

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

**Original Application No. 192 of 2025**  
[Earlier O.A. No.424 of 2025(PB)]

Tribunal on its own motion **SUO  
MOTU** based on the news items  
published in The New Indian Express  
dated 11.08.2025 titled "**Farmers urge  
to curb garbage dumping on forest  
boundaries at Chennaimalai in TN**"

.....Applicant

-Vs-

District Collector,  
Erode District and Others.

... Respondents

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

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

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**Report submitted to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, SZ by the Second Respondent - TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD(TNPCB) in Original Application No. 192 of 2025 [Earlier O.A. No.424 of 2025(PB)] taken as a Suo Motu based on the news item published in The New Indian Express dated 11.08.2025 titled "Farmers urge to curb garbage dumping on forest boundaries at Chennimalai in TN" against District Collector, Erode District 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. Based on the news items published in The New Indian Express dated 11.08.2025 titled as "**Farmers urge to curb garbage dumping on forest boundaries at Chennimalai in TN**" the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi, took Suo Motu and registered the matter as OA No. 424 of 2025 (PB). Then, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (PB), New Delhi has transferred to Southern Zone and directed the respondents to file their reply. The above OA No.424 of 2025 (PB) was renumbered as O.A. No.192 of 2025, SZ by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone, Chennai.

B. The news item relates to large quantities of garbage being dumped along the reserve forest boundaries at Chennimalai in Erode district, Tamil Nadu, causing environmental and wildlife threats. As per the article, a farmer from Pasuvapatti in Chennimalai, stated that the roads from Chennimalai to cities including Arachalur and Tiruppur pass through the reserve forest and individuals are dumping garbage at many points along these stretches. The dumping of garbage, particularly plastic waste, along the edges of the forest harms these

animals. Moreover, some individuals burn the waste, causing air pollution in the area.

C. Based on the Suo motu proceedings, the DEE, TNPCB, Erode addressed a letter dated 21.01.2025 to the Block Development Officer, Chennimalai Panchayat Union to immediately remove and clear all accumulated municipal solid waste and plastic waste dumped along the reserve forest boundaries and other identified vulnerable locations within the Chennimalai Block and dispose it in a scientific and environmentally sound manner. Then, the local body was further directed to ensure strict and continuous compliance with the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, including source segregation, regular collection, authorized transportation, and proper processing and scientific management of such wastes. In addition, preventive measures such as enhanced monitoring, installation of warning signage, coordination with the Forest Department and Village Panchayats, and initiation of public awareness programs are mandated to prevent recurrence of illegal dumping. Hence, the Block Development Officer was also instructed to furnish an action taken report in this regard to the DEE, Erode within a stipulated timeframe.

E. A joint inspection was conducted by the District Environmental Engineer & Assistant Engineer of TNPCB, Perundurai, Chennimalai Block Development Officer and Executive Officer of Chennimalai Town Panchayat on 20.01.2026 along Chennimalai Reserve Forest boundaries Chennimalai-Arachalur Road & Erode-Perundurai-Kangeyam Road and reported the following observations.

A. During the inspection along Erode-Perundurai-Kangeyam Road, it was observed that the Chennimalai Town Panchayat has cleared and removed the illegally dumped mixed municipal solid wastes along the roadside stretch. Tree saplings have been planted along the

roadside and awareness boards cautioning against waste dumping has been erected.

B. However, during inspection along the Chennimalai-Arachalur Road at Palayapalayam Village, Perundurai Taluk, Erode District, it was observed that large quantities of solid waste were dumped along the roadside illegally.

C. The dumped waste mainly comprised of mixed municipal solid wastes such as plastic carry bags, packaging materials, cloth pieces, paper waste and also construction debris including broken bricks and rubble.

D. At the time of inspection, cleaning and removal of the dumped waste was found carried out by sanitary workers.

E. The photographs taken during the inspection is enclosed as **Annexure - D.**

F. After joint inspection, DEE, TNPCB, Erode has issued instructions to the Block Development Officer, Chennimalai, and the Executive Officer, Chennimalai Town Panchayat to ensure sustained and strict compliance with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 including to strengthen source segregation, regular waste collection, authorized transportation and scientific processing and management of such wastes so as to prevent recurrence of illegal dumping. [Annexure - II]

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 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2026.

