

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

Original Application No. 52 of 2020(SZ)

Tribunal on its own motion,
Suo Moto initiated proceedings
based on the News Item published in
Dinamalar Newspaper - Supplementary
Edition Chennai dt. 28.02.2020 under the
Caption "Dried Cauvery filled up with
Waste Water"

..Applicant

-Vs-

The Secretary to Govt. Tamil Nadu,
Department of Environment,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai and Ors.

..Respondents

**STATUS REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE 12th RESPONDENT -
THE MUNICIPAL COMMISISONER, PALLIPALAYAM MUNICIPALITY**

Represented by

M.BALAKRISHNAN 1106/89
M.B.Elakkumanan D/3424/2014

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I, A. Jahir, son of M. Abdul Kuthus, aged about 55 years, residing at 27, Chandrodaya Garden, Udumalpetai - 642126, do solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

2. I am the Municipal Commissioner, Pallipalayam Municipality, having my office at 5, Sankagiri Bye-Pass Road, Pallipalayam, Namakkal District - 638006. I am acquainted with the facts of the case from records. I am filing this status report on behalf of the 12th respondent.

3. It is submitted that this Hon'ble Tribunal has taken a suo moto case in O.A.No. 52/2020 and O.A.No. 67/2020 based on the news published regarding Cauvery river water pollution wherein this Hon'ble Tribunal vide its order dated 09.10.2020 directed the Erode Corporation as well as the Pallipalayam Municipality to submit their plan for implementation of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and the direction issued by the Hon'ble Principle Bench of National

Green Tribunal, New Delhi in O.A. NO. 606/2018, and the status of implementation within their local bodies and also the action plan that is being formulated for the purpose of protecting the river Cauvery and its tributaries against pollution and keep the water clean throughout the year.

4. It is submitted that the Pallipalayam Municipality is having a population of 40140 spread over an area of 4.70 sq.km consisting of 21 wards. There are 13709 houses and 796 commercial establishment. Further, it is submitted that 4.34 MLD of sewage is generated from Pallipalayam Municipal limit. A Detailed Project Report (DPR) is prepared under Nadanthai Vaali Cauvery Scheme by PWD irrigation department for treated 4.34 MLD of sewage. At present, the aforesaid Detailed Project Report (DPR) is pending for approval before the Government. On approval of the said Detailed Project Report (DPR), the sewage generated from 12471 Households and septage will be collected through sullage tanker lorries. As per Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Pallipalayam Municipality and Erode Corporation. The collected septage will be delivered to treatment plant (STP) of Erode Corporation. Therefore, no sullage will be mixed in River Cauvery in future.

5. The generation of MSW is 12 MT/day out which 7MT is bio degradable wet waste, 0.50MT is saleable dry waste, 3.37 MT is non saleable dry waste, 0.001 MT of e-waste and 0.029 MT of domestic hazardous waste, 0.10 MT of Construction and Demolition waste and remaining 1.00Mt are inerts.

6. It is submitted that the Solid Waste Management Activities are being carried out as per Solid Waste Management rules, 2016 as stated below:

A. DOOR TO DOOR COLLECTION & SEGREGATION

(i) The garbage generated is collected by using two (2) Light Commercial vehicles and twenty (20) Battery Operated vehicles. Further, the hand driven pushcarts and tricycles are eradicated from garbage collection activities.

(ii) Pallipalayam Municipality has deployed twenty four (24) permanent workers and ninety four (94) outsourcing workers for daily Solid Waste Management activities. In addition to above, two (2) tipper lorries have been used for transportation of dry waste, inert and construction and demolition waste in the town limit. All the waste are segregated at household level by people themselves and handed over to cleanliness workers of municipality which is transported to concerned processing centre.

B. PROCESSING OF SOLID WASRTE

I. Wet waste

The processing of wet waste is being done through following methods:

(i) Micro Compost Centre

Under Swachh Bharath Mission Scheme, a micro compost centre was constructed at Avarankadu in Pallipalayam Municipality, Komarapalayam Taluk, Namakkal District with a capacity of 2 (TPD). Around 2 MT of wet waste is being processed in the aforesaid micro compost centre and converted into manure. Till date 441 MT of manure has been generated from the said micro compost centre and given to farmers at free of cost. The manure is tested in Green Link Analytical and Research Laboratory, Coimbatore and found as good quality organic manure.

(ii) Bio Methanation Plant

Around 4.50 MT of wet waste from vegetable market and hotels are being processed in bio methanation plant located at Kottakadu compost yard, Pallipalayam, Komarapalayam Taluk, Namakkal District. The electrical energy produced by the aforesaid plant is used for lighting the compost yard.

(iii) Bulk Waste Generators

Six (6) bulk waste generators are identified in the Municipal limit. 0.53 MT of wet waste from the bulk waste generators are being processed by themselves.

