

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

**Original Application No. 197 of 2024
[Earlier O.A. No. 549 of 2024(PB)]**

Suo Motu in respect of news item appearing
in The Times of India dated 07.04.2024
titled "ECR backwaters turn dump yard".

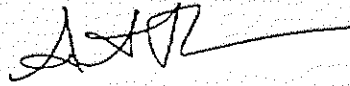
And

Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
Through its Member Secretary,
Chennai and ors.

...Respondents

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

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

I, K.Nalini, Daughter of Thiru.K.Krishnasamy, aged about 59 years, having office at No.76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai 600 032, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

I 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 first respondent and as such I am well acquainted with the facts of the case from the records available at our office.

2. It is respectfully submitted that the Hon'ble NGT (PB) has initiated a Suo Motu proceeding in O.A. No.549 of 2024 based on the News published in the "Times of India" dated 07.04.2024 titled: " ECR backwaters turn dump yard" in the matter of dumping and burning of excess municipal solid waste near Muttukadu backwaters in Chennai. On 17.5.2024, the Hon'ble Tribunal has impleaded the following respondents

- i. Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, through its Member Secretary,
- ii. Central Pollution Control Board, through its Member Secretary,
- iii. The Collector/District Magistrate, Chennai.

K. Nalini
JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
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and transferred the OA No.549 of 2024 (PB) to NGT, (SZ), Chennai with the direction to file the report by the respondents before the appropriate bench of the Tribunal atleast one week before the next date of hearing.

3. It is respectfully submitted that the O.A No.549 of 2024 (PB) was renumbered as Original Application No.197 of 2024 by the Hon'ble NGT, (SZ), Chennai. On 01.08.2024 the Hon'ble Tribunal directed the authorities to file their report.

4. It is submitted that as per the directions of the Hon'ble Tribunal, the 1st respondent submits its report herein.

5. It is respectfully submitted that the alleged area was inspected by TNPCB officials along with the Block Development Officer, Thiruporur Panchayat Union on 30th and 31st of May 2024, as well as on 12th October 2024, revealed violations related to sewage disposal and solid waste management in the Buckingham Canal area. The following key findings and recommendations were submitted by the District Environmental Engineer, Maraimalainagar, in his letter dated 31st May 2024. Tanker lorries were illegally discharging raw sewage into the Buckingham Canal. This discharge happens regularly at the GPS location 12.819467, 80.235423. The tanker lorries involved were:

- TN 14 AC 3549
- TN 20 BY 5650
- TN 07 BY 4020
- TN 40 B 7268
- TN 30 Y 4569
- TN 18 P 5737

6. It is respectfully submitted that based on inspection report, the Board has issued the following directions under Section 33A of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 as amended to the Commissioner, Commissionerate of Transport and Road Safety, Chennai vide Board's Proc. No. T3/TNPCB/F.05958/Complaint/Sewage/2024, dated 23.09.2024.

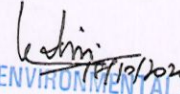
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 JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
 TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
 No.76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
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- i. To direct the concerned Regional Transport Officers to cancel the registration certificate of the tanker lorries with the following register number (i) TN 14 AC 3549 (ii) TN 20 BY 5650, (iii) TN 07 BY 4020, (iv) TN 40 B 7268, (v) TN 30 Y 4569 & (vi) TN 18 P 5737 as per the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 as amended for discharging raw sewage collected from the nearby habitations into Buckingham Canal and the vehicles shall be kept under the custody of Block Development Officer, Thiruporur Panchayat Union.
- ii. To give wide publicity about the cancellation of the Registration certificate of the tanker lorries in the daily newspapers through concerned RTOs so as to curtail the illegal disposal of Sewage by the tanker lorries in the future.

1. Solid waste from the Muttukadu, Padur, and Navallur Panchayats (amounting to 10-15 tons per day) is being dumped along the bund of the Kazhipattur Buckingham Canal, at the same GPS location mentioned earlier. This area falls under Thiruporur Panchayat Union, Chengalpattu District.
2. Approximately 300 tons of unprocessed solid waste have accumulated at the site behind M/s Valeth Hitech Composites (P) Ltd near the Buckingham Canal. Recently, a fire broke out in this area, and fire vehicles were deployed to extinguish it. While it is reported that the waste is transferred to the Kolathur Panchayat for treatment daily, this accumulation poses significant environmental hazards.

