

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 178 OF 2024 (SZ)

[Earlier, OA No. 192 of 2024 (PB)]

IN THE MATTER OF:

Kaka Ashok,
R/o.Garivoddu (V),
Ramachandrapuram (GP),
Aswapuram (M),
Bhadradri-Kothagudem District.

....

Applicant

Versus

State of Telangana & Ors

....

Respondent(s)

REPORT OF THE TELANGANA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (R2)

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Place: Hyderabad.

Date: 15-02-2025.



COUNSEL FOR RESPONDENT NO. 2

REPORT DATED 14-02-2025 OF TELANGANA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (TGPCB) IN OA NO.178 OF 2024 (SZ) [EARLIER, OA NO.192 OF 2024 (PB)]

It is to submit that an Original Application No.178 of 2024 (SZ) [Earlier, OA No.192 of 2024 (PB)] was registered by the Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi on a letter petition received from Sri Kaka Ashok, H.No.2-138, Garivoddu (V), Ramachandrapuram (GP), Aswapuram (M), Bhadradri Kothagudem District with regard to pollution caused by operation of Sri Venkateswara Egg Tray Industry, Ramachandrapuram (V), Aswapuram (M), Bhadradri Kothagudem District.

The Hon'ble NGT vide Order dated 29.04.2024 constituted a joint committee comprising of representatives of Telangana State Pollution Control Board and the District Magistrate, Kothagudem and direct the same to meet within two weeks, undertake visits to the site, look into the grievances of the applicant, associate the applicant and representative of the concerned project proponents, verify the factual position and take appropriate remedial action by following due process of law. The Telangana State Pollution Control Board is the Nodal Agency for coordination and compliance.

Accordingly, the respective departments have nominated the following members for the Joint Committee:-

1. Sri K. Dhamodharao, Revenue Divisional Officer, Bhadrachalam Division – Representative of District Collector, Bhadradri-Kothagudem District.
2. Sri B. Ravinder, Environmental Engineer, Regional office, TGPCB, Kothagudem – Representative of TGPCB.

The Joint committee to verify the grievances of the applicant Sri Kaka Ashok, H.No.2-138, Garivoddu (V), Ramachandrapuram (GP), Aswapuram (M), Bhadradri Kothagudem District and associate the applicant and representative of the concerned project proponents, verify the factual position and take appropriate remedial action by following due process of law.

As per the instructions, the Joint committee has conducted inspection of industry & surrounding premises on 23.05.2024 to ascertain the facts in the letter petition and present status. At the time of inspection, the complainant, Sri Kaka Ashok, other villagers and industry representative were present and accompanied for inspection. Based on the observations made by the Joint Committee, a report was submitted vide dt:25.06.2024 Copy of Joint Committee report is enclosed as **ANNEXURE-I**.

The Joint Committee noted that the industry is mainly a small scale recycling unit and produces Egg trays using ETP sludge from paper mills and waste paper for the total production of 10,000 bundles/month of Egg trays and issued following measures/recommendations to the respondent industry.

1. The industry shall not discharge any wastewater outside their industry premises.
2. The industry shall ensure that the wastewater from the industry shall not mix with storm water during rains

Further the following is submitted:

1. M/s Sri Venkateswara Egg Trays Industry is located In Sy.No. 190/129/EE, 190/129/E, Nellipaka (V), Aswapuram (M), Bhadradi Kothagudem District (GPS point **17°45'08.7"N 80°51'01.9"E**). The industry is surrounded by North: Open land, East: Agricultural lands, West: Vaddigudem village road followed by agricultural lands, South: Agricultural lands.
2. The industry has obtained Consent for Operation (CFO) renewal from the TGPCB vide order dated 30.08.2023 with a validity period upto 31.10.2038.
3. The industry uses ETP sludge from Integrated Pulp & Paper Industry as raw material for manufacture of Egg trays.
4. These industries are categorized under Green category as per TGPCB Circular dated 03.05.2018 and line of activity is Egg tray/cardboards unit (Cardboard or corrugated box and paper products (excluding paper or pulp manufacturing and without using boilers).

