

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL – (SOUTH ZONE)

CHENNAI

Application No. O.A. 125 / 2021

B. Balakrishnan,
S/o. Rengarajan,
Lalpuram & Post,
Chidambaram Taluk,
Cuddalore District .

.... Applicant

-Vs-

1. The District Collector,
Cuddalore District.
2. The Sub Collector,
Chidambaram.
3. The Thasildar,
Chidambaram.
4. The Commissioner,
Chidambaram Municipality.
5. The Executive Engineer,
P.W.D. Chidambaram.
6. The District Environmental Officer,
TNPCB, Cuddalore.
7. The Executive Engineer,
Tamil Nadu Water Supply & Drainage Board,
Cuddalore.
8. The Block Development Officer,
Kumaratchi Panchayat Union,
Cuddalore District.

.... Respondents

STATUS REPORT FILED BY THE 1st and 2nd RESPONDENT

As per the order delivered by National Green Tribunal (South Zone) on O.A. No. 125/ 2021, the following steps have been taken for removing the encroachments and discharge of sewage water. Particularly in and around the Chidambaram Town i.e Annamalai nagar town panchayat, C.Kothangudi, Meethikudi, C.Thandeswaranllur, usuppur and in Chidambaram non Municipal village panchayats.

For this purpose, meetings were convened with nodal Officers, on 04.08.2021, 12.08.2021 and 24.08.2021 respectively in Chidambaram Sub Collector's Office. The steps taken by respective departments are as follows :

1. Tahsildar, Chidambaram:-

The encroachers details were prepared in detail and form 1 (details of enroachers and encroachments) were shared with the concerned departments for necessary action to remove encroachments.

| Si. No. | Place of water course Encroachment | Survey No. | Extent | No. of Encroachment | Dept. by which form-1 notice sent |
|----------------|---|-----------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|--|
| 1. | Pallipadai Kuttai | 221/11 | 0.0004 | 1 | BDO-Parangipettai A1/1654/2018, Dated.21.11.2020 |
| 2. | Pulichamedu Kulam- Usuppur | 30/7 | 0.0003 | 29 | BDO-Kumaratchi A1/1654/2018, Dated.30.11.2020 |
| 3. | Periyaannakulam- Chidambaram Town | T.S.18 W-3 B-26 | 0.1426 | 26 | Municipal Commissioner,Chidamba ram A1/1654/2018, Dated.10.08.2021 |
| 4. | karakkuttai – Chidambaram Town | T.S.931 W-5 B-12 | 0.0443 | 20 | Municipal Commissioner, Chidambaram A1/1654/2018, Dated.10.08.2021 |
| 5. | Kumaran Kulam – Chidambaram Town | T.S.151 4 W-4 B-22 | 0.3692 | 35 | Municipal Commissioner, Chidambaram A1/1654/2018, Dated.10.08.2021 |
| 6. | Chinna anna kulam, Chidambaram Town | T.S.126 W-2 B-3 | 0.0107 | 3 | Municipal Commissioner, Chidambaram A1/1654/2018, Dated.22.06.2021 |

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|--------|----------|--|
| 7. | Thatchan kulam- Chidambaram Town | T.S.951 W-5 B-13 | 0.2540 | 68 | Municipal Commissioner, Chidambaram A1/1654/2018, Dated.19.07.2021 |
| 8. | Pallipadai Vaikal | S.N.5& 23 | 0.0267 | 12 | PWD- Chidambaram A1/1654/2018, Dated.10.08.2021 |
| 9. | Palaman Kulakkarai – Nehru Nagar- Chidambaram | T.S.112 7 W-4 B-17 | 0.3173 | 69 | Municipal Commissioner,Chidamba ram A1/1654/2018, Dated.18.08.2021 |
| 10. | Palaman karai – Ambethkar Nagar - | T.S.554 W-4 B-23 | 0.4214 | 94 | PWD- Chidambaram A1/1654/2018, Dated.18.08.2021 |
| 11. | Salai Purampoke- Chidambaram Town | T.S.101 1 W-4 B-13 T.S.858 W-5 B-11 | 0.0016 | 1 Temple | PWD-Chidambaram A1/1245/2021, Dated.30.07.2021 |

