</b> The Block Development Officer, Kodaikanal Panchayat Union, Kodaikanal Taluk.</p>
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Letter No. DEE/TNPCB/DGL/F.NGT.139 of 2024/2024 Dated:22.05.2024

Sir,

**Sub:** TNPC Board, O/o District Environmental Engineer, Dindigul –Hon'ble National Green Tribunal Case No.O.A.No 139 of 2024 (SZ) – Regarding Environment damage due to dumping of garbage in Kodaikanal hills – Request for Action taken – Reg.

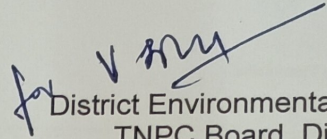
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  3. The Hindu Newspaper news dated : 28.04.2024
  4. Hon'ble NGT (SZ), Chennai Case No.O.A.No 139 of 2024 (SZ) dated: 14.05.2024 (Copy enclosed)
  5. This office letter No. Complaint/DEE/TNPCB/DGL/2024 dated: 20.05.2024
  6. Assistant Environmental Engineer inspection dated: 22.05.2024.

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With respect to the reference 4<sup>th</sup> cited above where in the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) Chennai vide Case No.O.A.No 139 of 2024 (SZ) Date: 14.05.2024 SUO MOTU case has been registered in relation to the fact that the environment is being affected due to dumping of solid waste near Perumal Hill near Adukam Panchayat. Based on the above, the site was inspected on 22.05.2024. During the inspection, it was found that Survey No: 5/2A at an extent of 0.5 acre plot has been earmarked for handling solid waste generated in Perumal hill of Panchayat.

It was also found that unsorted solid waste was dumped at the above site. The Solid Waste Management Rules 2016 lays down the responsibility of every local body to establish basic infrastructure facilities for the collection, storage, sorting, transportation,

processing and disposal of waste generated within its jurisdiction. Therefore, it is instructed to separate the solid waste produced in the Adukam Panchayat and dispose it according to the scientific method.

  
District Environmental Engineer,  
TNPC Board, Dindigul

**From**

Tmt. M.N.Poongudi, I.A.S.,  
The District Collector  
Dindigul District.

**To**

1. Assistant Director (Panchayat),  
Assistant Director Office,  
Dindigul.
2. Assistant Director (Town Panchayat),  
District Collector Office,  
Dindigul.
3. District Forest Officer,  
District Forest Office,  
Dindigul.
4. Superintendent of Police,  
Supintendent Office,  
Dindigul.
5. District Environmental Engineer,  
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board  
Dindigul.
6. Food Safety Officer,  
Food Safety Office,  
Dindigul.

Na.Ka.No.2983/2024/௮7, Dated .22.05.2024

Sir/Madam,

**Subject:** Case – Dindigul District – Kodaikanal Panchayat Union – Action taken and submission of report regarding plastic and other waste dumped in an open land without protection in the Perumal malai area of Adukkam village – Reg.

**Ref :** Chennai – Southern Zone, National Green Tribunal Case O.A.No.139 of 2024(sz)  
Tribunal Order Date : 14.05.2024

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A news has been published in the Chennai edition of The Hindu English newspaper dated 28.04.2024 regarding dumping of plastic and other wastes in an open land without protection in the area of Perumal Malai, Adukkam village, Kodaikanal Panchayat Union, Dindigul District.

The National Green Tribunal (SZ) Chennai registered a case vide O.A.No.139 of 2024 on SUO MOTU. The case was came up for hearing on 14.05.2024 video conference.

In the hearing, the Hon'ble Judges ordered to send a notice to the respondents attaching a copy of the newspaper and adjourned the case to 27.05.2024. Also, directed the respondents to file their reply in the Hon'ble Court. Actions have to be taken to protect the environment. Further, in this regard, the relevant departments have been informed by the District Collector to conduct a field inspection and submit a report.

Based on this, it was advised to form a team consists of the following officers to conduct a field inspection on 23.05.2024 (Thursday) at 9.30 am to protect the environment from Kodaikanal Ghat Road to Kodaikanal entrance whether plastic and other wastes are being dumped on both sides and slopes. Also, to create awareness to the roadside shop keepers. Further, it is requested to submit a detail report with photographs.

