

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

Original Application No.81 of 2025

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU
based on Dinamalar Newspaper Chennai
Edition dt: 21.04.2025 titled, "**Officials are
negligent in not monitoring sewage
mixing in Sembarambakkam lake**"

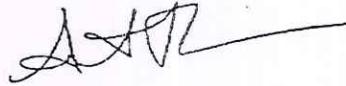
And

The Principal Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu
Department of Environment, Climate Change &
Forests, Chennai and Others.

...Respondents.

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Filed by
Thiru.S. Sai Sathya Jith,
Advocate, Chennai.

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Chennai Edition dt: 21.04.2025 titled,
**“Officials are negligent in not
monitoring sewage mixing in
Sembarambakkam lake”**

And

The Principal Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu
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Forests, Chennai and Others.

...Respondents.

**REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THIRD RESPONDENT
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

I, S. Vasuki, Daughter of Thiru. P. K. Somasundaram, aged about 56 years, having office at No.76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai - 600 032, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

1. I submit that I am working as the Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai and I am authorized to file this report on behalf of the Third Respondent, (TNPCB) and as such I am well acquainted with the facts of the case available from our office records.
2. It is respectfully submitted that based on Dinamalar Newspaper Chennai Edition dt: 21.04.2025 titled, **“Officials are negligent in not monitoring sewage mixing in Sembarambakkam lake”** the Hon'ble NGT (SZ), Chennai has taken a SUO MOTU on 28.4.2025.
3. It is respectfully submitted that the Third Respondent submits its report before the Hon'ble NGT, (SZ), Chennai herein.
4. It is respectfully submitted that the Chembarambakkam Lake is located at Kancheepuram District is one of the important rain-fed reservoirs and is

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maintained by Water Resources Department (WRD) Government of Tamil Nadu. Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) manages the Chembarambakkam Water Treatment Plant (CWTP) of 530 MLD capacity, which draws water from the lake to supply the city. Chembarambakkam Lake receives water from its own catchment and also from Krishna Water linked from Poondi Reservoir conveyed through open canal.

5. It is respectfully submitted that the Krishna water flow is from North to South direction reaching the Chembarambakkam Lake. The mouth of Krishna water canal at the Chembarambakkam Lake is surrounded by the villages of Mannur, Valarpuram and Thandalm at the western side and Chettipedu village at the Eastern side. It was observed that there is no sewage treatment plant provided for the treatment of the sewage generated from the villages of Mannur, Valarpuram, Thandalm and Chettipedu. Hence the sewage from these villages finds way towards the Krishna water canal near the mouth at Chembarambakkam Lake.
6. It is further submitted that, news reports were published in the Tamil dailies "*Dinamalar*" dated 21.04.2025 and "*Dinakaran*" dated 18.06.2025 regarding the discharge of sewage into Chembarambakkam Lake from a multi-storey residential complex and a private medical college. Based on the published news, a detailed inspection was conducted by officials of the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) on 21.04.2025 and 18.06.2025 and observed that there is a stagnation of sewage/storm water of the above said villages at the earthen bund constructed on either side of the Krishna canal. These earthen bunds have been raised on both the eastern and western sides of the Krishna Water Canal to prevent the direct inflow of sullage, sewage, and stormwater into the canal, which drains into Chembarambakkam Lake.
7. It is respectfully submitted that it was also observed that the Sewage Treatment Plant and the Effluent Treatment Plant provided by the Hospital was in operation and there was no discharge of sewage/effluent finding access outside its premises. The VGP Industrial complex and Vijayashanthi Residential complex is located in between M/s. Saveetha Medical College and Chettipedu

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Village. There are approximately 30 residences at VGP Industrial complex, the sewage generated from which are treated through Sewage Treatment Plant provided within its campus and the treated sewage is utilised for its gardening. Furthermore, no discharge of sewage or effluent was noticed from the industries located in VGP Industrial complex. There are approximately 300 residential apartments in Vijayashanthi Residential complex, and the sullage/sewage generated from these apartments is treated in their Sewage Treatment Plant. Part of the treated sewage is utilized for gardening and the excess treated sewage is discharged in to the storm water drain of Chettipedu village.

8. It is respectfully submitted that based on the site inspections a letter was addressed to the Block Development Officer, Sriperumbudur, Kancheepuram District Lr.No. DEE/TNPCB/SPR/F. Compl/ 2025, Dated:21.04.2025 and 18.06.2025 to construct a centralized Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) or Grey Water Treatment Plant of adequate capacity to treat the wastewater generated from the villages of Mannur, Valarpuram, Thandalam, and Chettipedu. The copy of the letter addressed to the Block Development officer on 21.4.2025 and 18.6.2025 along with the Photographs are enclosed as Annexures.

Therefore, it is humbly prayed that this Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (Southern Zone) may be pleased to pass such further or other orders as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of this case and thus render justice.

S. Vasuki 14.8.25
 JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
 TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
 76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
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VERIFICATION

I, S. Vasuki, Daughter of Thiru. P. K. Somasundaram, working as the Joint Chief Environment Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board having office at No.76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai 600 032, do hereby verify that the contents of above are true to the best of my knowledge through records.

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...Respondents

**REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THIRD
RESPONDENT -TAMIL NADU
POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

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

Date:18.08.2025.

Date of Hearing:21.08.2025

