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**Municipal Administration and  
Water Supply (WS.1) Department,  
Secretariat, Chennai – 600 009.**

**Letter No.756/WS.1/2024-2, dated: 17.02.2024**

**From**

Dr. D. Karthikeyan, I.A.S.,  
Principal Secretary to Government.

**To**

✓ The Consultant (Judicial),  
National Green Tribunal,  
Faridkot House,  
Copernicus Marg,  
New Delhi – 110 001 (w.e)

**Sir,**

**Sub:** National Green Tribunal – Original Application  
No.728/2023 - Arsenic found in groundwater in 25  
states, fluoride in 27 states – Regarding.

**Ref:** From the Consultant (Judicial) National Green Tribunal,  
Notice in Original Application No.728/2023.  
dated.30.12.2023.

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I am to refer the Notice cited and to enclose a affidavit containing status report on "Arsenic and fluoride in ground water in the State of Tamil Nadu", for filing before the NGT (PB) on behalf of the Chief Secretary to Government of the State of Tamil Nadu (18<sup>th</sup> respondent).

Yours faithfully,

*Lon. P. S. Srinivasan*

for Principal Secretary to Government

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**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
PRINCIPAL BENCH, AT NEW DELHI  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION No.728 OF 2023**

IN THE MATTER OF:

In re: News item appearing in Hindustan dated.30.11.2023 titled "Arsenic found in groundwater in 25 States, fluoride in 27 States".

**STATUS REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE 18<sup>th</sup> RESPONDENT  
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, GOVERNMENT OF  
TAMIL NADU**

I, D. Karthikeyan, S/o. Thiru. S. Doss aged about 56 years, presently working as Principal Secretary to Government, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:-

I submit that I have been working as Principal Secretary to Government, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, Government of Tamil Nadu since July 2023 and in my official capacity and as verifiable from official records maintained in Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, I hereby file the status report before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (Principal Bench), New Delhi, on behalf of the Chief Secretary to Government, Government of Tamil Nadu.

2. I respectfully submit that while hearing the O.A No.728/ 2023 on 20.12.2023, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi has directed as follows:-

"8. Let Notices be issued to all the above respondents.  
Response may be filed by above respondents within one month

after receipt of notice, by e-mail at [judicial-ngt@gov.in](mailto:judicial-ngt@gov.in) preferably in the form of searchable PDF/OCR Support PDF and not inform of image PDF.

9. List this matter **on 15.02.2024**..

3. I respectfully submit that pursuant to the above directions of this Hon'ble Tribunal, I submit the status report on the issue of "Arsenic found in ground water in 25 States, fluoride in 27 States" relating to the State of Tamil Nadu as detailed below:-

In Tamil Nadu as per the Central Ground Water Board Water Quality map and reports, there is no arsenic present in the Ground water.

Further in the National Rural Drinking Water Programme/ Jal Jeenvan Mission Programme, the water quality samples were tested in the district water testing laboratories, Tamil Nadu Water and Drainage Board from the year 2012 to 2024. From the results of water samples, it is confirmed that **there is no arsenic presence in all the tested Water samples.**

Moreover, there are 5 blocks in Dharmapuri and 8 blocks in Krishnagiri district, affected by fluoride contamination in the Ground water.

**Details of Fluoride affected habitations:**

**A. Dharmapuri**

Dharmapuri Block	- 1 Panchayat	(1 habitation)
Harur Block	- 6 Panchayats	(6 habitations)
Morappur Block	- 1 Panchayat	(1 habitation)
Palacode Block	- 1 Panchayat	(1 habitation)
Pappireddipatty Block	- 1 Panchayat	(1 habitation)
<b>Total (5 Block)</b>	<b>- 10 Panchayat</b>	<b>(10 habitation)</b>

**B. Krishnagiri District**

Bargur Block	- 12 Panchayats (12 habitations)
Hosur Block	- 1 Panchayas (1 habitation)
Kaveripattinam Block	- 19 Panchayats (19 habitations)
Kelamangalam Block	- 6 Panchayats (6 habitations)
Krishnagiri Block	- 21 Panchayats (21 habitations)
Shoolagiri Block	- 19 Panchayats (19 habitations)
Uthangarai Block	- 1 Panchayat (1 habitation)
Veppanapalli	- 20 Panchayats (20 habitations)
<b>Total (8 Block)</b>	<b>- 99 Panchayats (99 habitations)</b>

The above fluoride affected habitations are being supplemented by Hogenakkal water supply and Fluorosis mitigation project with river Cauvery as source, where supply of treated potable water to the tune of 30 lpcd in rural areas and 50 lpcd in urban areas, is ensured since 2013.

4. In the above circumstances, it is prayed that the Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to take the status report on record.

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PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,  
MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION AND WATER  
SUPPLY DEPARTMENT,  
GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU.