

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

Original Application No.52 of 2020

Tribunal on its own motion
Sue motu initiated proceedings
Based on the News item published in
Dinamalar Newspaper Supplementary
Edition Chennai dt.28.02.2020 under
Caption "Dried Cauvery filled up with waste water"

Vs

The Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu
Department of Environment,
Secretariate, Fort St.George,
Chennai & Ors

Respondents

TYPED SET OF PAPERS FILED BY PALLIPALAYAM MUNICIPALITY

S.No.	Date	Description	Page No.
1	03.12.2024	Status report regarding Sewage Treatment Plant filed by the Commissioner, Pallipalayam Municipality	1
2	03.12.2024	Photographs	4

Dated at Chennai on this the 4th day of December, 2024
Counsel for Respondent

1

NAMAKKAL DISTRICT
PALLIPALAYAM MUNICIPALITY
Status Report - Regarding - Sewage Treatment Plant

From the houses of the Pallipalayam Municipal limit, domestic sewage waste at 7 places of 4.34 MLD Sewage waste water joints in the River Cauvery along Pallipalayam. In order to prevent this, to construct Sewage Treatment Plant on the Municipality side, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) informed its order OA No.52 & 67 of 2020 dated 17.12.2021.

Further from the Pallipalayam Municipal area, Sewage waste water and dyeing waste water coming out from the residential area are joining in the river, for this NGT imposed a fine of Rs.1.05 Crores (Rupees One Crore and Five Lakhs), for Pallipalayam Municipality. Out of this Rs.10 lakhs (Rupees Ten Lakhs) paid by Municipality. As to prevent this, under Swatch Bharath Mission (SBM 2.0) a Detailed Project Report for constructing Sewage Treatment Plant by using Soil Bio Technology (SBT) method is to be formed for interception and diversion basis. For this a Detailed Project Report at an Estimate cost of Rs.10.79 crores (Rupees Ten Crores and Seventy Nine Lakhs) is submitted to the government and Administrative Sanction is accorded by Directorate of Municipal Administration and Water Supply Dept, Chennai (Roc.No.39631/2022/SBM(U) Dt 20.01.2023). For this Tender was called on 25.04.2023, and work order is issued on 05.05.2023 to the contractor M/s.Poorani & Co.,Karaikudi.

For this Project as to construct Sewage Treatment Plant, two places are selected, in that 1.50 MLD (15,000 sq.ft.) along Cauvery river bank and 3.50 MLD (45,000 sq.ft.) at Periyar Nagar Odai Promboke.

At this stage, the District Collector, Namakkal made an inspection on 21.06.2023. During the inspection the land identified for 1.50 MLD and 3.50 MLD are at River Course . The District Collector advised the Municipal Commissioner and Municipal Engineer not to commence the work and to select some other place for STP site .

Again on 20.07.2023 the District Collector, Namakkal ordered Executive Engineer, Rural Development Namakkal to have an inspection in Pallipalayam Municipal Area and Confirm the site for STP, and to give the Report.

The Executive Engineer, Rural Development Namakkal inspected this site on 20.07.2023 and reported that the STP site proposed to construct by Pallipalayam Municipality comes under the River Course. So, it is not possible to commence the work and advise Municipality to select some other place for the STP site. Municipality has selected the site comes beyond 6 km away from Municipal Area coming under Eleanthakuttai Village, E-Kattur at an extent of 20.36 acres owned by Pallipalayam Municipality purchased on 2003. Submitted that, on 01.08.2023 through our Chief Secretary VC Meeting our District Collector, Namakkal conveyed the status, Director of

Municipal Administration asked Commissioner Pallipalayam Municipality to revise the Project and asked to send the revised proposal for the above Project. Revised DPR prepared and submitted to Director of Municipal Administration, Chennai. Director of Municipal Administration asked to commence the work immediately. Based on that Boomi Pooja is conducted on 24.11.2023.