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



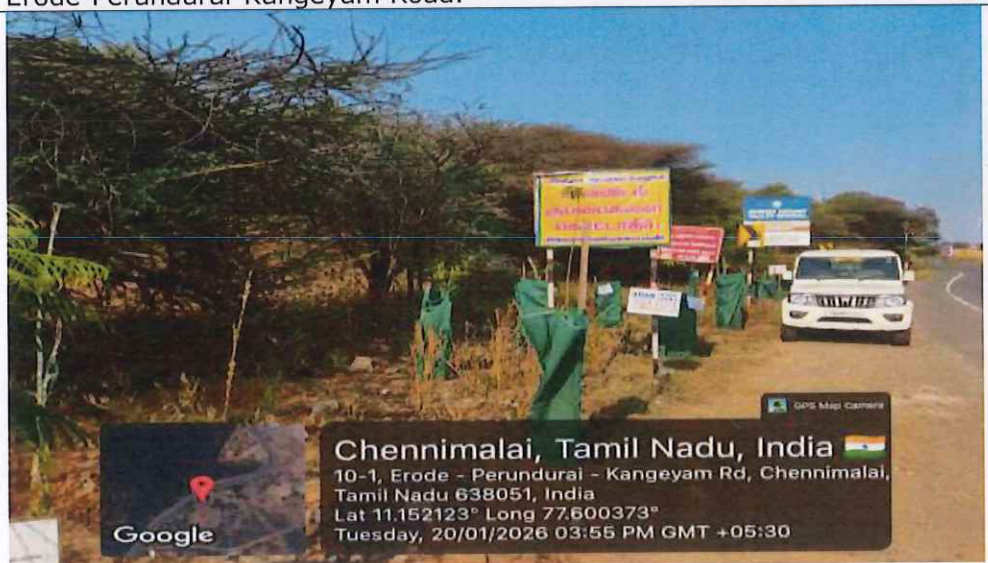
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
LIBRARY  
540 EAST 58TH STREET  
CHICAGO, ILL. 60637

HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL (SOUTHERN ZONE), CHENNAI  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 192 OF 2025 (SZ)

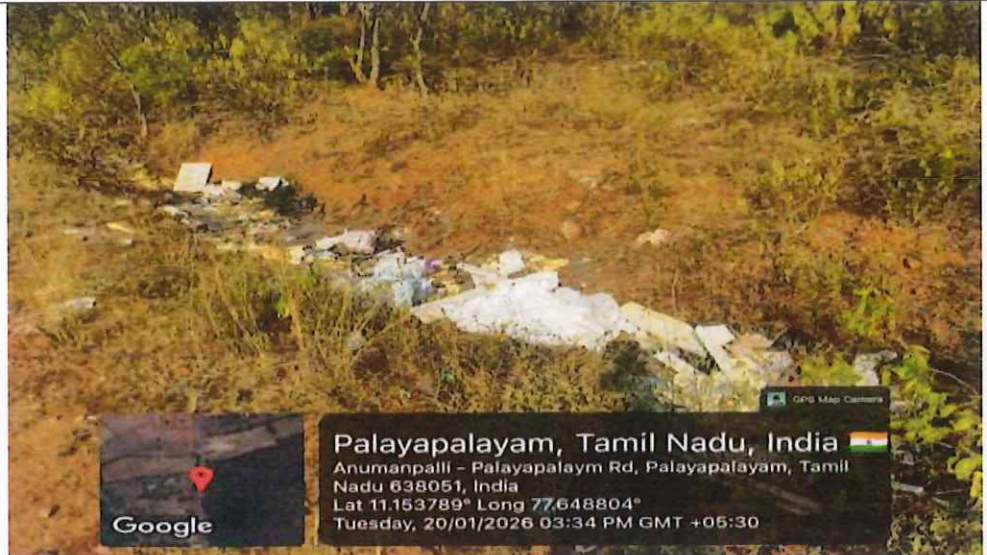
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN DURING INSPECTION OF CHENNIMALAI  
RESERVE FOREST BOUNDARIES ON 20.01.2026



The Chennimalai Town Panchayat has cleaned and removed the illegally open dumped mixed municipal solid wastes along the roadside stretch on Erode-Perundurai-Kangeyam Road.



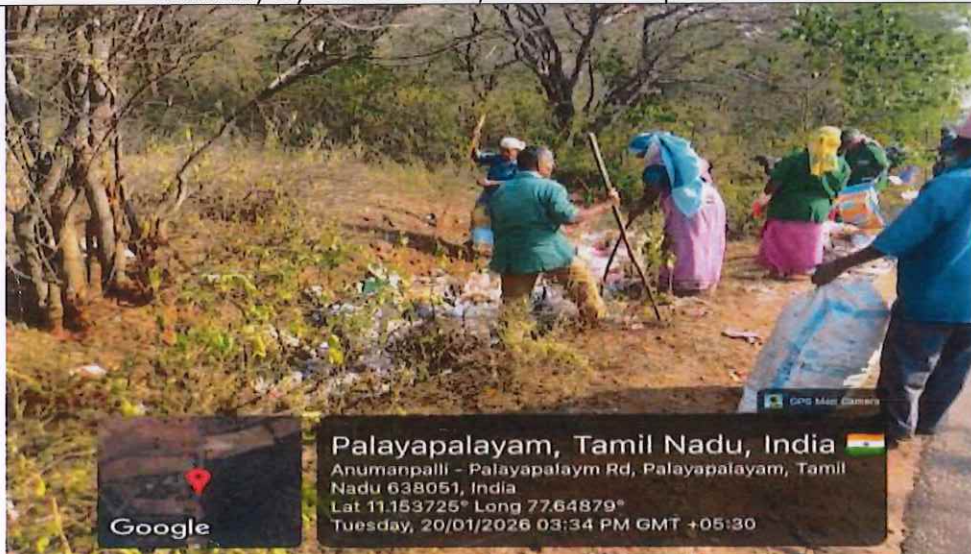
The Chennimalai Town Panchayat has planted the tree sapling along the roadside and erected the awareness board cautioning against waste dumping



Solid waste had been illegally dumped along the roadside on Chennimalai-Arachalur Road



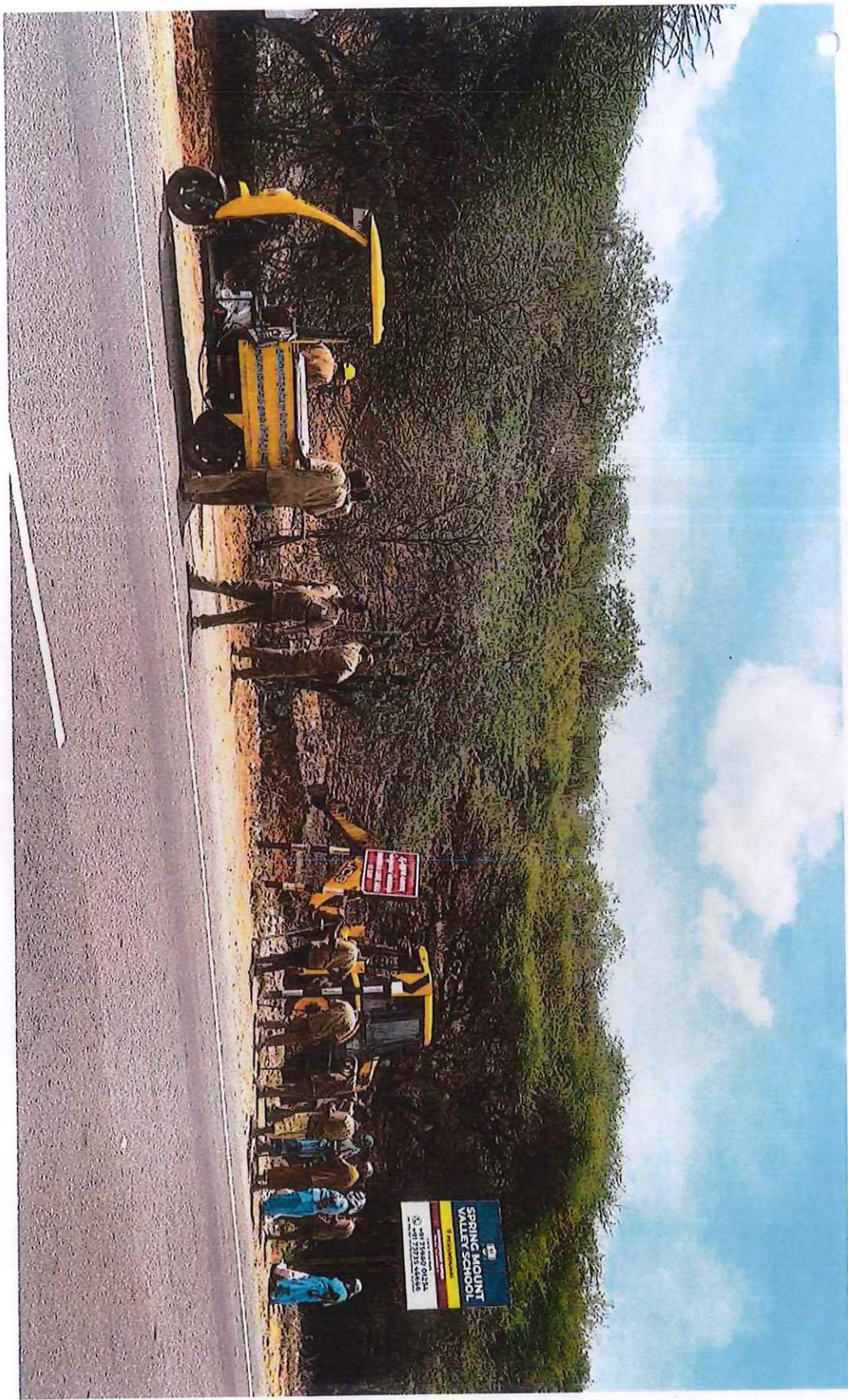
Cleaning and removal of the dumped waste was being carried out manually by Chennimalai, Block Development Officer



