

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

**ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 46 OF 2025 (SZ)
[EARLIER ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 12 OF 2025 (PB)]**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Suo Motu matter in respect of news item appearing in DT Next dated 06.01.2025 titled "Adyar has 10X fecal coliform than normal and nil dissolved O2"

.....Applicant(s)

Vs

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

..... Respondent(s)

INDEX

Sl. No.	Particulars	Page No.
1.	Reply along with Affidavit filed on Behalf of Respondent No. 2, i.e., Central Pollution Control Board	1-6
2.	Annexure-1: MoEF&CC Notification dated 25.09.2000 on Primary Water Quality Criteria for outdoor bathing	7- 10
3.	Annexure-2: Water quality data of Adyar River for the year 2023 monitored under NWMP	11
4.	Annexure-3: Copy of the CPCB letter dated 17.02.2025 sent to Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board for Action Taken Report	12-13
5.	Annexure-4: Copy of the ATR dated 13.05.2025 submitted by Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board	14- 21

Place: Chennai ,

Counsel for CPCB -R2.

Date: 11.06.2025.



BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE BENCH, CHENNAI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 46 OF 2025 (SZ)
[EARLIER ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 12 OF 2025 (PB)]

IN THE MATTER OF:

Suo Motu matter in respect of news item appearing in DT Next dated 06.01.2025 titled "Adyar has 10X fecal coliform than normal and nil dissolved O2"

.....Applicant(s)

Vs


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

..... Respondent(s)

REPLY FILED ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT NO. 2,
CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (CPCB)

1. That, Hon'ble NGT (PB) vide order dated 21.01.2025 in the case of Original Application No. 12 of 2025 (PB), impleaded Central Pollution Control Board (hereinafter referred to as CPCB) as Respondent No. 2 and sought the response in the instant matter. Thereby, the reply is made in this instant Original Application (hereinafter referred to as OA) in succeeding paragraphs.




H.D. VARALAXMI
Regional Director
CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
Regional Directorate (Chennai)
MoEF & CC, Govt. of India
2nd Floor, 40-E, BSNL Building, TVK Industrial Estate,
CIPET Road, Guindy, Chennai - 600032

2. That, CPCB is constituted under Section 3 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. It performs the functions under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 (hereinafter referred to as Water Act, 1974), the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 (hereinafter referred to as Air Act, 1981) and the Environmental(Protection) Act, 1986.

REPLY

1. That, the matter is related to news item about alarming levels of pollution in Adyar river in Tamil Nadu rendering the water septic with no dissolved oxygen content near the Adyar Eco-Park. As per the news item, a report by the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) from October indicates that fecal coliform levels have reached 1,026 most probable number (MPN) per 100 milliliters, exceeding the permissible standard of 100 MPN/100ml by over tenfold. This marks a substantial increase from June's measurement of 241 MPN/100ml. Total coliform concentrations have also surged to 7,500 MPN/100ml from 1,011 MPN/100ml in June. Alarmingly, the dissolved oxygen (DO) level has plummeted to zero, far below the required 4 milligrams per liter, creating an environment incapable of supporting aquatic life. The article further highlights that biological oxygen demand (BOD) and chemical oxygen demand (COD) levels are elevated at 30 mg/L and 136 mg/L, respectively, indicating severe water quality degradation. It is further stated in the news item that the TNPCB attributes these conditions to the discharge of untreated domestic sewage into the river.
2. That, it is humbly submitted that the Hon'ble NGT (PB) vide Order dated 21.01.2025 directed all the respondents to file their responses before the appropriate Bench of the Tribunal and transferred the case to Hon'ble NGT Southern Zone, Chennai. Further, the case was re-numbered as OA No. 46 of 2025 (SZ) at Hon'ble NGT (SZ) Chennai and listed for hearing on 27.03.2025.




H.D. VARALAXMI
Regional Director
CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
Regional Directorate (Chennai)
MoEF & CC, Govt. of India
2nd Floor, 40-E, BSNL Building, TVK Industrial Estate,
CIPET Road, Guindy, Chennai - 600032

3. That, it is humbly submitted that Primary Water Quality Criteria for Outdoor Bathing has been notified by MoEF&CC vide Notification dated 25.09.2000 under the Environment (Protection) Amendment Rules, 2000. The criteria includes, Faecal Coliform (2500 MPN/ 100 mL Maximum Permissible), Faecal Streptococci (500 MPN/ 100 mL Maximum Permissible), pH (6.5-8.5), Dissolved Oxygen (5 mg/L or more) and Biochemical Oxygen Demand (3 mg/L or less). A copy of the Notification dated 25.09.2000 is attached as **Annexure -1**.
4. That, it is humbly submitted that, CPCB in co-ordination with State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs), has established National Water Quality Monitoring Programme (NWMP) in order to assess the status of water quality of water resources and to facilitate for prevention and control of pollution in water bodies. Under NWMP, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (hereinafter referred to as TNPCB) is monitoring water quality of Adyar river at 5 locations, namely Ekkattuthangal, Jaferkhanpet, Maraimalai Bridge, Kotturpuram Bridge and Boat Club. Out of these 5 locations, 2 monitored locations viz. River Adyar at Kotturpuram Bridge and River Adyar at Boat Club are near to the Adyar Eco-Park.
5. That, it is humbly submitted that the water quality data of Adyar river for the year 2023 monitored under NWMP is placed as **Annexure-2**. The water quality data reveals that Adyar river was non-complying with the notified Primary Water Quality Criteria for outdoor bathing w.r.t. parameters DO and BOD during the year 2023.
6. That, it is humbly submitted that CPCB has pursued with Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (hereinafter referred to as TNPCB) vide letter dated 17.02.2025 to provide Report on the present matter. A copy of the letter addressed to TNPCB is annexed as **Annexure-3**. The Report submitted by TNPCB vide Letter No. TNPCB/LAW/LA-III/NGT/003397 dated 13.05.2025 is attached as **Annexure-4**.