5. The industry has installed 6 Nos. of machines for manufacturing of Egg trays in a closed shed.
6. The industry was in operation at the time of inspection. The industry representative has informed that they are operating the industry on shift basis only due to less market demand.
7. The industry uses water of 1.5 KLD in which 1.0 KLD for process makeup which is being used to make ETP sludge along with waste paper into slurry form for making Egg trays and 0.5 KLD for domestic purpose.
8. The slurry will be pumped to the Egg tray forming machines for formation of wet Egg trays and water will be collected into settling tank. The industry re-circulate this water in to the process. Once in a month, wastewater of about 2000 ltrs per month is generated after cleaning the circulation tanks.
9. The washings/wastewater is being treated in the settling tank followed by sludge drying beds and recycle the drained water into the process. Excess water is used for onland for irrigation within the premises or for their own agricultural lands.
10. Domestic wastewater of about 0.2 KLD is being generated and same is disposing to septic tank.
11. The industry has provided concrete platform for storage of ETP sludge.
12. No major air pollution is being generated in this type of industries.
13. The industry has developed greenbelt in East and North sides of the industry.
14. The applicant and other villagers raised that earlier the industry has discharged washings/wastewater into adjacent agricultural lands without treatment and the water entered into the agricultural lands of surrounding farmers and affected the crop.
15. The industry representative informed that they are using the treated washings for irrigation purpose within the premises and for their own

agricultural lands. The water might have entered into the surrounding agricultural fields during heavy rains along with storm water.

16. The Board officials have inspected the industry on 13.09.2024 and verified the compliance with the Joint Committee recommendation, which is mentioned below:

S.No.	Recommendation	Compliance
1	The industry shall not discharge any wastewater outside their industry premises	During inspection it was observed that no wastewater discharges outside the industry premises.
2	The industry shall ensure that the wastewater from the industry shall not mix with storm water during rain.	The industry is carrying out operations in closed shed.

The Photographs were taken during inspection, enclosed as ANNEXURE-II.

Submitted.

Date: 14.02.2025

Place: Kothagudem


ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TGPCB, RO, Kothagudem
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
 T.G. Pollution Control Board
 Regional Office, KOTHAGUDEM

INSPECTION REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE COMPRISING OF REPRESENTATIVE OF TELANGANA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (TGPCB) AND THE REVENUE DIVISIONAL OFFICER OF BHADRACHALAM DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF OA NO. OF 2024 [EARLIER, OA NO.192 OF 2024 (PB)] AS PER HON'BLE NGT ORDER DATED 29.04.2024

SUBMITTED TO

**NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN BENCH, CHENNAI**

REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE CONSTITUTED IN THE OA NO. OF 2024 [EARLIER, OA NO.192 OF 2024 (PB)] AS PER HON'BLE NGT ORDER DATED 29.04.2024.

1. Introduction:

It is to submit that an Original Application No. of 2024 [Earlier, OA No.192 of 2024 (PB)] was registered by the Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi on a letter petition received from Sri Kaka Ashok, H.No.2-138, Garivoddu (V), Ramachandrapuram (GP), Aswapuram (M), Bhadradi Kothagudem District with regard to pollution caused by operation of Sri Venkateswara Egg Tray Industry, Ramachandrapuram (V), Aswapuram (M), Bhadradi Kothagudem District.

The Hon'ble NGT vide Order dated 29.04.2024 constituted a joint committee comprising of representatives of Telangana State Pollution Control Board and the District Magistrate, Kothagudem and direct the same to meet within two weeks, undertake visits to the site, look into the grievances of the applicant, associate the applicant and representative of the concerned project proponents, verify the factual position and take appropriate remedial action by following due process of law. The Telangana State Pollution Control Board is the Nodal Agency for coordination and compliance.