The people living in the Eelanthakuttai Village are appearing that the project should not be carried out at that place. Despite explaining the project to a few people who directly went to the work site and raised objections, they were not satisfied and continued to oppose the project. Due to this, the project is getting delayed. In this case, on 06.02.2024, 10 important persons were invited to attend the meeting on behalf of the people living in the area in order to give an explanation in front of the commissioner in the municipal office. Following this, on 06.02.2024, 8 persons participated in the meeting on behalf of the public living near the place where the sewage treatment plant is to be constructed. In this meeting, the commissioner gave an explanation about the scheme, but the people who attended the meeting expressed their opposition that their livelihood will be affected, agricultural lands will be polluted, and air pollution will cause respiratory problems and their lives will be affected. They said that they will not allow this project to be implemented in that place for any reason and they categorically said that if the work is carried out further, they will gather all the people living in the village and take part in a huge demonstration. Following this, on 14.02.2024, the peace meeting was held under the leadership of Tazildhar, Komarapalayam the same 8 persons participated and expressed their opposition and said that if a sewage treatment plant is constructed in Elanthakuttai village, they will gather the people of the surrounding villages and join the protest. Due to this, it was decided by the District Collector to hold a peace meeting under the leadership of Tiruchengode Revenue Divisional Officer and Deputy Superintendent of Police, Namakkal.

→ Based on this, a peace meeting was held on 19.02.2024 at the Revenue Divisional Office under the leadership of Revenue Divisional Officer, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Municipal Commissioner, Municipal Engineer, Public Works Overseer, Agriculture Department, Pollution Control Board officials. In this meeting, 10 people from Elanthakuttai village participated and raised the question why municipality choose a sewage treatment plant in that area and why this project should not be implemented by the municipal area itself. The people of the area also said that they are opposing the project only because the dye waste water is mixed with the sewage. Finally, the Revenue Divisional Officer and Deputy Superintendent of Police said that a government project should not be blocked for any reason, and if they are blocked, legal action will be taken against them. The villagers of Elantakuttai who attended the meeting said that they will discuss this with the other people of their village. Following this, the Revenue Divisional Officer concluded the meeting by announcing that the construction work of the sewage

3

treatment plant, which has been stopped, will be started. In this case, instead of the places mentioned in the Detailed project report Elanthakkuttai Village, which is 6 km away from the city, has been chosen to implement the project. The construction of collection tanks to collect the waste water coming out of the city at three places, laying the main pipe to transport the waste water from the collection tanks to the place where the treatment plant will be located.

An additional Rs.19.00 crore is required over and above the sanctioned amount of Rs.10.79 crore as works such as motors used to transport sewage have to be carried out. The contractor has informed the project circle that they can start the work only if they get the administrative approval for the assessment of this additional amount and give a guarantee that the additional amount will be paid. In this connection, DPR was prepared for Rs.19.00 Cr and submitted to DMA Office. But due to excess amount, the DPR could not be proceed further. Hence once again the ULB approached the District Administration to accord permission to carry out the work in the places mentioned in the original DPR. The DRO inspected the site and ordered to remove all the encroachments around the selected site. Based on the RDO orders all the encroachments were removed by rescuing an extent of 2.00 Acres and the work of Providing 3.50 Mld STP at Periyar Nagar was started on 11.11.2024. The Earth work for collection tank work is in progress as on date. At a depth of 1.80m below the Ground Level Hard Rock Found which will not be removed by machineries, But it can removed only Control blasting. The letter was sent to AD, Mines regarding permission for blasting the hard rock.