(iv) Home Composting

0.25 MT of wet waste generated in 118 households are processed by themselves in their own agricultural lands and in their own places and backyards. All the 7 MT of wet waste is being processed without any dumping.

C. PROCESSING OF DRY WASTE

(i) Saleable dry waste

Paper, plastic and metals are sold to local vendors by cleanliness workers themselves (daily 0.051 MT is sold out). Around 8.50 MT of saleable waste is sold out of Rs. 3.84 lakhs till date, which is shared among cleanliness workers.

(ii) Non Saleable Dry Waste

At present, non saleable dry waste has been sent to a factory owned by M/s. Ultra Tech Cement Pvt. Ltd., at Ariyalur for processing and disposal.

(iii) E waste

E waste is collected and stored in a Resource Recovery Centre located at Avathipalayam, Kottakadu, Komarapalayam Taluk, Namakkal District. At present, E-waste is sent to M/s. Leela Traders, Chennai for processing and disposal.

(iv) C & D waste

A separate location at Janatha Nagar, Pallipalayam Municipality with an extent of 0.05 acre is earmarked for storage of C & D waste. The C & D wastes are used by producers themselves for filling in construction activities.

D. INERT & SILT

The inert & silt generated in the Municipal limit is being transported and used for filling low lying areas.

All efforts are being taken from Door to door collection, source segregation till processing and disposal of solid waste. Around twenty eight (28) street bins were removed and most of the streets made bin less in residential areas. In commercial areas and public places litter bins are placed and they are cleared on daily basis.

E. BIO MINING OF EXISTING LEGACY WASTE

The existing legacy waste at Kottakadu dumping site, Pallipalayam, Komarapalayam Taluk, Namakkal District is in being processed. Out of total quantity of 40306 cubic meter of legacy waste, around 27000 cubic meter of legacy waste is processed as on March, 2021 which is 67% of the total volume. The remaining 13306 cubic meter of legacy waste will be cleared by September, 2021.

7. It is respectfully submitted that under Swachh Bharath Mission - Integrated Solid Waste Management Scheme, 2018-19, the Pallipalayam Municipality issued a tender dated 11.09.2018, to remove legacy waste dumped in the Kottakadu dumping site, Pallipalayam, Komarapalayam Taluk, Namakkal District through Bio Mining Process wherein one M/s. Esarams Biotech, Namakkal was identified as the successive bidder and work order dated 24.10.2018 was issued in their favour by the Pallipalayam Municipality. It is pertinent to submit here that the contract period is for 12 months from the date of issue of work order.

8. It is respectfully submitted that M/s. Esarams Biotech, Namakkal faced numerous challenges in completing the work within time limit at Kottakadu dumping yard where 55% of volume of legacy waste is above the ground level and rest 45% is below the ground level. Initially, the area was completely filled with garbage except the machinery area and there was no space for the vehicle movement. In the bio mining process, all the fractions have to be separated using the trammel system and it is important that the waste material should be dry enough to complete segregation. In the rainy days, the

plant was forced to shut down as the waste materials get heavily wet and cannot be processed without drying the waste materials. In such cases, for example if it rains for one day, work will be delayed for next 5-7 days because of the wet condition in the waste material. Hence, the work was not continuous and Municipality was forced to stop during and after these rainy days, depending up on the intensity of the rainfall.

9. It is respectfully submitted that during Covid -19 lock down, the movements of the vehicles were stopped resulting in halt of work from March, 2020 to August, 2020 . Once the lockdown restrictions were released, the seasonal rainfall has started and work could not be completed in fast manner from the month of September, 2020 to February, 2021. Thereafter, on 26.02.2021 Tamil Nadu Assembly election rules came into force resulting in shortage of labours, and the project could not be completed by 31.03.2021. The same was informed to the Pollution Control Board at Komarapalyam vide letter dated 16.04.2021 in Na.Ka.No. 443/2018/E1 and an extension of time to complete the said project by 30.09.2021.

10. It is respectfully submitted that the waste material above the ground level has been cleared at Kottakadu dumping yard. Now, work to clear the below ground level has began which is more difficult comparing to the above ground level conditions especially in and after the rainy days. However, the 12th Respondent undertakes before this Hon'ble Tribunal that the remaining 13306 cubic meter of legacy waste will be cleared by 30th September, 2021 and request this Hon'ble tribunal by extending the time considering the Covid-19 pandemic, insufficient space and seasonal rainfall.

It is, therefore, prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to take on record the above submissions made and pass appropriate order/further orders as deemed fit and necessary in the circumstances of the case and thus render justice.



COMMISSIONER,
Pallipalayam Municipality.

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Counsel for 12th Respondent

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