

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

**OA No 315 OF 2024**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**ASHOK NADAVALA**

**..... Applicant**

**Vs**

**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT FORESTS CLIMATE CHANGE  
AND OTHERS**

**... Respondents**

**REPORT FILED BY THE APPCB 6<sup>th</sup> RESPONDENT**

**DATE- 01.03.2025**



**M/s MADHURI DONTI REDDY  
ADVOCATE**

**STANDING COUNSEL FOR GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH**

**A.P. POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

**#26, S2, Royal Castle, Gill Nagar Extension, Choolaimedu, Chennai – 600 094.**

**Mobile: 98407 98460 / 63831 21322,**

**Email: [reddymadhuri09@gmail.com](mailto:reddymadhuri09@gmail.com)**

**BEFORE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
SOUTHERN BENCH, CHENNAI  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 315 of 2024**

**Sri Nadavala Ashok.**

**...Applicant(s)**

**Versus**

**MoEF&CC,**

**Rep.by its Secretary,**

**New Delhi and Ors.**

**... Respondent(s)**

**REPORT IN THE MATTER OF O.A. NO. 315 of 2024 SUBMITTED TO  
HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL (SZ), CHENNAI IN COMPLIANCE  
TO HON'BLE NGT (SZ) ORDER DATED 02<sup>nd</sup> JANUARY ,2025.**

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**Place: Nellore  
Date: 28.02.2025**

*Nawadev Ashok*  
*28/02/25*  
**ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER  
APPCB, Regional Office**

**Nellore  
Office of the  
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER  
A.P. POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
Regional Office  
NELLORE.**

**REPORT OF THE A.P. POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD IN THE MATTER OF  
O.A.NO.315 of 2024 (SZ) SUBMITTED TO HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN  
TRIBUNAL, SOUTH BENCH, CHENNAI IN COMPLIANCE TO HON'BLE  
NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, SOUTH BENCH, CHENNAI ORDER  
DATED 02<sup>nd</sup> JANUARY, 2025.**

**Submitted to**

**HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
SOUTH BENCH, CHENNAI**

*Narinder Singh*  
*23/01/25*  
Office of the  
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER  
A.P. POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
Regional Office  
NELLORE.

## I. Preamble:

Sri Nadavala Ashok, S/o. Sri Nadavala Babu, Pantapalem (V), Muthukur (M), SPSR Nellore district, Andhra Pradesh, submitted a representation to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Southern Bench, Chennai, regarding illegal extraction of the ground water and immediately stop taking the water which is being tapped under the illegal manner and cease and desist from further unauthorized extraction of ground water by private vendors and to undertake remedial measures to restore groundwater levels in the affected area, including rainwater harvesting and other conservation practices. The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Southern Bench, Chennai, treated and registered the representation as O.A. No. 315 of 2024.

## II. Orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ), Chennai dated. 02.01.2025.

The Hon'ble NGT, Southern Bench, Chennai has issued the following directions vide order dated 02.01.2025, the gist of the order is as follows:

“

1. *As the Chairman, Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPCB) is a necessary party to this proceeding, we Suo Motu implead them as additional respondent.*
2. *Considering the facts of the case, the 2nd Respondent (Central Ground Water Board) and the 3rd Respondent (Central Ground Water Authority) are unnecessary parties to this proceeding. Hence, they are deleted from the array of parties.*
3. *Accordingly, the parties are re-arrayed and the Registry is directed to carry out the amendment in the cause title.*
4. *Let the notices be issued to the respondents through the Tribunal as well as privately.*
5. *The learned counsel Mrs. Madhuri Donti Reddy accepts notice on behalf of Respondents No.2 to 6.*
6. *Post the matter on 03.03.2025. Meanwhile, the respondents are directed to file their respective replies/reports. ”*

Copy of the Hon'ble NGT (SZ), Chennai order dated. 02.01.2025 is enclosed as Annexure-I.

## III. Court Cases

1. A complaint was filed before the National Green Tribunal vide application No.221 /2015 by Smt. Isnaka Vedavathi, Daruvulapalem (V), Muthukur (M), SPSR Nellore District against pollution problems being caused due to the edible oil units operating at Muthukur Mandal, SPSR Nellore District.

The Hon'ble NGT while disposing of the case vide order dated. 13.07.2022 in O.A.No.221 of 2015, the following directions were issued with regard to illegal water drawl.

“84. In the result, this Original Application is disposed of with the following directions: -

.....

(v) The Edible Oil Refinery Units viz., Respondents No.5 to 11 are at liberty to approach the Government or the Municipal Administration for supply of water from the authorized source and the authorities are directed to take appropriate steps to redress their grievance, if permissible in accordance with law.

(vi) The Edible Oil Refinery Units viz., Respondents No.5 to 11 are directed to obtain water from the dealers authorized by the Government or other authorities under the respective statutes for this purpose and the oil industries who have been permitted to drill a bore well are permitted to use the water from the bore well to the extent permitted strictly in accordance with the condition stipulated in such permission and they should confine to the consumption of water to the quantity permitted as per the Consent and other permissions granted to them in this regard.”

The issue pertains to illegal extraction of ground water from unauthorised sources was reviewed in the matter of O.A.No.221 of 2015 and the Hon'ble NGT issued directions to edible oil industries to obtain necessary permissions from competent authorities

Accordingly, in obedience to the Hon'ble NGT directions in O.A.No.221 of 2015 dated. 13.07.2022, all 12 nos of edible oil industries obtained permissions for installation and extraction of groundwater from Shallow filter points from the Ground Water department.

Besides permission from Ground Water department,10 nos of edible oil industries have also Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Irrigation department for utilizing surface water from Survepalli balancing Reservoir for their industrial purposes. Remaining 2 nos of industries are under process for obtaining permission from Irrigation department.

Some of the industries which have MOA with the Irrigation department are also utilising part of surface water brought through tankers besides the usage of Groundwater from permitted shallow filter points to maintain desired water quality.

The edible oil industries have been utilising groundwater and surface water within the quantity permitted by the groundwater department and the A.P. Pollution Control Board.

2. Sri S. Venkateswarlu, S/o. Sri Sankaraiah, Chalivendra (V), Muthukur (M), SPSR Nellore district, Andhra Pradesh, submitted a representation to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi, regarding the installation of borewells and supplying water after extracting ground water through tankers to the industries and for other commercial purposes in the villages of Muthukur Mandal of SPSR Nellore District, violating WALTA Act. The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi, treated and registered the representation as O.A. No. 1333 of 2024 and the Hon'ble NGT (PB), New Delhi has disposed the petition on 02.12.2024 and transferred to Hon'ble NGT (Southern Zone), Chennai.

In compliance with the orders of the Hon'ble NGT, it is to submit that a similar case was filed before the Hon'ble NGT (PB), New Delhi as O.A.No.1333 of 2024, the same was transferred to the Hon'ble NGT (SZ), Chennai for further orders.

In this connection, it is to submitted that a joint committee comprising with the following committee has been constituted to verify the factual position and suggest appropriate remedial action:

1. Sri Lakshmi Narayana Damodara, Scientist-C (HD), A.P. State Unit Office, Central Ground Water Authorities, Vishakhapatnam.
2. Sri K. Venkata Reddy, Special Collector, Telugu Ganga Office, Nellore, SPSR Nellore District (Nominated on behalf of the Collector & District Magistrate, SPSR Nellore District)
3. Sri N. Asok Kumar, Environmental Engineer, Regional Officer, Nellore, Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board.

The Joint committee inspected Muthukur mandal area on 07.01.2025 & 08.01.2025 and submitted a committee report to the Hon'ble NGT, Southern Zone, Chennai on 19.02.2025. As per G.O.Ms.No.309 dated- 01.09.2005, the Government of A.P. nominated Deputy Director, Ground Water Department in each district as competent authority to grant permissions to industrial units for tapping ground water under APWALTA Act, 2002. A copy of the Joint Committee report submitted to the Hon'ble NGT is herewith enclosed as **Annexure-II.**

IV. It is to submit that the APPCB issued consent order & Authorisation to the following edible oil industries in Muthukur Mandal, SPSR Nellore district with the permitted water quantities as per CTE/CTO orders. The edible oil industries are consuming the water within the permitted quantities.

Sl No	Name of the Industries	Permitted quantity by the APPCB as per CTE/CTO orders	Remarks
1.	Adani Wilmar unit-I	260 KLD	Usage within limit
2.	Adani Wilmar unit-II	530 KLD	Usage within limit
3.	Gemini Edibles & Fats India Limited	610 KLD	Usage within limit
4.	Emami Argo Tech Ltd	681 KLD	Usage within limit
5.	3F Industries Limited	746.9 KLD	Usage within limit
6.	Santhoshimathaa Oil Fats Pvt Ltd	137 KLD	Usage within limit
7.	South India Krishna Oil Fats Pvt Ltd	649 KLD	Usage within limit
8.	Ana Oleo Private Limited	940 KLD 820 KLD+ Recycled water-120 KLD)	Usage within limit (Fresh water: Borewell – 500 KLD + Surface water: 574 KLD= 1074 KLD)
9.	Gokul Agro Resources Limited	387 KLD (Fresh water -359 KLD+ Recycled water- 28 KLD	Usage within limit
10.	Bunge India Private Limited	1099 KLD (Fresh water- 792 KLD + Recycled water- 307 KLD)	Usage within limit
11.	Cargil India Private Limited	505 KLD	Usage within limit
12.	Lohiya Edible Oil Private Limited	300 KLD	The industry is under construction.

Further, it is submitted that the Board issued CTO & HWA order to M/s. Adani Krishnapatnam Port Limited for the following port operations:

Sl. No.	Products	Quantity
1.	Coal	46 Million Tons/ Annum
2.	Iron Ore	8 Million Tons/Annum
3.	General Cargo (Fertilizers, granites, Edible Oil and Lube oils, others ).	14 Million Tons/Annum
4.	Liquid Cargo (POL, LNG, LPG, Chemical products)	10 Million Tons/Annum
5.	Container Cargo	2.0 Million TEUs/A
	Total	78.0 Million Tons/A, Non-container cargo + 2.0 Million TEUs/ A container cargo
6	No. of Berths	13 Berths (12 + Liquid Jetty L4)

Narreddi Arole  
23/04/25  
Office of the  
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER  
A.P. POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
Regional Office  
NELLORE.

The source of water for the Port operations is Muthukur Reservoir & Nakkala kalava irrigation drain. M/s. Adani Krishnapatnam Port Limited obtained permission to draw water of 1000 KLD from Muthukur Reservoir and 4 MLD of water from Nakkala kalava irrigation drain.

As per CTO the maximum permitted water consumption is as follows:

S. No.	Purpose	Quantity (KLD)
1.	Dust suppressions & Miscellaneous (Fire protection services)	1950.0
2.	Gardening	400.0
3.	Domestic	650.0
	Total	3000.0

It is to submit that the Edible oil industries and Port having permissions from the competent authorities for utilization of ground water & surface water in their process. By considering the above facts, the Hon'ble Tribunal may pass appropriate orders(s)/ direction(s) as deemed fit.

**Place: Nellore**  
**Date: 28.02.2025**

*Nawudis Adole*  
*28/02/25*  
**ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER**  
**APPCB, Regional Office**

**Nellore**  
**Office of the**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER**  
**A.P. POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**  
**Regional Office**  
**NELLORE.**

ANNEXURE - I

**Item No.01:-****BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

(Through Video Conference)

**Original Application No.315 of 2024 (SZ)**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Nadavala Ashok,  
Andhra Pradesh.

...Applicant(s)

*Versus*MOEF & CC,  
Rep. by its Secretary,  
New Delhi and Ors.

...Respondent(s)

**Date of hearing: 02.01.2025.**

CORAM:

**HON'BLE Smt. JUSTICE PUSHPA SATHYANARAYANA, JUDICIAL MEMBER****HON'BLE Dr. SATYAGOPAL KORLAPATI, EXPERT MEMBER**For Applicant(s): Mr. Nadavala Ashok(*Party-in-Person*).

For Respondent(s): Mrs. Madhuri Donti Reddy for R2 to R6.

**ORDER**

1. As the Chairman, Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPCB) is a necessary party to this proceeding, we Suo Motu implead them as additional respondent.

2. Considering the facts of the case, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Respondent (Central Ground Water Board) and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Respondent (Central Ground Water Authority) are unnecessary parties to this proceeding. Hence, they are deleted from the array of parties.

3. Accordingly, the parties are re-arrayed and the Registry is directed to carry out the amendment in the cause title.

4. Let the notices be issued to the respondents through the Tribunal as well as privately.

5. The learned counsel Mrs. Madhuri Donti Reddy accepts notice on behalf of Respondents No.2 to 6.

6. Post the matter on **03.03.2025**. Meanwhile, the respondents are directed to file their respective replies/reports.

Sd/-

**Smt. Justice Pushpa Sathyanarayana, JM**

Sd/-

**Dr. Satyagopal Korlapati, EM**

O.A. No.315/2024 (SZ),  
02<sup>nd</sup> January, 2025. Mn.

## ANNEXURE -II

Rc.D6/COLNLR-DSED-35/2024

Collector's Office, Nellore,  
Dated: 18.02.2025.From  
Sri O.Anand, I.A.S.,  
Collector & District Magistrate,  
SPSR Nellore.To  
The Standing Council Member,  
National Green Tribunal (SZ),  
Chennai.

Sir/Madam,

Sub: National Green Tribunal - Original Application No.1333/2024 - SPS Nellore District - Muthukuru Mandal - Chalivendra H/o Muthukuru Village - Non compliance and violation of the orders of the National Green Tribunal, New Delhi - Complaint against the authorities and Industries for their reckless and illegal drawl of Ground Water - Joint Inspection Report submitted - Reg.

Ref: 1. National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi, Original Application No.1333/2024, dated:02.12.2024.  
2. This office Lr.D6/COLNLR-DSED-35/2024, Dt:19.12.2024.  
3. Report of the Inspection Team, Dt:18.02.2025.

-0-

Kind attention is invited to the references cited.

It is submitted that, in pursuance of the orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi in the reference 1<sup>st</sup> cited, a Committee has been constituted consisting of the following officers to conduct inspection of illegal drawl of ground water in Muthukuru Mandal, SPS Nellore District.

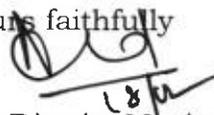
1. The Special Collector, Telugu Ganga Project, Nellore (On behalf of the District Collector, SPS Nellore)
2. The Officer-In-Charge, State Unit Office, Central Ground Water Board, Vishakapatnam.
3. The Environment Engineer, Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Nellore.

It is further submitted that, the above, Committee has inspected Muthukuru Mandal along with the petitioner and submit a report in the reference 3<sup>rd</sup> cited.

The Committee Report is herewith submitted to bring it to the kind notice of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal(SZ).

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully

  
Collector & District Magistrate,  
SPS Nellore District.

  
18/02/25

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

**ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 1333 OF 2024 (SZ)**

S Venkateswarlu

...Applicant(s)

Versus

State of Andhra Pradesh,  
Rep. by its Chief Secretary  
Andhra Pradesh and Ors.

...Respondent(s)

Sl.No	Particulars	Page Nos
1.	Joint Committee report	
2.	Annexure-I- Hon'ble NGT (PB) disposal order dt. 02.12.2024.	
3.	Annexure -II- Copy of Proceedings RC.D3/886/12 dated.14.03.2012.	

Place: Nellore

Dt.

  
18/02

**COLLECTOR & DISTRICT MAGISTRATE  
SPSR NELLORE DISTRICT**

**REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE IN THE MATTER OF O.A.NO.1333 of  
2024 (SZ) SUBMITTED TO HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, SOUTH  
BENCH, CHENNAI IN COMPLIANCE TO HON'BLE NATIONAL  
GREENTRIBUNAL, PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI ORDER DATED 02<sup>nd</sup>  
DECEMBER, 2024.**

**Submitted to**

**HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
SOUTH BENCH, CHENNAI**

I. **Preamble:**

Sri S. Venkateswarlu, S/o. Sri Sankaraiah. Chalivendra (V), Muthukur (M), SPSR Nellore district, Andhra Pradesh, submitted a representation to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi, regarding the installation of borewells and supplying water after extracting ground water through tankers to the industries and for other commercial purposes in the villages of Muthukur Mandal of SPSR Nellore District, violating WALTA Act. The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi, treated and registered the representation as O.A. No. 1333 of 2024 and the Hon'ble NGT (PB), New Delhi has disposed the petition on 02.12.2024 and transferred to Hon'ble NGT (Southern Zone), Chennai.

II. **Orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (PB), New Delhi dated 02.12.2024**

The Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, New Delhi has disposed the petition and transferred to Hon'ble NGT (Southern Zone) with the following vide order dated 02.12.2024, the gist of the order is as follows:

1. *A letter petition dated 14.10.2024 sent by S Venkateswarlu son of Sankaraiah, Chalivendra, Village Muthukur, Mandal SPSR, District Nellore, State of Andhra Pradesh has been received making complaint of illegal extraction of ground water and registered as Original Application under Sections 14 and 15 of National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 (hereinafter referred to as 'NGT Act, 2010') in exercise of suo-moto jurisdiction in view of law laid down by Supreme Court in Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai Versus Ankita Sinha and Others, (2022) 13 SCC 401.*
2. *Complainant has said that there are some farmers who have installed borewells and supplying water after extracting groundwater illegally through tankers to the industries and for other commercial purposes. It is said that complaints have been made to concerned authorities but no action has been taken.*
3. *In our view complaint made in this letter petition may effectively be addressed, at the first instance, by the concerned Authorities and Statutory Regulator and if they find any violation of environmental laws, appropriate action may be taken by them.*
4. *In view thereof, we constitute a Joint Committee comprising District Magistrate, Nellore; Andhra Pradesh State Pollution Control Board; and, Representative of Central Ground Water Authorities.*

5. *District Magistrate, Nellore shall be the Nodal Authority for co-ordination and compliance of this order.*
6. *Said Committee shall visit the site, interact with stakeholders, hear the complainant, collect relevant information, and, if finds that ground water is being extracted illegally for commercial purposes, appropriate punitive, prohibitive, and remedial action shall be taken in accordance with law within two months.*
7. *A Compliance report shall be submitted with Registrar, Southern Zone Bench of this Tribunal at Chennai, and, if Registrar finds that any further order is required, shall place the matter before appropriate Bench.*
8. *With the above directions, this Original Application is disposed of."*

Copy of the Hon'ble NGT (PB) order dated 02.12.2024 is enclosed as **Annexure-I**.

In compliance with the orders of the Hon'ble NGT, the following committee has been constituted to verify the factual position and suggest appropriate remedial action:

1. Sri Lakshmi Narayana Damodara, Scientist-C (HG), A.P. State Unit Office, Central Ground Water Board, Vishakhapatnam.
2. Sri K. Venkata Reddy, Special Collector, Telugu Ganga Office, Nellore, SPSR Nellore District (Nominated on behalf of the Collector & District Magistrate, SPSR Nellore District)
3. Sri N. Asok Kumar, Environmental Engineer, Regional Officer, Nellore, Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board.

