

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
(SOUTHERN ZONE)**

OA. No. 243 of 2025.

Gudiyatham Thangam Nagar Residents
Welfare Association
Rep by the President
Mr.Dura Venkatesan

..... Applicant

-Vs-

The District Collector,
Vellore District

and others ... Respondents

TYPED SET OF PAPERS

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Certified that the Contents of the typed set are true copies of their originals

Dated at Chennai on this 30th day of march 2026


Counsel for 5th Respondent

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

Original Application No. 243 of 2025 (SZ)

IN THE MATTER OF:

Gudiyatham Thangam Nagar Residents
Welfare Association,
Rep by its President,
Mr. Durai Venkatesan,
151B, Main Road, Thangam Nagar,
Gudiyatham,

.... Applicant

-Vs-

1.The District Collector,
Vellore District,

2.The District Environmental Engineer,
Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board,
Vellore District- 632 006.

3.The Revenue Divisional Officer,
Gudiyatham, Vellore District- 632 602.

4.The Tahsildar,
Gudiyatham, Vellore District- 632 602

5 The Commissioner,
Gudiyatham Municipality,
Gudiyatham Taluk,
Vellore District- 632 602

... Respondents

REPORT FILED BY THE 5th RESPONDENT

I, K.M. Dhanalakshmi, daughter of K.Mani, Hindu aged about 48 years, Working as Commissioner, Gudiyattam Municipality, Gudiyattam, Vellore District- 632 602, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:-


COMMISSIONER
Gudiyattam Municipality

1. I am the Commissioner of the Gudiyattam Municipality,, the 5th respondent herein and well conversant with the facts set out hereunder from the connected files.

2. It is submitted that I have perused the Original Application of the Applicant and I am filing the present report in response to the same.

3. The Gudiyattam Municipality is comprised of 36 wards with a total population of 98332. The said Municipal town is of the extent of 4.92 square kilometers.

4. The Municipality is carrying out the various statutory duties vested with it including the clearance of the Solid Wastes in the Munnicipal Area. Pursuant to the permission granted by the State Government following the model followed in various Municipali areas, the Solid wastes of the town are segregated into wet wastes and dry wastes and the wet wastes are put into the process of Micro Composting in the Micro Compost centre situated in the Commissioners Quarters premises of the Municipality and processed into fertilizers for the past more than 6 years in the same premises in S. No 669/1, Ward 5, Block 9, Gudiyattam Town.

5. From the fact that the said MCC has been functioning without any complaint from the public shows that the operation of the same is completely beneficial and without any adverse effect on the surroundings.

6. The Applicant is not a resident of the Gudiyattam Town and the said Thangam Nagar is situated in the adjacent Thazhayatham Panchayat. The nearest habitation from the Commissioners Quarters premises is about 150 Meters. The said area is designated as a Mixed Residential area. In the same compound as the Commissioners Quarters, Shelters for homeless and also there is a Child Welfare centre under the ICDS Scheme. it is in operation without any adverse report or effect on the beneficiaries. The vary operation of the MCC for all these years has


COMMISSIONER,
Gudiyattam Municipality

resulted in the processing of the wet wastes without any adverse impact on the environment. The capacity of the MCC is 4 Tons Per day. It does not require any separate consent as it is within the threshold of 5 TPD for Municipal Solid wastes processing centers.

7. As on date an average of 28.44 Tons of solid wastes are being collected and of this 12 to 13 tons is wet wastes. There are two MCCs of 4 TPD capacity apart from 9 onsite composting centers of 500 Kgs capacity throughout the town. At present the rest of the wastes which is dry wastes and e-wastes are separately handled and recycled for various uses. There is no accumulation of the wastes in any part of the town except for the time taken for the transit of the wastes after processing.

8. In the site of the Commissioners Quarters, there is sufficient space for construction of Solid wastes handling and processing facilities and the Director of Municipal Administration in his proceedings dated 22-07-2024 has given the Administrative Sanction for the construction of the Bio-methanation plant in various across the state and the Respondent is also one of the Municipalities. The Bio-methanation plant at a cost of Rs 1.70 Crores has been sanctioned under the 15th Finance Commission Tied Grant for the establishment of the Bio-methanation plant for processing the wet wastes into electrical energy.

9. Accordingly the Tender for the said work was published in the Dailies and online method on 21-08-2024 and the Tender process was held under the Transparency in Tenders Act and the work order was issued after competitive bidding to M/s Goodcare Enviro Systems P Ltd on 21-11-2024. As per the project, the Bio-methanation plant will use the wet wastes from the daily collection to produce combustible Gas and the same will be converted into Electrical energy by means of a 30 KVA Genset running on the Gas produced in the bio-methanation plant. This energy will


COMMISSIONER,
Gudiyattam Municipali.

be used in the street lighting in the area on a regular basis. It will result in the proper handling of the solid wastes and recover the same for beneficial use.

