

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

ORIGINAL APPLICATION No.297 OF 2024 (SZ)

News Item titled "Sakhi Lake under threat chokes on pharma waste" appearing in the Times of India dated 22.09.2024.

REPORT OF THE TELANGANA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (TGPCB)

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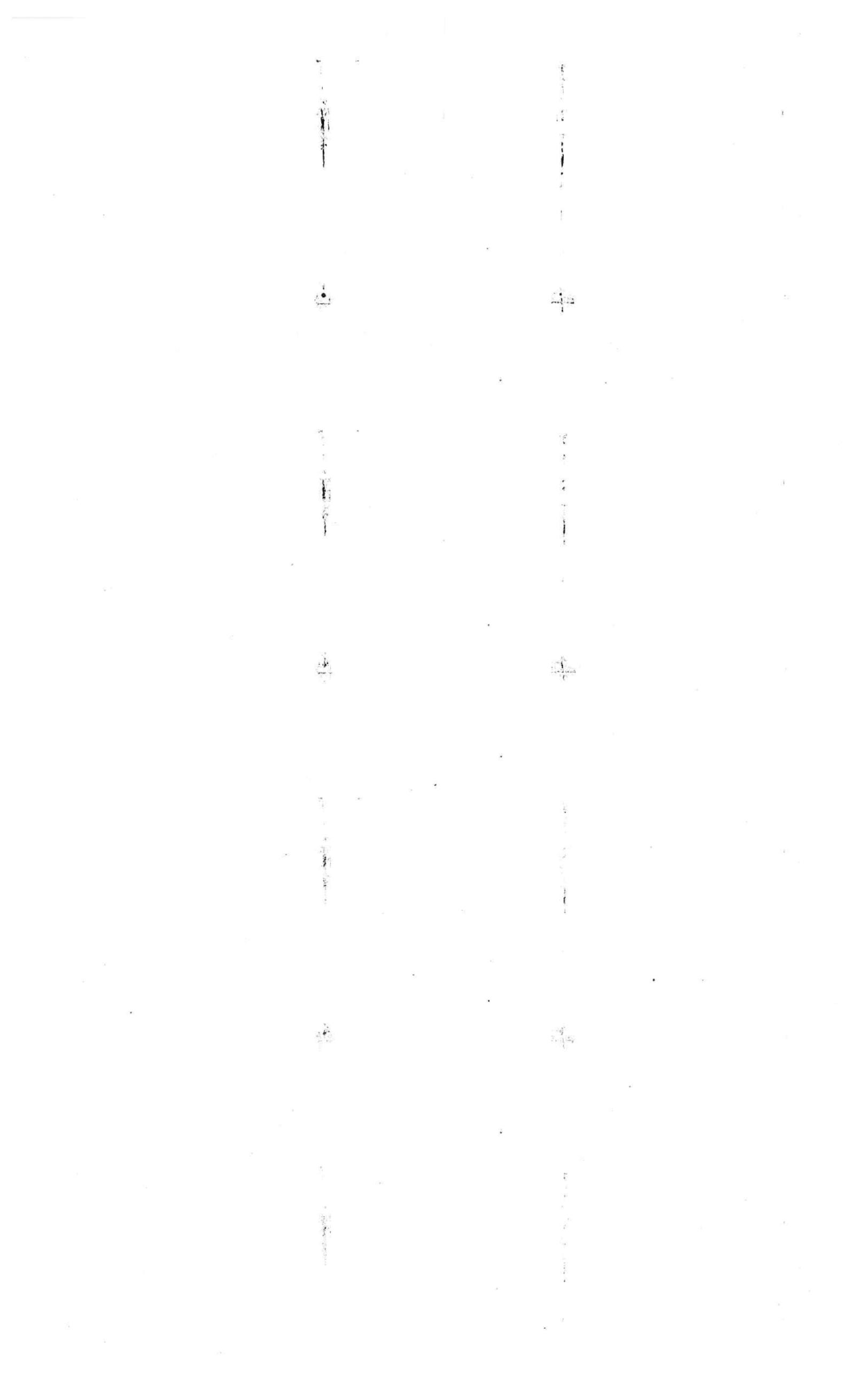
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Place: Hyderabad

Date: 17-06-2025.



COUNSEL FOR RESPONDENT BOARD



REPORT OF THE TELANGANA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (RESPONDENT NO.1) IN OA NO. 297 OF 2024.

It is to submit that an OA was registered as SuoMotu by the Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, New Delhi based on the News item titled "Sakhi Lake under threat chokes on Pharma Waste" appearing in the Times of India dated 22.09.2024 which was numbered as OA No. 1213 of 2024.

The News Item relates to the alarming pollution levels at Sakhi Lake in Hyderabad, primarily due to the discharge of pharmaceutical waste from nearby industries, which has led to a significant decline in water quality. This pollution is primarily attributed to nearby pharmaceutical industries that discharge their waste into the lake. The polluted water poses serious health risks to the local population, including skin diseases and other health issues related to exposure to toxic chemicals. It is further alleged that despite previous warnings and reports, effective measures to curb the pollution have not been implemented.

The Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi has impleaded the TGPCB as one of the respondents and transferred the OA to the Hon'ble NGT, Southern Zone, Chennai which was numbered as OA No. 297 of 2024.

The Board filed report before the Hon'ble NGT, Chennai on 22.11.2024. The Hon'ble NGT, Chennai vide order dated 26.03.2025 ordered as follows:

".....As the Telangana Pollution Control Board (TGPCB) has stated that untreated sewage entering from the residential colonies from South-East direction and the catchment area has to be diverted or treated in the Sewage Treatment Plant before discharging into the Sakhi Lake. Let the authorities file an action taken report. In the meanwhile, for the violation committed by these authorities, any action taken by the TGPCB has to be filed, failing which, the TGPCB will be penalized." The case is listed for further hearing on 18.06.2025.

The Board issued notices dt: 20.11.2024 to The General Manager (Engineering), Hyderabad Metropolitan Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWS&SB) for taking necessary action to prevent the sewage from entering the Lake & The Deputy Municipal Commissioner, RC Puram for

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dumping the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) at the Lake. (Annexure-I) The Board office further addressed a letter dated 13.05.2025 to the Zonal Commissioner, Patancheru Circle, Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC); Hyderabad requesting to take necessary steps for diverting or treating the untreated sewage of the residential colonies from the South-East direction in the STP before discharging or joining into the Sakhi Lake and further requested to file the Action Taken Report before the Hon'ble Tribunal (Annexure-II)

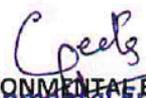
The Board Officials inspected the Sakhi Lake and its surroundings on 10.06.2025 and observed that the industries are located towards downstream of the lake and not in the catchment area of lake and the sewage from the upstream residential colonies is joining the lake. As per the analysis reports for the period Jan'2021 to May' 2025, the Dissolved Oxygen values were in the range of 5.2 mg/l to 7.2 mg/l, Chemical Oxygen Demand was in the range of 28 mg/l to 56 mg/l, Total Dissolved Solids was in the range of 435 mg/l to 716 mg/l, Biological Oxygen Demand was in the range of 2.7 mg/l to 7.0 mg/l. From these values, it is evident that no industrial effluents are joining the water body. The Analysis report for the month of May'2025 is enclosed as Annexure – III.

The status was reviewed in the Task Force Committee meeting at Board Office. The officials from GHMC, Lake Protection Committee and HMWS&SB have attended the meeting and the Task Force committee has recommended to issue Directions. The Board vide letter dt: 17.06.2025 has issued Directions to The Zonal Commissioner, Serilingampally Zone, GHMC & The Managing Director, HMWS&SB for taking necessary action. The copies of the directions are enclosed as Annexure – IV.

In view of the foregoing submissions, it is respectfully prayed that this answering Respondent will comply with and abide by any orders or directions that will be passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal.

Place: Hyderabad.

Date: 17.06.2025.


ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
T.G. Pollution Control Board
Regional Office-1, SANGAREDDY

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Annexure - I



TELANGANA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
Regional Office - I: Sangareddy
5-1-28, Shantinagar, Sangareddy - 502 001, Medak District.

Ph.No.08455-297799, 276795
Email: ee- mdk1-tspcb@telangana.gov.in

Notice No. 01/PCB/RO-I:SRD/W&A/2024- 834

Date: 20.11.2024

NOTICE

Sub: PCB - RO-I, SRD - SUOMOTU OA No.1213 of 2024 before Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi against the pollution of Saki tank, Patancheru - Sewage joining the tank from the South-East section of the upstream colonies and Dumping of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) at the Nimajjan ghat - Action requested - Reg.

- Ref:**
1. Original Application was registered Suo Motu by the Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, New Delhi vide OA No. 1213 of 2024 based on the News item titled "Sakhi lake under threat chokes on Pharma Waste" appearing in the Times of India dated 22.09.2024.
 2. Inspection of surrounding areas near the Sakhi lake on 20.11.2024.

Adverting to the references cited above, it is to inform that, an Original Application was registered Suo Motu by the Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, New Delhi vide OA No. 1213 of 2024 based on the News item titled "Sakhi lake under threat chokes on Pharma Waste" appearing in the Times of India dated 22.09.2024.

During the inspection on 20.11.2024, it was observed that no industries are located in the catchment area of the tank and no effluent is joining the saki tank as the industries are located downstream of the tank.

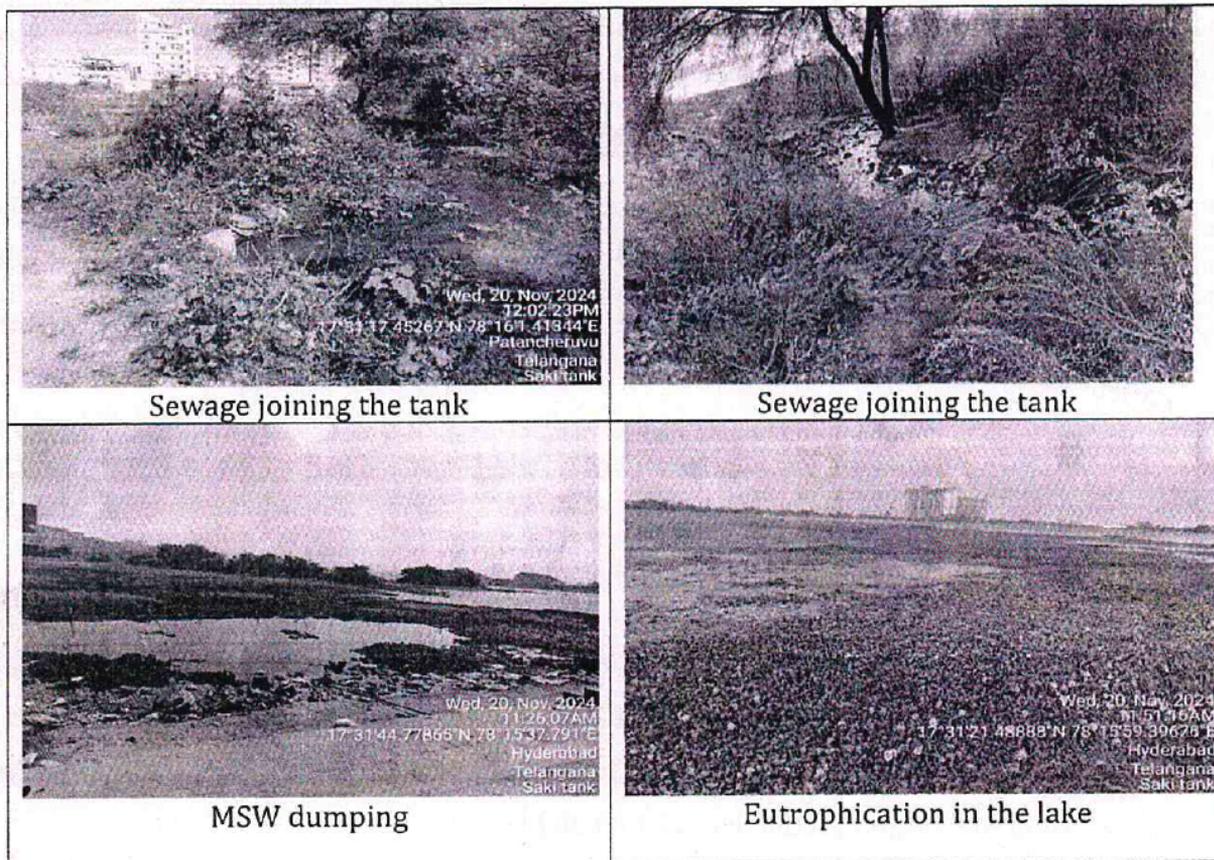
Residential colonies named Shantinagar colony & Sri Nagar Colony are located in the catchment area of the saki tank and the HMWS&SB has provided box drain for preventing the sewage from entering the tank but still sewage is joining the tank from the South-East section of the upstream colonies leading to eutrophication of tank. Dumping of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) was also observed at the Nimajjan ghat provided at the tank.

The TGPCB is monitoring the water quality of Saki tank every month under National Water Quality Monitoring Programme. As per the water quality reports, the water quality is falling under Class-D as per the CPCB water quality criteria i.e., the water body is best suitable for propagation of wildlife and fisheries. Further, it is to inform that, the Hon'ble

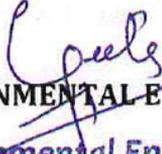
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NGT vide order dated 18.11.2020 in O.A. No 325/2015 has disposed the case with directions to restore the water bodies to bathing quality i.e. Class - B.

In view of the above, it is requested to take necessary action to divert the sewage entering the Saki tank from the South-East section of the upstream colonies so as to protect the tank from sewage contamination.



To
The General Manager (Engineering)
O&M, HMWS & SB, Division XVII,
Hafeezpet, Rangareddy District.


ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
Environmental Engineer
T.G. Pollution Control Board
Regional Office-3, SANGAREDDY

Copy submitted to the JCEE, TGPCB, Zonal Office, R.C.Puram for kind information.

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TELANGANA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

Paryavarana Bhavan, A-3, Industrial Estate, Sanathnagar,
Hyderabad - 500018. Phone: 040 - 23887500

Lr. No. 18/TGPCB/Legal/NGT-Chennai/2024-100

Date: 13-05-2025

To

**The Zonal Commissioner,
Patancheru Circle, GHMC,
Hyderabad.**

Sir,

Sub: TGPCB -- Legal -- Hon'ble NGT, Chennai -- OA No. 297 of 2024 [Earlier, OA No. 1213 of 2024 (PB)] on the News Item titled "Sakhi Lake under threat chokes on pharma waste" appearing in the Times of India dated 22.09.2024" -- Order dated 26.03.2025 -- Reg.

Ref: 1. OA No. 297 of 2024.
2. MD, HMWS&SB letter dated 18.03.2025.
3. Hon'ble NGT, Chennai Order dated 26.03.2025.

It is to submit that an Original Application was registered Suo Motu by the Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, New Delhi vide OA No. 1213 of 2024 based on the News item titled "Sakhi Lake under threat chokes on Pharma Waste" appearing in the Times of India dated 22.09.2024.

The news item relates to the alarming pollution levels at Sakhi Lake in Hyderabad, primarily due to the discharge of pharmaceutical waste from nearby industries, which has led to a significant decline in water quality. This pollution is primarily attributed to nearby pharmaceutical industries that discharge their waste into the lake. The polluted water poses serious health risks to the local population, including skin diseases and other health issues related to exposure to toxic chemicals. It is further alleged that despite previous warnings and reports, effective measures to curb the pollution have not been implemented.

The Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi vide Order dated 03.10.2024 impleaded the following as Respondents: -

- R1** - MS, TGPCB
- R2** - Central Pollution Control Board.
- R3** - MoEF&CC, New Delhi
- R4** - District Collector, Hyderabad, and transferred the OA to the Hon'ble NGT, Southern Zone, Chennai with a direction to list the case on 25.11.2024 before the Hon'ble NGT, Chennai.

In compliance to the above Order, the TGPCB has filed report dated 21.11.2024 before the Hon'ble NGT, Chennai.

The case was further heard on 27.11.2024 & 05.02.2025. The Hon'ble NGT, Chennai vide Order dated 05.02.2025 impleaded the following as further Respondents: -

- R5** - HMWS&SB, Hyderabad.
- R6** - Deputy Municipal Commissioner, Serilingampally Zone, RC Puram, Sangareddy.

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The Managing Director, HMWS&SB vide letter dated 18.03.2025 states as follows: -

- i. Main pollution of the Sakhi Lake is due to industrial wastes and synthetic drugs, toxic chemicals.
- ii. The contaminants flowing into the Lake with alarming levels of heavy metals especially in areas impacted by run-off from nearby drug factories.
- iii. Treatment of industrial wastewater / wastes has to be done by the respective industrial units before discharging the same to natural course as per standards and parameters prescribed by the CPCB / TGPCB and monitoring of such comes under the purview of TGPCB.
- iv. Further, the concerned Sakhi Lake is situated near the ORR and the Patancheru – GHMC is responsible for sewerage maintenance.

The copy of the HMWS&SB letter dated 18.03.2025 is enclosed for information.

The Hon'ble NGT further heard the matter on 26.03.2025 and ordered as follows: -

"-----

3. As the Telangana State Pollution Control Board (TGPCB) has stated that untreated sewage entering from the residential colonies from South-East direction and the catchment area has to be diverted or treated in the Sewage Treatment Plant before discharging into the Sakhi Lake.

4. Let the authorities file an action taken report. In the meanwhile, for the violation committed by these authorities, any action taken by the TGPCB has to be filed, failing which, the TGPCB will be penalized.

5. Post the matter on 18.06.2025".

The copy of the above Order is enclosed for information.