### **III. Scope of Joint Committee**

The Committee has been vested with the mandate to visit and inspect the site in question and vested with the following scope as per the Order dated 02.12.2024:

1. *To verify the factual position and suggest appropriate remedial action*
2. *Look into the applicant's grievances, associate the applicant and representative of the concerned project proponent, verify the factual position if finds that ground water is being extracted illegally for commercial purposes, appropriate punitive, prohibitive, and remedial action shall be taken.*

#### IV.Meeting and inspection by the Joint Committee

The Joint committee inspected Muthukur mandal area on 07.01.2025 & 08.01.2025. A meeting was convened with the complainant, local villagers and field staff on 07.01.2025 briefed about the mandate of the Committee.

#### V.Committee interaction with Applicant Sri S. Venkateswarlu

The complainant i.e. Sri S. Venkateswarlu S/o. Sankaraiah expressed his concerns that industries have been illegally extracting groundwater and transporting it through tankers for the past 15 years, with no action taken by the Muthukur Mandal authorities to prevent this under the AP WALTA Act, 2004. Additionally, Krishnapatnam Port authorities are reportedly using groundwater transported through tankers, and some farmers are supplying groundwater to industries in Muthukur Mandal illegally. The complainant said that if this continues, the region may face severe drought, threatening the livelihood and survival of villagers in Muthukur Mandal. Furthermore, they expressed concern that no penalties have been imposed on industries for the illegal withdrawal of groundwater and questioned how industries were granted permission by the AP Pollution Control Board without verifying whether water resource available in the mandal.



Discussions with Complainant Sri S. Venkateswarlu

Subsequently, the committee members proceeded for field inspection along with the complainant, Tahsildar, Muthukur and field staff and visited the following sites in Muthukur Mandal to verify the bore/tube wells existing as detailed below.

- i. **Malluru Village:** As per information by the villagers, some farmers have dug bore wells and are supplying water through tankers to Krishnapatnam Port and nearby villages for drinking water purposes as well as industries.
- ii. **Epur Bit-I (Pantapalem) Village:** Some farmers have dug bore wells and are supplying water through tankers to edible oil industries located in Pantapalem Village.

The committee inquired the Tahsildar, Muthukur Mandal whether permission for the bore wells had been obtained and requested a detailed report from the Mandal authorities in this regard.

The committee proceeded to inspect the edible oil industries operating at Muthukur mandal on 08.01.2025 to verify the source of water, permissions obtained ground water department and quantity permitted. The details of edible oil industries are as follows:

Sl No	Name of the Industries	Permitted Ground Water Extraction by GWD Department	Permitted quantity by the APPCB as per CTE/CTO orders	Remarks
1.	Adani Wilmar unit-I	410 KLD	260 KLD	Usage within limit
2.	Adani Wilmar unit-II	1402 KLD	530 KLD	Usage within limit
3.	Gemini Edibles & Fats India Limited	700KLD	610 KLD	Usage within limit
4.	Emami Argo Tech Ltd	1118 KLD	681 KLD	Usage within limit
5.	3F Industries Limited	963 KLD	746.9 KLD	Usage within limit
6.	Santhoshimathaa Oil Fats Pvt Ltd	134KLD	137 KLD	Usage within limit
7.	South India Krishna Oil Fats Pvt Ltd	665KLD	649 KLD	Usage within limit
8.	Ana Oleo Private Limited	500KLD	940 KLD 820 KLD+ Recycled water- 120 KLD)	Usage within limit (Fresh water: Borewell – 500 KLD + Surface water: 574 KLD= 1074 KLD)
9.	Gokul Agro Resources Limited	380KLD	387 KLD	Usage within limit

			(Fresh water -359 KLD+ Recycled water- 28 KLD)	
10.	Bunge India Private Limited	924KLD	1099 KLD (Fresh water- 792 KLD + Recycled water- 307 KLD)	Usage within limit
11.	Cargil India Private Limited	650KLD	505 KLD	Usage within limit
12.	Lohiya Edible Oil Private Limited	98 KLD	300 KLD	The industry is under construction.

Further, it is submitted that out of 12 nos of above edible oil industries, 10 nos (Sl.No. 1 to 10) have Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) from the Irrigation department for utilizing surface water from Survepalli Reservoir for their industrial purposes and another 2 nos of industries (Sl.no. 11 & 12) are under process for obtaining permission from Irrigation department.

