

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

O.A. No. 250 of 2024 (SZ)
(Earlier O.A. No. 821 of 2024 (PB))

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion Suo Motu
News item appearing in The Hindu
dated 18.06.2024 titled **“Fish kill
near Adyar eco-park highlights
persisting sewage contamination”**.

And

Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
Through its Member Secretary,
Chennai and Ors.

...Respondents

STATUS REPORT FILED BY THE 3RD RESPONDENT



THROUGH
M/S. GAUTAM S. RAMAN
COUNSEL FOR 3RD RESPONDENT

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

O.A. No. 250 of 2024 (SZ)
(Earlier O.A. No. 821 of 2024 (PB))

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion Suo Motu
News item appearing in The Hindu
dated 18.06.2024 titled “**Fish kill
near Adyar eco-park highlights
persisting sewage contamination**”.

And

Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
Through its Member Secretary,
Chennai and Ors.

...Respondents

INDEX

S. No	DATE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO.
1.	20.11.2025	Status report filed by 3 rd Respondent	1

Dated at Chennai on this the 20th day of November, 2025



Counsel for 3rd Respondent

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL (SOUTHERNZONE) ATCHENNAI

Original Application No.250of2024
(Earlier Original Application No.821of 2024(PB))

Between

Tribunal on its own motion Suo Motu News item
appearing in The Hindu dated 18.06.2024
Titled "Fish kill near Adyar Ecopark highlights
Persisting sewage contamination".

... Applicant

and

1. Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
Represented by its Member Secretary,
No.76,Anna Salai,Guindy,Chennai600032.
Ph.No.044-22353134-139
E-mailld:tnpcb-chn@gov.in
2. Chennai River Restoration Trust(CRRT)
Represented by its Member Secretary
No.75,Santhome High Road,MRC Nagar,R.A.Puram,Chennai-600028.
3. The Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board,
Rep. by its Managing Director,
No.1,Pumping Station Road,
Chintadripet, Chennai-2
Ph.No.044-28459000
E-mailld:md@cmwssb.in
4. The District Collector,
Chennai District,
Chennai – 600 001.
5. Central Pollution Control Board
Through its Member Secretary
Parivesh Bhawan,East ArjunNagar,Delhi-110032
6. Ministry Of Environment Forest And Climate Change ThroughIts
Regional Office , I st Floor, Additional Office Block for GPOA,
Shastri Bhawan Haddows Road,
Nungambakkam,Chennai-600006

... Respondents

H.S. Kalyani

Superintending Engineer (South)
Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board,
Chintadripet, Chennai-600 002.

Superintending Engineer (South)
Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board,
Chintadripet, Chennai-600 002.

REPORT OF THE 3rd RESPONDENT

I, H.S. Kalyani D/o Thiru H. Silvester D'cruz, Hindu, aged about 56 years, presently working as Superintending Engineer in Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) having office at No.1, Pumping Station Road, Chintadripet, Chennai -2 do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

1. I am the Superintending Engineer (South) of the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) and as such, I am well acquainted with the facts of the case from the connected files and available records in this Board.
2. I respectfully submit that I am filing this report, pursuant to the Suo Motu registered by the Principal Bench of the National Green Tribunal, New Delhi as Original Application No.821 of 2024(PB) based on the news item published in "The Hindu" dated 18.06.2024 titled "Fish kill near Adyar eco park highlights persisting sewage contamination" which has been transferred to the NGT(SZ) Bench and renumbered as Original Application No.250 of 2024(SZ).
3. The Original Application No.250 of 2024 (SZ) pertains to an incident of a Fish kill near Adyar eco park and persisting sewage contamination near Kotturpuram park reported in the English News daily "The Hindu" on 18.06.2024 and sewage from drains contaminate the river in that area. I submit that when the news item was published, Chennai River Restoration Trust(CRRT) Officials and CMWSSB zone officials immediately attended to the spot, assessed the area and started taking measures to arrest the outfalls flowing into the river and thereafter, the following actions were taken:
4. I humbly submit that In Kotturpuram and Gandhi Nagar of Depot 170 & 173, Three nos. of outfall (Outfall ID AR 680, AR 683 & AR 687) were identified along Adyar river. Immediately, the rectification work was taken up by laying

H.S. Kalyani

Superintending Engineer (South)
Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board,
Chintadripet, Chennai-600 002.

of interceptors and diversion of sewage (SWR 1&2) at Adyar and Kotturpuram from Chainage 2000 to 4000 Right Bank and respective allied works in Depot 170 & 173, Area XIII” under CRRT funds. The said works include Interception and diversion arrangements of storm water drains, constructions of 51 nos. of Machine holes, laying gravity sewer main for a length of 1396m, construction of sewage pumping station, laying of 150mm dia pumping main for a length of 850m upto the Kotturpuram Modular STP. The sewage which is intercepted and diverted is treated at the Kotturpuram Modular STP of 0.6 MLD capacity, which is also constructed under CRRT funds. All these works have been completed and put into operation since 22.11.2022.

5. I humbly submit that, in the pretext on 16.06.2024, the operation of I&D - SPS located at the Lock Street Jn. River View Road, Kotturpuram was affected due to an electrical short circuit caused on account of damages caused to the incoming power supply cable at multiple locations during garbage clearance carried out through an excavator. However temporary pumping arrangements were immediately made to restore the operations on 17.06.2024. The normal pumping operation were resumed on 20.06.2024 and maintained properly till date. Under these circumstances, it was reported in an English News daily on 19.06.2024 that “Fish kill in the Adyar near eco-park points to sewage discharge going unchecked”.

6. I humbly submit that three nos. of sewage outfalls identified along Adyar river at the above location has been effectively plugged and diverted for collection, treatment and disposal through the Interception and diversion arrangements and only due to cable damage, the I&D SPS went non-functional for six hours. It is humbly submitted that no damages to the aquatic life or the flora/fauna were caused due to the above incident and there is no evidence of any fish kill in the above area as claimed in the media. The same has been verified through an inspection carried out by the team of officials of the Board. There are no such outflows existing presently and necessary preventive measures have been taken to avoid reoccurrence of such incidents in the future.

7. Further I humbly submit that, the Government of Tamil Nadu is committed to improving the ecological condition of the rivers and water bodies by ensuring sustainable and healthy living environment of all, in the State of Tamil Nadu. While the Governmnet has been implementing many projects for betterment of Adyar River including restoration of Adyar Creek there is a need to rejuvenate the full stretch of Adyar River:

a) To ensure effective abatement of pollution and protection of the river by adopting a sustainable approach for achieving water quality as per national standards (CPCB designated best use – water quality criteria Class-D – “Propogation of Wildlife and Fisheries)

b) To maintain minimum Environmental-flows in the rivers with the aim of ensuring water quality and sustainable development.

8. The Government of Tamil Nadu has come up with a unique approach of **“One River, One Operator”** for eco restoration of River Adyar. The Government of Tamil Nadu has appointed a private Concessionaire for Restoration of Adyar River from Guduvanchery to river mouth(44Km)under Hybrid Annuity Model(HAM), through Public –Private Partnership Mode on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer basis. It has also set up a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) named Ms.Chennai Rivers Transformation CompanyLimited, fully owned by the Govt. of TamilNadu, to be headed by the Officer on Special Duty, Adyar River Restoration Project and MD/TNUIFSL, with representations from various stakeholders.

The development obligations of the Concessionaire are as follows:

- a) Take necessary steps to ensure that Adyar River meets the required water quality standards for propagation of wildlife and fisheries (Class-D Water Body).
- b) Improve the overall ecological health of the river by implementing measures to intercept, divert, and treat polluting outfalls.
- c) Undertake rehabilitation and development of sewage treatment facilities

H. S. Kalifani

Superintending Engineer (South)
Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board,
Chintadripet, Chennai-600 002.

(STFs) comprising of traditional sewage treatment plants (STPs) of appropriate size, capacity and technology, and other innovative means of sewage treatment in accordance with Good Industry Practice.

- d) Undertake river channel management works to enhance water flow, reduce erosion and improve the overall stability of the river system.
- e) Implement flood protection measures to mitigate the risk of flooding in the surrounding areas.
- f) Develop river front areas to enhance public access, recreational opportunities, and aesthetic value. Riverfront development to include landscaping, construction of pedestrian walkways, cycle tracks, public parks, and other such recreational amenities;
- g) Establish efficient solid waste management systems to prevent pollution and maintain the cleanliness of the river and its surroundings. Solid waste management to include, but not limited to, the following: collection, transportation, and disposal of waste generated within the right-of-way of the Adyar River (including removal and disposal of waste and debris collected from the surface of Adyar River);
- h) Implement environmental protection measures to safeguard the river ecosystem and adjacent habitats.
- i) Undertake ecological and biodiversity protection works to enhance the natural habitats and promote sustainable wildlife and fisheries propagation.
- j) Development an integrated SCADA based system for monitoring and supervision of the Project.
- k) Develop ancillary infrastructure such as access roads, trails, utilities, and other necessary facilities to support the river restoration efforts.

H.S. Kalyani

Superintending Engineer (South)
Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board,
Chintadripet, Chennai-600 002.

The time frame for the Project as mentioned in the Bid document is,

S.No	Description of work	Time frame
1	Detailed Project Report Preparation Period leading to Appointed Date	6 months from the date of signing of the Concession Agreement
2	Construction Period leading to COD (Commercial Operations Date)	30 months from the Appointed Date
3	Operation Period	15 years from COD

Present Status

9. I humbly submit that the GoTN accorded necessary administrative sanction vide G.O.No.50, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, Dated:14.03.2024 toward the contract and issue necessary Letter of Award to the concessionaire. Accordingly, the Letter of Award (LoA) was issued to the concessionaire on 14.03.2024.
10. I humbly submit that the Detailed Project report (DPR) for the subject project is under preparation and a committee of technical experts with members from IIT, Anna University and Industry has been formed for necessary scrutiny and recommendations on approval for implementation of the DPR. The works on the project after approval will be commenced and completed in 30 months by 2028.
11. I humbly submit that as part of eco restoration of River Adyar undertaken by CRRT vide G.O.(Ms)No.72 MA&WS(MC.I))Dept dt 12.07.2017, mitigation measures for 39 Nos of sewage outfalls on both sides of the river from chainage 2000m to 13500m inside Chennai city limits by providing interception and Diversion arrangements and diverting the outfalls to the proposed Modular STPs has been taken up and completed by CMWSSB.
12. I humbly submit that the following works have been carried out by CMWSSB to Plug the Sewage outfalls in Adyar river.

H.S. Kalifani

Superintending Engineer (South)
Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board,
Chintadripet, Chennai-600 002.

Adyar River Restoration Project (ARRP) G.O.(Ms)No.72MA&WS(MC.I))Dept dt 12.07.2017

Sl. No	Name of the Work	Status of Works
1	Package-I- Laying of interceptors and Diversion of sewage (SWR 1&2) at Adyar and Kotturpuram from Ch2000 to 4000, Right Bank and allied works in Area-XIII	COMPLETED
2	Package-VIII Design, Supply, Installation, Testing and commissioning of Modular STPs for 2 nos x 0.3 MLD capacity in Adyar and Kotturpuram at Ch-3000, Right bank including Operation and Maintenance for 5 years in Area XIII	COMPLETED
3	Package-V - Laying of Interception and Diversion of sewage (SWR 5&6) at Guindy and Ekkattuthangal from Ch8200 to 10850, Right Bank and allied works in Area XIII	COMPLETED
4	Package-VI - Laying of Interception and Diversion of sewage at Samiyar Thottam and Jafferkhanpet (SWL 5&6) from Ch8100 to 11000, Left Bank, Diversion works to existing sewer network at Jafferkhanpet (SWL 7) at Ch 9900, Left Bank and MGR Nagar drain at Ch 11000, Left Bank and allied works in Area X.	COMPLETED
5	Package-VII- Interception & Diversion of two outfalls in Adyar River near Poonamallee Bridge at Nandambakkam including Construction of Sewage Pumping/Lift stations, laying Pumping mains in Depot 158, Area-XII	COMPLETED

H.S. Kalyani

Superintending Engineer (South)
Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board,
Chintadripet, Chennai-600 002.