H.D. Varalaxmi
H.D. VARALAXMI
Regional Director
CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
Regional Directorate (Chennai)
MoEF & CC, Govt. of India
2nd Floor, 40-E, BSNL Building, TVK Industrial Estate,
CIPET Road, Guindy, Chennai - 600032

7. That, it is submitted that, as per the Report received from TNPCB, the following are the key observations and action taken by TNPCB:
- i. TNPCB has informed that, as part of the rejuvenation of Coovum and Adyar River stretches under the supervision of Chennai River Restoration Trust (CRRT), water samples from the Adyar river are collected and analyzed by TNPCB on a fortnightly basis. As per the analysis of samples collected on 03.01.2025 at upstream and downstream of STP located at Kotturpuram, the concentrations of Total and Fecal coliforms were higher than the acceptable limits.
 - ii. TNPCB has sent a letter dated 26.02.2025 to the Zonal officer, Zone 13, Greater Chennai Corporation to take necessary action to prevent the discharge of untreated sewage into the Adyar river, and to furnish action taken report.
8. That, in light of the above submissions, it is respectfully submitted that this Answering Respondent No. 2, i.e. CPCB, shall abide by any order(s) or direction(s) passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal in the instant OA.

H. D. Varalaxmi
Scientist E & Regional Director
CPCB, Chennai

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

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 46 OF 2025 (SZ)

[EARLIER ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 12 OF 2025 (PB)]

IN THE MATTER OF:

Suo Motu matter in respect of news item appearing in DT Next dated 06.01.2025 titled "Adyar has 10X fecal coliform than normal and nil dissolved O2"

.....Applicant(s)

Vs

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


..... Respondent(s)

AFFIDAVIT

I, H. D. Varalaxmi, D/o Shri H.S. Devaiah, Hindu, aged about 55 years working as a Scientist E & Regional Director at the Regional Directorate - Chennai, Central Pollution Control Board, 40-E, 2nd Floor, BSNL Building, TVK Industrial Estate, CIPET Road, Chennai - 600 032, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

1. That the deponent is authorized representative to represent the Respondent CPCB in the present case, and as such, I am well conversant with the facts and circumstances of the present case on the basis of the information derived from the official records, and hence, I am competent and authorized to verify, sign and swear this affidavit on behalf of the Respondent CPCB.




H.D.VARALAXMI
Regional Director
CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
Regional Directorate (Chennai)
MoEF & CC, Govt. of India
2nd Floor, 40-E, BSNL Building, TVK Industrial Estate,
CIPET Road, Guindy, Chennai - 600032

2. That the accompanying reply may be read as part and parcel of the present affidavit as I am competent to swear this affidavit.
3. That the accompanying reply has been drafted and filed under my instructions and authority the contents thereof of are true and correct on the basis of the records maintained during ordinary course of business of CPCB and available records and documents and the contents of the same are read over and explained to me and are not repeated herein for the sake of brevity.



COUNSEL FOR CPCB-R2



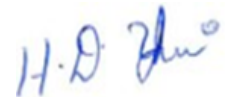
DEPONENT

H.D.VARALAXMI
Regional Director
CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
Regional Directorate (Chennai)
MoEF & CC, Govt. of India
2nd Floor, 40-E, BSNL Building, TVK Industrial Estate,
CIPET Road, Guindy, Chennai - 600032

VERIFICATION

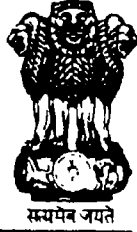
Verified at Chennai on this Eleventh day of June, 2025 that the contents of the above reply are correct and true on the basis of the record of the cases as maintained in the day to day affairs of the CPCB. Nothing has been concealed, or suppressed therefrom or mis-stated.

Verified at Chennai on this the 11th day of June, 2025.



DEPONENT

H.D.VARALAXMI
Regional Director
CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
Regional Directorate (Chennai)
MoEF & CC, Govt. of India
2nd Floor, 40-E, BSNL Building, TVK Industrial Estate,
CIPET Road, Guindy, Chennai - 600032



भारत का राजपत्र

The Gazette of India

असाधारण

EXTRAORDINARY

भाग II—खण्ड 3—उप-खण्ड (i)

PART II—Section 3—Sub-section (i)

प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं. 494]

नई दिल्ली, सोमवार, सितम्बर 25, 2000/आश्विन 3, 1922

No. 494]

NEW DELHI, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2000/ASVINA 3, 1922

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय

अधिसूचना

नई दिल्ली, 25 सितम्बर, 2000

सा. का. नि. 742(अ).—केन्द्रीय सरकार, पर्यावरण (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1996 (1996 का 29) की धारा 6 और धारा 25 द्वारा प्रदत्त शक्तियों का प्रयोग करते हुए, पर्यावरण (संरक्षण) नियम, 1996 का और संशोधन करने के लिए निम्नलिखित नियम बनाती है, अर्थात् :—

1. (1) इन नियमों का संक्षिप्त नाम पर्यावरण (संरक्षण) संशोधन नियम, 2000 है।

(2) इस अधिसूचना में अन्यथा जैसा उपबंधित है उसके सिवाय, वे राजपत्र में प्रकाशन की तारीख को प्रवृत्त होंगे।