#### VI. Court Cases:

A complaint was filed before the National Green Tribunal vide application No.221 /2015 by Smt. Isnaka Vedavathi, Daruvulapalem (V), Muthukur (M), SPSR Nellore District against pollution problems being caused due to the edible oil units operating at Muthukur Mandal, SPSR Nellore District.

The Hon'ble NGT while disposing of the case vide order dated. 13.07.2022 in O.A.No.221 of 2015, the following directions were issued with regard to illegal water drawl.

*" 84. In the result, this Original Application is disposed of with the following directions: -*

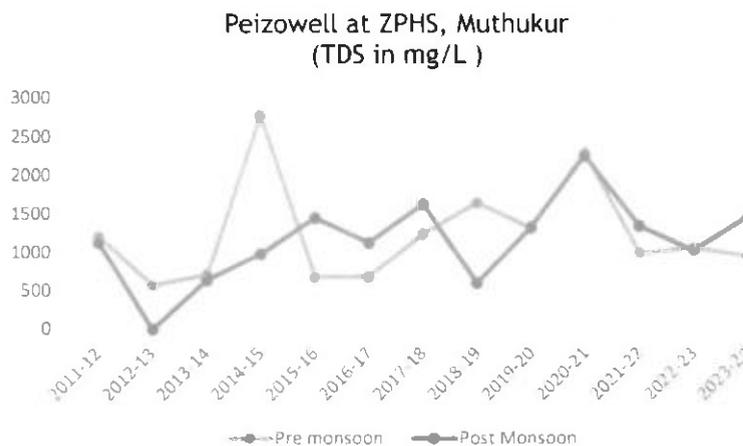
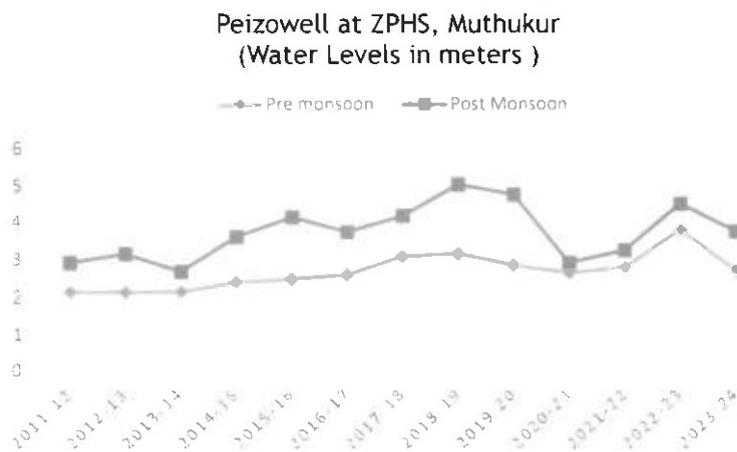
*.....*  
(v) *The Edible Oil Refinery Units viz., Respondents No.5 to 11 are at liberty to approach the Government or the Municipal Administration for supply of water from the authorized source and the authorities are directed to take appropriate steps to redress their grievance, if permissible in accordance with law.*

(vi) *The Edible Oil Refinery Units viz., Respondents No.5 to 11 are directed to obtain water from the dealers authorized by the Government or other authorities under the respective statutes for this purpose and the oil industries who have been permitted to drill a bore well are permitted to use the water from the bore well to the extent permitted strictly in accordance with the condition stipulated in such permission and they should confine to the*

*consumption of water to the quantity permitted as per the Consent and other permissions granted to them in this regard."*

**VII. Field Observations of Joint Committee**

- a. Muthukur Mandal forms part of the NLR-C-73 Muthukur micro basin. According to the Ground water Resource Assessment 2023-24 report, the stage of Ground water development in Muthukur Mandal is 36.46%, while for the micro basin, it is 21.38%. Both fall under the "safe" category.
- b. Groundwater occurs under water table conditions and is accessed through shallow filter points at depths of 7 to 15 meters. The decadal water levels during the pre-monsoon period (2012–2024) ranged from 2.16 to 3.8 meters, while post-monsoon water levels ranged from 0.27 to 1.91 meters. The TDS concentration in groundwater ranges from 577 to 2781 mg/L in the pre-monsoon and 600 to 2257 mg/L in the post-monsoon.