**Members Details**

S.No	Department Name	Designation of Filed Inspection Officers
1	Rural Development & Panchayat Department	Project Officer, District Rural Development Administration Office Dindigul & Assistant Director (Panchayat), Dindigul District.
2	Town Panchayat	Assistant Director (Town Panchayat), Dindigul District.
3	Food Safety Department	Food Safety Officer
4	Forest Department	Forest Officer, Kodaikanal
5	Police Department	Police Officer, Dindigul District.
6	Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board	District Environmental Engineer

M.N.Poongudi,  
District Collector

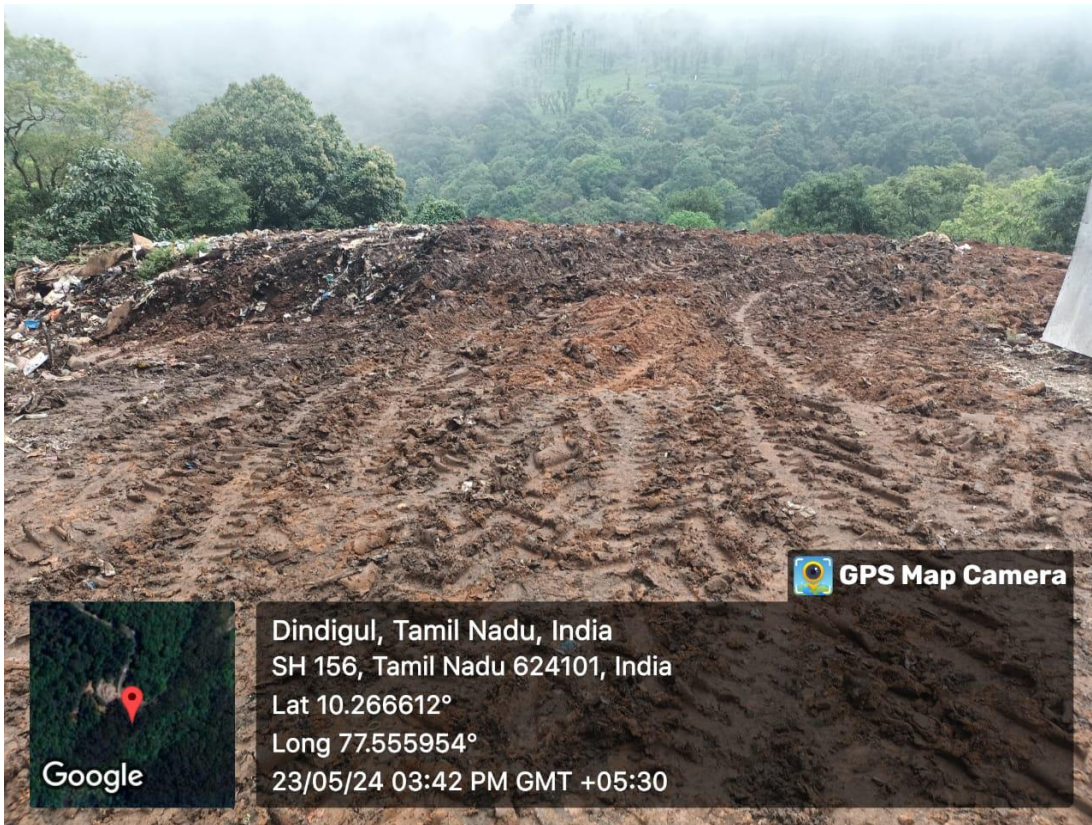
//Forward / By Order//

Project Director

**Status of Municipal Solid Waste dumping site on 22.05.2024 at Adukkam Panchayat near Perumal malai**



**Status of Municipal Solid Waste dumping site on 23.05.2024 at Adukkam Panchayat near Perumal Malai**



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And

Department of Rural Development  
& Panchayat Raj,  
Through its Principal Secretary,  
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.....Respondents

**REPLY AFFIDAVIT FILED ON  
BEHALF OF THE THIRD  
RESPONDENT- TAMIL NADU  
POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

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

**Date:24.05.2024.**

**Next date of hearing on :27.05.2024**