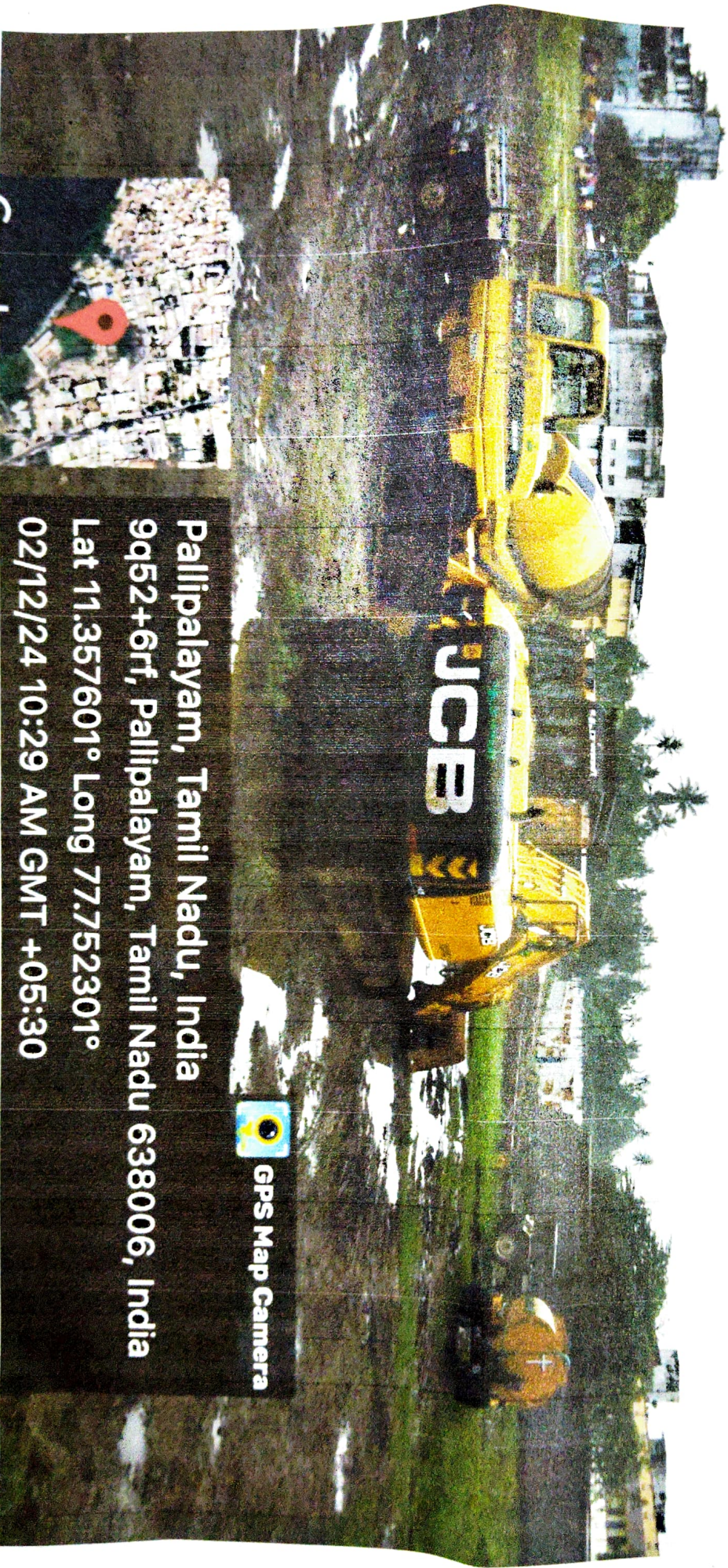
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08/12/24

Commissioner
Pallipalayam Municipality

4



Pallipalayam, Tamil Nadu, India
9q52+6rf, Pallipalayam, Tamil Nadu 638006, India
Lat 11.357601° Long 77.752301°
02/12/24 10:29 AM GMT +05:30



