

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL**

**SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

**Original Application No.70 of 2023**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**K. Shanmugam,  
S/o, Krishnan,  
269, Ellaiyammman Koil Street, Karunakaracheri,  
Somangalam, Kancheepuram - 602 109,  
Tamil Nadu. Mail: ks2396189@gmail.com.**

**...Applicant(s)**

**Versus**

**The Member Secretary,  
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,  
Guindy, Chennai - 600 032 and 14 others.**

**...Respondents**

**INDEX**

<b>S. No</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Page No</b>
1.	Report Filed by the 15 <sup>th</sup> Respondent	1 - 11

**Advocate for 15<sup>th</sup> Respondent: SIPCOT  
Thiru Abishek Murthy  
Advocate, Madras High Court.**

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Versus

1. The Member Secretary,  
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4. M/s. ACHIEVED SÌ MARK,  
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No. of Pages: 1

No. of Corrections:

FOR STATE INDUSTRIES PROMOTION  
CORPORATION OF TAMIL NADU LTD

  
Deputy General Manager (Legal)

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9. MICROTECH ENGINEERS,  
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For STATE INDUSTRIES PROMOTION  
CORPORATION OF TAMILNADU LTD.

  
Deputy General Manager (Legal)

No. of Pages: 2

No. of Corrections:

10. ACCURATE SPRINGS PVT. LTD.  
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12. BSH HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES MANUFACTURING PVT LTD.,  
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13. UNITED INDUSTRIES PLASTIC PVT.LTD.,  
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14. BLASTO, Blasto Metal Spray Processors,  
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No. of Pages: 3

No. of Corrections:

For STATE INDUSTRIES PROMOTION  
CORPORATION OF TAMILNADU LTD.



Deputy General Manager (Legal)

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15. SIPCOT - Pillaipakkam Post  
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Kanchipuram  
Tamil Nadu.  
...Respondent(s)

### **Report Filed by the 15<sup>th</sup> Respondent**

I, Mrs.K.Pon Arul Thilagavathy W/o Mr.Tr.M.Rajasekar, Hindu aged about 54 years working as Deputy General Manager(Legal), State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu Limited having office at 19-A, Rukmani Lakshmi pathy Road,, Egmore, Chennai – 600 008 do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows: -

1. I submit that I am the Deputy General Manager (Legal), State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu Limited and as such I am well acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case from the records available at our office and I have been authorized to file this Report on behalf of **15<sup>th</sup> Respondent** herein. At the outset I deny all the allegations and averments made by the petitioner except those that are specifically admitted hereunder:
2. I submit that the petitioner had filed above original application seeking a prayer of

For STATE INDUSTRIES PROMOTION  
CORPORATION OF TAMILNADU LTD.

  
Deputy General Manager (Legal)

No. of Pages: 4

No. of Corrections:

- a. To restrain the respondents 11 units from discharging untreated effluents into nearby lakes.
  - b. To restrain the respondent 11 units from dumping and burning the waste materials in the above said water bodies.
  - c. To direct the TNPCB authorities to maintain above lakes free from any contamination or pollution.
  - d. To issue an order in the nature of continuing mandamus, constitute a high level committee to monitor the lakes and other water bodies to submit a periodical report to the Hon'ble Tribunal.
3. I submit that the Hon'ble Tribunal, in its order dated 31.05.2023, has suo motu impleaded me as the 15<sup>th</sup> Respondent to address the issue of certain industries operating with septic tanks and soak pits, as highlighted in the report submitted by the 1st Respondent (Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board – TNPCB). The Tribunal has further directed this Respondent to consider the possibility of setting up a common STP and ETP for the industries concerned within the industrial park.
4. I submit that SIPCOT has obtained Environmental Clearance (EC) vide No. SEIAA/TN/ES/8(B) 112/f-441/2010, dated 11.02.2021, issued by the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) for the

No. of Pages: 5

No. of Corrections:

For STATE INDUSTRIES PROMOTION  
CORPORATION OF TAMILNADU LTD.

  
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SIPCOT Industrial Park, Pillaipakkam. The clearance mandates that the discharge of treated sewage shall conform to the standards and norms prescribed by the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB). Furthermore, an undertaking has been are being obtained from all the allottees in the industrial park to adopt Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) for their respective units.

5. I submit that the Project Officer, SIPCOT conducted a detailed inspection of the subject property and submitted a report on 02.08.2024 indicating that the storm water drain has been fully cleaned and there was no stagnation of water and being maintained periodically. Thus, the Respondent officials have periodically inspected the subject property and if there is any clogging or any stagnation of water in the storm water drain was cleaned.
6. I submit that a Common Sewage Treatment Plant (CSTP) and Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) are designed to treat waste water from multiple industries located within an industrial park in a single, centralized facility. While CSTPs and CETPs offer certain advantages, such as cost savings and efficient land use, they also have several significant challenges:

For STATE INDUSTRIES PROMOTION  
CORPORATION OF TAMIL NADU LTD.



Deputy General Manager (Legal)

No. of Pages: 6

No. of Corrections:

a. **Maintenance and Technical Challenges:**

Ongoing maintenance is essential to ensure that the CSTP / CETP operate efficiently. Malfunctioning equipment, chemical imbalances, or operator errors can result in untreated or partially treated sewage being discharged. All member industries merely depend on CSTP / CETP for the treatment of waste generated from their units, hence any major failure/issue of CSTP / CETP may affect all member industries.

b. **Malfunctioning Equipment:**

Pumps, aerators, and filtration systems are vital components of CSTPs / CETPs. When these fail, the treatment process can be disrupted, leading to insufficient treatment of sewage / effluent.

c. **Chemical Imbalances:**

CSTPs / CETPs often rely on chemical treatments, such as the use of huge dose of chlorine or other disinfectants in CSTPs / CETPs to neutralize pathogens, and pH adjustment chemicals to stabilize effluent quality. Imbalances in these chemicals can result in over-or under-treatment, leading to harmful substances being released into the environment, or compromising the safety of treated water used for reuse purposes.

FOR STATE INDUSTRIES PROMOTION  
CORPORATION OF TAMILNADU LTD.

  
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No. of Pages: 7

No. of Corrections:

**d. Vulnerability to Technical Failures:**

A single point of failure, such as a breakdown in the plant's systems or a natural disaster, could disrupt the entire treatment process, potentially leading to environmental contamination on a large scale. Overflow and bypass incidents occur when the system is overcapacity or there's a failure, resulting in untreated wastewater being released.

**e. Characteristics of Sewage / Effluent:**

Wastewater from multiple sources of industries must comply with the design specifications and standards. Technical failure of releasing the effluent waste water by Individual industries can lead to severe consequences, including the breakdown of the treatment system leading to environmental contamination on a large scale. Breakdown of CSTP / CETP system may result for critical issues for all industries in treatment of sewage / effluent and discharge for time being. Managing a CETP involves handling various pollutants from multiple sources, making it more challenging to achieve consistent treatment standards. Treating effluents from different industries in a single plant may not be as effective, as each industry generates different effluent with varying chemical compositions.

No. of Pages: 8

No. of Corrections:

For STATE INDUSTRIES PROMOTION  
CORPORATION OF TAMIL NADU LTD.

  
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**f. Management and Regulatory Issues**

Coordination between different stakeholders (industries) can be complex. Legal and regulatory compliance, including monitoring and reporting of effluent quality, adds further challenges.

**g. Environmental Impact:**

CSTPs / CETPs may cause environmental damage, if they are not well-maintained. Untreated or poorly treated sewage / effluent may result in the contamination of land affecting ecosystems. Construction of CSTP / CETP on larger capacity may raise concerns over noise, foul odor, and potential health risks, creating challenges for site selection and approval.

**h. Transportation and Distribution Costs:**

Transporting sewage / effluent from different locations to a central facility can be costly and complex, requiring extensive piping networks and pump stations. This is especially problematic for few industries generating less sewage / effluent and located at a distant from the CSTP / CETP facility.

For STATE INDUSTRIES PROMOTION  
CORPORATION OF TAMILNADU LTD.

  
Deputy General Manager (Legal)

No. of Pages: 9

No. of Corrections:

**i. Overburdened Capacity**

If the plant's capacity is exceeded due to population growth or increased effluent generation, the quality of sewage treatment can suffer, leading to improper treatment and environmental hazards. Disinterest of member industries in case of expansion of an existing unit may to be withhold due to non-availability of spare capacity of CSTP / CETP to treat the extra additional load resulted from expansion.

**j. Carbon footprint and Energy Consumption**

CSTPs / CETPs can be energy-intensive, particularly for large plants, leading to high operational costs and a significant carbon footprint.

7. I submit that each industry within the SIPCOT industrial park has a unique effluent treatment process tailored to the nature of the effluent it generates. Due to the varied composition of industrial effluents, it is challenging to categorize them uniformly, as they can recycle the waste water. While obtaining consent order from TNPCB, each industry is declaring that they have their own ETP and TNPCB is monitoring each unit while they approach them for renewal for every two years.

No. of Pages: 10

No. of Corrections:

FOR STATE INDUSTRIES PROMOTION  
CORPORATION OF TAMIL NADU LTD.

  
Deputy General Manager (Legal)

Hence, setting up of Common STP and ETP by SIPCOT may not be practically feasible.

It is therefore, prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to take on record the submissions made above and pass appropriate further orders as deemed fit in the facts and circumstances of the case and thus render justice.

For STATE INDUSTRIES PROMOTION  
CORPORATION OF TAMILNADU LTD.

Deputy General Manager (Legal)

Solemnly affirmed at Chennai  
this the 11<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2025  
signed his name in my presence

Before me,

ms/383/2022  
12/8/25

Chennai : Advocate

AG-law officer work  
madras high court.

No. of Pages: 11

No. of Corrections:

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**Advocate for 15<sup>th</sup> Respondent: SIPCOT  
Thiru Abishek Murthy  
Advocate, Madras High Court.  
Mobile: 9090979697/9944948599**

**Date: 11. 08. 2025**