Cleaning and removal of the dumped waste was being carried out manually by Chennimalai, Block Development Officer

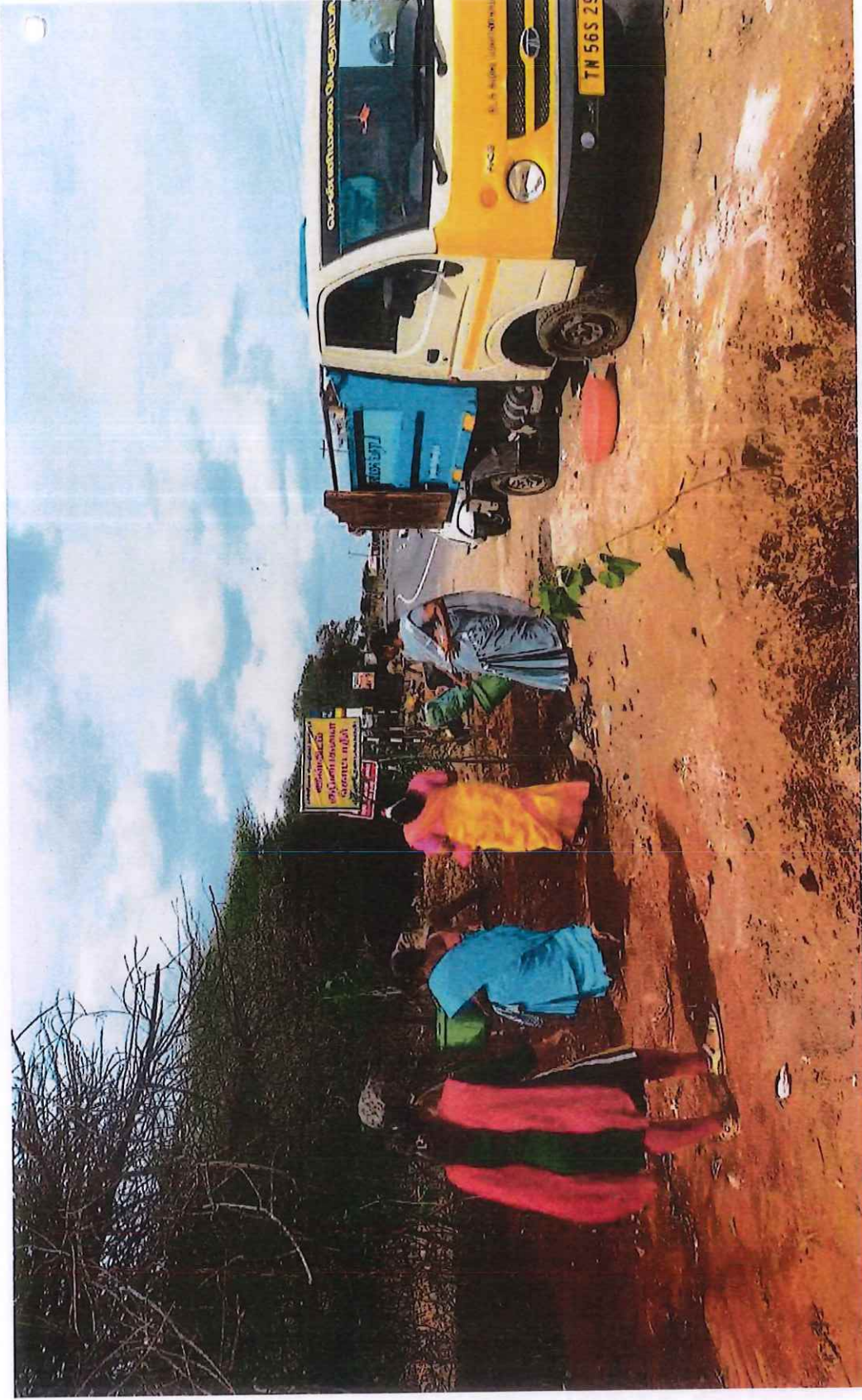


**Chennimalai - Kangayam Road area Special Grade Town Panchayat while Cleaning up the Garbage dumped in the Chennimalai - Erode District.**