2. पर्यावरण (संरक्षण) नियम, 1986 में,—

(1) अनुसूची 1 में पटाखों के लिए शोर मानकों से संबंधित क्रम संख्याक 89 और उससे संबंधित प्रविष्टियों के पश्चात् निम्नलिखित क्रम संख्याक और उनसे संबंधित प्रविष्टियां अन्तःस्थापित की जाएंगी, अर्थात् :—

“90. कोयला खानों के लिए मानक

1. वायु क्वालिटी मानक

निम्नलिखित धूल उत्पादक स्रोतों से 500 मीटर की दूरी पर प्रबल हवा की दशा पर विचार करते हुए नीचे की ओर हवा की दिशा में निलंबित कणिकीय पदार्थ (एस. पी. एम.), अन्तः श्वसनीय कणिकीय पदार्थ (आर. पी. एम.), सल्फर डाईआक्साइड (एस ओ₂) और नाइट्राजन आक्साइड (एन ओ_x) का संकेन्द्रण नीचे दी गई मारणी-I, और II, और III में विनिर्दिष्ट मानकों से अधिक नहीं होगा।

धूल उत्पादन के स्रोत

लदाई या उतराई, कर्षण मड़क, कोयला परिवहन मड़क, कोयला हथालने का संयंत्र (मी. एच. बी.) रेल सरकवां, विस्फोट, छेदन, अधिक ऊंचे ढेर या कोई अन्य धूल उत्पादन के बाहरी स्रोत जैसे कोक भट्टी (कठोर तथा मुलायम), इष्टिका उद्योग, पास की मड़क आदि।

- टिप्पण :— 1. जहां उपचारित बहिस्त्राव ऐसे नगर सीवर में डाला जाता है जो अंतिम उपचार संयंत्र में जाता है, वहां जैव-रसायन आक्सीजन मांग (बी ओ डी) की 100 मि.ग्रा./लि. तक और रसायन आक्सीजन मांग (सी ओ डी) की 400 मि.ग्रा./लि. तक छूट दी जा सकेगी।
2. बहिस्त्राव की क्वालिटी (एक लिटर प्रति किलोग्राम उत्पाद) संयुक्त सूती वस्त्र उद्योग संयुक्त ऊनी वस्त्र उद्योग और टैक्सटाइल प्रसंस्करण उद्योग में क्रमशः 100, 250 और 80 होगी।

93. स्नान-जल के लिए प्राथमिक जल क्वालिटी मानदंड

जलाशय या उसके भाग में के जल का कई प्रकार से उपयोग किया जाता है। जल के उपयोगों और क्रियाकलापों के प्रकार पर निर्भर रहते हुए जल क्वालिटी की कसौटी किसी विशिष्ट प्रयोजन के लिए उसकी उपयुक्तता अवधारित करने के लिए विनिर्दिष्ट कर दी गई है। विभिन्न प्रकार के उपयोगों में एक उपयोग यह भी है जो जल के उच्चतर स्तर की क्वालिटी या शुद्धता की मांग करता है और उस जलाशय के विस्तार में उसे "अभिहित सर्वोत्तम उपयोग" के रूप में जाना जाता है। इस पर आधारित प्राथमिक जल क्वालिटी की कसौटी के निबंधनों के अनुसार विभिन्न उपयोगों के लिए जल क्वालिटी अपेक्षाएं विनिर्दिष्ट की गई हैं। सारणी 1 में स्नान-जल के लिए प्राथमिक जल क्वालिटी की तर्कयुक्त कसौटी विनिर्दिष्ट की गई है।

सारणी 1

स्नान-जल के लिए प्राथमिक जल क्वालिटी मानदंड

(संगठित बाह्य स्नान के लिए प्रयुक्त जल)

मानदंड	तर्कआधार
1. फिकल कोली फॉर्म एम. पी. एन./100 मि.लि.	500 (वांछनीय) 2500 (अधिकतम अनुज्ञेय)
2. फिकल स्ट्रेप्टोकोक्की एम. पी. एन./100 मि.लि.	100 (वांछनीय) 500 (अधिकतम अनुज्ञेय)
2. पी. एस.	6.5 से 8.5 के बीच
3. घुली हुई आक्सीजन	5 मि.ग्रा./लि. के न्यूनतम घुली हुई आक्सीजन संकेन्द्रण ठीक ऊपरीधारा में आर्गनिक प्रदूषण युक्त आक्सीजन लेने से युक्त युक्त मुक्ति सुनिश्चित करते हैं जो तलछट से अनाइरोबिक गैसों (आबनोक्सीयस गैसों) के उत्पादन को निवारित करने के लिए आवश्यक है।
4. जैव-रसायन आक्सीजन मांग (बी ओ डी) (27° से. पर 3 दिन)	3 मि.ग्रा./लि. या इससे कम जल की जैव रसायन आक्सीजन मांग आक्सीजन डिमांडिंग प्रदूषकों से युक्त युक्त मुक्ति सुनिश्चित करती है और आबनाक्सीयस गैसों के उत्पादन को रोक्ती है।
(2) अनुसूची 6 के शोर मान दंडों से संबंधित भाग ड में, मोटरगाड़ियों के लिए शोर सीमा से संबंधित भाग क के पश्चात् निम्नलिखित अन्तःस्थापित किया जाएगा :—	

“कक. 1 जनवरी, 2003 से मोटर यानों के लिए शोर सीमा

मोटर यानों के लिए निम्नलिखित शोर सीमा 1 जनवरी, 2003 से लागू होगी। अनुसरण किए जाने वाली परीक्षण पद्धति भा मा.

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 25th September, 2000

G.S.R. 742(E).— In exercise of the powers conferred by sections 6 and 25 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules further to amend the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, namely.

