

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL SOUTHERN ZONE BENCH

AT CHENNAI

OA No.113 of 2024

IN THE MATTER OF:

T AMARANATHA

..... Applicant

Vs

STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH THROUGH CHIEF SECRETARY AND OTHERS

.... Respondents

REPORT FILED BY THE APPCB 2nd RESPONDENT

DATE- 11.09.2025



**M/s MADHURI DONTI REDDY
ADVOCATE**

STANDING COUNSEL FOR GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

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**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 113 of 2024 (SZ)**

Interim report of the Joint committee in compliance with Hon'ble NGT Orders dt. 18.02.2024 in Original Application 773 of 2023 (PB), transferred to the Southern Zone bench and renumbered as 113 of 2024 (SZ) filed in the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Southern Zone (SZ), Chennai.

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ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
A.P. Pollution Control Board,
Regional office, Tirupati

Date. 16.07.2025

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Regional Office: TIRUPATI

Interim report of the Joint committee in compliance with Hon'ble NGT Orders dt. 18.02.2024 in Original Application 773 of 2023 (PB), transferred to the Southern Zone bench and renumbered as 113 of 2024 (SZ) filed in the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Southern Zone (SZ), Chennai.

It is to submit that Sri T. Amaranath, S/o. Krishnaiah, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh, submitted a representation to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Principal Bench (PB), New Delhi against the construction of a cricket stadium at Tummalgunta tank / Mallammagunta cheruvu, located in Survey No. 60, 61, 62, 63 of Tummalagunta revenue village in Tirupati Mandal, Tirupati District, Andhra Pradesh.

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Principal Bench (PB), New Delhi, registered the case, i.e., O.A. No. 773 of 2023 (PB), on the issue suo motto, and issued the following order on 08.02.2024.

- "4. In view of the averments in the application, we consider it appropriate to have response of (1) State of Andhra Pradesh through Chief Secretary, Government of Andhra Pradesh, (2) Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board, through its Member Secretary and (3) Collector, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh who stand impleaded as respondents No. 1 to 3. The Registry is directed to prepare and attach memo of parties to the application and issue notices to respondents No. 1 to 3 requiring them to file their reply/response within two months.*
- 5. In view of the averments made in the application, we also consider it appropriate that a Joint Committee be constituted to verify the factual position and take appropriate remedial action. Accordingly, we constitute a Joint Committee comprising of representatives of Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board and Collector, Tirupati, Andhar Pradesh and direct the same to meet within two weeks, undertake visits to the site, look into the grievances of the applicant, associate the applicant and representative of the concerned project*


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proponent, verify the factual position and take appropriate remedial action by following due course of law. The Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board will be the nodal agency for coordination and compliance.

6. *Even though in the present case cognizance has been taken by this Bench on the basis of letter petition received by post with approval and assignment under order of Hon'ble Chairperson, but in view of the facts and circumstances of the case including the fact that the place of accrual of cause of action lies within jurisdiction of the Southern Zone Bench of this Tribunal at Chennai, we are of the considered view that it will be appropriate if the case is further heard by the Southern Zone Bench of this Tribunal at Chennai.*
7. *Accordingly, the Registry is directed to list the matter before the Southern Zone Bench of this Tribunal at Chennai on 23.04.2024 after obtaining orders from Hon'ble the Chairperson for transfer of the case.*
8. *Factual and Action taken Report by the Joint Committee and reply/response by the respondents be filed within two months before the Southern Zone Bench of this Tribunal at Chennai by email judicialngtsz@gov.in preferably in the form of searchable PDF/OCR Supported PDF and not in the form of Image PDF.*
9. *A copy of this order be sent to the Member Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board and Collector, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh by email for requisite compliance."*

A copy of the NGT Order is enclosed herewith for kind perusal – Annexure – II.

Accordingly, the O.A. No. 773 of 2023(PB) was transferred to the Southern Zone Bench and renumbered as 113 of 2024(SZ) by the Hon'ble NGT, Chennai.



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The Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi, in order dt. 08.02.2024 in O.A. No.773 of 2023 (PB) constituted a Joint Committee comprising representatives of the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board and the Collector/District Magistrate, Tirupati.

Accordingly, the Member Secretary, APPCB vide letter dt 23.11.2024, nominated the Environmental Engineer (EE), Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPCB), Regional Office (RO), Tirupati, as a Nodal Officer to represent APPCB in the above committee.

