

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

**Execution Application No.11 of 2023 (SZ) in
Original Application No.523 of 2018(PB)
WITH
Original Application No.156 of 2024 (SZ)
WITH
Original Application No.127 of 2022(SZ)**

In the matter of:

V. Eswaran, Coimbatore.

VS

The District Collector,
Coimbatore District and Anr.

WITH

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU
based on the news item published in
'The Hindu' dated 07.04.2024, titled
"Fire breaks out at Vellalore landfill in Coimbatore"

And

Central Pollution Control Board
Through its Member Secretary, New Delhi and Ors

WITH

K.S. Mohan, Coimbatore.

VS

The Corporation of Coimbatore
Represented by its Commissioner
Coimbatore and Ors.

**REPORT FILE BY THE 5TH RESPONDENT-
DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION AND WATER SUPPLY.
INDEX**

S. No.	Date	Description	Page No.
1	30.10.2025	Report file by the 5 th Respondent- Department of Municipal Administration and Water Supply.	1-8
2	14.10.2025	Annexure 1	9-12
3	21.10.2025	Annexure 2	13-14

(Note: The page numbers are at the top centre of every page)



Through
Dr. D. Shanmuganathan
Standing Counsel for Government of Tamil Nadu
National Green Tribunal
Southern Zone, Chennai

DATE:01.11.2025

1
**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE**

**Execution Application No. 11 of 2023(SZ) in
Original Application No. 523 of 2018(PB)**

WITH

Original Application No. 156 of 2018(SZ)

WITH

Original Application No. 127 of 2018(SZ)

In the matter of

V. Eswaran, Coimbatore.

.....Applicant(s)

Versus

The District Collector,
Coimbatore District and Anr.

..... Respondent(s)

WITH

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU
based on the News item published in
'The Hindu' dated 07.04.2024, titled
**"Fire breaks out at Vellalore landfill
in Coimbatore"**

And

Central Pollution Control Board
Through Its Member Secretary,
New Delhi and ors.

..... Respondent(s)

WITH

K.S. Mohan,
Coimbatore.

.....Applicant(s)

Versus

The Corporation of Coimbatore
Represented by its Commissioner
Coimbatore and Ors.

..... Respondent(s)


**Deputy Secretary to Government
M.A. & W.S. Department
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009,**

STATUS REPORT REGARDING VELLALORE LANDFILL IN COIMBATORE

I, the undersigned, submit this Status Report on behalf of the Principal Secretary, Department of Municipal Administration and Water Supply / Chairman of the Committee for monitoring the implementation of Solid / Liquid / Other Waste Management Rules, before this Hon'ble Tribunal in compliance with the directions issued in the above matter and respectfully submit the following for the kind perusal and further orders of this Hon'ble Tribunal:

The execution application [E.A. No.30 of 2022 (PB)] is filed by the applicant before the Principal Bench, National Green Tribunal, New Delhi against the failure of non-compliance of the order dated 03.10.2018 passed by the Tribunal in O.A. No.523 of 2018 (PB) [Earlier O.A. No.234 of 2013 (SZ)] and 524 of 2018 (PB) [Earlier O.A. No.164 of 2013 (SZ)]. Thereafter, the matter was transferred to this Bench and the same has been renumbered as **E.A. No.11 of 2023 (SZ)**.

2. The Original Application [**O.A. No.127 of 2022 (SZ)**] is a continuation of the earlier application filed at this Bench as O.A. No.234 of 2013 (SZ) which was disposed of on 03.10.2018.

Meanwhile, the Principal Bench of the National Green Tribunal, New Delhi has Suo Motu registered a case as O.A. No.374 of 2024 (PB) based on the news item published in 'The Hindu' dated 07.04.2024 titled, "Fire Breaks out at Vellalore landfill in Coimbatore", which has been transferred to this Bench and renumbered as **O.A. No.156 of 2024 (SZ)**.

3. In the above matter the Hon'ble NGT, SZ in its Order dated 07.08.2025 has inter-alia directed as follows:

"3. The list of the cement factories, to whom the RDF has been supplied, seems to have focused only on one or two companies when there are other options available, even within the State of Tamil Nadu, which can also be extended to the neighbouring State of Karnataka, if need be.


 Deputy Secretary to Government
 M.A. & W.S. Department
 Secretariat, Chennai-600 009.

Hence, this issue of disposal of RDF can be addressed at the level of the Commissioner, CCMC, himself.