1. (1) These rules may be called the Environment (Protection) Amendment Rules, 2000.
- (2) Save as otherwise provided in this notification, they shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.
2. In the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, —
 - (1) In Schedule I, after serial number 89 relating to Noise standards for fire crackers and the entries relating thereto, the following serial numbers and entries shall be inserted, namely:—

“90. Standards for coal mines**1. Air Quality Standards**

The Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM), Respirable Particulate Matter (RPM), Sulphur dioxide (SO₂) and Oxides of Nitrogen (NO_x) concentration in downwind direction considering predominant wind direction, at a distance of 500 metres from the following dust generating sources shall not exceed the standards specified in the Tables I, II and III given below:

Dust Generating Sources

Loading or unloading, Haul road, coal transportation road, Coal handling plant (CHP), Railway siding, Blasting, Drilling, Overburden dumps, or any other dust generating external sources like coke ovens (hard as well as soft), briquette industry, nearby road etc.

93. Primary Water Quality Criteria for Bathing Waters.

In a water body or its part, water is subjected to several types of uses. Depending on the types of uses and activities, water quality criteria have been specified to determine its suitability for a particular purpose. Among the various types of uses there is one use that demands highest level of water quality or purity and that is termed as "Designated Best Use" in that stretch of water body. Based on this, water quality requirements have been specified for different uses in terms of primary water quality criteria. The primary water quality criteria for bathing water are specified along with the rationale in table 1.

Table 1.

**PRIMARY WATER QUALITY CRITERIA FOR BATHING WATER
(Water used for organised outdoor bathing)**

CRITERIA		RATIONALE
1. Fecal Coliform MPN/100 ml:	500 (desirable) 2500 (Maximum Permissible)	To ensure low sewage contamination. Fecal coliform and fecal streptococci are considered as they reflect the bacterial pathogenicity.
2. Fecal Streptococci MPN/100 ml:	100 (desirable) 500 (Maximum Permissible)	The desirable and permissible limits are suggested to allow for fluctuation in environmental conditions such as seasonal change, changes in flow conditions etc.
2. pH:	Between 6.5 –8.5	The range provides protection to the skin and delicate organs like eyes, nose, ears etc. which are directly exposed during outdoor bathing.
3. Dissolved Oxygen:	5 mg/l or more	The minimum dissolved oxygen concentration of 5 mg/l ensures reasonable freedom from oxygen consuming organic pollution immediately upstream which is necessary for preventing production of anaerobic gases (obnoxious gases) from sediment.
4. Biochemical Oxygen demand 3 day,27°C:	3 mg/l or less	The Biochemical Oxygen Demand of 3 mg/l or less of the water ensures reasonable freedom from oxygen demanding pollutants and prevent production of obnoxious gases";

STN Code	Name Of Monitoring Location	Type of Water Body	Name of Water Body	State Name	Dissolved O ₂ (mg/L)		pH		BOD (mg/L)		Fecal Coliform (MPN/100ml)	
					Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max
Primary Water Quality for Outdoor Bathing notified under the E(P) Rules, 1986					>5 mg/L		6.5-8.5		<3 mg/L		<2500 MPN/100 ml	
10034	RIVER ADYAR AT EKKATTUTHANGAL	RIVER	ADYAR	TAMIL NADU	0.3	3.6	6.75	7.75	4.2	25	18	470
10035	RIVER ADYAR AT JAFERKHANPET	RIVER	ADYAR	TAMIL NADU	0.3	2.9	6.73	7.51	5.3	25	18	330
10036	RIVER ADYAR AT MARAIMALAI BRIDGE	RIVER	ADYAR	TAMIL NADU	0.3	3.9	6.87	7.36	4.5	20	40	270
10038	RIVER ADYAR AT KOTTURPURAM BRIDGE	RIVER	ADYAR	TAMIL NADU	0.3	2.7	6.58	7.35	6	40	1.8	320
10039	RIVER ADYAR NEAR BOAT CLUB	RIVER	ADYAR	TAMIL NADU	0.3	4.1	6.51	7.31	4.6	38	40	320



केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड
CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE, GOVT. OF INDIA

F. No. Tech/02/Legal(TN)/RDC/2024-25/ 1096

Date: 17.02.2025

To

The Member Secretary
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board
No.76, Mount Road, Guindy
Chennai-600032

Sub: Action Taken Report in case of O.A. No. 12/2025 (PB) – Reg.

Sir,

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, Delhi has registered a Suo Motu case Original Application No. 12 of 2025 based on the News item appearing in DT Next dated 06.01.2025, titled "Adyar has 10X fecal coliform than normal and nil dissolved O2". The matter relates to alarming levels of pollution in Adyar river in Tamil Nadu rendering the water septic with no dissolved oxygen content near the Adyar Eco-Park. CPCB has been impleaded as Respondent No. 2 vide Hon'ble NGT PB Order dated 21.01.2025. The case has been transferred to the Southern Zone and will be listed on 18.03.2025.

In this connection, it is kindly requested to provide action taken report (ATR), water sampling and analysis carried out if any to this office, at the earliest.