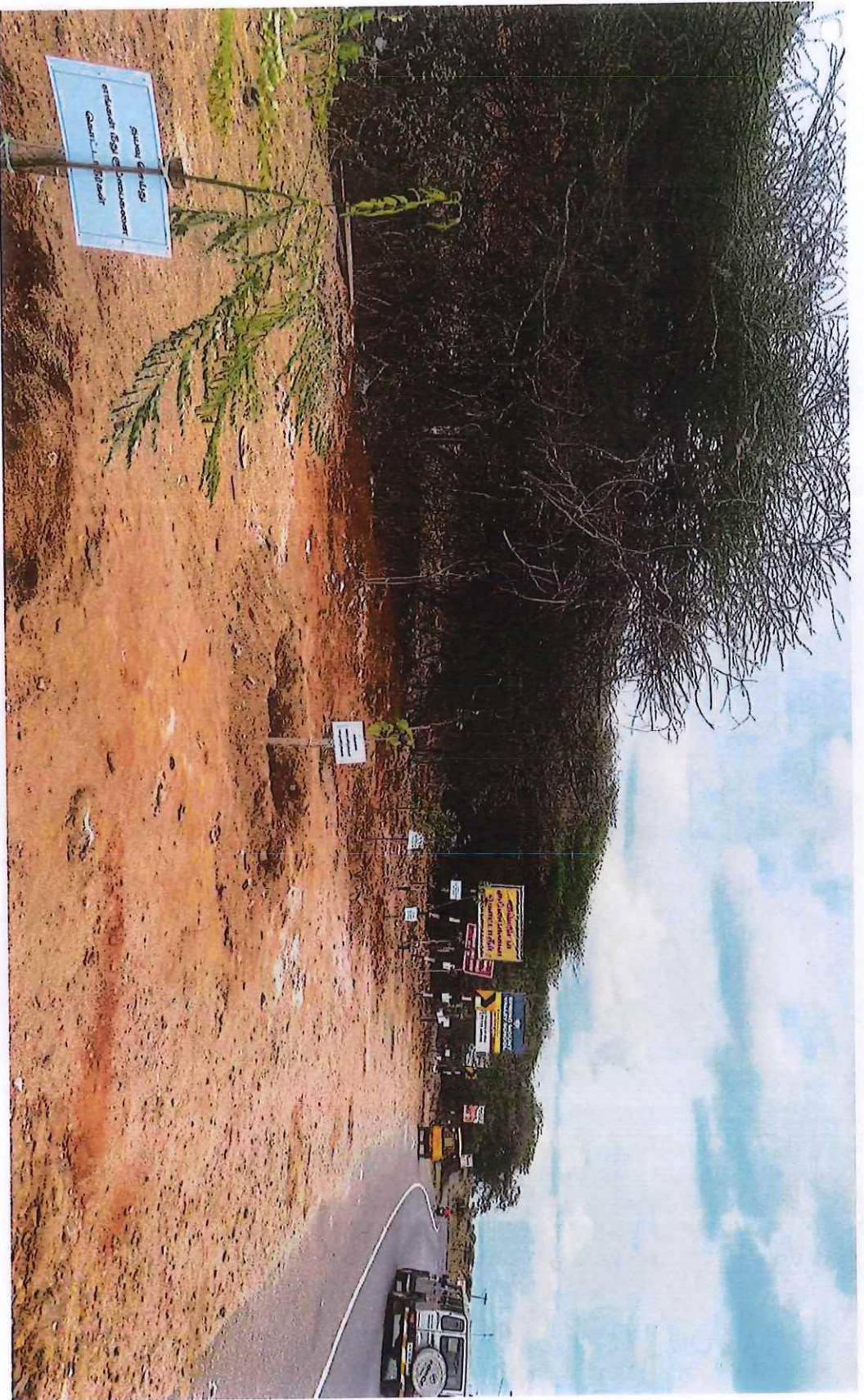


**Chennimalai - Kangayam Road area Special Grade Town Panchayat while  
Cleaning up the Garbage dumped in the Chennimalai - Erode District.**