4. The report states that a total of 92,431 MT of legacy waste has been processed and 13,300 MT of RDF have been disposed of.

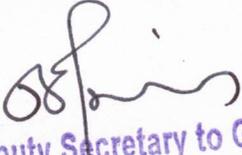
5. This Tribunal had earlier directed the deployment of Power Screen Warrior machines or also to increase the number of trommels being used to ensure that at least 10,000 TPD legacy waste be processed at the site. For the said direction, it is answered that if 10,000 TPD is processed, then the output of the RDF could be 1,500 TPD, which would be a challenge to dispose of at the cement factories because of the reasons referred to above.

6. Additionally, the stored RDF materials could not be accepted by the cement factories due to the moisture content during the monsoon period. Any change in the methodology, according to the report, would alter the scope of the work with the contractor. Therefore, it is stated that they have increased deployment of one more of the trommel and increased the operation timings in the daily operations, which will result in 300 to 400 TPD additionally and that would bring down the time duration by at least three to four months.

7. Based on the above concerns, a draft action plan is presented to the Committee, as per which, the balance quantity of legacy waste of 6,97,061.49 MT will be completed by October 2026, which would resultantly reduce the six months from the original contract duration, which ends in April 2027.

8. The action plan is annexed as Annexure-10, wherein it is proposed to process 46,800 MT per month during the period from August 2025 to October 2026. The revised proposal is to work for two shifts per day with ten hours per shift, processing a capacity of 900 MT per shift. The Committee has assured to monitor and report the compliance adhering to all the legal and ecological obligations, including the timeline agreed.

9. The learned counsel appearing for the applicant, Mr. A. Yogeshwaran, would object that the Committee has not addressed


Deputy Secretary to Government
M.A. & W.S. Department
Secretariat, Government of Karnataka

the issue of decentralizing the solid waste management, as it is alleged that the entire city of Coimbatore is sending the waste to the Vellalore site, which has made it impossible to process at the earliest.

10. In reply, it is stated that of the 32 Micro Composting Centres (MCCs), only 24 or 26 MCCs are in operation as on date. Each of them is of a capacity of 5 tonnes per day.

11. The objection is that even excluding the 5 tonnes per day being operated by all these MCCs, what is being transferred to the Vellalore dumpsite is in excess, in addition to the carbon footprint they are leaving (due to the transport of about 800 tonnes of waste).

12. Therefore, the learned counsel for the applicant insists that the Corporation has to look for an alternate location for solid waste management in a decentralized manner.

13. Today, Mr. G. Elangovan, Executive Engineer, Mr. S. Saravanan, Team Leader – Project Management Consultant and Dr. Boopathy, Assistant Health Officer, are present before us.

14. It was represented by them that they may require 60 to 70 cents of land for the said purpose, which is impossible to locate in the city of Coimbatore. Even if such land is available, belonging to the Corporation, there is stiff opposition from the general public against locating them. In this regard, it is stated that there have been agitations from the public, etc.

15. Therefore, the Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation is directed to adhere to the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and impress upon the public about the importance of decentralizing the solid waste management activities at the earliest. It is also advised that the Corporation get the appropriate approvals for the facilities likely to be established.

16. While we appreciate the efforts taken by the authorities, at the instance of the Principal Secretary – Department of Municipal Administration and Water Supply, based on our directions, the progress report as per their timeline should be filed after three months. The Principal Secretary Department of Municipal Administration and Water Supply is also directed to monitor the same and convene a meeting every quarter. Let a copy of the said minutes also be furnished along with the report.

17. Post the matter on 03.11.2025."


 Deputy Secretary to Government
 M.A. & W.S. Department
 Secretariat, Chennai-600 009.

4. In compliance of the orders of this Hon'ble Tribunal, the meeting of the Committee to monitor the implementation of Solid, Liquid, and Other Waste Management Rules under the Chairmanship of the Principal Secretary to Government, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department was held on 14.10.2025.