The Collector & District Magistrate, Tirupati vide orders dt. 14.02.2025 nominated the Revenue Divisional Officer, Tirupati, to participate in the Joint Committee.

The Joint Committee inspected the Thummalagunta tank area on 10.07.2025 and opined that the remarks of stakeholder departments, i.e., Water Resources Department and Tirupati Urban Development Authority (TUDA), shall be obtained so as to submit a comprehensive report to the Hon'ble NGT.

In view of the above, it is humbly submitted that 6 weeks be granted to submit a report on the developments that have occurred at Thummalagunta Tank.



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REVENUE DIVISIONAL OFFICER
Tirupati, Tirupati District.

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of Andhra Pradesh. Additionally, I would like to emphasize the devastating flooding that occurred in Tirupati town in 2021, worsened by the encroachment, as well as the unlawful conduct of cricket tournaments by influential political leaders in the encroached areas, which has further led to ecological imbalances.

The encroachment on the Tummalgunta Tank / MallammaguntaCheruvu land has resulted in the loss of a valuable water resource, disrupting the natural water flow and hydrological cycle in the region. This disturbance has led to a significant reduction in groundwater levels, water scarcity, and adverse impacts on agriculture and biodiversity, thus causing severe ecological imbalances. The encroachment has not only affected the immediate vicinity but also had far-reaching consequences on the surrounding ecosystems.

Furthermore, the encroachment on the Tummalgunta Tank /MallammaguntaCheruvu land played a substantial role in the flooding that inflicted significant damage on Tirupati town in 2021. The unauthorized structures and alterations on the tank land hindered the natural absorption and drainage of excess rainfall, exacerbating the flood situation. The floods resulted in loss of life, widespread destruction of infrastructure, displacement of residents, and substantial economic losses. The ecological imbalances caused by the encroachment further exacerbated the impact of the flooding, resulting in long-lasting ecological damage to the area.

In addition to these pressing concerns, it has come to my attention that influential political leaders have been organizing cricket tournaments in the encroached areas surrounding Tummalgunta Tank / MallammaguntaCheruvu. These activities not only further compound the environmental damage caused by the encroachment but also disrupt the delicate ecological balance in the region. The unlawful construction, land use changes, and potential pollution from these events have a detrimental impact on the biodiversity, soil quality, and overall ecological health of the area.

Enclosed herewith, please find photographs clearly depicting the encroached areas, unauthorized structures, and the resulting ecological damage. Additionally, I have included relevant land classification documents, including the survey numbers and extents, for your reference and further investigation.

Given the severity and interconnectedness of these issues, it is imperative that punitive measures be taken against responsible persons and government authorities who allowed or facilitated the encroachment and the unlawful activities. I urge the National Green Tribunal to:

- 1. Conduct a thorough investigation to identify the individuals, organizations, and government authorities responsible for the*

encroachment on the Tummalgunta Tank / MallammaguntaCheruvu land.

2. Impose strict penalties, fines, and legal consequences on the responsible parties, including influential political leaders, to ensure accountability for their actions and deter future encroachments.

3. Direct the concerned government authorities to take immediate action in removing all unauthorized structures and encroachments on the tank land, restoring it to its original extent and capacity.

X X X X”

3. *Prima facie* the averments made in the application raise substantial questions relating to environment arising out of the implementation of the enactments specified in Schedule-I to the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

4. In view of the averments in the application, we consider it appropriate to have response of (1) State of Andhra Pradesh through Chief Secretary, Government of Andhra Pradesh, (2) Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board, through its Member Secretary and (3) Collector, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh who stand impleaded as respondents No. 1 to 3. The Registry is directed to prepare and attach memo of parties to the application and issue notices to respondents No. 1 to 3 requiring them to file their reply/response within two months.

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7. Accordingly, the Registry is directed to list the matter before the Southern Zone Bench of this Tribunal at Chennai on 23.04.2024 after obtaining orders from Hon'ble the Chairperson for transfer of the case.

8. Factual and Action taken Report by the Joint Committee and reply/response by the respondents be filed within two months before the Southern Zone Bench of this Tribunal at Chennai by email judicial-ngtsz@gov.in preferably in the form of searchable PDF/OCR Supported PDF and not in the form of Image PDF.

9. A copy of this order be sent to the Member Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board and Collector, Tirupati, Andhar Pradesh by email for requisite compliance.

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. Afroz Ahmad, EM