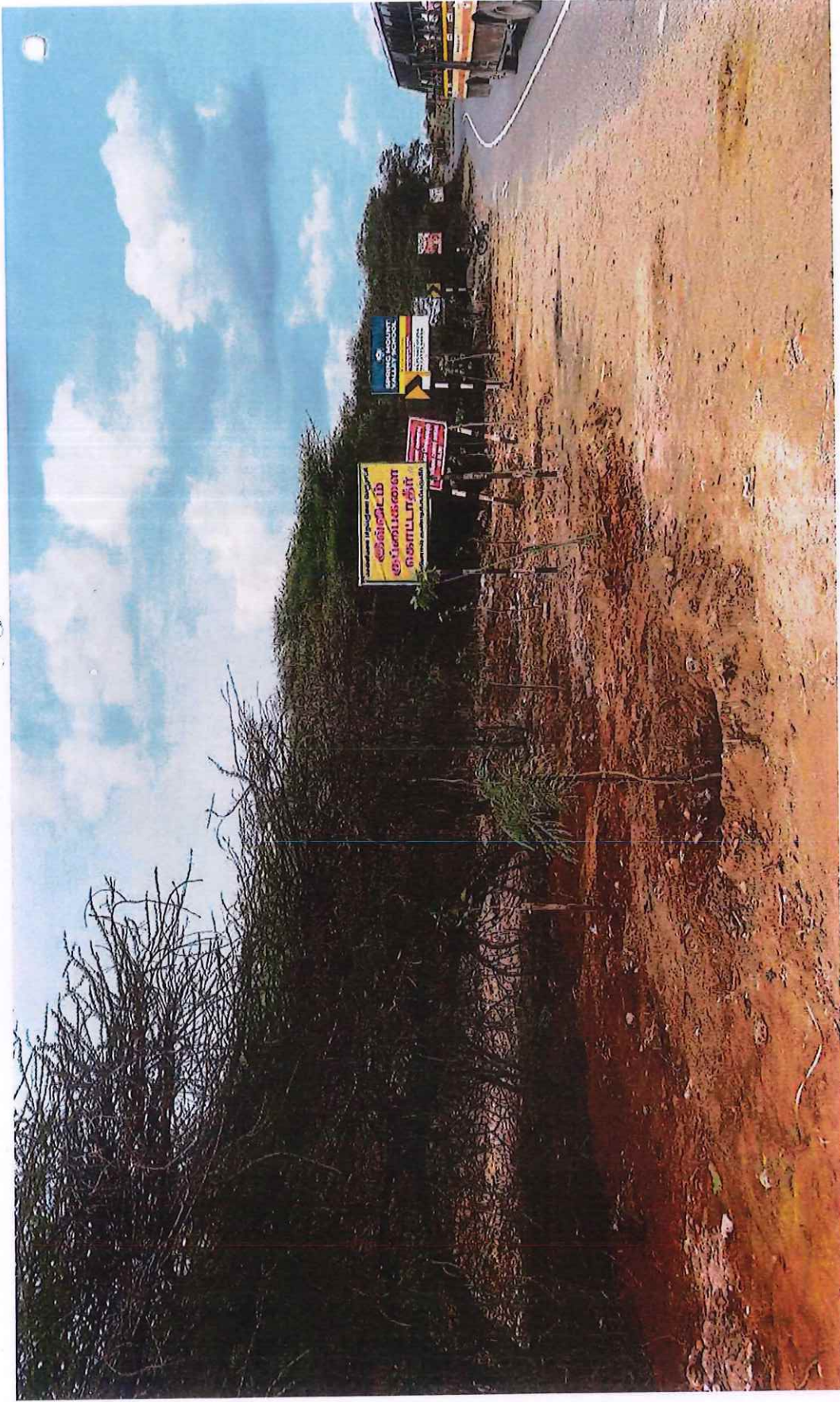
- 8 -



**Chennimalai - Kangayam Road area Special Grade Town Panchayat Garbage dumped was Cleaned and Saplings were planted Chennimalai - Erode District.**



**Chennimalai - Kangayam Road area Special Grade Town Panchayat Garbage dumped was Cleaned and Saplings were planted Chennimalai - Erode District.**



**Chennimalai - Kangayam Road area Special Grade Town Panchayat Garbage dumped was Cleaned and Saplings were planted Chennimalai - Erode District.**



Chennimalai, Tamil Nadu, India  
10-1, Erode - Perundurai - Kangayam Rd, Chennimalai,  
Tamil Nadu 638051, India  
Lat 11.152134° Long 77.60038°  
Monday, 19/01/2026 03:58 PM GMT +05:30

Chennimalai – Kangayam Road area Special Grade Town Panchayat  
Current status of Tree Sapling Maintenance, Garbage dumped in the  
Chennimalai – Erode District.



**TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

**From**

Er. C. Vanaja, M.E,  
District Environmental Engineer,  
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,  
Plot No: J 2 (W), Near SIPCOT arch  
Kovai Main Road, Olappalayam-PO,  
Perundurai,  
Erode District - 638 052.

**To**

The Block Development Officer  
(Panchayat union),  
Chennimalai,  
Perundurai Taluk,  
Erode District 638 051.

**Lr. No. DEE/TNPCB/PND/NGT Case/OA No: 192 of 2025/2026, Dated: 21.01.2026**

**Sir,**

**Sub:** O/o. DEE, TNPCB, Perundurai - Improper dumping of municipal solid waste and plastic waste along forest boundaries at Chennimalai - News report in The New Indian Express - Suo motu proceedings initiated by Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone, Chennai in OA No: 192 of 2025 on 21.08.2025 - Certain Instructions issued for immediate removal and compliance with Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 - Reg.

- Ref:**
1. News item titled "Farmers urge to curb garbage dumping on forest boundaries at Chennimalai in TN" published in The New Indian Express Dated: 11.08.2025
  2. Suo Motu Case by the Hon'ble NGT Southern Zone, Chennai in OA No: 192 of 2025 on 21.08.2025
  3. Lr. No. DEE/TNPCB/PND/NGT Case/OA No: 192 of 2025/2025, Dated: 19.12.2025
  4. Inspection by TNPCB officials on 20.01.2026

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With reference to the 1<sup>st</sup> cited, it is informed that a news article published in The New Indian Express dated 11.08.2025 has reported large-scale dumping of garbage, including plastic waste, along the reserve forest boundaries in and around Chennimalai, raising serious environmental and public health concerns. Based on the said news report, the Hon'ble NGT Principal Bench, New Delhi has taken Suo Motu cognizance of the matter and registered in OA No: 424 of 2025 (PB). Subsequently, in the reference 2<sup>nd</sup> cited, the matter was transferred to Hon'ble NGT (Southern Zone), Chennai and renumbered as OA. No: 192 of 2025 (SZ) in which the District Collector, Erode, Member Secretary, TNPCB and BDO (Block Panchayat), Chennimalai Panchayat Union Office have been arrayed as respondents.

In the reference 3<sup>rd</sup> cited above, this office issued a instructions to the Block Development Officer, Chennimalai Panchayat Union to immediately remove and clear all accumulated municipal solid waste and plastic waste dumped along the reserve forest boundaries and other identified vulnerable locations within the Chennimalai Block in a scientific and environmentally sound manner and further directed to ensure strict and continuous compliance with the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, including source segregation, regular collection, authorized transportation, and proper processing and disposal of waste.

Subsequently, the Chennimalai Reserve Forest boundaries areas at Chennimalai-Arachalur Road was jointly inspected by the District Environmental Engineer & Assistant Engineer, TNPCB, Perundurai, and Chennimalai, Block Development Officer on 20.01.2026. During inspection, the following were observed.

1. During inspection along the Chennimalai-Arachalur Road at Palayapalayam Village, Perundurai Taluk, Erode District, it was observed that large quantities of solid waste had been illegally dumped along the roadside.
2. The dumped waste mainly comprised mixed municipal solid waste such as plastic carry bags, packaging materials, cloth pieces, paper waste and also construction debris including broken bricks and rubble.
3. At the time of inspection, cleaning and removal of the dumped waste was being carried out by sanitary workers.

In view of the above, it is instructed to comply the following to prevent recurrence of illegal dumping:

1. Immediately remove and clear all accumulated municipal solid waste and plastic waste dumped along the forest boundaries and other vulnerable locations within Chennimalai Block in a scientific and environmentally sound manner.
2. Ensure strict and continuous compliance with Rule 15 of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, including source segregation, regular collection, and authorized disposal of municipal solid waste
3. Enforce Rule 4 and Rule 6 of the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, by preventing plastic littering and dumping, ensuring collection and channelization of plastic waste, and taking action against violators.

4. Put in place preventive mechanisms, including surveillance, warning signboards, coordination with the Forest Department and Village Panchayats, and regular monitoring to avoid recurrence of illegal dumping.
5. Initiate awareness programmes among the public to discourage illegal dumping, especially near forest areas and water bodies.

