

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
SOUTHERN ZONAL BENCH AT CHENNAI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 50 of 2024**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU

Based on the News Item in The Hindu

Newspaper, Chennai Edition dt 4.2.2024,

“Raising High Stink: T.N’s

Bulk Waste Disposal Issues”.

....Applicants

Vs-

The Principal Secretary to Govt of Tamil Nadu,


Dept. of Environment, Climate Change & Forests,

Chennai and Others.

.....Respondents.

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

Report submitted to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, SZ by the Third Respondent - TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (TNPCB) in Original Application No. 50 of 2024 taken as a Suo Motu based on the news item published in The Hindu Newspaper, Chennai Edition dt 4.2.2024, "Raising High Stink: T.N's Bulk Waste Disposal Issues" Against The Principal Secretary to Govt of Tamil Nadu, Dept. of Environment, Climate Change & Forests, Chennai and Others.

A. The Hon'ble NGT has taken O.A No. 50 of 2024 (SZ) as a Suo Motu based on the News Item in The Hindu Newspaper, Chennai Edition dt 4.2.2024, "Raising High Stink: T. N's Bulk Waste Disposal Issues".

B. On 18.12.2024, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, SZ, Chennai directed the Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) and the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) to file a detailed report as to the number of bulk waste generators, the amount of waste generated by them, how they are disposing it, whether any violation found in their actions and if so, what are the actions so far taken by the TNPCB as well as the GCC. Further, on 12.9.2025 the Hon'ble NGT, SZ has directed to the respondents to file their additional report. The Operative portion of the Order inter alia as follows:

"7. The matter does not pertain only to municipal solid waste or other categories of waste, but also extends to sewage and sullage, which require attention by the authorities. The GCC's report remains silent on this issue.

8. Let additional reports be filed by the TNPCB and the GCC on the above aspects".

C. As per the above direction, the Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai, S.Vasuki, Daughter of Thiru. P.K.Somasundaram the report on behalf of the 3rd respondent herein.

D. Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board had filed its report on 12.8.2025 before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, SZ, Chennai and the same may be treated as part and parcel of this additional report.

E. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Government of India (GoI) have notified the Solid Waste Management (SWM) Rules, 2016 which defines Bulk Waste Generator as follows: -

“8.bulk waste generator” means and includes buildings occupied by the Central government departments or undertakings, State government departments or undertakings, local bodies, public sector undertakings or private companies, hospitals, nursing homes, schools, colleges, universities, other educational institutions, hostels, hotels, commercial establishments, markets, places of worship, stadia and sports complexes having an average waste generation rate exceeding 100kg per day.

F. Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 specifies the duties of Waste Generators, Local Authorities, Central Pollution Control Board, State Pollution Control Board and Other stakeholders including Bulk Waste Generators for the management of solid waste. As per the Rule 4 of SWM Rules, 2016, the duties of the waste generators are prescribed as follows:

(i) All resident welfare and market associations shall, within one year from the date of notification of these rules and in partnership with the local body ensure segregation of waste at source by the generators as prescribed in these rules, facilitate collection of segregated waste in separate streams, handover recyclable material to either the authorised waste pickers or the authorised recyclers. The bio-degradable waste shall be processed, treated

and disposed off through composting or bio-methanation within the premises as far as possible. The residual waste shall be given to the waste collectors or agency as directed by the local body.

(ii). All gated communities and institutions with more than 5,000 sqm area shall, within one year from the date of notification of these rules and in partnership with the local body, ensure segregation of waste at source by the generators as prescribed in these rules, facilitate collection of segregated waste in separate streams, handover recyclable material to either the authorised waste pickers or the authorizsd recyclers. The bio-degradable waste shall be processed, treated and disposed off through composting or bio-methanation within the premises as far as possible. The residual waste shall be given to the waste collectors or agency as directed by the local body.

(iii). All hotels and restaurants shall, within one year from the date of notification of these rules and in partnership with the local body ensure segregation of waste at source as prescribed in these rules, facilitate collection of segregated waste in separate streams, handover recyclable material to either the authorised waste pickers or the authorised recyclers. The bio-degradable waste shall be processed, treated and disposed off through composting or bio-methanation within the premises as far as possible. The residual waste shall be given to the waste collectors or agency as directed by the local body.

G. The Rule 15 of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, prescribes the duties and responsibilities of Local authorities and Village Panchayatsas follow,

(i) The local authorities and Panchayats shall arrange for door-to-door collection of segregated solid waste from all households including slums and informal settlements, commercial, institutional and other non-residential premises. From multi-storage buildings, large commercial complexes, malls, housing complexes, etc., this may be collected from the entry gate or any other designated location;

H. The Rule 16 of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, prescribes the duties and responsibilities of State Pollution Control Board as follow,

“The State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee shall enforce these rules in their State through local bodies in their respective jurisdiction and review implementation of these rules at least twice a year in close coordination with concerned Directorate of Municipal Administration or Secretary-in-charge of State Urban Development Department”

I. Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board enforces the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 through local bodies in their respective jurisdiction. Further, TNPCB is carrying out periodical inspection and taking samples in and around solid waste processing facilities and solid waste dumpsites of local Authorities.

J. The details pertaining to Bulk Waste Generators (BWGs) including their waste management practices, instances of violation, and the action taken against such violations fall within the purview of the Local Authorities namely the Greater Chennai Corporation, other Corporations, Municipalities, Town Panchayats, and Village Panchayats.

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

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 7th day of May, 2026.

G. V. S. 7.5.26
JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
CHENNAI - 600 032.

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

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**Report submitted by the Third Respondent -
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL
BOARD**

Date of filing :07.05.2026

Date of hearing :05.06.2026



Thiru.S.Sai Sathya Jith,
Advocate for 3rd Respondent: TNPCB:

