

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

**ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 81 OF 2020 (SZ)
WITH
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 178 OD 2020 (SZ)**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion
Suo Motu based on the News Item in
Dinamalar, Chennai Edition dated 11.06.2020,
"Fire at garbage dump yard"

... Applicant

VERSUS

The Chief Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu
Government Secretariat,
Chennai and Others

... Respondents

With

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... Respondents

**STATUS REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE PEERKANKARANAI
TOWN PANCHAYAT**

I, D.Srinivasan Son of Mr.Dhanam, aged about 51 years, the Executive Officer of Peerkankaranai Town Panchayat, having Office at Peerkankaranai Town Panchayat, Chengalpattu Distric, Chennai-63, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:-

1. I state that I am the Executive Officer, Peerkankaranai Town Panchayat, the R7 Respondent herein and as such I am well acquainted with the facts of the case from the available records. I am filing this Status Report in my official capacity.

2. I humbly submit that the present applications have been registered Suo Moto by this Hon'ble Tribunal based on a news paper


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reports in respect of disposal of solid waste in Peerkankaranai Town Panchayat.

3. I humbly submit that this Hon'ble Tribunal had constituted a Joint Committee to inspect the site in question and file its factual and action taken report. The Joint Committee has filed its report and the same was considered by this Hon'ble Tribunal and directed this Respondent to file a report on the present status of the implementation of Solid Waste Management in the Town Panchayat and as such, I am filing this Status Report in my official capacity.

4. I humbly submit that previously this Respondent Panchayat was in the limits of Kancheepuram District and the Kancheepuram District was bifurcated into Kancheepuram and Chengalpattu Districts in November 2019. The Peerkankaranai Town Panchayat comes under the jurisdiction of Chengalpattu District.

5. I humbly submit that this Respondent Town Panchayat is the Selection Grade Town Panchayat and a total radius of 1.786 Sq.Km., which consists of 15 wards. There are 7,522 houses, 600 commercial establishments, 1 Government Primary Health Centre, 1 Private Nursing Home and 5 Small Health Clinics are situated within the Town Panchayat. As per 2011 Census, the total population of this Respondent Town Panchayat is 25,871 and as of now total population is calculated as 32,539.

DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE

6. I humbly submit that the Solid Waste generating around 9.87 Metric Tonnes per day, out of which 5.91 Metric Tonnes of Degradable and Biodegradable and the remaining wastes are non-degradable. There are about 17 sanitary workers and 62 Staffs from private social services are engaged in disposal of solid waste besides one Executive Officer and one Junior Assistant. The above field staffs are being engaged in handling and disposal of solid wastes, cleaning of canal and other sanitary works for the welfare of this Respondent Town Panchayat.


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7. I humbly submit that apart from the above manpower, the following vehicles are being used/involved in the said disposal of solid waste in the Town Panchayat:-

Sl.No.	Description of Items	Nos.
1	Mini Compactor	1
2	Tractor with Trailer	2
3	Tata ACE	1
4	Mini Tipper Auto	1
5	Battery Operated Vehicle	15
6	Tri cycle	10
7	Push Cart	10
8	Tractor rental basis	1

8. I humbly submit that this Respondent had framed byelaws as per new Solid waste Management Rules 2016 and the same was published in the District Gazette on 20.07.2017, which came into effect from the date of its notification. This apart, a sum of Rs.63.99 lakhs has been sanctioned under the Solid Waste Management Scheme during the financial year 2013-2014 by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

9. I humbly submit that apart from the above, this Respondent is also taking effective steps to create awareness among the public for the proper disposal of Solid wastes with the help of Social Service and other NGOs by conducting rally, awareness in all schools, dramas, Auto announcement in all wards, Pledge taking for segregation in all houses, Street corner meeting, display boards at all important places in the town and stakeholders meeting of all domestic and commercial Establishments, etc.,. Further, source segregation awareness in all local TV Channels and handbills were telecasted / issued with an objective to create awareness among the general public in the locality.