In view of the above directions of the Hon'ble Tribunal, the GHMC is requested to take necessary steps for diverting or treating the untreated sewage of the residential colonies from South-East direction in the Sewage Treatment Plant before discharging into the Sakhi Lake.

Further, it is also requested to file the Action Taken Report before the Hon'ble Tribunal with a copy to the Board for taking further necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

MEMBER SECRETARY

Encl: As above.

Copy to:

1. The Managing Director, HMWS&SB, Khairatabad, Hyderabad for information and necessary action.
2. The Commissioner, Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, Lower Tank Bund, Hyderabad for information and necessary action.
3. The JCEE, ZO, RC Puram for information and necessary follow-up action.
4. The SEE (TF), Unit-IV for information and necessary action.
5. The EE, RO, Sangareddy for information and necessary follow-up action.

// T.C.F.B.O //

JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER,
TGPCB, HEAD OFFICE, HYD.

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Annexure - III



TELANGANA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
ZONAL LABORATORY: R.C.PURAM
 25-35/11, Tulasi Reddy Complex, R.C.Puram, Sangareddy District.

ANALYSIS REPORT

3086 - Saki Tank					
Parameters	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25
DO (mg/L)	6.8	6.9	6.2	6.1	6.2
pH	7.42	8.09	7.5	7.9	7.81
Conductivity (mS/cm)	875	914	1025	1044	1013
BOD (mg/L)	3.5	3.9	4	4.2	4
Nitrate	29	30	32	29	31
Nitrite-N (mg/L)	0.09	0.05	0.11	0.07	0.08
Fecal Coliform (MPN/100ml)	5.6	5.5	5.5	7.2	5.6
Total Coliform (MPN/100ml)	43	41	44	47	44
Faecal streptococci	3.7	3.6	3.6	5.5	3.7
Saprobity index	NA	NA	NA	6.6	NA
Diversity index	NA	NA	NA	0.65	NA
P/R Ratio	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	4.6	4.8	4.2	5	4
Phen-Alk. (mg/L)	22	20	24	16	10
Total Alk. (mg/L)	180	195	204	215	210
Chloride (mg/L)	95	100	130	128	124
COD (mg/L)	38	40	44	52	40
NH ₃ -N(mg/L)	BDL	BDL	0.4	0.4	0.4
TKN (mg/L)	4	5	6	5	4
Free Ammonia (mg/L)	BDL	BDL	-	BDL	BDL
Hardness (mg/L)	205	210	384	225	220
Calcium Hardness (mg/L)	120	130	240	145	135
Magnesium Hardness (mg/L)	85	80	144	80	85
Calcium (mg/L)	48	52	72	58	54
Magnesium (mg/L)	21	20	20	19	21
Sulphate (mg/L)	33	38	40	43	45
Sodium (mg/L)	65	69	60	86	82
TDS (mg/L)	505	539	620	606	592
TFS (mg/L)	354	383	416	424	412
TSS (mg/L)	9	7	9	8	7
Total Phosphate (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ortho Phosphate (mg/L)	0.4	0.47	0.1	0.53	0.5
Boron (mg/L)	BDL	BDL	0.5	0.5	0.5
Potassium (mg/L)	6.9	6.7	8	7.1	6.8
Fluoride (mg/L)	0.22	0.24	0.28	0.22	0.2
% Sodium	39.7	40.6	25.94	44.7	43.53
SAR	1.97	2.06	1.42	2.51	2.39
Class of water body as per CPCB Water Quality Criteria	'D'	'D'	'D'	'D'	'D'

NA - Not Analysed

BDL - Below Detectable Limit.

Note: Data extracted from NWMP (National Water Quality Monitoring Programme) under CPCB.

Meetha
 SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST



TELANGANA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
ZONAL LABORATORY: R.C.PURAM
 25-35/11, Tulasi Reddy Complex, R.C.Puram, Sangareddy District.

ANALYSIS REPORT

3086 - Saki Tank												
Parameters	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24
DO (mg/L)	6.8	6.9	6.8	7.2	6.9	6.8	6.2	6.6	7	6.3	6.5	6.6
pH	8.15	8.23	8.14	7.94	7.62	7.58	7.5	7.59	7.4	7.69	7.34	7.36
Conductivity (mS/cm)	845	961	856	1164	1121	1205	1025	1106	970	986	708	810
BOD (mg/L)	3.4	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.8	3.6	4	3.6	3.3	3.9	3.5	3.6
Nitrate	32	33	34	38	32	30	32	28	30	35	25	28
Nitrite-N (mg/L)	0.08	0.07	0.06	0.1	0.14	0.13	0.11	0.19	0.18	0.12	0.09	0.08
Fecal Coliform (MPN)	6	6.1	6.8	7.2	7.2	6.8	5.5	4.5	4	5.6	5.7	5.5
Total Coliform (MPN)	41	43	48	47	43	47	44	41	40	39	39	44
Faecal streptococci	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.5	6	4.5	3.6	2	2	3.7	3.7	3.6
Saprobity index	NA	NA	NA	6.6	NA							
Diversity index	NA	NA	NA	0.65	NA							
P/R Ratio	NA											
Turbidity (NTU)	3.9	3.8	3.9	4.2	4.5	4	4.2	6.3	5.3	4.3	4.1	4.5
Phen-Alk. (mg/L)	18	20	22	26	24	20	24	28	32	20	16	20
Total Alk. (mg/L)	188	190	196	276	280	272	204	220	240	195	122	172
Chloride (mg/L)	119	125	121	140	145	140	130	126	150	135	110	86
COD (mg/L)	45	43	40	39	42	40	44	39	36	40	28	36
NH3-N(mg/L)	-	-	BDL									
TKN (mg/L)	12	12	10	8	7	5	6	5	6	5	4	3
Free Ammonia (mg/l)	NA	BDL										
Hardness (mg/L)	280	320	335	410	390	356	384	276	348	285	185	205
Calcium Hardness (mg/L)	170	190	195	240	235	224	240	176	200	185	105	110
Magnesium Hardness (mg/L)	110	130	140	170	155	132	144	100	148	100	80	95
Calcium (mg/L)	68	76	78	96	94	90	72	70	80	74	42	44
Magnesium (mg/L)	27	32	34	41	38	32	20	25	36	24	19	23
Sulphate (mg/L)	44	46	49	51	46	40	40	42	38	45	40	41
Sodium (mg/L)	28	35	39	61	69	60	60	55	60	63	51	57
TDS (mg/L)	515	586	522	640	684	700	620	670	620	592	435	494
TFS (mg/L)	361	416	366	455	479	440	416	410	370	420	305	346
TSS (mg/L)	8	8	7	9	8	6	9	6	7.8	8	7	7
Total-Phosphate (mg/l)	NA											
Ortho Phosphate (mg/l)	0.14	0.15	0.14	0.11	0.14	0.12	0.10	0.14	0.16	0.12	0.11	0.47
Boron (mg/L)	BDL											
Potassium (mg/L)	7.2	7.3	7.9	8.7	8.9	8.6	8	8.5	7.8	7.8	7.1	6
Fluoride (mg/L)	0.37	0.38	0.41	0.39	0.32	0.29	0.28	0.2	0.22	0.24	0.22	0.24
% Sodium	17.26	18.61	19.65	23.91	27.04	26.10	25.94	29.19	26.73	31.90	36.68	36.8
SAR	0.65	0.77	0.85	1.20	1.37	1.21	1.42	1.43	1.40	1.63	1.64	1.73
Class of water body as per CPCB Water Quality Criteria	'D'											