Yours faithfully

(H. D. Varalaxmi)
Regional Director

क्षेत्रीय निदेशालय (चेन्नई) : द्वितीय तल , 40-ई, बीएसएनएल बिल्डिंग, थिरु-वी-का औद्योगिक एस्टेट, सिपेट रोड, गिन्डी, चेन्नई – 600032
दूरभाष: 044-29998683/044-29567019 ई-मेल: rdchennai.cpcb@gov.in

Regional Directorate (Chennai): Second Floor, 40-E, BSNL Building, TVK Industrial Estate, CIPET Road, Guindy Chennai – 600032
Phone: 044-29998683/044-29567019 Email: rdchennai.cpcb@gov.in

प्रधान कार्यालय : परिवेश भवन, पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली -110 032
Head Office: Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi – 110032
दूरभाष /Telephone: 011-43102030, Fax : 22305793, 22307078, 22307079, 22301932, 22304948
ई-मेल / E-mail: cpcb@nic.in वैबसाइट / Website : www.cpcb.nic.in

फ़ा. नतक. ./02/ लीगल (त.ना)/क्षे.नि.चे./2024-25/ 1096

दिनांक: 17.02.2025

सेवा में

सदस्य सचिव
तमिलनाडु राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड
नंबर 76, माउंट रोड, गिंडी
चेन्नई-600032

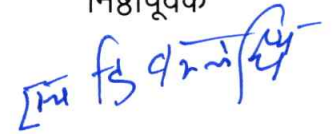
विषय: ओ.ए. संख्या 12/2025 (पीबी) के मामले में की गई कार्रवाई रिपोर्ट

महोदय,

माननीय राष्ट्रीय हरित अधिकरण, प्रधान पीठ, दिल्ली ने दिनांक 06.01.2025 को डीटी नेक्स्ट में छपी खबर "अड्यार में सामान्य से 10 गुना अधिक फेकल कोलीफॉर्म है और इसमें कोई घुलनशील ऑक्सीजन नहीं है" के आधार पर एक स्वप्रेरणा मामला मूल आवेदन संख्या 12/2025 दर्ज किया है। यह मामला तमिलनाडु में अड्यार नदी में प्रदूषण के खतरनाक स्तर से संबंधित है, जिससे अड्यार इको-पार्क के पास पानी में घुली ऑक्सीजन की मात्रा नहीं रह गई है। माननीय एनजीटी पीबी आदेश दिनांक 21.01.2025 के तहत सीपीसीबी को प्रतिवादी संख्या 2 के रूप में पक्ष बनाया गया है। मामला दक्षिणी क्षेत्र को स्थानांतरित कर दिया गया है और 18.03.2025 को सूचीबद्ध किया जाएगा।

इस संबंध में, कृपया इस कार्यालय को जल्द से जल्द कार्रवाई रिपोर्ट (एटीआर), पानी का नमूना और विश्लेषण यदि कोई हो, उपलब्ध कराने का अनुरोध किया जाता है।

निष्ठापूर्वक



(एच. डि. वरलक्ष्मी)
क्षेत्रीय निदेशक



TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

**From**

Thiru. R. Kannan, M.Tech.,
Member Secretary,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
76, Mount Salai, Guindy,
Chennai – 600 032.

To

The Regional Director,
Central Pollution Control Board,
Regional Directorate (Chennai)
40 – E, BSNL Building,
TVK Industrial Estate, CIPET Road,
Guindy, Chennai – 600 032.

Letter No. TNPCB/LAW/LA – III/NGT/ 003397, Dated: 13.05.2025

Sir,

Sub: TNPCB - Hon'ble NGT (PB) filed Suo Moto vide QA No-12 of 2025 based on the News item titled "Adyar has 10X fecal Coliform than normal and nil dissolved O₂" appeared in DT Next dated 06/01/2025 – Action taken report – Submitted – Regarding.

Ref: Letter received from the Regional Director, CPCB, Chennai dt:17.02.2025.

I am to invite kind attention to the reference cited, wherein CPCB has requested to provide action taken report and water sampling and analysis carried out by TNPCB. In this regard, following details are submitted.

1. It is being informed that as part of the rejuvenation of Coovum and Adyar River stretches under the supervision of Chennai River Restoration Trust (CRRT), water samples from the Adyar river is being collected every fortnight and sent to Advanced Environmental Laboratory (AEL), TNPCB, Chennai for analysis.
2. The ROA of the sample collected on 03/01/2025 at upstream and downstream of Modular STP located at Kotturpuram reveals that the concentrations of Total and Fecal Coliforms are significantly higher than the acceptable limits, indicating the likely discharge of sewage into the Adyar River. Copy of ROA is enclosed herewith.
3. Therefore, a letter dated 26.02.2025 has been addressed to the Zonal Officer, Zone 13, Greater Chennai Corporation to take necessary action to prevent the discharge of untreated sewage in to the Adyar River, and to furnish an action taken report in this regard.

This is submitted for kind information.

For Member Secretary

P. J. S. S.
13/05/2025

Annexures:

1. ROA of the samples collected on 03/01/2025.
2. Letter addressed to the Zonal Officer, Zone – 13, Greater Chennai Corporation dt:26.2.2025.



**TAMILNADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
ADVANCED ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY
No. 76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
CHENNAI - 32.**

Chennai River Rejuvenation Trust (CRRT) - Test Report

Sampling Month : January-2025

Report of Analysis No. 2866 / 2024 - 25 dated: 28.01.2025

A: LOCATION DETAILS

1	SPCB/RO Name	O/o. DEE, TNPCB, Chennai South @ Velachery				
2	Code	KTP-03				
3	Date and Time of Sample Taken	03.01.2025	8.45	AM		
4	Latitude	13.026071				
5	Longitude	80.243627				
6	Name of Monitoring Station	Kotturpuram Modular STP (0.6 MLD) - U/S				
7	Type of Water Body	River				
8	Name of water Body	Adyar				
9	Name of River Basin	Kotturpuram				
10	Name of Sub Basin	-				
11	District	Chennai				
12	State	Tamil Nadu				
13	Name of Monitoring Agency	O/o. TNPCB, DEE, Chennai South @ Velachery				
14	Frequency of the Monitoring	Monthly				
15	Location details (Select & Bold)	Up stream	Down stream	pilgrim centre	Bathing Ghat/ water Intake	None
16	Use of water in D/s (Select & Bold)	Irrigation	Industrial	Domestic	Drinking Water Source	
		Organized water Source	Cultivation	Fishing	Bathing Ghat	None
17	Human Activities (Select & Bold)	Bathing	washing	Cultivation	Fishing	Boating
		Idol Emersion Wading	Gardening	Tourism Spot	Cattle Wading	None