GPS Map Camera



GPS Map Camera

Pallipalayam, Tamil Nadu, India

9q42+qvm, Pallipalayam, Tamil Nadu 638006,

India

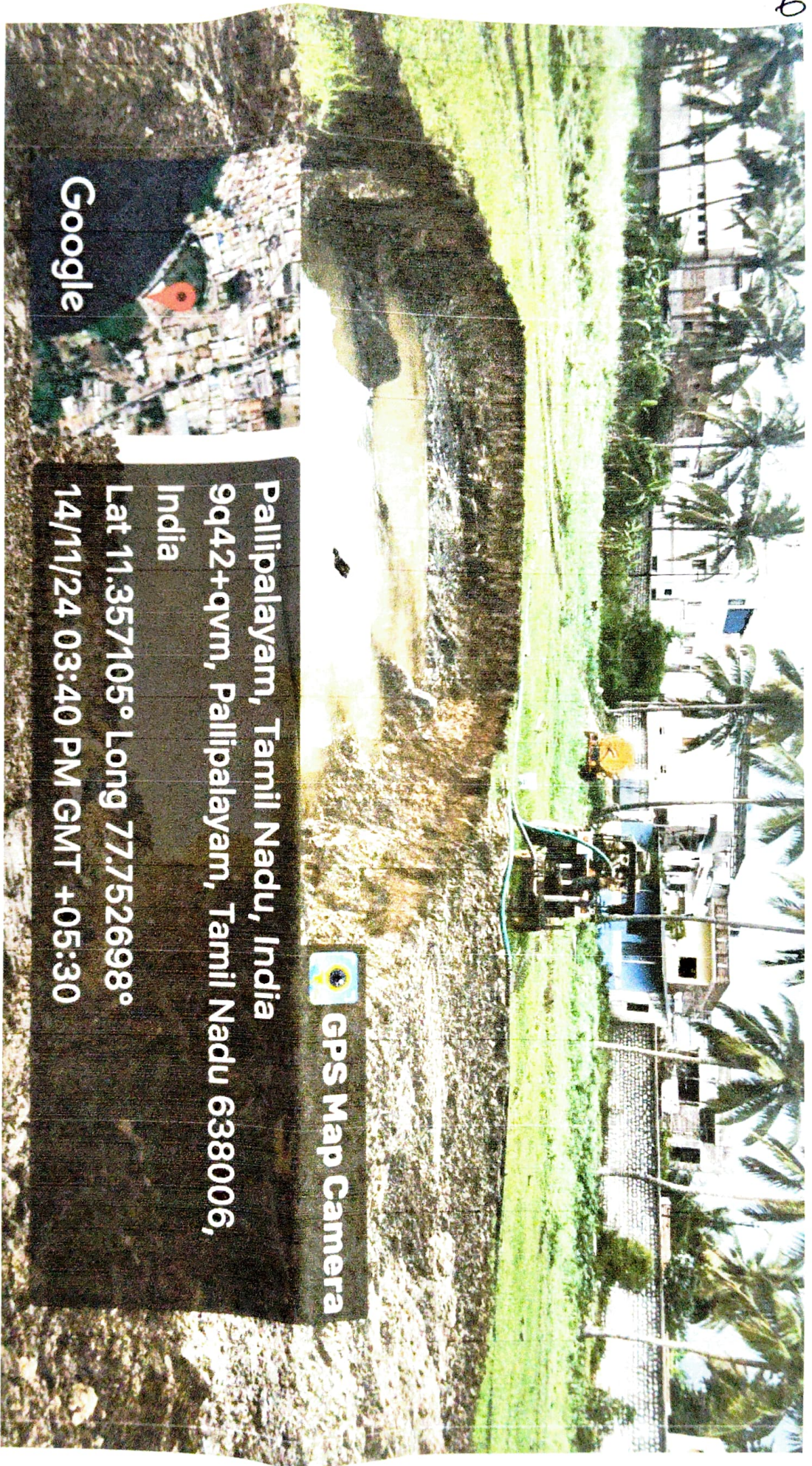
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6



Hearing date : 29/1/25

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M.RAJAMATHIVANAN

COUNSEL FOR RESPONDENT

PALLIPALAYAM MUNICIPALITY

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