

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

Original Application No. 173 of 2020

IN THE MATTER OF:

NEWS ITEM PUBLISHED IN THE NEWS 18 INDIA DT. 06TH AUGUST 2020 TITLED 700 TONNES OF AMMONIUM NITRATE STORED IN CHENNAI SAFE E AUCTION DONE: CUSTOMER AFTER BEIRUT BLAST.

Registered on: 14.08.2020

NDOH: 24.08.2020

I N D E X

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Filed on: 19.08.2020

Place: New Delhi

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI.**

ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 173 of 2020

Suo Moto Matter In re: 700 Tonnes of
Ammonium Nitrate Stored in Chennai,
Safe, E-auction Done:
Customer after Beirut Blast,
Published in the News18 India,
dated 06.08.2020

Vs

The Member Secretary,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
Chennai & others.

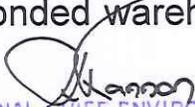
...Respondents

**REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE TAMIL NADU
POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

I, R.Kannan, son of V. Raghavan, aged about 57 years, having office at No.76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai – 600 032, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

1. I am the Additional Chief Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and I am filing this Report on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and as such I am well acquainted with the facts of the case as per records.

2. It is respectfully submitted that the Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench has initiated suo moto proceeding, "700 Tonnes of Ammonium Nitrate Stored in Chennai, Safe, E-auction Done: Customer after Beirut Blast, Published in the News18 India, dated 06.08.2020 and the Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board was in receipt of hearing notice dated 14.08.2020. This present report is filed on the Storage of Ammonium Nitrate in a custom bonded warehouse of M/s.


ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD,
76, MOUNT SALAI, CHENNAI-32.

Sattva Container Freight Station (CFS) at Door NO. 126A, Ponneri High Road, Manali, Tiruvottriyur Taluk, Chennai District.

3. It is respectfully submitted that, based on the information given by the customs department that large quantity of Ammonium Nitrate has been stored in one of the custom bonded container freight stations at Manali since 2015, the warehouse of M/s. Sattva Container Freight Station (CFS) at Door No. 126A, Ponneri High Road, Manali, Tiruvottriyur Taluk, Chennai District was inspected on 06.08.2020 by the TNPCB Officials along with officials from Police Department & Fire and Rescue Services, Chennai.

4. It is respectfully submitted that during the inspection the following was observed:

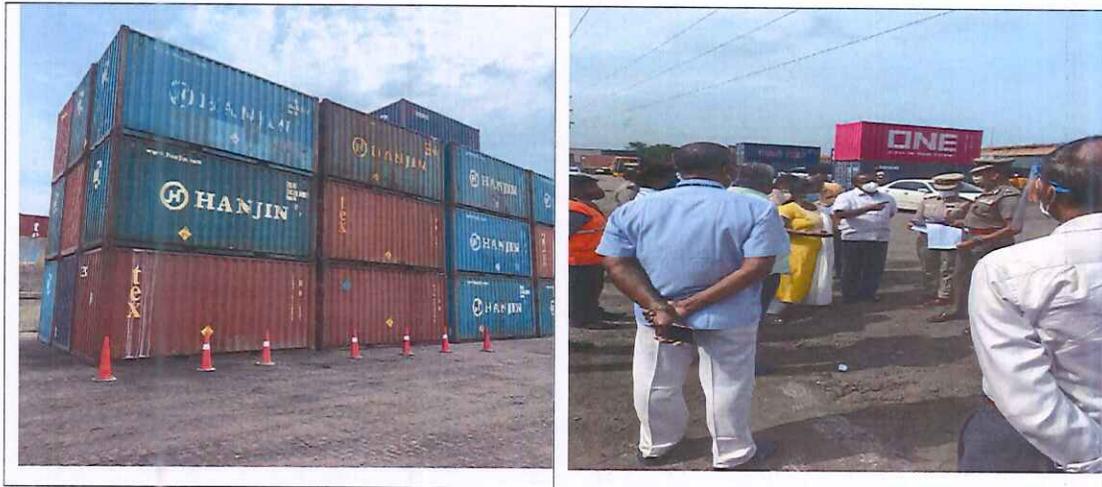
i. The extent of the ware house is about 18 acres, surrounded by Container Freight Stations at east, west & northern directions and Ponneri High Road followed by container freight station in western direction.

ii. The Nearest habitations are namely Manali New Town at a distance of 700m in the northern direction with a population of about 7000 and Sadayankuppam village at a distance of 1500m in the eastern direction with a population of about 5000.

iii. The occupier of the premises is Mr. Narasimhan and this container freight station is being under operation since October 2001.


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iv. There were 37 number of MS containers each having approximately 20Tons, totally 740T of Ammonium Nitrate was reported to be stored within the premises of Sattva Container Freight Station(CFS) as shown in the following photographs.

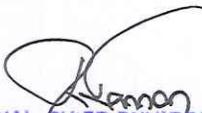


v. It was reported that the Ammonium Nitrate has been transported from the Chennai Port and stored in the premises since 27.09.2015. It was also reported that the Ammonium Nitrate in the containers is being stored in crystallised form in 25kg polypropylene bags.

vi. The official from the Customs Department present during inspection informed that the material has been imported by M/s. Sri Amman Chemicals, Karur, however the material is still under the possession of Customs Department due to some legal issues.

vii. The Customs Official has also reported that the bidding for the utilization of Ammonium Nitrate by beneficiaries has been called for and the process will be completed within three days.

viii. Ammonium Nitrate is listed in serial number 33 of part II schedule 1 of Manufacture Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemical Rules, 1989 as amended.


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5. It is respectfully submitted that the TNPC Board vide letter No.T2/TNPCB/F.013935/2020, dated 06.08.2020 requested the Director of Industrial Safety and Health, SIDCO Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai that necessary inspection may be carried out and submit a report to the Government immediately.

6. It is respectfully submitted that on 13.08.2020, the custom bonded warehouse of M/s. Sattva Container Freight Station (CFS) was again inspected and it was noticed that the ammonium nitrate stored was removed. The location where ammonium nitrate was stored in containers was found vacant as shown in photograph.



Before Disposal



After disposal

7. It is respectfully submitted that it was informed during the inspection that 10 containers were removed on 10.08.2020, 12 containers were removed on 11.08.2020 and 15 containers were removed on 12.08.2020. It is submitted that totally 37 containers with 697 Tonnes of ammonium nitrate were sent to M/s. Salvo Explosives & Chemicals Pvt. Ltd., S F No.756, 786, 916, 913, Ankireddypalli Village, Keesara Road, Keesara Mandal, Medchal Malkajgiri, Telangana –


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501301 which is a detonator manufacturing unit having license for ammonium nitrate.

8. It is respectfully submitted that though it was mentioned in the earlier report that about 740T were stored in the container freight station, but the actual quantity is only 697T in 37 containers which were transported to M/s.Salvo Explosives & Chemicals Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad, Telungana.

Under the above circumstances, it is humbly prayed that this Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (Southern Zone) may be pleased to take this Report on record and pass such further or other orders as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of this case and thus render justice.


ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMILNADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD,
76, MOUNT SALAI, CHENNAI-32.
BEFORE ME

VERIFICATION

I, R. Kannan, son of V. Raghavan, working as Additional Chief Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai-600 032 do hereby verify that the contents of above report are true to the best of my knowledge through records

Verified at Chennai on this day of August, 2020.


ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMILNADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD,
76, MOUNT SALAI, CHENNAI-32.