

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI
Original Application No. 41 of 2025 (SZ)**

In the matter of:

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU

based on the News Item in The Daily Hunt dt: 04.01.2025 titled,

“6 killed in firecracker factory explosion at
Tamil Nadu’s Virudhunagar”

... Applicant(s)

Versus

Member Secretary,

Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB),
Chennai and ors.

...Respondent(s)

**REPORT FILED BY THE 4TH RESPONDENT -
THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR, VIRUDHUNAGAR**

INDEX

S. No.	Date	Description	Page No.
1	19.07.2025	STATUS REPORT FILED BY THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR, VIRUDHUNAGAR	1-5

(Note: The page numbers are at the top centre of every page)



Through

Dr. D. Shanmuganathan

Standing Counsel of Government of Tamil Nadu

National Green Tribunal

Southern Zone, Chennai

DATE:21.07.2025

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI
Original Application No.41 of 2025 (SZ)
[Earlier O.A.No.11 of 2025 (PB)]

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU based on the News Item in The Daily Hunt dt: 04.01.2025 titled, "6 Killed in firecracker factory explosion at Tamil Nadu's Virudhunagar"

Versus

Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and Ors.

....Respondent(s)

REPORT FILED BY THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE /
DISTRICT COLLECTOR, VIRUDHUNAGAR
RESPONDENT

I, Dr.N.O.Sukhaputra, S/o Obanna, aged about 39 years, presently working as District Collector, Virudhunagar District files the report as follows.

1. It is respectfully submitted that a fire accident occurred on 04.01.2025 at around 09.00 A.M. at M/s. SAINATH FIREWORKS INDUSTRIES, situated in Survey Nos. 180/1, 183/3A, 3B, 3C, 184/1, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 3A, 3B, 3C, 188/1 to 9 and 189/5A, 5B, 6A, 6B, 7B, 7C, of Kottur Village, Virudhunagar Taluk, Virudhunagar District. In the said incident, six persons tragically lost their lives and one person sustained injuries.
2. It is respectfully submitted that, the unit was licenced from Petroleum & Explosives Safety Organization (PESO) vide License No. E/HQ/TN/20/1272 (E5557) dated 06.01.2023.

3. The fire incident took place in Factory Shed No. 80, where Thiru.Velmurugan, an employee, was engaged in cleaning activities. As per the reports and available records, it is submitted that Thiru.Velmurugan accidentally attempted to clean spilled titanium particles from the floor using a broom. During the cleaning, friction occurred between the titanium particles, sand and small stones present on the floor. Additionally, it is observed that due to regular manufacturing processes, residual layers of magnalium (magnesium-aluminum alloy) and cupric oxide may be settled on the floor surface over time. These residues, when agitated during the cleaning activity, further intensified the ignition, resulting in a rapid spread of fire and leading to the unfortunate accident.
4. It is respectfully submitted that the particulars of the individuals who were fatally affected and those who sustained injuries in the said accident are furnished below.

List of deceased persons:

S.No	Name of the Deceased Persons	Age
1.	Thiru. Meenakshi Sundaram S/o. Sakthivel, Aruppukottai.	46/2025
2.	Thiru. Velmurugan S/o. Gopal Naicker, Kurunthamadam, Aruppukottai.	54/2025
3.	Thiru.Nagaraj, S/o. Rajamani Chettikurichi, Aruppukottai.	37/2025
4.	Thiru.Kannan, S/o.Ramasamy Veerarpatti, Virudhunagar.	54/2025
5.	Thiru.kamaraj, S/o. Subbu Kurunthamadam, Aruppukottai.	54/2025
6.	Thiru.Sivakumar, S/o.Sivasubramani Aruppuokttai.	54/2025

List of Injured Person:

S.No	Name of the Injured Person	Age
1.	Thiru. Mohammed Sudeen, S/o.Abdulla, Avudayapuram, Virudhunagar.	20/2025

5. It is respectfully submitted that, Compensation has been duly disbursed to the legal heirs of the deceased individuals, who lost their valuable lives in this unfortunate and tragic accident. The District Administration ensured the timely provision of ex-gratia relief. The compensation was extended as a measure of immediate financial support to the bereaved families, acknowledging the irreparable loss suffered due to the incident.

Details of Compensation provided to deceased persons:

S. No	Name of the Deceased Persons	Compensation given by factory Owner (in Rs.)	CM Relief amount (in Rs.)	Total Compensation amount (in Rs.)
1.	Thiru. Meenakshi Sundaram S/o. Sakthivel, Aruppukottai.	15,50,000	4,00,000	19,50,000
2.	Thiru. Velmurugan S/o. Gopal Naicker, Kurunthamadam, Aruppukottai.	15,50,000	4,00,000	19,50,000
3.	Thiru. Nagaraj, S/o. Rajamani Chettikurichi, Aruppukottai.	15,50,000	4,00,000	19,50,000
4.	Thiru. Kannan, S/o. Ramasamy Veerarpatti, Virudhunagar.	15,50,000	4,00,000	19,50,000
5.	Thiru. kamaraj, S/o. Subbu Kurunthamadam, Aruppukottai.	15,50,000	4,00,000	19,50,000
6.	Thiru. Sivakumar, S/o. Sivasubramani Aruppuokttai.	15,50,000	4,00,000	19,50,000

Details of Compensation provided to injured person:

S. No	Name of the Injured Person	Compensation given by factory Owner (in Rs.)	CM Relief amount (in Rs.)	Total Compensation amount (in Rs.)
1.	Thiru. Mohammed Sudeen, S/o.Abdulla Avudayapuram, Virudhunagar.	5,00,000	1,00,000	6,00,000

6. I humbly submit that each of the legal heirs of the deceased victims was awarded a total compensation amount of Rs.19,50,000/-, comprising contributions from both the factory management and the Chief Minister's Relief Fund. The injured individual was provided a compensation amount of Rs.6,00,000/-. It is further submitted that all medical expenses incurred for the treatment of the injured person were fully borne by the factory owner.
7. It is respectfully submitted that, In connection with the said accident, the manufacturing licence of M/s. SAINATH FIREWORKS INDUSTRIES, bearing Licence No. E/HQ/TN/20/1272 (E55557), was suspended with immediate effect by the Deputy Chief Controller of Explosives, Sivakasi, on 04.01.2025. Simultaneously, the Form II Licence under the Arms Act, bearing No. 22/2013, was also suspended by the District Revenue Officer / Additional District Magistrate, Virudhunagar, vide order Roc.No. E4/09/2025, dated 04.01.2025. These actions were taken in accordance with the provisions of the applicable statutes, considering the gravity of the incident and pending further inquiry.
8. It is respectfully submitted that, In relation to this fire incident, the Vachakarapatti police, Virudhunagar district filed a FIR (FIR No.02/2025) under BNS,2023 sections 288, 125(a), 105 and 9(B)(1)(a) of the Indian Explosive Act, 1884 against the factory owner Thiru. Balaji and 6 others.

It is most respectfully submitted that, as per the report and documents, the accident was caused due to human error, specifically the unintentional act of cleaning spilled titanium by the deceased worker, which triggered ignition due to friction and the presence of residual reactive substances on the floor from earlier routine operations. In view of the above facts, it is humbly prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to accept this report, consider the circumstances detailed herein and render justice as deemed appropriate.

Date: 19.07.2025.


**Disrict Magistrate/
District Collector,
Virudhunagar.**

8/19/25