7. It is respectfully submitted that in view of the fire break in that area, an Ambient Air Quality survey was conducted on 31st May 2024 by the Board's laboratory at four locations near Thiruporur Block. The survey measured various air quality parameters, including PM10, PM2.5, SO₂, NO₂, and Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOC). The results are as follows:


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S. No.	Location	PM ₁₀ µg/m ³	PM _{2.5} µg/m ³	SO ₂ µg/m ³	NO ₂ µg/m ³	TVOC µg/m ³
NAAQ Standards		100	60	80	80	5
01	Ramaniyam Apartment	81.20	27.31	14	60	3.594
02	Kidzee School	51.81	-	23	45	1.019
03	Outside M/s Valeth Hitech Composites (P) Ltd	40.76	90-	19	32	0.815
04	Samathuva Nagar	29.30	-	10	14	0.512

and RoA reveals that all the measured parameters are within the standards prescribed by the Board indicating that the air quality in the surveyed locations is currently compliant with the regulatory limits.

i. Solid waste collected from various village panchayats within the Thiruporur Panchayat Union is dumped on the banks of the Buckingham Canal without being segregated, violating the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

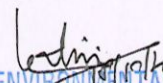
ii. The unsegregated solid waste is frequently transported to Kolathur Village, Kattankulathur Block, for processing. However, this practice does not follow proper waste management protocols.

iii. It is evident that the village Panchayats within the Thiruporur Panchayat Union have failed to implement the mandatory measures for segregation, collection, transportation, storage, processing, and disposal of municipal solid waste as required by the Solid Waste Management Rules of 2016.

8. It is respectfully submitted that as there seems to be practice of frequent dumping of Solid Waste, District Environmental Engineer vide his report dated 13.10.2024 has recommended to the TNPCB Board to issue direction to the Block Development Officer, Tiruporur Panchayat Union for the following non-compliances

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- i. *The Block Development Officer, Tiruporur Panchayat Union shall ensure that no discharge of untreated sewage into the Buckingham Canal and take all initiatives steps to provide Underground Sewerage Scheme within their respective area of jurisdiction to collect the sewage generated and transmit the same to the Sewage Treatment Plants and treat the same before it is discharged into the water bodies after achieving the standards prescribed by the Board and to deploy Security Guards, Crush barrier, Compound wall with (temporary sheets) to be avoid decanting of untreated sewage by the sewage loaded tanker lorries in the Buckingham Canal and to remove the garbage near Buckingham Canal in the said location.*
- ii. *The Block Development Officer, Tiruporur Panchayat Union shall take necessary steps to stop the dumping and burning of unsegregated municipal solid waste along the bank of the Buckingham Canal.*
- iii. *The Block Development Officer, Tiruporur Panchayat Union shall stop the dumping and burning of unsegregated municipal solid waste and shall ensure 100% collection of Solid Waste being generated within its jurisdiction with proper segregation, door to door collection, processing and disposal by complying with the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.*
- iv. *The Block Development Officer, Tiruporur Panchayat Union shall create awareness regarding the source segregation of the solid wastes and to encourage the public to deposit only segregated wastes and shall deploy sanitary supervisors to conduct various demonstrations regarding the segregation of the solid wastes and to demonstrate the home composting process to the residents in all the residential areas in its jurisdiction.*


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9. It is respectfully submitted that recommendations made by the DEE Maraimalai Nagar regarding the issue of directions to the concerned local body for the proper segregation, collection, transportation, storage, processing, and disposal of solid waste is are currently under process at the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) and for levying Environmental Compensation of Rs.75 lakhs (Seventy five Lakhs) under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act 1986, to the Block Development Officer, Thiruporur Panchayat Union, Chengalpattu District for not properly carrying out the implementation of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 & not adhering to the direction of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ), Chennai in its order dated.25.08.2022 in the matter of O.A.No.231 of 2020 (SZ).

Therefore, it is prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to pass an orders or further other orders as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and necessary in the circumstances of the case and thus render justice.

K. Nalini
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 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.Krishnasamy, Working as Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, TNPCB, 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.

K. Nalini
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 JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
 TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
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NADU POLLUTION CONTROL
BOARD.**

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

Date: 21.10.2024

Date of hearing on:10.12.2024

