

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

Original Application No. 140 of 2024

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion Suo Motu
based on the News item I nThe Times of India",
Chennai edition Newspaper dt.09.04.2024
under the caption, "**Veerangal Odai becomes
latest target of land sharks**"

And

Water Resources Department,
Rep. by its Additional Chief Secretary,
Chennai and Others.

... Respondents

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

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

I, S.Palanisamy, Son of S.Santhappan, 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 respectfully 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 third respondent-Board and as such I am well acquainted with the facts of the case from the records available in our office.
2. It is respectfully submitted that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone, Chennai has initiated the Suo Motu proceeding based on the News item published in "The Times of India", E-edition dt.09.04.2024 titled "**Veerangal Odai becomes latest target of land sharks**" and directed the respondents to file their respective replies.
3. It is respectfully submitted that Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board enforces the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. As per Section 25 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, *no person shall without the prior consent of the Board to establish or take any steps to establish any industry, operation or process any treatment and disposal system, which is likely to discharge sewage or trade effluent into a stream or well or sewer or on land.* Further as per


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

Section 21 of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 *no person shall without the prior consent of the Board to operate any industrial plant in an air pollution control area.* The entire State of Tamil Nadu has been declared as air pollution control area by the Government of Tamil Nadu vide G.O.(Ms).No.4, Environmental Control Dept Dt:28.09.1983.

4. It is respectfully submitted that based on the Suo Motu, the Veerangal Odai nearby Puzhuthivakkam MRTS and Balaji Nagar were inspected on 26.9.2024 by the officials of DEE, Chennai (South), TNPCB and it was found that debris were dumped along and up to the retaining wall of the Veerangal Odai and in some stretch of Veerangal Odai, construction activities to increase height of retaining wall was under progress.
5. It is respectfully submitted that the monitoring of encroachment of Water bodies comes under the purview of Revenue, Water Resource Department and (Local bodies) Greater Chennai Corporation and it does not come under the purview of TNPCB. It is submitted that the DEE, Chennai, South has addressed a letter to take necessary action to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Water Resources Office, Operation and Maintenance and the Zonal Officer (Zone -13), Greater Chennai Corporation. (Enclosed as Annexure -1).

Therefore, it is humbly prayed that this Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) may be pleased to pass such order or further orders 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, I, S.Palanisamy, Son of S.Santhappan, working as Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, 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.


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



TamilNadu Pollution Control Board

From

Dr.M. Dhinakaran, Phd.
District Environmental Engineer,
TamilNadu Pollution Control Board,
1st Floor, No.14, 1st Cross Street, 2nd
Main Road, Jagannathapuram, Raja
Laxmi Nagar, Velachery,
Chennai-600042.

To

1. The Chief Engineer, P.W.D., W.R.O.,
Operation & Maintenance,
Chepauk,
Chennai-600005.
2. The Zonal Officer (Zone-13),
Greater Chennai Corporation,
No.115, Dr. Muthulakshmi Salai,
Adyar, Chennai-600 020.

Lr No:DEE/TNPCB/CHS/NGT (SZ)/ 140 of 2024/WRD/GCC/2024 Dt:01.10.2024.

Sir,

Sub: TNPCB -O/o.DEE, TNPCB, Chennai South @ Velachery - The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone, Chennai Suo Motu proceeding vide Original Application No. 140 of 2024 (SZ) based on the News item published in "The Times of India", E-edition dt.09.04.2024 titled "Veerangal Odai becomes latest target of land sharks" - to take action - Regarding.


Ref: 1. NGT (SZ) Original Application No. 140 of 2024 (SZ).

In regard to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone, Chennai Suo Motu Original Application No. 140 of 2024 based on the News item published in "The Times of India", E-edition dt.09.04.2024 titled "Veerangal Odai becomes latest target of land sharks".

In this connection, the Veerangal Odai nearby Puzhuthivakkam MRTS and Balaji Nagar were inspected by TNPCB Officials and it was found that debris were dumped along and up to the retaining wall of the Veerangal Odai and in some stretch of Veerangal Odai, construction activities in regard to increase height of retaining wall was under progress. (Photographs with Lat Long enclosed).

In view of the above, it is requested take necessary action at your end to ensure free flow of Veerangal Odai pertaining to Hon'ble NGT (SZ) Suo Motu O.A. NO.140 of 2024.

DISPATCHED


 District Environmental Engineer
 Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board
 Chennai South @ Velachery.


 01/10/2024

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Photographs

1. Veerangal Odai nearby Puzhuthivakkam MRTS.



2. Nearby Balaji Nagar



3. Veerangal Odai retaining wall was under progress.



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

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

Date:02.01.2025

Date of Hearing on:07.02.2025