B. STATION DETAILS

1	Use Based Class (Select & Bold)	A	B	C	D	E
2	Major Polluting sources (Select & Bold)	Industrial Effluent	Municipal Solid Waste	Plastic Waste	None	No Information
3	Visible Effluent Discharges (Select & Bold)	Industrial	Municipal Solid Waste	None		
4	Weather (Select & Bold)	Clear	Cloudy	Rainy	Windy	Summer
		Winter				
5	Depth of Water Body (Metre) (Select & Bold)	Less than 50 cm	50-100 cm	Greater than 100 cm	No Information	
6	Floating Matter (Select & Bold)	Yes	No			
7	Colour (Select & Bold)	Clear	Light Brown	Brown	Turbid Green	
		Light Green	Dark Green	Other (specify)		
8	Odour (Select & Bold)	None	Odour Free	H ₂ S/ Rotten Egg	Burnt Sugar	
		Soapy/ Fishy	Septic/ Aromatic	Chlorinous/ Pungent	Alcoholic/ Unpleasant	
9	Flow m ³ /sec	Not available				

Sl. No.	Lab Code No.	Unit	ROA No. 2866	Test Method
	Parameters			
1	Water Temperature	°C	27°C	-
2	pH	-	7.25	APHA 23rd Edn 2017, 4500 H+ B
3	BOD	mg/L	10	IS 3025 (Part - 44) :1993, Reaff. 2009
4	COD	mg/L	72	IS 3025 (Part - 58), Reaff 2006
5	Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	12	APHA 23rd Edn 2017, 2540 D
6	Ammonia Nitrogen	mg/L	5.04	APHA 23rd Edn 2017-4500-NH ₃ C
7	Total Nitrogen	mg/L	23.18	-
	A. Nitrate	mg/L	7.5	APHA 23rd Edn 2017-4500-NO ₃ -B
	B. Nitrite	mg/L	BDL [DL 1]	APHA 23rd Edn 2017-4500-NO ₂ - B
	C. Total KJELDHAL Nitrogen	mg/L	15.68	APHA 23rd Edn 2017-4500-N-B
8	Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	0.7	APHA 23rd Edn 2017-4500-O C
9	Total Coliform	MPN/ 100 ml	10670	APHA 23rd Edn 2017- 9223 A,B
10	Feacal Coliform	MPN/ 100 ml	4120	APHA 23rd Edn 2017-9223 A,B

Note: BDL Indicates less than minimum detection limit.

Disclaimer

The test items will not be retained for more than 15 days from the date of test report
The test results relate only to the items tested as received

D. Pradeep
29/11/25
for Chief Scientific Officer (Lab)
AEL, TNPCB, Chennai-32.
Pradeep
28/11/25



**TAMILNADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
ADVANCED ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY
No. 76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
CHENNAI - 32.**

Chennai River Rejuvenation Trust (CRRT) - Test Report

Sampling Month : **January-2025**

Report of Analysis No. 2867 / 2024 - 25 dated: **28.01.2025**

A: LOCATION DETAILS

1	SPCB/RO Name	O/o. DEE, TNPCB, Chennai South @ Velachery				
2	Code	KTP-04				
3	Date and Time of Sample Taken	03.01.2025	9.15	AM		
4	Latitude	13.012111				
5	Longitude	80.259014				
6	Name of Monitoring Station	Kotturpuram Modular STP (0.6 MLD) - Down Stream 1				
7	Type of Water Body	River				
8	Name of water Body	Adyar				
9	Name of River Basin	Kotturpuram				
10	Name of Sub Basin	-				
11	District	Chennai				
12	State	Tamil Nadu				
13	Name of Monitoring Agency	O/o. TNPCB, DEE, Chennai South @ Velachery				
14	Frequency of the Monitoring	Monthly				
15	Location details (Select & Bold)	Up stream	Down stream	pilgrim centre	Bathing Ghat/ water Intake	None
16	Use of water in D/s (Select & Bold)	Irrigation	Industrial	Domestic	Drinking Water Source	
		Organized water Source	Cultivation	Fishing	Bathing Ghat	None
17	Human Activities (Select & Bold)	Bathing	washing	Cultivation	Fishing	Boating
		Idol Emersion Wading	Gardening	Tourism Spot	Cattle Wading	None

B. STATION DETAILS

1	Use Based Class (Select & Bold)	A	B	C	D	E
2	Major Polluting sources (Select & Bold)	Industrial Effluent	Municipal Solid Waste	Plastic Waste	None	No Information
3	Visible Effluent Discharges (Select & Bold)	Industrial	Municipal Solid Waste	None		
4	Weather (Select & Bold)	Clear	Cloudy	Rainy	Windy	Summer
		Winter				
5	Depth of Water Body (Metre) (Select & Bold)	Less than 50 cm	50-100 cm	Greater than 100 cm	No Information	
6	Floating Matter (Select & Bold)	Yes	No			
7	Colour (Select & Bold)	Clear	Light Brown	Brown	Turbid Green	
		Light Green	Dark Green	Other (specify)		
8	Odour (Select & Bold)	None	Odour Free	H ₂ S/ Rotten Egg	Burnt Sugar	
		Soapy/ Fishy	Septic/ Aromatic	Chlorinous/ Pungent	Alcoholic/ Unpleasant	
9	Flow m ³ /sec	Not available				