NA - Not Analysed
 BDL - Below Detectable Limit.

Note: Data extracted from NWMP (National Water Quality Monitoring Programme) under CPCB.

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST

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Annexure- IV



TELANGANA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
Paryavarana Bhavan, A-3, Industrial Estate, Sanathnagar,
Hyderabad – 500018, Phone: 040 – 23887500

Lr. No. 23/TGPCB/HO-MSW/TF/2025- 748

Date: 7.06.2025

Sub:

TGPCB – MSW – Hon'ble NGT Chennai OA No. 297 of 2024 [Earlier, OA No. 1213 of 2024 (PB)] on the News Item titled "Sakhi Lake under threat chokes on pharma waste" appearing in the Times of India dated 22.09.2024" -- Order dated 26.03.2025 - **DIRECTIONS- ISSUED** - Reg.

Ref:

1. TGPCB report dated 21.11.2024 in Hon'ble NGT Chennai OA No. 297 of 2024 [Earlier, OA No. 1213 of 2024 (PB)]
2. Hon'ble NGT Chennai OA No. 297 of 2024 [Earlier, OA No. 1213 of 2024 (PB)] order dated 26.03.2025.
3. MD, HMWS&SB letter dated 18.03.2025.
4. Lr. No. 18/TGPCB/Legal/NGT-Chennai/2024-100 vide dated 13.05.2025.
5. R.O report dated 10.06.2025.
6. Task Force Committee meeting held on 16.06.2025.
7. ATR report received from Irrigation & CAD Dept., Government of Telangana Dated: 16.06.2025

* * *

WHEREAS, an Original Application was registered Suo Motu by the Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, New Delhi vide OA No. 1213 of 2024 based on the News item titled "Sakhi Lake under threat chokes on Pharma Waste" appearing in the Times of India dated 22.09.2024.

The news item relates to the alarming pollution levels at Sakhi Lake in Hyderabad, primarily due to the discharge of pharmaceutical waste from nearby industries, which has led to a significant decline in water quality. This pollution is primarily attributed to nearby pharmaceutical industries that discharge their waste into the lake. The polluted water poses serious health risks to the local population, including skin diseases and other health issues related to exposure to toxic chemicals. It is further alleged that despite previous warnings and reports, effective measures to curb the pollution have not been implemented.

WHEREAS, The Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi vide Order dated 03.10.2024 impleaded the following as Respondents:-

R1 – MS, TGPCB

R2 – Central Pollution Control Board.

R3 – MoEF&CC, New Delhi

R4 – District Collector, Hyderabad, and transferred the OA to the Hon'ble NGT, Southern Zone, Chennai with a direction to list the case on 25.11.2024 before the Hon'ble NGT, Chennai.

WHEREAS, the Board Officials inspected the surrounding of the Saki Lake and observed the following:

1. Saki tank, also known as Patanchakki tank and is located at Sy.No.615, Patancheru(V&M), Sangareddy district and (17°31'7.724"N 78°15'54.34"E) spread over in an area of 135 acres (full tank level area).
2. The tank is surrounded by Shantinagar colony, Sri Nagar colony & M/s. International Crop Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) on East side, bund followed by industries on West side (downstream of water body), Shanthinagar colony & NH-65 on North side and open lands on South side.
3. During the inspection on 20.11.2024, it was observed that no industries are located in the catchment area of the tank and no effluent is joining the tank as the industries are located downstream of the tank. M/s. Asian Paints, a major paint industry, which is a Zero Liquid Discharge unit and 2 No's of Ready Mix Concrete categorized under Green category are located in the downstream of the tank. Hence it is confirmed that no pharmaceutical chemical effluents are joining the tank.
4. Residential colonies named Shantinagar Colony & Sri Nagar Colony are located in the catchment area of the tank and the HMWS&SB has provided box drain for preventing the sewage from entering the tank but still sewage is joining the tank from the South-East section of the upstream colonies leading to eutrophication of tank. A notice dated 20.11.2024 was issued to the General Manager (Engineering), HMWS&SB for taking necessary action to prevent the sewage from entering the tank.
5. Dumping of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) was also observed at the Nimajjan ghat provided at the tank. A notice dated 20.11.2024 was also issued to the Deputy Municipal Commissioner, RC Puram for dumping the MSW at the tank.
6. The TGPCB has been monitoring the water quality of Saki tank every month under National Water Quality Monitoring Programme. As per the monthly water quality reports of the tank for the period Jan'2021 to May'2025, the water quality is falling under **Class-D** as per the CPCB Water Quality Criteria i.e., the water body is best suitable for Propagation of Wildlife and Fisheries.

