

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

**Original Application No. 189 of 2025(SZ)
[Earlier O.A. No. 374 of 2025(PB)]**

Tribunal on its own motion **SUO MOTU**
Based on the News Item Published
in The Hindudated: 22.07.2025 titled,
"3 killed in fireworks unit
explosion In Tamil Nadu's
Sivakasi".

.....Applicant

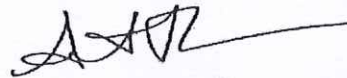
-Vs-

Central Pollution Control Board
and Others.

... Respondents

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

Advocate, Chennai.

Report submitted to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, SZ by the Second Respondent - TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD(TNPCB) in Original Application No. 189 of 2025 [Earlier O.A. No.374 of 2025(PB)] taken as a Suo Motu based on the news item published in The Hindudated: 22.07.2025 titled, "3 killed in fireworks unit explosion In Tamil Nadu's Sivakasi" against Central Pollution Control Board and Others.

As per the directions passed by the Hon'ble Tribunals, the Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, submits the report on behalf of the Second respondent – TNPCB, herein.

A. The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (Principal Bench), took suo motto cognizance of the News item published in The Hindu Newspaper dated: 22.07.2025 titled, "*3 killed in fireworks unit explosion in Tamil Nadu's Sivakasi*". The Hon'ble Tribunal has directed the respondents to file their report which the same has been transferred to the Hon'ble NGT, Southern Zone for further action. The Hon'ble NGT, SZ has renumbered the OA No.374 of 2025(PB) as OA No.189 of 2025 (SZ).

B. On 23.9.2025, the Hon'ble NGT, SZ has taken up the OA and directed the respondents to file their respective reports/replies. Based on the direction passed by the Hon'ble Tribunals and as reported by the DEE, TNPCB, Virudhunagar, the Second respondent submits the report herein.

C. Sivakasi, situated in Virudhunagar district, is well known for its firecracker industries. In Virudhunagar district, approximately 1,000 fireworks factories are functioning across various taluks. These industries are predominantly located in Sivakasi and Vembakottai Taluks. At present, 124 fireworks industries have obtained consent from the Board. These industries do not generate any

wastewater from their manufacturing activities. Further, no process emissions are discharged from these industries. Additionally, no hazardous solid waste is generated from the manufacturing process

D. Public interest litigation was filed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India against bursting of firecrackers as these causes health hazards. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its order dated: 23.10.2018 directed as follows:

- i. The crackers with reduced emission (improved crackers) and green crackers only would be permitted to be manufactured and sold.
- ii. PESO is directed to review the chemical composition of fireworks, particularly reducing Aluminum content, and shall submit its report in respect thereof within a period of two weeks from today.
- iii. PESO will ensure fireworks with permitted chemicals only to be purchased/possessed/sold/used during Diwali and all other religious festivals, of any religion whatsoever, and other occasions like marriages, etc. It shall test and check for the presence of banned chemicals like Lithium/ Arsenic/ Antimony/ Lead/ Mercury.
- iv. PESO will ensure suspension of the licenses of manufacturers of such fireworks items and appropriate disposal of such stock.
- v. On Diwali days or on any other festivals like Gurburab etc., when such fireworks generally take place, it would strictly be from 8.00 PM till 10.00 PM only. On Christmas Eve and New Year Eve, when such fireworks start around midnight 10.00 PM to 12.00 AM and from 11.55 PM till 12.30 AM respectively.
- vi. CPCB and respective State Pollution Control Boards/ Pollution Control Committees (SPCBs/PCCs) on the States and Union Territories shall carry out short-term monitoring in their cities for

14 days (commencing from 7 days prior to Diwali and ending 7 days after Diwali) for the parameters namely, Aluminum, Barium, Iron apart from the regulatory parameters against the short-term Ambient Air Quality Criteria Values (AAQCVs) proposed by CPCB with regard to bursting of firecrackers. This will help in generation of data on pollution caused by the bursting of firecrackers and would be helpful for regulation and control quantity of Aluminum, Barium and Iron used in the manufacture of firecrackers.

E. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its order dated: 26.11.2019 directed the fire crackers industries to manufacture Green fire crackers in accordance with the standards prescribed by the new compositions recommended by CSIR-NEERI and prescribed by Petroleum and Explosive Safety Association (PESO). Further, it is submitted that TNPCB had addressed the Fireworks Manufacturers' Associations vide letters dated 06.07.2020 and 19.11.2020, instructing their member units to apply for consent of the Board only after obtaining the product approval certificate from CSIR-NEERI for the manufacture of green crackers. Subsequently, meetings were conducted on, 13.07.2023 and 11.10.2023 along with Tamil Nadu Fireworks and Amorges Manufacturers Associations (TANFAMA) and The Indian Fireworks Manufacturers Association (TIFMA) and the fireworks units were insisted to apply for Consent of the Board.

F. During the meeting, representatives of the Association stated that, remitting of five term arrears consent fees will be burden for them, since their activity is tiny in nature. Also, they assured and ready to apply for consent of the Board and requested to permit them to remit the consent fees from the financial year 2023-2024 and one of the associations ie. TANFAMA in its letter dated: 22.02.2024 stated that the fireworks units are not generating any waste water,

fireworks industry is not classified in hazardous category and only in lower dangerous explosive category. As these industries are already governed by PESO, Factories Act Department and District Administration, the Association has represented TNPCB to exempt their the fire cracker manufacturing units from the purview of Environmental Acts since no trade effluent no process emission.