An action taken report with photographic evidence (before and after clearance) shall be furnished to this office at the earliest..

The receipt of this letter shall be acknowledged.

*21-01-2026*  
**District Environmental Engineer,  
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,  
Perundurai.**

*09/1/2026*

**Copy submitted to:**

1. The Member Secretary, TNPCB Chennai - For favour of kind information please
2. The District Collector, Erode - For favour of kind information please.





## TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

**From**

Er. C. Vanaja, M.E,  
District Environmental Engineer,  
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,  
Plot No: J 2 (W), Near SIPCOT arch  
Kovai Main Road, Olappalayam-PO,  
Perundurai,  
Erode District - 638 052.

**To**

The Executive Officer,  
Chennimalai, Town Panchayat,  
56/3, Appai Chetty Street,  
Chennimalai,  
Perundurai Taluk,  
Erode District - 638 051.

**Lr. No. DEE/TNPCB/PND/NGT Case/OA No: 192 of 2025/2026, Dated: 21.01.2026**

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Engineer & Assistant Engineer, TNPCB, Perundurai, and Executive Officer, Chennimalai Town Panchayat on 20.01.2026. During inspection, the following were observed.

1. During the inspection along Erode-Perundurai-Kangeyam Road, it was observed that, the Chennimalai Town Panchayat has cleaned and removed the illegally dumped mixed municipal solid wastes along the roadside stretch. Tree saplings had been planted along the roadside, and awareness boards cautioning against waste dumping had been erected.
2. However, large quantity of mixed large quantities of municipal solid waste, including plastics, paper, and organic waste, have been dumped indiscriminately at multiple locations on the other side along this route.

In this regard, it is reiterated that, as per the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, the local bodies are mandated to ensure proper collection, segregation, storage, transportation, processing, and scientific disposal of municipal solid waste and plastic waste, and to strictly prevent open dumping and littering, particularly in environmentally sensitive areas such as forest boundaries.

It is pertinent to remind that the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, clearly lay down comprehensive duties for local bodies. As per Rule 15, local authorities are duty-bound to ensure door-to-door collection, scientific segregation, storage, transportation, processing, and disposal of municipal solid waste in a scientific manner and to prevent open burning or dumping of waste on streets, open spaces, or water bodies. Further, the rules make it mandatory to avoid littering and call for proper management and disposal of solid waste for protection of community health and the environment.

Further, as per Rule 4 and Rule 6 of the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, it is the responsibility of the local body to ensure proper management of plastic waste, prevent littering and open dumping, facilitate collection and channelization of plastic waste to authorized recyclers/processors, and enforce compliance within its jurisdiction.

In view of the above, and in compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, you are hereby instructed to comply the following to prevent recurrence of illegal dumping:

1. Immediately remove and clear all accumulated municipal solid waste and plastic waste dumped along the forest boundaries and other vulnerable



The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry should be supported by a valid receipt or invoice. This ensures transparency and allows for easy verification of the data.

Furthermore, it is noted that the records should be kept in a secure and accessible format. Regular backups are recommended to prevent data loss in the event of a system failure or disaster.

In addition, the document highlights the need for consistent data entry. Standardized formats and codes should be used throughout the system to avoid confusion and errors. This consistency is crucial for generating accurate reports and analytics.

The second part of the document provides a detailed overview of the system's architecture. It describes the various components, including the database, the application layer, and the user interface. Each component is explained in terms of its function and how it interacts with the others.

The database is designed to store all transactional data efficiently. The application layer handles the logic and processing of the data, while the user interface provides a user-friendly way to interact with the system.

The system is built using modern technologies to ensure scalability and performance. It is designed to handle a large volume of transactions and can be easily expanded to accommodate future growth.

Security is a top priority in the system's design. Robust authentication and authorization mechanisms are in place to protect sensitive data from unauthorized access. Regular security audits are conducted to identify and address any vulnerabilities.

Finally, the document concludes by stating that the system is designed to be flexible and adaptable. It can be customized to meet the specific needs of different organizations and industries.

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN  
TRIBUNAL, SZ AT CHENNAI  
OA No.192 of 2025

Tribunal on its own  
motion **SUO MOTU**  
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Chennai in TN"**

*With*

District Collector,  
Erode District and Others. ...Respondents

**Report filed on behalf of the Second  
Respondent – Tamil Nadu Pollution Control  
Board.**

Date of filing : 01.04.2026

Date of hearing : 08.04.2026

Thiru.S.Sai Sathya Jith,  
Advocate for 2<sup>nd</sup> Respondent: TNPCB