5. During the meeting, a presentation was made by the Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation regarding the action taken by the Coimbatore Corporation to comply with the Tribunal's directives on disposal of RDF, expansion of shift & processing capacity and to impress upon the public about the importance of decentralizing the solid waste management activities. The key points presented are summarized below:-

- As part of the initiative to promote sustainable waste management and enhance the use of Refuse-Derived Fuel (RDF) in cement manufacturing 26 cement factories within Tamil Nadu have been identified as facilities that are currently accepting RDF materials for co-processing in their manufacturing operations.
- 11 cement factories within Karnataka have similarly been identified for accepting RDF materials.
- To facilitate collaboration between RDF-generating service providers and the cement industry, Official letters have been sent to all the identified 26 factories in Tamil Nadu and 11 factories in Karnataka, recommending the empanelled service providers involved in waste processing within municipal corporations.
- The communication encouraged the utilization of RDF materials segregated during the waste processing cycle by these service



Deputy Secretary to Government
M.A. & W.S. Department
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009.

providers, promoting circular economy practices and reducing landfill dependency.

- In adherence to the directions of the Hon'ble Tribunal, notice was issued to the contractor to increase the duration of shifts from 16 hours to 20 hours per day, so that the target of processing capacity upto 1800 MT per day can be achieved.
- The contractor has commenced two-shift operations and is actively working towards increasing the total daily operational hours from 16 to 20 hours.
- A joint inspection was conducted on the 24th September 2025 involving representatives from Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation, Project Management Consultant and the Contractor to assess the progress of work.
- The inspection specifically reviewed the arrangements for the installation of the 4th Trommel, which is being deployed to accelerate processing activities, in line with the directives issued by the Hon'ble Tribunal.
- Further, on the directions of Hon'ble Tribunal to impress upon the public about the importance of decentralizing the solid waste management activities the Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation has organized various programmes and activities such as a Special Awareness Meeting and Exhibition for Bulk Waste Generators (BWGs) on 12.09.2025, a Special Awareness and Two-Day Exhibition was organised on 27.09.2025 & 28.09.2025 and Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) 2025 campaign was organized from the 17th September to the

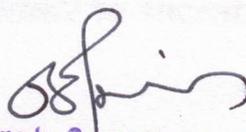

Deputy Secretary to Government
M.A. & W.S. Department
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009,

2nd October under the theme "My Waste, My Responsibility" with the aim to promote people's movement towards clean cities through active participation, cleanliness drives, and awareness activities across all 100 wards of Coimbatore.

- Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation is actively joining hands with State projects such as Thooimai Mission (also called Thooimai lyakkam / Cleanliness Mission), a State initiative launched by the Government of Tamil Nadu under the Special Programme Implementation (SPI) Department with the aim to transform solid waste management across both urban and rural areas - moving from just disposal of waste to resource recovery, scientific handling, recycling, and ensuring sustainability of infrastructure and behaviour.
- The Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation has further furnished the data on processing of legacy waste, vehicles and shift details and data on disposal of RDFs and other materials.

6.The Committee has directed the Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation to get commitment from the identified cement factories in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka for utilization of RDF materials.

7. The Committee has observed that there is a lag in processing of 46,800 MT/Month as per the revised action plan. The Committee has insisted upon the Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation to ensure processing of 1,200 MT/day as per the contractual agreement by the contractor to achieve 36,000 MT from the month of September onwards. Further, the Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation has to take action to enhance the processing capacity to 1,800 MT/day so as to achieve the


Deputy Secretary to Government
M.A. & W.S. Department
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009.

project completion by 31.10.2026. The Committee has further directed the Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation to explore possibility of engaging rental-based additional machineries available with other contractors to achieve the required capacity.

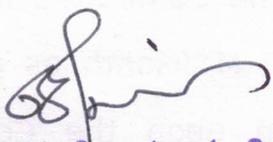
The Committee has insisted that an updated report may be obtained from the Project Management Consultant on the progress up to the third week of October 2025 and the same may be placed before the Hon'ble Tribunal for its favorable consideration and necessary orders.

In view of the foregoing facts, it is most respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to take the above facts on record and pass such orders as may be deemed fit in the interest of justice.

VERIFICATION

I, A. Karikalan, S/o V. Arumugam, presently working as Deputy Secretary to Government, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, do hereby verify that the contents of the above status report are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I am duly authorized to file this report on behalf of the Principal Secretary to Government, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, Secretariat, Chennai - 600 009.

**Signed and Verified at Chennai
on this the 30th day of October, 2025.**


**Deputy Secretary to Government
M.A. & W.S. Department
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009.**

**Deputy Secretary to Government
Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department
Government of Tamil Nadu**

Minutes of the meeting of the Committee headed by the Principal Secretary to Government, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department constituted to monitor the implementation of Solid, Liquid, and Other Waste Management Rules, in the progress of the bio-mining operations at the Vellalore compost yard in Coimbatore in compliance with the directions issued by Hon'ble NGT(SZ) in O.A.No.523 of 2018 (PB) with O.A.No.127 of 2022 (SZ) with O.A.No.156 of 2024 (SZ) held on 14.10.2025 at 12.30 PM in the Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department Conference Hall, 8th floor, Namakkal Kavingar Maaligai, Secretariat.

