

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL (SOUTHERNZONE)

CHENNAI

ORIGINAL APPLICATION No: 168 of 2020 (SZ)

Tribunal on its own motion Suo Motu  
based on the news item in Indian Express  
Newspaper, Chennai edition Dated:  
25.08.2020, "Sewage discharged into  
Open SWDs irks Porur residents"

.....Applicant(s)

**Versus**

- 1) The Principal Secretary to Government  
Public Works Department,  
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600009.
- 2) The Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,  
Department of Environment,  
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600009.
- 3) The Principal Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,  
Health and Family Welfare Department,  
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600009.
- 4) Additional Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,  
Municipal Administration and Water  
Supply Department,  
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600009.
- 5) The Chairman,  
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,  
No. 76, Anna Salai, Guindy,  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600 032.
- 6) The District Collector,  
Chennai District,  
District Collectorate Office,  
No. 62, Rajaji Street, 4th Floor,  
Chennai- 600 001.
- 7) Greater Chennai Corporation,  
Rep. by its Commissioner,  
Ripon Building, Chennai 600 003.

  
**Area Engineer-XI**  
**Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply**  
**And Sewerage Board**  
**Chennai-600 116.**

10/08/2020  
10/08/2020  
10/08/2020  
10/08/2020

- 8) Vanagaram Panchayat,  
Chokkalingam Naicker 5th St,  
Ganapathi Nagar,  
Vanagaram, Chennai,  
Tamil Nadu – 600 095.
- 9) National Highway Authority of India (NHAI)  
Project Director,  
SRI Tower, 3rd Floor DP-34 (SP),  
Industrial Estate, Guindy,  
Chennai – 600 032.  
(R8 & R9 Suo Motu impleaded as per the  
order of the Tribunal dated  
13.01.2021)
- 10) Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and  
Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) represented  
by its Managing Director,  
Santhome Road,  
MRC Nagar, Chennai – 28.  
(R10 Suo Motu impleaded as per the  
order of the Tribunal dated  
16.03.2021)

...Respondent(s)

Area Engineer-XI  
Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply  
And Sewerage Board  
Chennai-600 116

  
**Area Engineer-XI**  
Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply  
And Sewerage Board  
Chennai-600 116.

REPORT FILED BY THE 10<sup>th</sup> RESPONDENT

I, Thiru. S.Rajaraman, S/o. N.Somaraj, Hindu, aged about 58 years now working as Area Engineer - XI in the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board, Chennai do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows.

1. I am the Area Engineer - XI of the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB), Chennai and Respondent herein and well acquainted with the facts of the case from the connected files.
2. I humbly submit that the Hon'ble Green Tribunal, Southern Zone has given a direction to the committee members as follows:  
"..In order to ascertain the real state of affairs, we feel it appropriate to appoint a joint committee comprising of
  - i) The District Collector, Chennai District, or a Senior Officer not below the rank of Assistant Collector or Revenue Divisional Officer deputed by the District Collector,
  - ii) The Superintending Engineer, Public works Department and Water Resources Organisation who is in charge of that area
  - iii) A Senior Officer deputed by the Chairman, Tamil Nadu State Pollution Control Board and
  - iv) A Senior Officer from Greater Chennai Corporation to be deputed by its Commissioner to inspect the area in question and submit a factual as well as action taken report, if there is any violation found."
3. I humbly submit that the Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) has been appointed as the Nodal agency for co-ordination and also for providing necessary logistics for this purpose.

  
**Area Engineer-XI**  
**Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply**  
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**Chennai-600 116.**

Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board  
Chennai-600 116

4. I humbly submit that, the Joint committee has also been directed to ascertain the persons responsible for doing such mischief by conducting proper enquiry after collecting details from the person mentioned in the newspaper report and also from the reporter who published report and take appropriate action against such persons including launching of prosecution and imposing environmental compensation and other coercive steps in accordance with law.
5. If storm water drains are discharging the same into the any water body, then the committee is also been directed to ascertain the water quality of the water body and if it is contaminated to suggest the remedial measures to be taken to rectify the same including assessment of environmental compensation and recover such amount from those who are responsible for the same.
6. I humbly submit that the Hon'ble Green Tribunal, Southern Zone has also stated that,  
“..it is necessary to SuoMotu implead Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) represented by its Managing Director, Chennai and they are impleaded as additional 10th respondent.”
7. I humbly submit that The Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) is in the process of Implementation and Maintenance of water distribution, sewage collection and disposal network in Greater Chennai Corporation which comprises of 200wards including the recently added 42Nos of local bodies viz., 9Nos of Municipalities, 8Nos of Town Panchayats and 25Nos of Village Panchayats to the Greater Chennai City. The Implementation of Under ground Sewerage Schemes (UGSS) to these newly added areas are under operation in certain places and at various stages of completion in the remaining places.
8. I humbly submit that, As the Board responsible for the Implementation and Maintenance of water supply and Sewerage facilities in the Core Chennai City and to its newly added areas, Water supply Schemes (WSS) and Under Ground Sewerage Schemes (UGSS) are under implementation at various places in the Greater Chennai City. These Schemes have been successfully

completed and put into use in certain areas and the remaining areas are at various stages of completion. The sewage generated at these unserved areas are being collected at a nominal cost through Phone helpline and Online portal by the Board. These registered sewer tanker lorries of the Board collect sewage and decanted at the nearest Sewage pumping Station/ Sewage Treatment plant for further treatment and safe disposal.

9. It is humbly submitted that CMWSSB has further formulated a draft policy to regulate the registration of sewer lorries and its operations. The policy will be formulated and implemented by next financial year. As per policy, the registered lorries will be equipped with GPS trackers for monitoring the septage collection.
10. As ordered by the Hon'ble Green Tribunal, Southern Zone, all necessary actions are being taken by the Board in co-ordination with GCC officials to prevent illegal discharge of sewage water into storm water drains/ water bodies by the private tankers in its Jurisdictional areas including the 42Nos of local bodies added to the Greater Chennai City.
11. It is therefore humbly prayed that, this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to accept my response on behalf of the Board and thus render justice

  
**Area Engineer-XI**  
**Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply**  
**And Sewerage Board**  
**Chennai-600 116.**

Solemnly affirmed at Chennai  
on this      day of May 2021 and  
signed his name in my presence.

Before me

Advocate: Chennai

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

**ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 168 of 2020  
(SZ)**

**The National Green Tribunal,  
Southern Zone,  
Chennai.  
(Petitioner)**

**- Vs -**

**The Managing Director  
CMWSS BOARD Represented by  
Area Engineer-VII, Chennai 37.  
(Respondent-10)**

**STATUS REPORT FILED BY  
(RESPONDENT - 10)**

**G.JANAKIRAMAN,  
ADVOCATE COUNSEL FOR  
CMWSS BOARD**