2. Block Development Officer, Kumaratchi (Village Panchayat)

There are 52820 houses situated in 30 wards of usupur Village Panchayat, Chidambaram Non municipal Village and in C.Thandeswaranallur Village. As per the judgement of Green tribunal. No.-1 notices have been issued to the households round about 25048 in these villages for which stoppage of sewage water mixing into the vappusavadi odai.

Notices through the Executive Officer and Village Panchayat Presidents of Usuppur Village Panchayat to the encroachers in Pulichamedu in Usuppur Village Panchayat requesting them to clear the encroachments within 3 weeks and public notice has been issued to the residents of Sivasakthi Nagar, S.R.Nagar and M.K. Thottam requesting them to stop letting the Sewage water into the Canal.

The encroachers in and around Usupur and Chidambaram Non Municipal Village have been identified and is awaiting for suitable direction from higher authorities for evicting the encroachers.

In addition to that inspected the Canal and has drafted a proposal for purifying the effluent discharge of Sewage Water through Aerobic Method, by installing Trash Tank, Aerobic Treatment Unit. Disinfection Chamber, Pumping Tank. The approximate cost of the Project is Rs. 16,70,73,000/- (Rupees Sixteen Crore Seventy Lakh and Seventy Three Thousand Only). This Proposal has been sent to the Collector of Cuddalore District by this Respondent's letter dated.23.08.2021

3. Block Development Officer – Parangipettai (Village Panchayat)

C.Kothankudi Village, Meethikudi Village, Pallipadai Village Panchayats and in Annamalainagar town panchayat there are 6952 house holds in 39 wards about 36926 people are living there. In order to prevent the drainage water mixing into drinking water a new drainage system(under ground drainage system) is proposed by village panchayat. For which estimate and plan of action have been received and proposal sent to District collector Cuddalore . Besides the house holds were issued no.1 notices for disconnecting the drainage water mixing into the drinking water

4. Executive Engineer - Tamil nadu Water Supply & Drainage Board

In this regards UGSS to Chidambaram Municipality was Administratively sanctioned vide G.O.(D) No.28/MA&WS(MA111) Dept/Dt.27.01.2014 for an amount of Rs. 7562.23 lakhs. This scheme has been split up as 3 packages. The package I & II Collection System work was awarded to M/s Keyem Engineering Enterprises & the package III STP work was awarded to M/s Pure Enviro Engineering Private Ltd.

The sewage generated from this town is collected through the collection system which is divided in to 4 Zones. Collection system with trunk sewer for each zone to their respective collection well and then conveyed through the respective pumping mains from each zone to the sewage treatment plant for treatment and disposal of the effluent.

The works is completed in all respects and inaugurated by the Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 28.05.2020. Now the scheme is put into beneficial use. At present, the sewage collected at about 5.20 MLD is treated by adopting Activated Sludge Process Technology.

TWAD Board is not let out any sewage in the open drain but collecting the sewage from the houses by pipe line and treated in the treatment plant as per TNPCB norms.

5. EE- PWD – Chidambaram.

The Water bodies flowing in Chidambaram Municipal area are Khan Sahib Canal, which belong to the Public Works Department, Water resources Department, Coleroon Basin Division, Chidambaram. A Part of Khan Sahib Canal is running in the Chidambaram town area for a length of 5 Km.

The above canal is maintained by removing the floating plants and removing congestions during every rainy season for free flow of water. During November 2020 also, floating machineries were used to remove the silt and obstructions like water hyacinth. Moreover, 94 encroachers were identified in Khan Sahib Canal during 2018.

Now in order to remove encroachments,

- a. Form-I was got from the Tahsildar, Chidambaram which belongs to the encroachers
- b. Form-II has been prepared and displayed on notice board in the concern Taluk Office, VAO Office, R.I. Office and relevant office for information

After the above Form-II, displayed when the PWD, officials were issuing the Form-III to the encroachers at the site.

