

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE AT CHENNAI
Original Application No. 246 of 2020**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion **SUO MOTO** based on the News Item in Dinamani Newspaper, Chennai Edition, Dated: 02.11.2020, titled **"Vaiyavur and Nathappettai Lakes: Will become a bird sanctuary"**

...Applicant

Vs

The Secretary to Govt of Tamil Nadu,
Department of Environment,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai and Others

...Respondents

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

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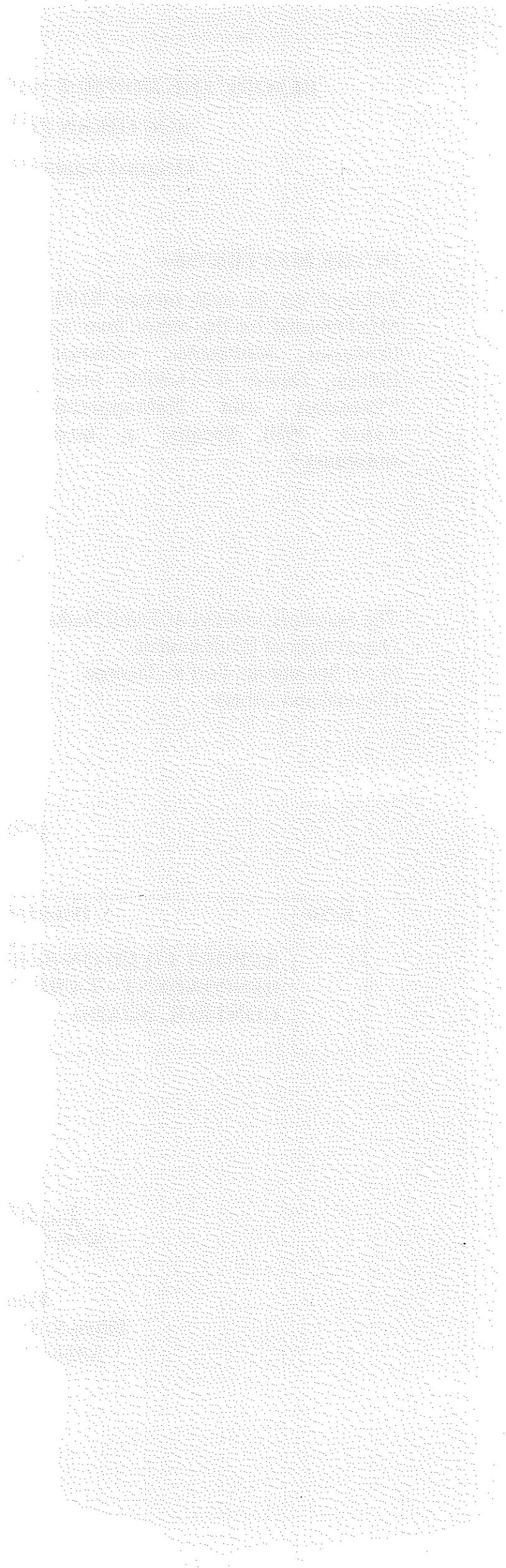
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With

The Secretary to Govt of Tamil Nadu,
Department of Environment,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai and Others

.....Respondents.

**REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE FIFTH RESPONDENT -
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD.**

I, Mrs. 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:

2. I submit that I am working as the Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai - 600032 and I am authorized to file this report on behalf of the fifth Respondent (TNPCB) and as such I am well acquainted with the facts of the case from the office records.
3. It is respectfully submitted that the Hon'ble NGT (SZ), Chennai has taken a Suo Motu based on the News Item in Dinamani Newspaper Chennai Edition dated: 02.11.2020, titled **“Vaiyavur and Nathappettai Lakes: Will become a bird sanctuary.”**
4. It is respectfully submitted that on 27.01.2022, the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board has filed its report before the Hon'ble Tribunal, (SZ), Chennai and it may be pleased to take a part and parcel of this case.

S. Vasuki 7.11.25
JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
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5. It is respectfully submitted that on 5.2.2025, the Hon'ble Tribunal, (SZ), Chennai passed an Order stating as follows:

"If the 9th Respondent (The Commissioner, Kancheepuram Special Grade Municipality) is not following the directions issued by the TNPCB, let the TNPCB take further action and report the action taken in this regard."

6. It is respectfully submitted that as per the above directions passed by the Hon'ble NGT, SZ, Chennai, the fifth Respondents (TNPCB) submits the report herein.

7. It is respectfully submitted that the inspection was conducted on 12.03.2025 and followings were observed:

- i. The Kancheepuram Municipal Corporation has provided underground sewerage pipeline in the corporation area and connected to a common Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) having capacity of 14.7 MLD.
- ii. The treatment system consists of 3 stages, (1) Primary Pond/Anerobic Pond (2 Nos), (2) Secondary Pond/Facultative Pond (4 Nos), (3) Tertiary Pond/Maturation Pond (4 Nos) in the western side of the Nathapettai lake for the treatment and disposal of the sewage generated from Kancheepuram Corporation area.
- iii. The Treated sewage from the said common STP is disposed into the Nathapettai lake, for which the Public Works Department has given permission vide G.O. No. 259 dated 14.07.2011.
- iv. Part of the raw sewage/untreated sewage pumped out from the pumping station was found discharged directly into Nathapettai lake without any treatment.
- v. The Commissioner, Kancheepuram Corporation has not installed Common STP with advanced Technology and operating with Old Technology Oxidation method. The Kancheepuram Corporation has not covered the entire corporation area with UGD Sewerage System and directly let out into the Manjalneer Kalvai leads to Nathampettai lake and River Vegavathi.
- vi. The untreated sewage generated from the un-sewered area was found to be discharged directly into Nathapettai lake and River Vegavathi. The Kancheepuram Municipality is permitting the septic tanker lorries with septage collected from the residences/commercial buildings in and around

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Kancheepuram Town and the same is being directly discharged into Manjal Neer Kalvai which leads to Nathapettai lake and River Vegavathi.

8. It is respectfully submitted that in view of the above, the DEE has recommended to issue show cause notice vide Lr.No.DEE/TNPCB/SPR/Complaint/STP/2025 dated: 01.04.2025 to levy the Environmental Compensation of Rs. 300 lakhs to the Kancheepuram Corporation from 01.04.2020 to 31.03.2025(60 months).
9. It is respectfully submitted that based on the recommendations sent by the DEE, a Show Cause Notice was issued vide Board Proceeding No. T5/TNPCB/F.007198/STP/2025 Dated: 23.04.2025 to the Commissioner, Kancheepuram Corporation under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act 1986, as to why the Board shall not levy Environmental Compensation of **Rs. 300 Lakhs** and for not providing full-fledged underground sewerage system with STP for the sewage generated from the entire Corporation area using latest technology.
10. It is respectfully submitted that meanwhile, a news article was published in the daily newspaper *Dinamalar* on 27.02.2025 regarding the burning of unsegregated municipal solid waste at a dumpsite in Kancheepuram District. Based on the above newspaper complaint, the said site was inspected on 28.02.2025 followings were observed:
- i. The Kancheepuram Corporation has not fully carried out segregation of the municipal solid wastes.
 - ii. The un-segregated Municipal Solid Wastes including plastics generated in and around Kancheepuram corporation limit was haphazardly disposed and burnt adjacent to the Nathapettai Lake
 - iii. Leachate from the above dump site was found flowing into Nathapettai lake.
 - iv. The Kancheepuram Corporation is yet to apply and obtain renewal of authorization under Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
 - v. A letter has been addressed to the Commissioner, Kancheepuram Corporation requesting to ensure the compliance on the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 vide dated 04.03.2025.

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11. It is respectfully submitted that in view of the above, the DEE, Sriperumbudur has recommended vide Letter No. DEE/TNPCB/SPR/Complaint/SWM/2025, Dated: 01.04.2025 to issue show cause notice to the Commissioner, Kancheepuram Corporation.
12. It is respectfully submitted that based on the DEE's recommendation, a Show Cause Notice was issued vide Board Proceeding No.T5/TNPCB/SWM/ F.007197/2025 Dated: 8.04.2025 to the Commissioner, Kancheepuram corporation under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act 1986, as to why the Board shall not levy Environmental Compensation of **Rs. 60 lakhs** for not properly implementing Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
13. It is also submitted that, the Kancheepuram Corporation has replied on 8.5.2025 to the Show Cause Notice. Hence the same was sent to DEE, Sriperumbudur for his specific remarks. The DEE, Sriperumbudur through letter dated 03.06.2025 has informed that the reply furnished by the Commissioner, Kancheepuram Corporation was found not satisfactory and recommended to the Board to issue direction under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act 1986 to remit the Environmental Compensation of **Rs. 60 Lakhs** for not properly implementing Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 computed from 01.04.2020 to 31.3.2025.
14. It is respectfully submitted that, the reply furnished by the Kancheepuram Corporation is not satisfactory. The Commissioner, Kancheepuram Corporation was called for personal hearing on 07.10.2025 at 11.00 AM in the TNPCB Corporate office, Guindy, during which clarifications on the current status of solid waste management in the Corporation, illegal disposal of sewage and solid waste were discussed among others.
15. It is respectfully submitted that the Commissioner, Kancheepuram Corporation has reported the following among others during personal hearing:
 - a. The solid waste generation in the Corporation is about 100 TPD. The Corporation has 13 Micro Composting Centres (MCCs) in operation, and construction of 6 additional MCCs and 1 Bio-Methanation Plant is in progress.
 - b. The local authority has completed biomining of 1,43,000 cu.m of legacy waste.

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- c. The 36 MLD STP using SBR technology is under construction and is expected to be completed by 30.09.2027.
- d. The Underground Drainage (UGD) System is under construction and scheduled for completion by 30.09.2027.
- e. In Manjalneer Kalvai, construction of storm water drain with cover slab is in progress and will be completed by 28.02.2026. This will prevent the illegal dumping of solid waste.
- f. Presently, only storm water is being discharged into Manjalneer Kalvai.
- g. OCEMS has been installed in the Waste Stabilization Pond but is yet to be connected to the TNPCB server.
- h. The existing lagoon area is proposed to be converted into a dense forest area.
- i. The Corporation requested waiver of Environmental Compensation imposed.

16. It is respectfully submitted that, the current status of solid and sewage management as on 29.10.2025 is as follows:

- a. The Corporation is the process of establishing a Sewage Treatment Plant (SBR), and 20 % of the construction activity is completed.
- b. During inspection, it was observed that there were no improvements made to the existing waste stabilization pond (WSP) system based STP.
- c. The Kancheepuram Corporation has furnished agreement made with Ultra Tech to dispose sorted wastes containing mainly plastics and tyres for co-processing the waste at its cement kilns / calciners located at Reddipalayam Cement Work, PO Reddiapalayam, Ariyalur District, Tami Nadu vide agreement dated 03.08.2018.
- d. The Kancheepuram City Municipal Corporation has provided Material Recovery Facility (MRF) and Micro composting Centre (MCC) the details of operational status is submitted as follows at the following locations,

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Material Recovery Facility (MRF)

S. No	Locations – MRF	Operational status
1	Nathapettai	Not in operation
2	Kallukulam	In partial operation. (Bailing machine not in operation)
3	Thiruveedhipalam	In operation
4	Vallar Nagar	Not in operation
5	Rajaji Market	In partial operation. (Bailing machine not in operation)

Micro Composting Centre (MCC)

S. No	Locations – MCC	Operational status
1	Vellakulam	In operation
2	Nathapettai A	In operation
3	Nathapettai B	In operation
4	Nathapettai C	In operation
5	Sevilimedu A	In operation
6	Rajaji Market	In operation
7	Sevilimedu – Vallalar Nagar B	In operation
8	Anandhapettai	In operation
9	Thennambakkam (Kallukulam)	In operation
10	Ng Palace (Sevilimedu)	In operation
11	Poonthottam (Sengunthar Nagar)	In operation
12	Thiruveedhipallam	In operation
13	Vaiyaor (Orikkai)	In operation

17. It is also respectfully submitted that, no records were maintained regarding disposal of solid wastes at the MRF and MCC. It was also observed that there were no improvements made to the existing waste stabilization pond system. However, the corporation is currently establishing a Sewage Treatment Plant (SBR) with design capacity of 36 MLD and 20 % of the construction work was completed.

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18. It is respected submitted that the Kancheepuram Corporation was issued with Show cause notice for not remitting an Environmental compensation of Rs. 300 lakhs for non-installation of STP and, Rs. 60 Lakhs for non-compliance of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 for the period 01.04.2020 to 31.03.2025. Further, during the personal hearing conducted with the Commissioner, Kancheepuram Corporation it was instructed to remit the Environmental compensation.

Therefore, it is respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal (SZ), may be pleased to pass such order or other orders as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and necessary in the circumstances of the case and thus render justice.

S. Vasuki 7.11.25
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VERIFICATION

I, Mrs. 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 verify that the contents of above report are true to the best of my knowledge through records.