2. Constitution of the Joint Committee:

Accordingly, the respective departments have nominated the following members for the Joint Committee:-

1. Sri K. Dhamodharao, Revenue Divisional Officer, Bhadrachalam Division - Representative of District Collector, Bhadradi-Kothagudem District.
2. Sri B. Ravinder, Environmental Engineer, Regional office, TGPCB, Kothagudem - Representative of TGPCB.

3. Terms of references (ToR) of the Committee:

The above Joint committee to undertake the site visit, look into the grievances of the applicant Sri Kaka Ashok, H.No.2-138, Garivoddu (V), Ramachandrapuram (GP), Aswapuram (M), Bhadradi Kothagudem District and associate the applicant and representative of the concerned project proponents, verify the factual position and take appropriate remedial action by following due process of law.

4. The Joint Committee Inspection:

As per the instructions, the Joint committee has conducted inspection of industry & surrounding premises on 23.05.2024 to ascertain the facts in the letter petition and present status. At the time of inspection, the complainant, Sri Kaka Ashok, other villagers and industry representative were present and accompanied for inspection.



Figure: Google map showing industry and surrounding premises.

Observations of the Joint committee:

1. M/s Sri Venkateswara Egg Trays Industry is located in Sy.No. 190/129/EE, 190/129/E, Nellipaka (V), Aswapuram (M), Bhadradi Kothagudem District (GPS point **17°45'08.7"N 80°51'01.9"E**). The industry is surrounded by North: Open land, East: Agricultural lands, West: Vaddigudem village road followed by agricultural lands, South: Agricultural lands.

2. The industry has obtained Consent for Operation (CFO) renewal from the TGPCB vide order dated 30.08.2023 with a validity period upto 31.10.2038.
3. The industry uses ETP sludge from Integrated Pulp & Paper Industry as raw material for manufacture of Egg trays.
4. The industry has installed 6 Nos. of machines for manufacturing of Egg trays in a closed shed.
5. The industry was in operation at the time of inspection. The industry representative has informed that they are operating the industry on shift basis only due to less market demand.
6. The industry uses water of 1.5 KLD in which 1.0 KLD for process makeup which is being used to make ETP sludge along with waste paper into slurry form for making Egg trays and 0.5 KLD for domestic purpose.
7. The slurry will be pumped to the Egg tray forming machines for formation of wet Egg trays and water will be collected into settling tank. The industry re-circulate this water in to the process. Once in a month, wastewater of about 2000 ltrs per month is generated after cleaning the circulation tanks.
8. The washings/wastewater is being treated in the settling tank followed by sludge drying beds and recycle the drained water into the process. Excess water is used for onland for irrigation within the premises or for their own agricultural lands.
9. The committee noticed that no wastewater discharges outside the industry premises were observed during inspection.
10. The committee also noticed that the sludge depositions in the drain located within the agricultural lands of the industry proprietor's family were observed. The industry representative has informed that they are

using the treated washings for irrigation purpose within the premises or for their own agricultural lands.

11. Domestic wastewater of about 0.2 KLD is being generated and same is disposing to septic tank.
12. The industry has provided concrete platform for storage of ETP sludge.
13. No major air pollution is being generated in this type of industries.
14. The industry has developed greenbelt in East and North sides of the industry.
15. The applicant and other villagers raised that earlier the industry has discharged washings/wastewater into adjacent agricultural lands without treatment and the water entered into the agricultural lands of surrounding farmers and affected the crop.
16. The industry representative informed that they are using the treated washings for irrigation purpose within the premises and for their own agricultural lands. The water might have entered into the surrounding agricultural fields during heavy rains along with storm water.
17. The Board has received complaint against the industry by the applicant on 06.09.2023. The TGPCB has issued notice to the industry on 20.09.2023 and directed to take all necessary measures to control of water pollution from the industry and provide sludge drying beds / settling tanks to treat the waste water generated during cleaning of tanks and recycle the drained water into process and excess water shall be used onland for irrigation within the premises so as to avoid water pollution to the surrounding agricultural fields.
18. The industry has submitted a reply dated 20.10.2023 stating that the construction of settling tank, sludge drying bed has delayed due to financial problems and workers non-availability and requested to give one month time for construction of settling tank, sludge drying bed.