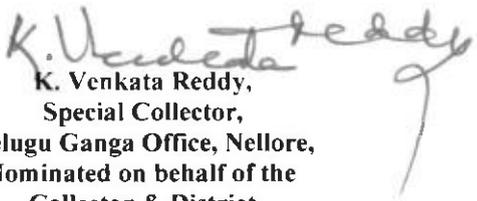
- c. Typically, 3 HP to 5 HP electric motors operate the filter points, discharging 15,000 to 22,000 Liters per hour (LPH).
- d. As per report of Tahsildar, Muthukur dt.10.01.2025, there are 24 nos of shallow filter points existing at Mallur Village. Out of 24 nos shallow filter points, 6 nos shallow filter points obtained permission from the District Collector, SPSR Nellore District to cater the needs of Krishnapatnam port and surrounding villages of Krishnapatnam port for drinking water purpose. Copy of the proceedings vide Rc. D3/886/12 dt.14.03.2012 is enclosed as Annexure- II. Remaining 18 nos shallow filter points are unauthorised. Further the Tahsildar, Muthukur mandal reported that earlier the Mandal Level Authority has seized 13 nos of unauthorised borewells at Pantapalem village in the month of October,2024.
- e. There are 4 no's of shallow filter points existing at Epuru-Bit-IB (Pantapalem) Village, which are unauthorised.
- f. The issue pertains to illegal extraction of ground water from unauthorised sources was reviewed in the matter of O.A.No.221 of 2015 and the Hon'ble NGT issued directions to edible oil industries to obtain necessary permissions from competent authorities.
- g. As per G.O.Ms.No.309 dated. 01.09.2005, the Government of A.P. nominated Deputy Director, Ground Water Department in each district as competent authority to grant permissions to industrial units for tapping ground water.
- h. Accordingly, in obedience to the Hon'ble NGT directions in O.A.No.221 of 2015 dated. 13.07.2022, all 12 nos of edible oil industries obtained permissions for installation and extraction of groundwater from Shallow filter points from the Ground Water department.
- i. Besides permission from Ground Water department,10 nos of edible oil industries have also Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Irrigation department for utilizing surface water from Survepalli balancing Reservoir for their industrial purposes. Remaining 2 nos of industries are under process for obtaining permission from Irrigation department.
- j. Some of the industries which have MOA with the Irrigation department are also utilising part of surface water brought through tankers besides the usage of Groundwater from permitted shallow filter points to maintain desired water quality.
- k. The edible oil industries have been utilising groundwater and surface water within the quantity permitted by the groundwater department and the A.P.Pollution Control Board.

**VIII. Recommendations of Joint Committee**

- l. The Mandal WALTA authority is authorized and shall take necessary actions to curb illegal groundwater extraction in Muthukur Mandal, particularly for unauthorized bore wells under APWALTA Act.
- m. The Mandal WALTA authority shall conduct regular meetings to discuss and implement necessary steps for enforcing the APWALTA Act and addressing cases of violations.

By considering the above facts and observations of the joint committee, the Hon'ble Tribunal may pass appropriate orders(s)/ direction(s) as deemed fit.

  
**Lakshmi Narayana Damodara,**  
Scientist-C (HG), A.P. State Unit Office,  
Central Ground Water Board,  
Vishakhapatnam.

  
**K. Venkata Reddy,**  
Special Collector,  
Telugu Ganga Office, Nellore,  
(Nominated on behalf of the  
Collector & District  
Magistrate, SPSR Nellore  
District)

  
**N. Asok Kumar,**  
Environmental Engineer,  
APPCB, RO, Nellore.