7. As the industries are located in the downstream of the Lake and not in the catchment area of the Lake, there is no possibility for the industrial effluents to join the water body and the major source for eutrophication of Lake is sewage and surface run off from the upstream residential colonies.
8. As per the analysis reports for the period Jan'2021 to May'2025, the Dissolved Oxygen values were in the range of 5.2 mg/l to 7.2 mg/l, Chemical Oxygen Demand was in the range of 28 mg/l to 56 mg/l, Total Dissolved Solids was in the range of 435 mg/l to 716 mg/l, Biological Oxygen Demand was in the range of 2.7 mg/l to 7.0 mg/l. From these values, it is evident that no industrial effluents are joining the water body.
9. The untreated sewage entering from residential colonies (Shantinagar Colony and Srinagar Colony) from South-East direction located in the catchment area has to be diverted (or) treated in Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) before discharging into Sakhi Lake.

WHEREAS, The Board vide reference 1st cited, filed a report before the Hon'ble NGT, Chennai on 22.11.2024. The Hon'ble NGT, Chennai enlisted and renamed the case to OA No.297 of 2024.

WHEREAS, The case was further heard on 27.11.2024 & 05.02.2025. The Hon'ble NGT, Chennai vide Order dated 05.02.2025 impleaded the following as further Respondents: -

R5 - HMWS&SB, Hyderabad.

R6 - Deputy Municipal Commissioner, Serilingampally Zone, RC Puram, Sangareddy.

WHEREAS, The Managing Director, HMWS&SB vide reference 3rd cited addressed to the Zonal Commissioner, Patancheru Circle, GHMC, Hyderabad informed that Saki tank is situated near ORR where the concerned Urban Local Body i.e., Patancheru-GHMC is incharge for sewerage maintenance and as far as Comprehensive Sewerage Master Plan is concerned, there is no proposal to construct any STP at Sakhi lake and further requested to take suitable measures to prevent sewage flows into the Sakhi lake, if any, as the sewage system is looked after in the area by the municipality.

WHEREAS, The Hon'ble NGT further heard the matter on 26.03.2025 and ordered as follows: -

"-----

As the Telangana State Pollution Control Board (TGPCB) has stated that untreated sewage entering from the residential colonies from South-East direction and the catchment area has to be diverted or treated in the Sewage Treatment Plant before discharging into the Sakhi Lake.

Let the authorities file an action taken report. In the meanwhile, for the violation committed by these authorities, any action taken by the TGPCB has to be filed, failing which, the TGPCB will be penalized.

Post the matter on 18.06.2025".

WHEREAS, the Board has addressed letter vide reference 4th cited to the Zonal Commissioner, Patancheru Circle, GHMC requesting to take necessary steps for diverting or treating the untreated sewage of the residential colonies from South-East direction in the Sewage Treatment Plant before discharging into the Sakhi Lake and further requested to file the Action Taken Report before the Hon'ble Tribunal with a copy to the Board for taking further necessary action.

WHEREAS, The Regional Official again inspected the surroundings of the lake and submitted the report vide dated 10.06.2025 to the Board Office informing that no reply was received from the authorities and there is no change in the state of affairs at Sakhi tank since last inspection.

WHEREAS, the issue was reviewed in the Task Force committee meeting held on 16.06.2025. The Representative from Irrigation Department Lakes circle, GHMC and HMWS&SB have attended the meeting.

The Irrigation Department Officials informed the following during the meeting:

- i. "Diversion of drainage to patan saki cheruvu in Patancheru (V&M), Sangareddy Dist" was sanctioned for Rs 190 Lakhs. The work was initiated and 75% completed. On further continuation of the work the objections were raised by pattadars of private lands situated in Survey Nos. 612, 613, and 614 and their sub divisions. The concerned pattadars filed Writ Petition No. 9728 of 2023 before the Hon'ble High Court, thereby restraining further progress.
- ii. It is pertinent to mention that the above lands fall within the buffer zone of the Saki Cheruvu lake. The proposed sewerage line was intended to be laid underground within the buffer zone, without disturbing the Full Tank Level (FTL) of the lake. However, the pattadars objected to this alignment and insisted on routing the drainage line through the FTL of the lake which was not acceptable and violation of Irrigation acts and poses environmental risks.
- iii. In response to the petitioners' grievance that the respondents were attempting to lay a drainage canal through their patta lands, the Hon'ble Court was pleased to direct the respondents to maintain status quo until further orders.
- iv. Due to the status quo directive The Drainage diversion work has been stalled this consequently led to the domestic sewage continuing to enter the lake

The HMWS&SB, DGM informed the following during the meeting:

"It is to submit that, as a part of AMRUT – 2.0 (TRANCHE-III) scheme, a STP of capacity 98.50 MLD is proposed at southern part of the Sakhi Lake for treating the influent entering into the lake. With regard to this, Land alienation proposal was sent to the Government of Telangana and after receiving the advance possession orders from the Government, work will be taken up at the earliest and the construction will be completed within agreement period of 24 Months from the commencement of the project and the treated effluent will be discharged into the Sakhi Lake as per the TGPCB standards."

After detailed discussions the committee recommended to issue following directions to the Zonal Commissioner, Serilingampally zone, GHMC:

1. The authority shall take necessary steps for diverting and routing the untreated sewage of the residential colonies from South-East direction to Sewage Treatment Plant as and when HMWS&SB Commission the proposed STP before discharging into the Sakhi Lake.
2. The authority shall not dump Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) in the Nimarjan Ghat provided at the tank.
3. The authority shall file the Action Taken Report before the Hon'ble Tribunal with a copy to the Board for taking further necessary action.


MEMBER SECRETARY

To
✓ The Zonal Commissioner,
Serilingampally Zone, GHMC.

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TELANGANA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
Paryavaran Bhavan, A-3, Industrial Estate, Sanathnagar,
Hyderabad – 500018, Phone: 040 – 23887500

Lr. No. 23/TSPCB/HO-MSW/TF/2025- 747

Date: 7.06.2025

Sub:

TGPCB – MSW – Hon'ble NGT Chennai OA No. 297 of 2024 [Earlier, OA No. 1213 of 2024 (PB)] on the News Item titled "Sakhi Lake under threat chokes on pharma waste" appearing in the Times of India dated 22.09.2024" -- Order dated 26.03.2025 -

DIRECTIONS- ISSUED - Reg.