19. The committee has collected soil sample from the sludge depositions in the drain located within the agricultural lands of the industry Proprietor's family and where the villagers raised concern that the industry has released washings water through that drain. As per the analysis report, no abnormality was observed in the soil. Copy of the analysis report is enclosed as **ANNEXURE - I**.

20. The nearby residents to the industry i.e., Sri K. Venkateswar Rao, S/o Narayana dasu has informed that they do not have any problem with the industry and Sri Sk. Ramzan S/o Madarsab and Smt. Thokala Amrutha W/o Anjaneyulu (late) has informed that they are facing smell nuisance from the industry when wind direction was towards their houses.

Revenue Divisional Officer's remarks:

1. During inspection, the applicant & some villagers and the industry representative has argued among themselves regarding land dispute for the land located adjacent to the industry in North side. The applicant & some villagers raised that they have started construction of Panchayath building in the open land but, the industry representative has stopped the construction by claiming that the land belongs to the industry representative.
2. The Tahsildar, Aswapuram has also issued a letter dated 10.07.2023 to the Station House Officer, Aswapuram regarding the ownership of the open land and the industry also obtained NALA order for the disputed open land. Copy of the order is enclosed as **Annexure-II**.
3. The land dispute is filed in Hon'ble High Court, Hyderabad and the Hon'ble High Court has disposed the case vide order dated 08.02.2024 in favour of the industry representative. Copy of the order is enclosed as **Annexure-III**.

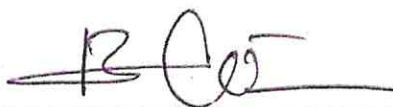
5. Recommendations of the Joint Committee:

1. The industry is mainly a small scale recycling unit and produces Egg trays using ETP sludge from paper mills and waste paper for the total production of 10,000 bundles/month of Egg trays.

2. These industries are categorized under Green category as per TGPCB Circular dated 03.05.2018 and line of activity is Egg tray/cardboards unit (Cardboard or corrugated box and paper products (excluding paper or pulp manufacturing and without using boilers).
3. The industry shall not discharge any wastewater outside their industry premises.
4. The industry shall ensure that the wastewater from the industry shall not mix with storm water during rains.

Date: 25.06.2024.

Place: Kothagudem



**ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TGPCB, RO, Kothagudem.
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
T.G. Pollution Control Board
Regional Office, KOTHAGUDEM**