6	<p>Package-III-</p> <p>Laying of new network to collect the sewage in the houses and connect to the existing network with a new SPS (SWL2) at Ch 3500, Left Bank, SWL3 Isolated action connecting the raw sewage flowing in the SWD to the existing network in Turn Bulls Road (SWL3) at Ch4300 and at Nandanam Extension Main Road at Ch4400, Left Bank and allied works in Area-IX</p>	COMPLETED
7	<p>Package IV-</p> <p>Temporary treatment of Mambalam Canal at Ch 5400 and sewage outfalls to be plugged behind Anna Centenary Library at Ch 5700 in Area XIII</p>	COMPLETED
8	<p>Package X-</p> <p>Design, Supply, Installation, testing and commissioning of Modular STPs for 10 x 0.4 MLD capacity in Mambalam Major Drain at Ch5400, Left Bank including O&M for 5 years in Area XIII</p>	COMPLETED
9	<p>Package XI</p> <p>Interception and Diversion of Outfalls in MGRD rain at Confluence point at Adyar River</p>	COMPLETED
10	<p>Package 15--(Modular STP) Kundrathur(0.8MLD)</p>	COMPLETED
11	<p>Providing sewerage collection system to unserved streets in choolaipallam area in D-137 in Area-X</p>	COMPLETED
12	<p>Enlargement of pumping main and allied works in Area X & XIII</p>	COMPLETED
13	<p>Enlargement of sewer gravity main in Area XIII</p>	COMPLETED
14	<p>Extension of 200mm dia Sewer pumping main from Ambal Nagar Discharge Chamber / SIDCO lift SPS to Balaji Nagar SPS- Ekkatut hangal, Area XIII</p>	COMPLETED

H. S. Kalifani

Superintending Engineer (South)
Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board,
Chintadripet, Chennai-600 002.

15	Strengthening of existing 400mm dia PSC pumping main from Saidapet C SPS to Jafferhanpet SPS in Area 13	COMPLETED
16	Enlargement of sewer mains at various locations in Depot 133,134 & 135 in Area X	COMPLETED
17	Enlargement of sewer mains at various locations in AreaX	COMPLETED
18	Interception and diversion of existing gravity sewer system along Dr Nair road by providing 2nos of pumping stations at Jagadhambal street jn of Rajamannar salai and Dr Nair road along with laying of CI Sewage Pumping Main to T Nagar SPS in Depot – 136 , Area – X	Work Under Progress.90% of work completed. Balance work will be completed by 30.11.2025
19	Strengthening of pumping main Sathyamoorthy Block PS to Nesapakkam SPS in Area X	COMPLETED

It is therefore humbly prayed that this Hon'ble Court (Southern Zone) may be pleased to accept my response on behalf of the Board and thus render Justice.

Solemnly affirmed at Chennai
on this 20th day of Nov' 2025
And signed his name in my presence

H.S. Kalyani
Superintending Engineer (South)
Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board,
Chintadripet, Chennai-600 002.

Advocate:Chennai

Hajira Tarkeen
357/23
No. 40/2, Divan Sahib Garden
St, TTK Road, Royapettah,
Ch-14.

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

O.A. No. 250 of 2024 (SZ)
(Earlier O.A. No. 821 of 2024 (PB))

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion Suo Motu
News item appearing in The Hindu
dated 18.06.2024 titled **“Fish kill
near Adyar eco-park highlights
persisting sewage contamination”**.

And

Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
Through its Member Secretary,
Chennai and Ors.

...Respondents

STATUS REPORT FILED BY THE 3RD RESPONDENT



THROUGH
M/S. GAUTAM S. RAMAN
COUNSEL FOR 3RD RESPONDENT