Meanwhile, the PWD officials and Revenue Officials are to issue Form-III to the encroachers for eviction purpose.

A letter was communicated to the Municipal Commissioner, Chidambaram vide the Lr.No. 141M /F/JDO/2021/Dated:18.06.2021 regarding discharging the sewage water in this Canal. It is informed to treat the sewage water before allowing in the water bodies. It is informed to treat the sewage water before allowing in the water bodies.

6. District Environmental Officer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board.

Regarding this, The Sub Collector, Chidambaram has convened a meeting on 17.08.2021 with the members of the above committee and also the representatives of the village Panchayats adjoining the Chidambaram Municipality, and discussed about the orders of the Hon'ble NGT. At the end of the meeting, The Sub Collector has instructed the DEE, TNPCB, to inspect the discharges of sewage from these Village Panchayats and furnish a report.

To avoid the discharge of sewage and disposal of solidwaste into the water bodies in Chidambaram Municipality and in the canals in the surrounding Village Panchayats, the following have to be carried out by the Local bodies.

- i. The Chidambaram municipality has to identify the sewage outfalls in water bodies and direct all the sewage generated from its households in the jurisdiction and convey it to the Sewage Treatment Plant at Lalpuram for treatment, as per the Directions issued by the Chairman, TNPCB through Proc.No.T6/TNPCB/F. 5656/STP/2021-2/ dated:18.06.2021
- ii. The Village Panchayats around the Chidambaram Municipality area shall install sewage treatment plants individually or jointly and treat the sewage generated from their Panchayats areas, and dispose it for further beneficial use, such as irrigation etc.
- iii. The Local bodies including the Panchayats shall collect and process the solid waste generated from the households and avoid dumping of solid waste in and on the banks of water bodies. The solid waste have to be properly managed as per the Solid Waste Management Rules 2016, notified under the Environment (PO Act 1986.
- iv. The Chidambaram Municipality and the surrounding village Panchayats shall not burn the solid waste and shall not permit any person to burn it.
- v.

7. Inspector – Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments dept

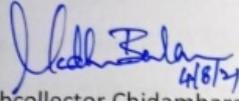
In accordance with the judgment delivered in NGT. O.A.No.125/2021 (SZ) it is intimated that Gnanaprakasam Kulam which is situated in chidambaram town is used for theppa urtchavam. Sewage effluents were discharged in and around the kulam by the surrounding house holds however the urtchavam has not been done for the last 10 years. Besides this kulam is under the control of Chidambaram municipality and hence necessary steps have been taken by the chidambaram municipality for avoiding effluent sewage water letting in to the kulam.

8. Commissioner, Chidambaram Municipality:-

The following preventive steps are taken by Chidambaram Municipality for stopping discharge of untreated sewage/sullage water to inlet channel.

There are 19 Kulams situated in Chidambaram Municipality. Among these, 18 Kulams are categorized as Sarkar poramboke and are under the control of Chidambaram Municipality. The only one Elamayakinar koil Kulam is under the control of temple trustee. It is found out that 71 persons encroachment in Nagacheri Kulam, 93 Persons in Omakulam, 62 persons encroached in Gnanaprakasam kulam and eviction work has also been carried out successfully. Besides 47 persons encroachment in Thachan kulam, 26 cases in periyanna kulam, 3 cases in Chinna anna kulam, 36 cases in Kumaran kulam, 94 in Palaman kulam 20 cases in Gorikuttai kulam over all total 225 cases of encroachments found out and eviction notices were also sent to the concerned as per the T.N.Municipalities Act 1920 under section 362,313,339 and 340.

In addition to that 94 households are supplied with new drainage system recently especially to avoid discharge of untreated sewage/sullage water to inlet channel.



Subcollector Chidambaram

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Status Report filed by the 1st and 2nd Respondent