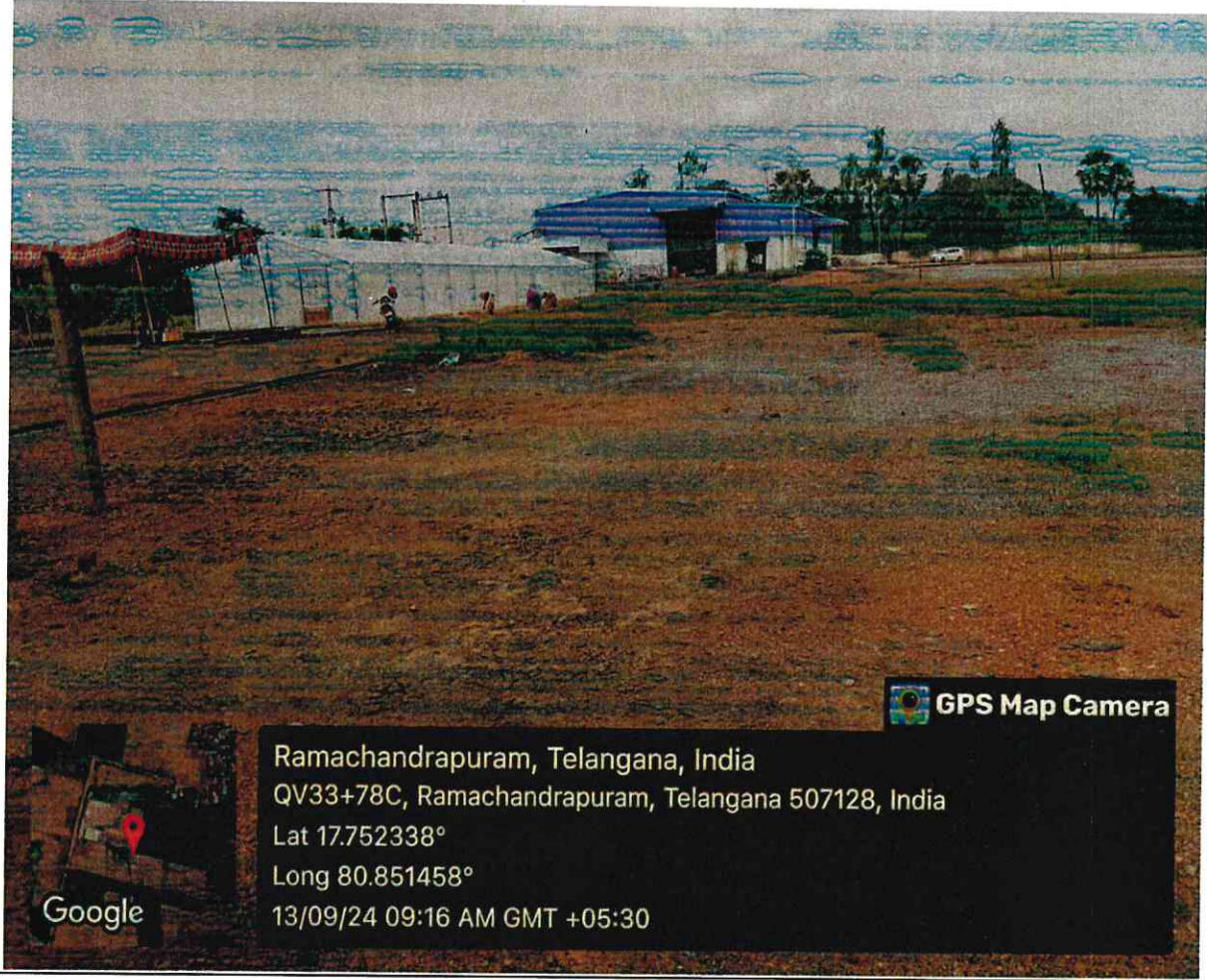
**Revenue Divisional Officer,
Bhadrachalam Revenue Division,
Bhadrachalam-Kothagudem District.
REVENUE DIVISIONAL OFFICER
BHADRACHALAM**

(12)