G. Frequent accidents are happening in firecracker industries due to explosion which leads to many casualties. Recently an explosion happened at M/s. Shree Mariyamman Fireworks Amorces Industries at Anuppangulam Village, Sivakasi Taluk and Virudhunagar District on 21.07.2025 which leads to 03 Numbers of casualties.

H. The unit of M/s. Shree Mariyamman Fireworks Amorces Industries is located in S.No.264/5D, 265/1, 2, 3A, 3B, 4430/1, 2, 438/1A,1B,2, & 440/1 &, Anuppankulam Village, Sivakasi Taluk and Virudhunagar District. The details of license issued to the unit is tabulated as below.

Details of unit and status of Licenses:

SI No.	Particulars	
1.	Name of the Unit	M/s. Shree Mariyamman Fireworks Amorces Industries at Anuppangulam Village, Sivakasi Taluk, Virudhunagar District.
2.	License Capacity	Amorces = 45.5 Kg Fireworks = 442.5 kg
3.	Man limit	The persons working in the manufacturing facilities are limited to 102 persons as approved by PESO
4.	Explosive magazine capacity	Amorces = 2000 Kg Fireworks = 30000kg

5.	Details of licenses obtained under ER 2008:			
A.	From Petroleum & Explosives Safety Organization (PESO), Nagpur : a. Firework Manufacturing license No.E/HQ/TN/20/829(E32097) dated: 27.03.2023, valid upto31.03.2028. Firework Magazine license No. E/HQ/TN/21/1335(E35719) dated: 06.04.2023 valid upto 31.03.2028.			
B.	Licenses granted by the District Administration : a. Arms Act license No (For Sulphur & Chlorate): %Krp 2718/2022 ehs; 24.01.2022 Valid till 31.12.2026.			
C.	License granted by the Directorate of Industrial Safety and Health Govt. of Tamil Nadu: VNR02220 dated 16.10.2023 for the period upto 31.12.2028.			
D.	The unit has holds Green crackers registration certificate vide No.NE/TN/497-01/2021.			
6.	Details of Authorized Persons/Owners/Partners of Factory :			
	Name	Age	Position	Address
	Mr.R.Seenivasan S/o.N.Ramasay	62	Partner	Door No: 1, Gomathi Nayagam Pillai Street, Thiruthangal Town-6 Virudhunagar -626130.
	Smt.S.Sulochana, W/o.R.Seenivasan	62	Partner	Door No: 1, Gomathi Nayagam Pillai Street, Thiruthangal Town-6 Virudhunagar -626130.
	Shri.S.Gobi, S/o R.Seenivasan	33	Partner	Door No: 1, Gomathi Nayagam Pillai Street, Thiruthangal Town-6 Virudhunagar -626130.
7.	<p>i. Foreman's certificate was issued to Mr.R.Selvakumar having certificate No.E/SS/TN/FM/3773 (E163018) as the competent person to supervise and monitor activities in the manufacturing premises. The certificate is valid upto01.04.2030.</p> <p>ii. Foreman's certificate was issued to Mr.S.Karthikeyan having certificate No.E/SS/TN/FM/3775 (E163017) as the competent person to supervise and monitor activities in the manufacturing premises. The certificate is valid upto01.04.2030.</p>			

I. The Petroleum & Explosives Safety Organization (PESO), Directorate of Industrial Safety and Health, Govt. of Tamil Nadu and Disaster Management Department are the major licensing authorities for fire crackers manufacturing unit. As per the Chemical Accidents (Emergency Planning, Response Preparedness and Response) Rules, 1996 complement the Manufacturer, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals Rules, 1989 (MSIHC) and provide much needed statutory backup for Crisis Management setup and organizational support. The Chemical Accidents (EPPR) Rules, 1996 envisage a Four-tier Crisis Management System in the country at the Central, State, District and Local levels. The Central Crisis Group is to be headed by the Secretary, Environment & Forests, the State Crisis Group by the Chief Secretary, the District and Local Crisis Groups by the District Collector and Sub-Divisional Magistrate respectively, where official of the Department of Industrial Safety and Health is the Member Secretary.

J. The unit of M/s. Shree Mariyamman Fireworks Amores Industries is located in S.No.264/5D, 265/1, 2, 3A, 3B, 4430/1, 2, 438/1A,1B,2, & 440/1 & Anuppankulam Village, Sivakasi Taluk and Virudhunagar District was inspected by TNPCB officials of O/o DEE, Virudhunagar on 20.08.2025 and reported that the unit was not in operation and due to accident, the District Revenue officer, Virudhunagar has issued temporary suspension letter to the unit on 21.07.2025.

This report is submitted to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (Southern Zone) in compliance of the directions passed by the Hon'ble Tribunal. The TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (TNPCB) will abide by all such directions, as the Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and appropriate.

Dated at Chennai, on this the 6th day of April, 2026.


 JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
 TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
 76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
 CHENNAI - 600 032.

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL
GREEN TRIBUNAL SZ AT CHENNAI**

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With

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...Respondents

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

Date of filing : 07.04.2026

Date of hearing : 06.04.2026



Thiru.S.Sai Sathya Jith,
Advocate for 2nd Respondent: TNPCB.