The meeting of the Committee headed by the Principal Secretary to Government, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department constituted to monitor the implementation of Solid, Liquid, and Other Waste Management Rules, in the progress of the bio-mining operations at the Vellalore compost yard in Coimbatore in compliance with the directions issued by Hon'ble NGT(SZ) in O.A.No.523 of 2018 (PB) with O.A.No.127 of 2022 (SZ) with O.A.No.156 of 2024 (SZ) was held on 14.10.2025 at 12.30 PM in the Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department Conference Hall, 8th floor, Namakkal Kavingar Maaligai, Secretariat.

The following members have attended the meeting

1. Thiru.J. Jayakanthan, I.A.S.,
Secretary to Government,
Water Resources Department,
Secretariat, Chennai 600 009.
2. Thiru.P. Madhusudhan Reddy I.A.S.,
Director of Municipal Administration,
Secretariat,
Chennai 600 009.
3. Thiru K. Muruganantham,
Deputy Secretary to Government
Finance Department
Secretariat,
Chennai 600 009.
4. Thriu.J. Muthukumar,
Deputy secretary to Government,
Revenue and Disaster Management Department,
Secretariat,
Chennai 600 009.
5. Er.S. Vasuki,
Joint Chief Environmental Engineer,
TNPCC, Chennai – 600 032.

6. Tmt.T. Shanthi,
Under Secretary to Government,
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department,
Secretariat, Chennai 600 009.

The following is the record of discussion during the meeting:

A detailed presentation was made by the Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation regarding the actions taken by the Corporation in compliance with the directions issued by this Hon'ble Tribunal in its Order dated 07.08.2025. The Coimbatore Corporation Commissioner provided an update on the progress of the bio-mining operations at the Vellalore Compost Yard, including the data on the approved action plan, quantity of legacy waste processed, the volume of Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) disposed and related metrics in compliance to the directions of the Hon'ble Tribunal.

The Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation has elaborated on the steps taken by the Corporation to comply with the Tribunal's directives on disposal of RDF, expansion of shift & processing capacity and to impress upon the public about the importance of decentralizing the solid waste management activities. The key points presented are summarized below:

- As part of the initiative to promote sustainable waste management and enhance the use of Refuse-Derived Fuel (RDF) in cement manufacturing 26 cement factories within Tamil Nadu have been identified as facilities that are currently accepting RDF materials for co-processing in their manufacturing operations.
- 11 cement factories within Karnataka have similarly been identified for accepting RDF materials.
- To facilitate collaboration between RDF-generating service providers and the cement industry, Official letters have been sent to all the identified 26 factories in Tamil Nadu and 11 factories in Karnataka, recommending the empanelled service providers involved in waste processing within municipal corporations.
- The communication encouraged the utilization of RDF materials segregated during the waste processing cycle by these service providers, promoting circular economy practices and reducing landfill dependency.
- In adherence to the directions of the Hon'ble Tribunal, notice was issued to the contractor to increase the duration of shifts from 16 hours to 20 hours per day, so that the target of processing capacity upto 1800 MT per day can be achieved.
- The contractor has commenced two-shift operations and is actively working towards increasing the total daily operational hours from 16 to 20 hours.

- A joint inspection was conducted on 24th September 2025 involving representatives from CCMC, PMC and the Contractor to assess the progress of work.
- The inspection specifically reviewed the arrangements for the installation of the 4th Trommel, which is being deployed to accelerate processing activities, in line with the directives issued by the Hon'ble Tribunal.
- Further, on the directions of Hon'ble Tribunal to impress upon the public about the importance of decentralizing the solid waste management activities the Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation has organized various programs and activities such as a Special Awareness Meeting and Exhibition for Bulk Waste Generators (BWGs) on 12.09.2025, a Special Awareness and Two-Day Exhibition was organised on 27.09.2025 & 28.09.2025 and Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) 2025 campaign was organized from 17th September to 2nd October under the theme "My Waste, My Responsibility" with the aim to promote people's movement towards clean cities through active participation, cleanliness drives, and awareness activities across all 100 wards of Coimbatore.
- CCMC is actively joining hands with State projects such as Thooimai Mission (also called Thooimai Iyakkam / Cleanliness Mission), a state initiative launched by the Government of Tamil Nadu under the Special Programme Implementation (SPI) Department with the aim to transform solid waste management across both urban and rural areas - moving from just disposal of waste to resource recovery, scientific handling, recycling, and ensuring sustainability of infrastructure and behaviour.
- The Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation has further furnished the data on processing of legacy waste, vehicles & shift details and data on disposal of RDFs and other materials.