Sl. No.	Lab Code No.	Unit	ROA No. 2867	Test Method
	Parameters			
1	Water Temperature	°C	27°C	-
2	pH	-	7.01	APHA 23rd Edn 2017, 4500 H+ B
3	BOD	mg/L	8	IS 3025 (Part - 44) :1993, Reaff. 2009
4	COD	mg/L	88	IS 3025 (Part - 58), Reaff 2006
5	Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	14	APHA 23rd Edn 2017, 2540 D
6	Ammonia Nitrogen	mg/L	4.48	APHA 23rd Edn 2017-4500-NH ₃ C
7	Total Nitrogen	mg/L	15.13	-
	A. Nitrate	mg/L	3.659	APHA 23rd Edn 2017-4500-NO ₃ -B
	B. Nitrite	mg/L	0.271	APHA 23rd Edn 2017-4500-NO ₂ -B
	C. Total KJELDHAL Nitrogen	mg/L	11.2	APHA 23rd Edn 2017-4500-N-B
8	Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	1.7	APHA 23rd Edn 2017-4500-O C
9	Total Coliform	MPN/100 ml	10326	APHA 23rd Edn 2017- 9223 A,B
10	Feacal Coliform	MPN/100 ml	3724	APHA 23rd Edn 2017-9223 A,B

Disclaimer

The test items will not be retained for more than 15 days from the date of test report.
The test results relate only to the items tested as received

D. Brindley
28/11/25
Chief Scientific Officer (Lab)
AEL, TNPCB, Chennai-32.



**TAMILNADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
ADVANCED ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY
No. 76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
CHENNAI - 32.**

Chennai River Rejuvenation Trust (CRRT) - Test Report

Sampling Month : January-2025

Report of Analysis No. 2868 / 2024 - 25 dated: 28.01.2025

A: LOCATION DETAILS

1	SPCB/RO Name	O/o. DEE, TNPCB, Chennai South @ Velachery				
2	Code	KTP-05				
3	Date and Time of Sample Taken	03.01.2025	9.20	AM		
4	Latitude	13.012581				
5	Longitude	80.258966				
6	Name of Monitoring Station	Kotturpuram Modular STP (0.6 MLD) - Down Stream 2				
7	Type of Water Body	River				
8	Name of water Body	Adyar				
9	Name of River Basin	Sathya nagar				
10	Name of Sub Basin	-				
11	District	Chennai				
12	State	Tamil Nadu				
13	Name of Monitoring Agency	O/o. TNPCB, DEE, Chennai South @ Velachery				
14	Frequency of the Monitoring	Monthly				
15	Location details (Select & Bold)	Up stream	Down stream	pilgrim centre	Bathing Ghat/ water Intake	None
16	Use of water in D/s (Select & Bold)	Irrigation	Industrial	Domestic	Drinking Water Source	
		Organized water Source	Cultivation	Fishing	Bathing Ghat	None
17	Human Activities (Select & Bold)	Bathing	washing	Cultivation	Fishing	Boating
		Idol Emersion Wading	Gardening	Tourism Spot	Cattle Wading	None

B. STATION DETAILS

1	Use Based Class (Select & Bold)	A	B	C	D	E
2	Major Polluting sources (Select & Bold)	Industrial Effluent	Municipal Solid Waste	Plastic Waste	None	No Information
3	Visible Effluent Discharges (Select & Bold)	Industrial	Municipal Solid Waste	None		
4	Weather (Select & Bold)	Clear	Cloudy	Rainy	Windy	Summer
		Winter				
5	Depth of Water Body (Metre) (Select & Bold)	Less than 50 cm	50-100 cm	Greater than 100 cm	No Information	
6	Floating Matter (Select & Bold)	Yes	No			
7	Colour (Select & Bold)	Clear	Light Brown	Brown	Turbid Green	
		Light Green	Dark Green	Other (specify)		
8	Odour (Select & Bold)	None	Odour Free	H ₂ S/ Rotten Egg	Burnt Sugar	
		Soapy/ Fishy	Septic/ Aromatic	Chlorinous/ Pungent	Alcoholic/ Unpleasant	
9	Flow m ³ /sec	Not available				

Sl. No.	Lab Code No.	Unit	ROA No. 2868	Test Method
	Parameters			
1	Water Temperature	°C	27°C	—
2	pH	—	7.20	APHA 23rd Edn 2017, 4500 H+ B
3	BOD	mg/L	7	IS 3025 (Part – 44) :1993, Reaff. 2009
4	COD	mg/L	64	IS 3025 (Part – 58), Reaff 2006
5	Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	10	APHA 23rd Edn 2017, 2540 D
6	Ammonia Nitrogen	mg/L	3.92	APHA 23rd Edn 2017-4500-NH ₃ C
7	Total Nitrogen	mg/L	20.26	—
	A. Nitrate	mg/L	5.479	APHA 23rd Edn 2017-4500-NO ₃ -B
	B. Nitrite	mg/L	0.225	APHA 23rd Edn 2017-4500-NO ₂ -B
	C. Total KJELDHAL Nitrogen	mg/L	14.56	APHA 23rd Edn 2017-4500-N-B
8	Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	2.1	APHA 23rd Edn 2017-4500-O C
9	Total Coliform	MPN/100 ml	10344	APHA 23rd Edi 2017- 9223 A,B
10	Feacal Coliform	MPN/100 ml	3811	APHA 23rd Edi 2017-9223 A,B

Note: BDL Indicates less than minimum detection limit.