Ref:

1. TGPCB report dated 21.11.2024 in Hon'ble NGT Chennai OA No. 297 of 2024 [Earlier, OA No. 1213 of 2024 (PB)]
2. Hon'ble NGT Chennai OA No. 297 of 2024 [Earlier, OA No. 1213 of 2024 (PB)] order dated 26.03.2025.
3. MD, HMWS&SB letter dated 18.03.2025.
4. Lr. No. 18/TGPCB/Legal/NGT-Chennai/2024-100 vide dated 13.05.2025.
5. R.O report dated 10.06.2025.
6. Task Force Committee meeting held on 16.06.2025.
7. ATR report received from Irrigation & CAD Dept., Government of Telangana Dated: 16.06.2025

* * *

WHEREAS, an Original Application was registered Suo Motu by the Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, New Delhi vide OA No. 1213 of 2024 based on the News item titled "Sakhi Lake under threat chokes on Pharma Waste" appearing in the Times of India dated 22.09.2024.

The news item relates to the alarming pollution levels at Sakhi Lake in Hyderabad, primarily due to the discharge of pharmaceutical waste from nearby industries, which has led to a significant decline in water quality. This pollution is primarily attributed to nearby pharmaceutical industries that discharge their waste into the lake. The polluted water poses serious health risks to the local population, including skin diseases and other health issues related to exposure to toxic chemicals. It is further alleged that despite previous warnings and reports, effective measures to curb the pollution have not been implemented.

WHEREAS, The Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi vide Order dated 03.10.2024 impleaded the following as Respondents: -

R1 – MS, TGPCB

R2 – Central Pollution Control Board.

R3 – MoEF&CC, New Delhi

R4 – District Collector, Hyderabad, and transferred the OA to the Hon'ble NGT, Southern Zone, Chennai with a direction to list the case on 25.11.2024 before the Hon'ble NGT, Chennai.

WHEREAS, In compliance to the above Order, the Board Officials inspected the surrounding of the Saki Lake and observed the following:

1. Saki tank, also known as Patanchakki tank and is located at Sy.No.615, Patancheru(V&M), Sangareddy district and (17°31'7.724"N 78°15'54.34"E) spread over in an area of 135 acres (full tank level area).
2. The tank is surrounded by Shantinagar colony, Sri Nagar colony & M/s. International Crop Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) on East side, bund followed by industries on West side (downstream of water body), Shanthinagar colony & NH-65 on North side and open lands on South side.
3. During the inspection on 20.11.2024, it was observed that no industries are located in the catchment area of the tank and no effluent is joining the tank as the industries are located downstream of the tank. M/s. Asian Paints, a major paint industry, which is a Zero Liquid Discharge unit and 2 No's of Ready Mix Concrete categorized under Green category are located in the downstream of the tank. Hence it is confirmed that no pharmaceutical chemical effluents are joining the tank.
4. Residential colonies named Shantinagar Colony & Sri Nagar Colony are located in the catchment area of the tank and the HMWS&SB has provided box drain for preventing the sewage from entering the tank but still sewage is joining the tank from the South-East section of the upstream colonies leading to eutrophication of tank. A notice dated 20.11.2024 was issued to the General Manager (Engineering), HMWS&SB for taking necessary action to prevent the sewage from entering the tank.
5. Dumping of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) was also observed at the Nimajjan ghat provided at the tank. A notice dated 20.11.2024 was also issued to the Deputy Municipal Commissioner, RC Puram for dumping the MSW at the tank.
6. The TGPCB has been monitoring the water quality of Saki tank every month under National Water Quality Monitoring Programme. As per the monthly water quality reports of the tank for the period Jan'2021 to May'2025, the water quality is falling under **Class-D** as per the CPCB Water Quality Criteria i.e., the water body is best suitable for Propagation of Wildlife and Fisheries.

7. As the industries are located in the downstream of the Lake and not in the catchment area of the Lake, there is no possibility for the industrial effluents to join the water body and the major source for eutrophication of Lake is sewage and surface run off from the upstream residential colonies.
8. As per the analysis reports for the period Jan'2021 to May'2025, the Dissolved Oxygen values were in the range of 5.2 mg/l to 7.2 mg/l, Chemical Oxygen Demand was in the range of 28 mg/l to 56 mg/l, Total Dissolved Solids was in the range of 435 mg/l to 716 mg/l, Biological Oxygen Demand was in the range of 2.7 mg/l to 7.0 mg/l. From these values, it is evident that no industrial effluents are joining the water body.
9. The untreated sewage entering from residential colonies (Shantinagar Colony and Srinagar Colony) from South-East direction located in the catchment area has to be diverted (or) treated in Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) before discharging into Sakhi Lake.

WHEREAS, The Board vide reference 1st cited, filed a report before the Hon'ble NGT, Chennai on 22.11.2024. The Hon'ble NGT, Chennai enlisted and renamed the case to OA No.297 of 2024.

WHEREAS, The case was further heard on 27.11.2024 & 05.02.2025. The Hon'ble NGT, Chennai vide Order dated 05.02.2025 Impleaded the following as further Respondents: -

R5 - HMWS&SB, Hyderabad.

R6 - Deputy Municipal Commissioner, Serilingampally Zone, RC Puram, Sangareddy.

WHEREAS, The Managing Director, HMWS&SB vide reference 3rd cited addressed to the Zonal Commissioner, Patancheru Circle, GHMC, Hyderabad informed that Saki tank is situated near ORR where the concerned Urban Local Body i.e., Patancheru-GHMC is incharge for sewerage maintenance and as far as Comprehensive Sewerage Master Plan is concerned, there is no proposal to construct any STP at Sakhi lake and further requested to take suitable measures to prevent sewage flows into the Sakhi lake, if any, as the sewage system is looked after in the area by the municipality.