The Committee has directed the Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation to get commitment from the identified cement factories in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka for utilization of RDF materials.

The Committee has observed that there is a lag in processing of 46,800 MT/Month as per the revised action plan. The Committee has insisted upon the Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation to ensure processing of 1,200 MT/day as per the contractual agreement by the contractor to achieve 36,000 MT from the month of September onwards. Further, the Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation has to take action to enhance the processing capacity to 1,800 MT/day so as to achieve the project completion by 31.10.2026. The Committee has further directed the Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation to explore possibility of engaging rental-based additional machineries available with other contractors to achieve the required capacity.



CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES
ANNA UNIVERSITY, CHENNAI-25.

Off: +91-44-2235 9009/ 9010

Fax: +91-44-22354717

Email: directorcesau@gmail.com

Dr. S. KARTHIKEYAN, B.E., M.E., Ph.D.

Professor & Director

Lr.No.0153/CES/SK/ Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation /2025-26

Date: 31.10.2025

To
The Commissioner,
Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation,
Coimbatore – 641 001

Sir/Madam

Sub: CES-Consultancy work on – “Project Management Consultancy (PMC)- Solid Waste Management system- Biomining of legacy waste dumped at Vellalore dumpsite (9,92,674 cum/ 7,94,139 MT- Phase II- Site inspection report -reg

Ref: Your Letter No.3382/2024/JN3 Dated: 24.02.2025.

Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation has engaged M/s. DJG Energy Solutions, Chennai as the Concessionaire as per the terms of the Work Order (ROC. No. 3382/2024/(JN3) dated 19.02.2025) for the removal of 7,94,139 MT/9,92,674 m³ (Phase 2) of the legacy waste at Vellalore Dumpsite within a work order period of 24 months from the date of site handover. CCMC has engaged CES Anna University, Chennai as Project Management Consultant (PMC) for the Phase 2 Biomining project.

A joint inspection was carried out by Dr.S.Karthikeyan, Professor & Director, CES, Dr.G.Dhinakaran, Assistant Professor, Jeevaraj, Assistant Engineer, CCMC and representatives from M/s DJG Energy solutions, Chennai at Vellalore site on 24 September 2025 to assess the progress in the Biomining work. The observations of site inspection are listed as follows.

The total volume of legacy waste nearby the chicken waste processing plant has been completed. Approximately 14829 cum (Part 1 to Part 31) has been processed out of which approx. 5000 tons of RDF and 7000 tons of fine soil & coarse soil fraction is stored within the site. The recovered combustible fraction from the Material recovery facility is stored nearby the cleared area and the dozing of the reclaimed area is yet to be carried out by the concessionaire. Approx, 15 acres of land will be reclaimed if the dozing work is completed. During the site inspection it is observed that legacy waste nearby the Biocapped area is taken as inward and three lines machinery were at operation. Maintenance work were taking place in the shredder unit. It is recommended to clear the legacy waste within the UPL site as there is no physical demarcation between the legacy waste and the UPL waste. The concessionaire shall take necessary action to carry out the survey at UPL site and from the north east side, the legacy waste shall be stabilised and shifted to the processing area after weighing.

CES team and CCMC officials inspected the boundary of the remaining legacy waste nearby the Vermicompost plant. It is observed that fresh waste is dumped in a demarcated zone at south east portion of the Vellalore compost yard. It was observed that CCMC has appointed staffs to monitor the fresh waste area from the watch tower to see to that there is no fire in the fresh waste zone.

As discussed after the field inspection, CCMC shall direct the concessionaire to install additional machinery of high capacity (1000 MT/ day), so that the processing of the remaining legacy waste shall be completed within the Honble NGTs timeline (October 2026).

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

[Handwritten Signature]
31/10/25
DIRECTOR
DIRECTOR-CES
Centre for Environmental Studies
Anna University, Chennai-600 025.



Figure 1 Photographs taken during the joint inspection by CES team along with CCMC and the concessionaire