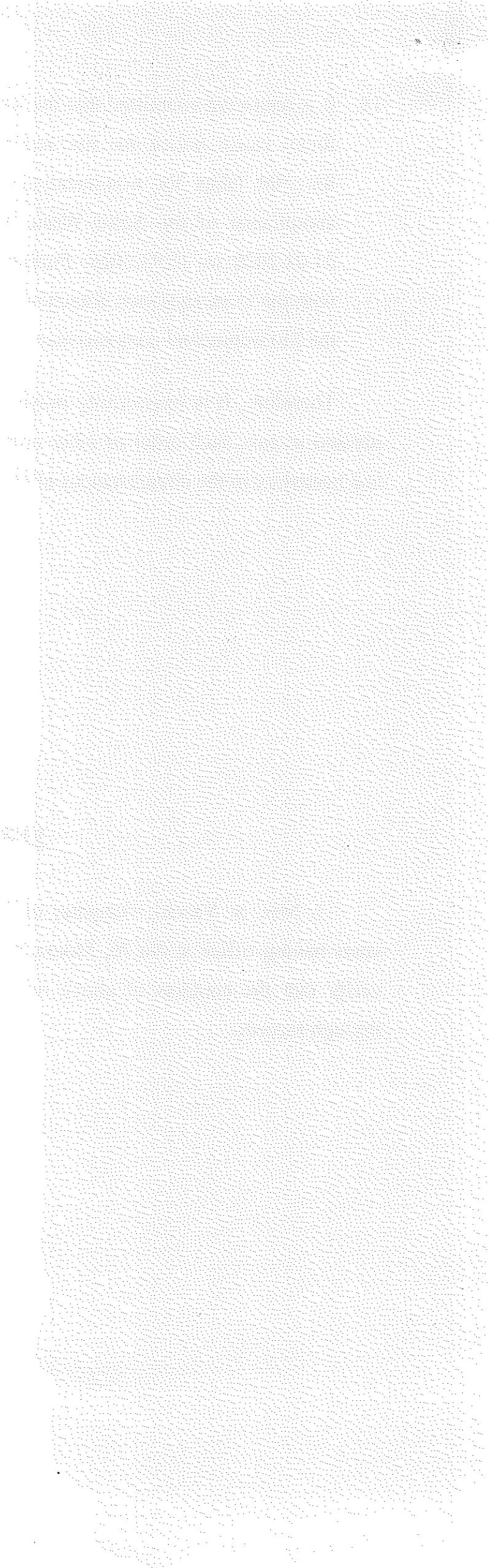
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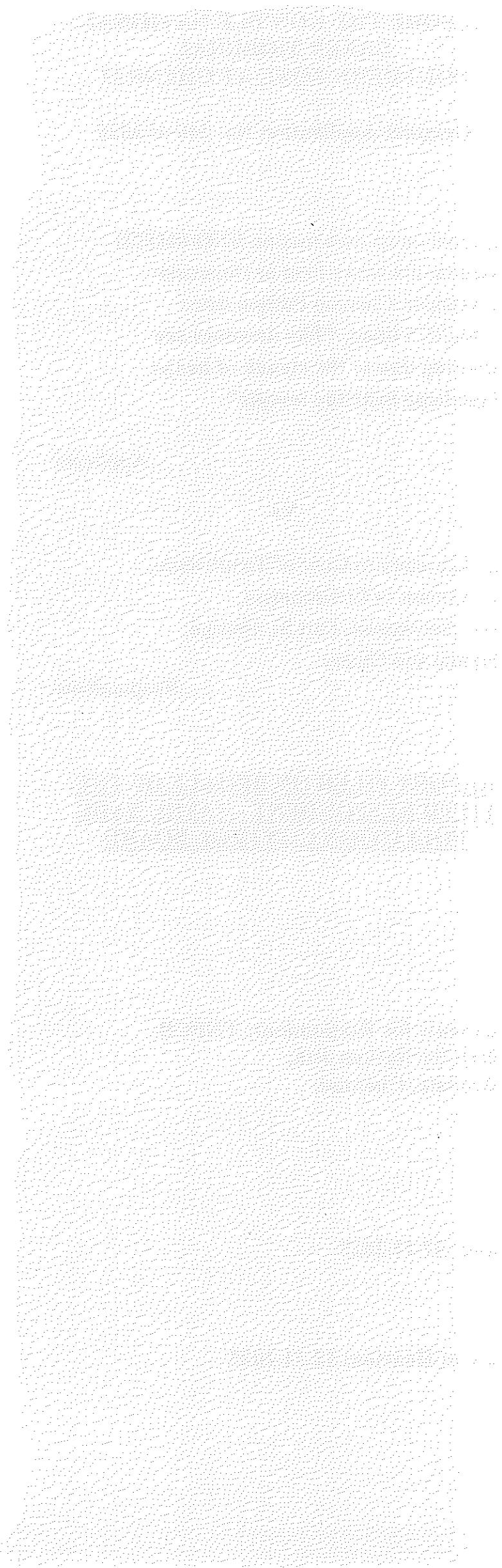
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based on the News Item in Dinamalar
Newspaper, Chennai Edition dated
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suffering due to the stench of heaps
of garbage near the temple"**.

...Applicant

Vs

The Secretary to Govt of Tamil Nadu,
Department of Environment,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
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**REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE
FIFTH RESPONDENT - TAMIL NADU
POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

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

Date: 07.11.2025

Date of Hearing: 12.11.2025.