WHEREAS, The Hon'ble NGT further heard the matter on 26.03.2025 and ordered as follows: -

"-----"

As the Telangana State Pollution Control Board (TGPCB) has stated that untreated sewage entering from the residential colonies from South-East direction and the catchment area has to be diverted or treated in the Sewage Treatment Plant before discharging into the Sakhi Lake.

Let the authorities file an action taken report. In the meanwhile, for the violation committed by these authorities, any action taken by the TGPCB has to be filed, failing which, the TGPCB will be penalized.

Post the matter on 18.06.2025".

WHEREAS, the Board has addressed letter vide reference 4th cited to the Zonal Commissioner, Patancheru Circle, GHMC requesting to take necessary steps for diverting or treating the untreated sewage of the residential colonies from South-East direction in the Sewage Treatment Plant before discharging into the Sakhi Lake and further requested to file the Action Taken Report before the Hon'ble Tribunal with a copy to the Board for taking further necessary action,.

WHEREAS, The Regional Official again inspected the surroundings of the lake and submitted the report vide dated 10.06.2025 to the Board Office informing that no reply was received from the authorities and there is no change in the state of affairs at Sakhi tank since last inspection.

WHEREAS, the issue was reviewed in the Task Force committee meeting held on 16.06.2025. The Representative from Irrigation Department Lakes circle, HMWS&SB have attended the meeting.

The Irrigation Department Officials informed the following during the meeting:

- i. "Diversion of drainage to patan saki cheruvu in Patancheru (V&M), Sangareddy Dist" was sanctioned for Rs 190 Lakhs. The work was initiated and 75% completed. On further continuation of the work the objections were raised by pattadars of private lands situated in Survey Nos. 612, 613, and 614 and their sub divisions. The concerned pattadars filed Writ Petition No. 9728 of 2023 before the Hon'ble High Court, thereby restraining further progress.
- ii. It is pertinent to mention that the above lands fall within the buffer zone of the Saki Cheruvu lake. The proposed sewerage line was intended to be laid underground within the buffer zone, without disturbing the Full Tank Level (FTL) of the lake. However, the pattadars objected to this alignment and insisted on routing the drainage line through the FTL of the lake which was not acceptable and violation of Irrigation acts and poses environmental risks.
- iii. In response to the petitioners' grievance that the respondents were attempting to lay a drainage canal through their patta lands, the Hon'ble Court was pleased to direct the respondents to maintain status quo until further orders.
- iv. Due to the status quo directive The Drainage diversion work has been stalled this consequently led to the domestic sewage continuing to enter the lake

The HMWS&SB, DGM informed the following during the meeting:

"It is to submit that, as a part of AMRUT - 2.0 (TRANCHE-III) scheme, a STP of capacity 98.50 MLD is proposed at southern part of the Sakhi Lake for treating the influent entering into the lake. With regard to this, Land alienation proposal was sent to the Government of Telangana and after receiving the advance possession orders from the Government, work will be taken up at the earliest and the construction will be completed within agreement period of 24 Months from the commencement of the project and the treated effluent will be discharged into the Sakhi Lake as per the TGPCB standards."

After detailed discussions the committee recommended to issue following directions :

1. The authority shall take necessary steps for diverting or treating the untreated sewage of the residential colonies from South-East direction in the Sewage Treatment Plant before discharging into the Sakhi Lake.
2. The authority shall expedite the construction of STP of capacity 98.50 MLD as proposed at southern part of the Sakhi Lake for treating the influent entering into the lake. The construction shall be completed within agreement period of 24 Months from the commencement of the project and the treated effluent shall be discharged into the Sakhi Lake as per the TGPCB standards
3. The authority shall monitor that no Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) be dumped in the Nimarjan Ghat provided at the tank so as to ensure no degradation of water quality takes place in Sakhi Tank.
4. The authority shall file the Action Taken Report before the Hon'ble Tribunal with a copy to the Board for taking further necessary action.


MEMBER SECRETARY

To
✓ The Managing Director,
HMWS&SB,
eMail id: mdhmwssb@hyderabadwater.gov.in



Item No.11:-

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

[Through Physical Hearing (Hybrid Option)]

Original Application No. 297 of 2024 (SZ)

[Earlier O.A. No. 1213 of 2024(PB)]

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion **SUO MOTU**
based on the News Item in The Times of
India dt: 22.09.2024 titled "**Sakhi Lake**
under threat, chokes on pharma waste".

And

Telangana State Pollution Control Board,
Through its Member Secretary,
Hyderabad and Ors.



...Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 26.03.2025.

CORAM:

HON'BLE Smt. JUSTICE PUSHPA SATHYANARAYANA, JUDICIAL MEMBER

HON'BLE Dr. SATYAGOPAL KORLAPATI, EXPERT MEMBER

For Applicant(s): Suo Motu.

For Respondent(s): Mr. Rajaprabhakar represented
Mr. T. Sai Krishnan for R1.
Mrs. Revathi Manivannan for R2.
Dr. Kuna Suryanarayana for R3.
Ms. E. Nivedita represented
Mrs. H. Yasmeen Ali for R4 & R5.

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ORDER

1. It is stated that the report filed by the District Collector - Hyderabad was returned by the Registry due to certain defects.

2. The Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) and Deputy Commissioner - GHMC, Serilingampally Zone, RC Puram, Patancheruvu are not yet filed their reports.

3. As the Telangana State Pollution Control Board (TGPCB) has stated that untreated sewage entering from the residential colonies from South-East direction and the catchment area has to be diverted or treated in the Sewage Treatment Plant before discharging into the Sakhi Lake.

4. Let the authorities file an action taken report. In the meanwhile, for the violation committed by these authorities, any action taken by the TGPCB has to be filed, failing which, the TGPCB will be penalized.

5. Post the matter on 18.06.2025.

Sd/-

Smt. Justice Pushpa Sathyanarayana, JM

Sd/-

Dr. Satyagopal Korlapati, EM

O.A. No. 297/2024 (SZ)
26th March, 2025. AD.