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ANNEXURE - II

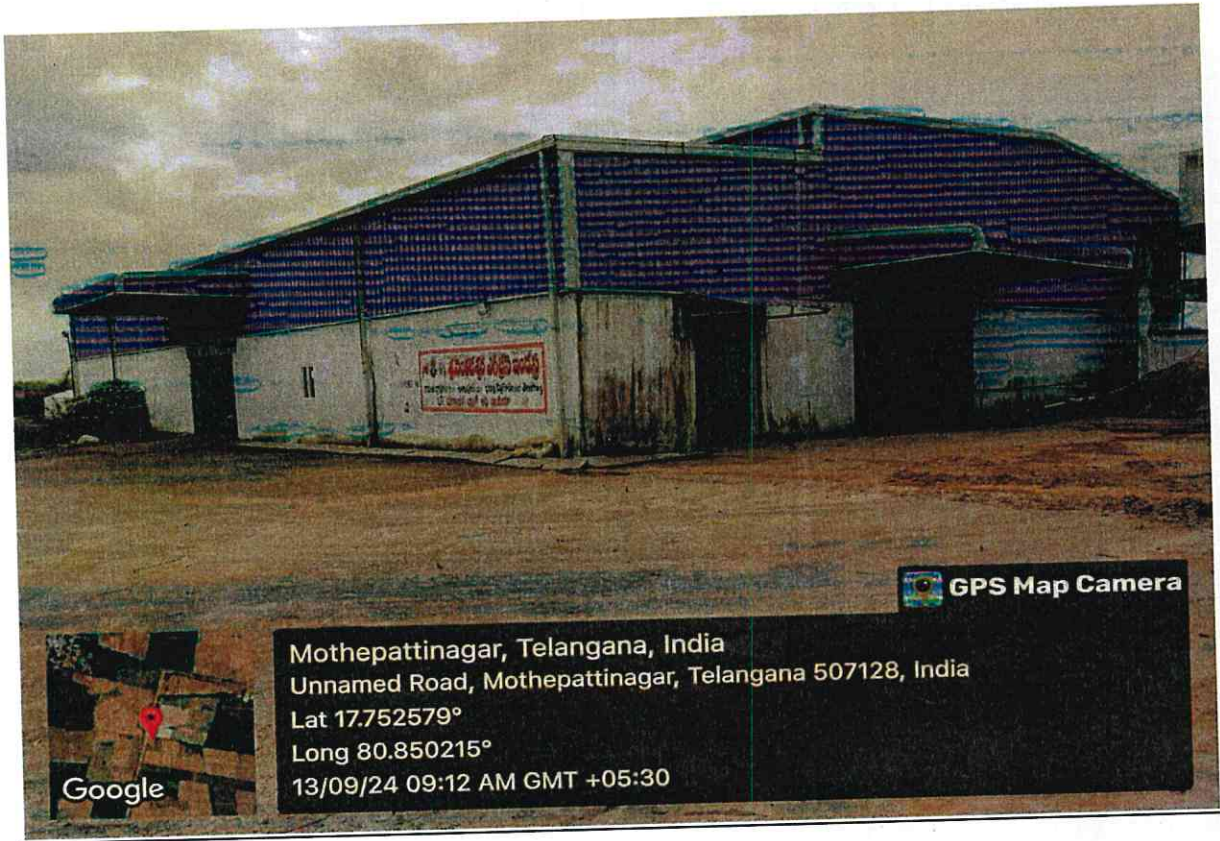
Closed shed and outside of the industry of M/s Sri Venkateswara Egg Tray Industry,
Ramachandrapuram (V), Aswapuram (M), Bhadradi Kothagudem District



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Manufacturing of Egg trays in Closed shed



Washings drained water routed to settling tank



Settling tanks



**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

(Through Video Conference)

Original Application No.178 of 2024(SZ)

[Earlier O.A. No.192 of 2024 (PB)]

IN THE MATTER OF:

Kaka Ashok
Telangana.

...Applicant(s)

With

Central Pollution Control Board
Through its Member Secretary
New Delhi and Ors.

...Respondent(s)



Date of hearing: 03.12.2024.

CORAM:

HON'BLE Smt. JUSTICE PUSHPA SATHYANARAYANA, JUDICIAL MEMBER

HON'BLE Dr. SATYAGOPAL KORLAPATI, EXPERT MEMBER

For Applicant(s): None.

For Respondent(s): Mr. D.S. Ekambaram for R1.
 Mr. T. Sai Krishnan for R2.
 Mrs. H. Yasmeen Ali for R3 & R4.

ORDER

1. The notice sent to the 5th Respondent through the Tribunal, who was Suo Motu impleaded on the last occasion i.e. on 18.09.2024, was only served on 02.12.2024. However, today there is no representation for them either through counsel or in person.

2. Post the matter on 18.02.2025.

Sd/-

Smt. Justice Pushpa Sathyanarayana, JM

Sd/-

Dr. Satyagopal Korlapati, EM

O.A. No.178/2024(SZ)
03rd December, 2024. Mn.

