

1

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

Original Application No. 79 of 2025 (SZ)

Tribunal on its own motion Suo-Moto
based On the Hindu News Paper
Chennai Edition dt; 20.04.2025
titled, "**Tackling waste head
on; A Chennai point of view**".

.....Applicant

versus

The Commissioner
Greater Chennai Corporation

.... Respondent

**STATUS REPORT FILED BY THE GREATER CHENNAI
CORPORATION. - 4TH RESPONDENT**

I, P. Annadurai, S/o. A. Pichai Pillai, Hindu, aged about 57 years, Superintending Engineer. Solid waste Management Department, Greater Chennai Corporation, having office at Chennai -600003, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely submit as follows;

I am working as the Superintending Engineer in the Greater Chennai Corporation and filing this report on behalf of the Commissioner, Greater Chennai Corporation and hence I am well acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case.

I am filing this status report and I am well acquainted with the facts of the above case as per available records.

RECEIVED SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION

[Signature]
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION

1. Preliminary Submissions :

1.1. I submit that the Greater Chennai Corporation is the statutory municipal authority entrusted with the responsibility for solid waste management (SWM) within the administrative limits of Chennai city. The Corporation undertakes this duty in accordance with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, and under the overall supervision of the Municipal Administration and Water Supply (MAWS) Department, Government of Tamil Nadu.

1.2. I submit that the Hon'ble Tribunal has taken suo motu cognizance of a news report highlighting concerns related to solid waste management, landfill operations, and environmental degradation. The Corporation, with due respect, acknowledges these concerns and submits that proactive and structured steps are being implemented to transform Chennai's SWM ecosystem into a modern, environmentally sustainable, and compliant system.

2. Current Waste Generation and Disposal Profile :

2.1. Chennai generates approximately 6,500 metric tonnes (MT) of municipal solid waste per day.

2.2. Of this, around 1,000 MT/day is currently processed through existing infrastructure such as:

- *Micro composting centres*
- *Bio-CNG plants*
- *Material recovery facilities*
- *Decentralised compost yards.*
- *Plastic Bailing centre, Incinerator Plant*

2.3. The remaining 5,500 MT/day is transported to two dump yards, located at Kodungaiyur and Perungudi, which are in advanced stages of saturation and require urgent remediation and scientific management.

3. Strategic Action Plan for Sustainable Waste Management :

I submit that the GCC has formulated and initiated a comprehensive Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan (ISWMP) with a dual focus:

- To drastically reduce waste sent to landfills
- To scientifically remediate and repurpose the existing legacy dump yards.

3.1. Bio-CNG Plants (5 Nos. x 100 MT/day)

- Total capacity: 500 MT/day
- Technology: Anaerobic digestion of segregated organic waste
- Purpose: Conversion of biodegradable waste into compressed biogas (CNG)
- By-products: Bio-slurry and enriched compost
- Impact: Promotes circular economy by replacing fossil fuels with renewable energy

3.2. Integrated Waste Processing Facility (IWPF) at Kodungaiyur (3,100 MT/day)

A state-of-the-art integrated facility to process mixed waste through:

- Mechanical segregation and material recovery
- RDF (Refuse-Derived Fuel) processing
- Composting of organics
- Scientific landfill for inert waste
- Key Component: A 21 MW Waste-to-Energy (WTE) Plant to recover energy from non-recyclable combustible waste
- Expected Outcomes:
- Waste diversion from landfills
- Power generation for grid supply
- Environmental compliance with minimal residue disposal

4

3.3. 500 MT/day Bio-Gas Plant at Perungudi (Reclaimed Site)

- Feedstock: Market waste, hotel waste, and kitchen waste
- Technology: Dry anaerobic digestion
- Output: Biogas for industrial or vehicular use
- Land use: Constructed on reclaimed non-sensitive landfill zone

3.4. 500 MT/day Compost Plant at Perungudi

- Windrow composting of segregated organic waste
- Will generate high-quality compost for agricultural and horticultural use
- Will generate high-quality compost for agricultural and horticultural use
- Reduces methane emissions and supports organic farming

3.5. Windrow Compost Yard – 100 MT/day (Perungudi Reclaimed Area)

- Additional capacity for decentralized wet waste processing
- Focus on serving nearby zones and reducing transport emissions

3.6. Two Mega Baling and Resource Recovery Centres (100 MT/day each)

- Locations: Manali (North Chennai) and Pallikaranai (South Chennai)

Function :

- Sorting and compacting of recyclables
- Facilitating efficient material recovery and revenue generation
- Reduces dry waste inflow to landfill and supports circular economy industries.


SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION

RECEIVED
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION

4. Governance Frame work :

4.1. Source Segregation and Community Participation

- Over 75% coverage in source segregation achieved
- Regular Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaigns
- Involvement of bulk waste generators, RWAs, and NGOs for decentralized composting

4.2. Interdepartmental Coordination

- GCC is actively coordinating with:
- Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB)
- Department of Environment and Forests
- Tamil Nadu Urban Infrastructure Financial Services Limited (TNUIFSL)
- Revenue and Water Resources Departments for encroachment removal and site clearance

5. Response to Concerns Raised in the Article :

5.1. I submit that the article highlights environmental concerns in Pallikaranai catchment area, including loss of water bodies due to encroachment and unregulated activities.

5.2. GCC submits that:

- All proposed waste processing facilities are located outside ecologically sensitive areas and marshlands
- No new activity is proposed in Pallikaranai Marshland or notified wetland zones
- The legacy landfills are being reclaimed under planned and phased scientific closure in line with CPCB and NGT guidelines

6

- Land identified for all projects would be vetted for environmental clearance and zonal compatibility

6. Prayer :

I submit that in light of the above, it is respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may graciously:

1. Take on record the proactive measures being implemented by the Greater Chennai Corporation in line with national environmental policy and sustainable waste management practices;
2. Permit the Corporation to proceed with the planned infrastructure projects which are essential to prevent further environmental degradation and to achieve near-zero landfill objectives;
3. Pass such further or other orders as may be deemed just and necessary in the interest of justice, public health, and environmental sustainability.

I submit that it is therefore prayed that this Hon'ble National Green Tribunal may be pleased to consider the above facts and pass suitable orders and thus render justice.




COUNSEL FOR 4TH RESPONDENT

Solemnly affirmed at Chennai }
on this day of 16TH July - 2026 }
and signed his name in my }
presence. }


SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION

Before me,


E.No. 340/96

Advocate:Chennai



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

Original Application No.79 of 2025(SZ)

**STATUS REPORT FILED BY
THE GREATER CHENNAI
CORPORATION.**

**TH.N.R.RAMESH KANNA,
COUNSEL FOR RESPOND**