Disclaimer

The test items will not be retained for more than 15 days from the date of test report
The test results relate only to the items tested as received

D. Sridhar
29/11/25
for Chief Scientific Officer (Lab)
AEL, TNPCB, Chennai-32.
Suma
28/11/25



TAMILNADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

From

Dr. M. Dhinakaran, M.E., Ph.D.,
District Environmental Engineer
Chennai South
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
Jaganathapuram,
Velachery, Chennai 600 106.

To

The Zonal Officer,
Zone XIII Greater Chennai
Corporation,
Chennai Corporation Office Zone
Kasturba Nagar,, 31, Thiruvengadam
St, Baktavatsalm Nagar, Adyar,
Chennai, 600020

Lr No: DEE/TNPCB/CHS/Hon'ble NGT (PB) 12 of 2025 dt 26/02/2025


Sir,

Sub: TNPCB- O/o.DEE, Chennai @Velachery – Hon'ble NGT (PB) filed Suo Moto vide OA No 12 of 2025 based on the News item titled "Adyar has 10X fecal Coliform than normal and nil dissolved O₂" appeared in DT Next dated 06/01/2025 in continuation to the News item appeared in The Hindu dated 18.06.2024 titled "Fish kill near Adyar Eco park highlights persisting sewage contamination"- To furnish the Action taken Report - Regarding.

- Ref:**
1. News item appearing in The Hindu dated 18.06.2024 titled "Fish kill near Adyar Eco park highlights persisting sewage contamination.
 2. Lr No: DEE/TNPCB/CHS/Hon'ble NGT 250 of 2024 (SZ) dated 21/06/2024 & 17/10/2024
 3. Order of the Hon'ble NGT(PB) in O A No 12 of 2025 dated 21/01/2025

With reference to the news item that appeared in *The Hindu* dated 18/06/2024, a letter was already addressed, vide the second cited reference, requesting appropriate action to prevent sewage discharge into the Adyar River from nearby residential areas to avoid water contamination and protect aquatic life.

Subsequently, a *suo motu* case has now been filed before the Hon'ble NGT (PB) based on the news item published in *DT Next* dated 06/01/2025, titled "Adyar has 10X Fecal Coliform than Normal and Nil Dissolved O₂", vide the third cited reference. Therefore, it is requested to submit an action taken report to prevent the intrusion of untreated sewage from residential areas in to the Adyar River .


**District Environmental Engineer,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
Chennai South @ Velachery.**

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
(SOUTHERN ZONE) CHENNAI**

ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 46 OF 2025

Earlier O.A. No. 477/2024 (PB)

In the matter of:

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU based
on the News Item appearing in DT Next dated
06.01.2025 titled “Adyar has 10X fecal
coliform than normal and nil dissolved O₂”

..... Applicant (s)

Versus

Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board
Through its Member Secretary and Ors.
.....Respondent(s)

REPLY ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT No. 2
CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

Advocate D.S Ekambaram
Counsel for the 2nd Respondent
M-9445158274

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, CHENNAI.
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI
O. A. No. 46 of 2025 (SZ)

Suo motu matter titled
"Adyar has 10X fecal coliform than normal and nil dissolved O2"
appearing in the DT Next dated 06.01.2025 ... Applicant.

Versus

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

To
The Registrar,
National Green Tribunal (SZ),
Chennai.

Sir,

Please enter my appearance on behalf of the Respondent no. 2 (CPCB) in the above case, as I have been instructed to appear on their behalf.

Chennai
Date: 16.06.2025.



Mr.D.S.Ekambaram
COUNSEL FOR RESPONDENT- 2(CPCB)
Roll No: 81/1973
Cell No : 9445158274



केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड
CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE, GOVT. OF INDIA

F.No.Tech/02/Legal/RDC/2024-25/23

07 April 2025

To

Sh. D.S. Ekambaram
Advocate
No.3, Theetathi Amman Kovil Street
Gandhi Road
Tiruttani – 631209

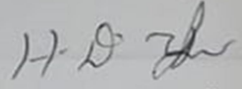
Sub: Vakalatnama in O.A. No.46 of 2025 before the Hon'ble NGT (SZ)

Sir,

The Regional Directorate, Chennai, Central Pollution Control Board is pleased to utilize services of your good office for conducting the above titled matter listed in Hon'ble NGT (SZ), Chennai.

The duly signed Vakalatnama is enclosed for further action at your end. Kindly ensure to appear in all hearings and protect the interest of CPCB. The payment shall be made as per prevailing norms of CPCB. It is requested to kindly forward a copy of said O.A. to this office for our further action.

Yours faithfully


(H D Varalaxmi)
Regional Director

Encl: As above

क्षेत्रीय निदेशालय (चेन्नई) : 40-ई, द्वितीय तल, बीएसएनएल बिल्डिंग, धिरु-वी.का औद्योगिक एस्टेट, सिपेट रोड, गुन्डी, चेन्नई - 600032
दूरभाष : 044-29998683/044-29567019 ई-मेल : rdchennai.cpcb@gov.in
Regional Directorate (Chennai): 40-E, Second Floor, BSNL Building, TVK Industrial Estate, CIPET Road, Guindy, Chennai - 600032
Phone: 044-29998683/044-29567019 Email: rdchennai.cpcb@gov.in

प्रधान कार्यालय : परिवेश भवन, पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली - 110 032
Head Office: Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 110032
दूरभाष / Telephone: 011-43102030, Fax : 22305793, 22307078, 22307079, 22301932, 22304948
ई-मेल / E-mail: cpcb@nic.in वेबसाइट / Website : www.cpcb.nic.in