10. Even as per the statement of the Applicant, the operation of the MCC has been un-noticed by them only due to the fact that the same is not causing any inconvenience to the surrounding residents. Further since the area is classified as a Mixed Residential Zone, such Waste plants are permissible under the Master Plan.

11. The objections of the applicant are all after thoughts and there are no inconveniences to the applicant or any of the residents. In fact there are no residents very near the Commissioners Quarters premises and the nearest habitation is at a distance of 150 meters.

12. For the establishment of the Bio-methanation plant with the generator, the application for consent to establish has been submitted to the TNPCB on 21-01-2026. Pursuant to the same inspections have been carried out by the second respondents and the application is under process. The project will be completed only on getting the consent of the TNPCB under the relevant regulations.

13. As on date, the MCC is functioning to its full capacity and in regard to the biomethanation plant, the consent to establish will be obtained shortly. As the establishment of the Bio-methanation plant is under process, the actual installation of the components after the civil work is now pending. As on date 70% of the work is completed and the balance work that will result in the completion of the bio-methanation and waste to energy plant will be carried forward after getting the consent of the TNPCB.

14. There is no chance of any inconvenience to the surrounding area as the entire wastes will safely handled, processed and disposed off. Already the MCC has been operational for more than 5 years without any

complaint and the fertilisers that are produced has been distributed to the farmers in the surrounding villages for all these years and the agriculturists have benefitted from the same.

15. The various grounds of objections raised by the applicant are not germane and are not correct. The operation of the MCC and the proposed Bio-methanation plant will only reduce the impact of the urban wastes in the area and the wastes will be properly disposed after recovering the maximum from the same. The operation of the MCC has been going on for the past more than 5 years without any complaint.

16. Only due to the lack of understanding regarding the bio-methanation plant, the application has been filed. The system of producing gas from the bio-degradable wastes is in vogue for several decades and the small plants are in operation even private establishments and houses over various places and the gas so produced is used as fuel in individual houses for cooking which is popularly referred to as 'GOBAR Gas'. Such plants are in operation in innumerable agricultural areas itself using cow-dung.

17. The present project is of similar system in a much advanced design with complete safeguards for proper processing of wet wastes and converting the same into combustible gas. The 30 KVA genset that is to be operated from the said Bio-methanation plant is more less a similar machine that is in operation in slightly larger households or apartment buildings in the various places as an electrical Generator. The operation of such electrical generator even in dense urban environments is common and there is no pollution from such operations. As per the requirements of the tender and work order, the suitable generator with safeguards is to be installed and the same will also follow the norms laid down by the TNPCB


COMMISSIONER,
Gudiyattam Municipality

with regard to the emissions. Therefore there is no chance of pollution of the nearby area.

18. The respondent herein has replied to the representation of the applicant that was received. The applicant has been informed of the work that is being carried out. In fact the Respondent herein has published the details of the work that are being carried out by installing a board detailing the work and the nature of the project. The applicant can very well know the details of the work being undertaken. The allegation of the applicant that they came to know of the work only when the compound wall collapsed is an imaginary statement.


19. As per the Tamil Nadu Combined Development and Building Rules, 2019, the requirement is that habitations should not be allowed within a distance of 30 Meters from the Solid Waste Dumping yards. On the other hand, the present facility is not a dumping yard and is only a processing center for solid wastes and there will not be any dumping of wastes and at present the nearest habitation is 150 Meters from the Commissioners Quarters premises. It is therefore submitted that the present application is devoid of merits and there is no justification in the cause of action set out by the applicant. The balance of convenience is not in favour of the applicant.

In the foregoing circumstances it is prayed that this Honourable Tribunal may be pleased dismiss the Original Application No 243 of 2025 and thus render Justice.

Solemnly affirmed on
This the 24th day of
March 2026 and the
Deponent herein has
Affixed his signature
in my presence


COMMISSIONER
Gudiyattam Municipality

before me


Advocate, Chennai.
S. SANKARANARAYANAN
ADVOCATE, E. No.2522/25
D5, 31/15, 1st Main Road,
Gandhi Nagar, Adyar,
Chennai - 600 020

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
(SOUTHERN ZONE)**

OA. No. 243 of 2025.

**REPORT FILED BY THE 5TH
RESPONDENT**

**M/S. P. SRINIVAS. 828/94
R PURSHOTHAMAN 253/11**

COUNSEL FOR 5th RESPONDENT.

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