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10. I humbly submit that as mandated under the Rules of 2016, the field staffs of this Respondents are segregating the solid wastes at source by Door to Door collection in the different coloured bins i.e., biodegradable wastes in Green bins and non-biodegradable wastes in White bins. Further household bins of twin coloured for Bio and Non-bio degradable wastes were distributed to all the households in this Respondent Town Panchayat.

11. I humbly submit that the Town Panchayat is a small urban local body in which the permanent/sanctioned posts are less. Hence, the existing staffs are not sufficient to meet the requirement of rapid growing households and population. The Town Panchayats were authorised under Na.Ka.No:5030/08/B4 dt 24/06/2008 by the letter issued by the Directorate of Town Panchayats to engage Self Help Groups (SHG) and Non-Government Organisations to handle process of Solid Waste Management Activities in Town Panchayats. Accordingly, the services of NGO named "M/s.GO Green Solid Waste Management Service Society" was engaged into supplement the existing sanitation team and to ensure proper implementation of Solid Waste Management activities as per Solid Waste Management Rules 2016.

12. I humbly submit that due to the prevailing pandemic situation and sudden lock down announced by the Government of Tamil Nadu, the entire team was busy in the containment of COVID-19 and the SHG could not provide additional personnel required for the implementation of solid waste management. Due to which, the Door to Door collection was disturbed and however the same Door to Door collection and segregation at source are being addressed and improved. The details are as follows:-

- Present Door to Door collection 100%
- Segregation at source 65%
- Battery Operated Vehicles 15 Nos. were purchased for effective Door to Door Collection and segregation at source.
- 2 Tractors (Engine Only) were engaged on Hire Basis for Door to Door collection and transportation to Dump Yard.


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13. I humbly submit that the dump yard which is question, is located adjoining to the GST Road in Town Survey No:183/3 measuring 0.50 Acres, which is classified as "Eri Thangal" and the same is under the control of the Public Works Department. This Respondent was using the subject site for more than 17 years. The solid waste generated in the Town Panchayat areas is transported to the dump yard after segregation at door step for processing and disposal, with prior authorization of the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board.

14. I humbly submit that in the meantime, the Public Works Department had proposed to develop the water body which is situated adjoining to the dump site as a Resource Recovery Park and the same is being under progress. Pursuant to which, this Respondent was allotted with the land measuring an extent of 3.50 acres comprised in Survey No. 365A of Perungalathur Village, for the disposal of solid waste in the Town Panchayat.

15. I humbly submit that there is legacy waste dumped in the Resource Recovery Park and the quantity of waste dumped is 2162 cubic metre. It is proposed to own land allotted by the District Collector, Kancheepuram vide Proc.Na.Ka.No.1659/2019/TP1 dated 12.11.2019 at Survey No.365A of Perungalathur village in an extent of 3.50 acres. The Executive Officer, Peerkankaranai Town Panchayat now states that originally it was proposed to remove and shift the dumped legacy waste in the Dump Site / RR Park near Eri Thangal to the newly allowed land of 3.50 Acres extent at Survey No.365A of Peerkankaranai village.

16. I humbly submit that there is an objection from the public for the use of above land as a solid waste management site, however, the site is yet to be transferred in the name of the Town Panchayat for the disposal of Solid Waste. The solid waste facility will be established in the above site with all necessary authorizations and permissions as mandated, once the land is transferred.


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17. I humbly submit that in order to avoid pollution in the water body, the District Collector, Kancheepuram in his Proceedings Na.Ka.No.1607/2019/TP1 dated 07.11.2019 has issued orders to remove the dumped waste in the site in question and shift the same to the common dumping land earmarked at Kolathur Village near Appur in Kancheepuram District. The legacy waste which is dumped in the above sites is calculated as 2,162 cubic metres and the said entire waste has been transferred to the land at Kolathur Village, which was allotted by the District Collector.

I humbly submit that at present the non-degradable waste is being sent to the above site at Kolathur Village

DISPOSAL OF BIO MEDICAL WASTE

18. I humbly submit that there is one Nursing Home, one Govt. Primary Health Centre and 5 small private clinics situated within the Peerkankaranai Town Panchayat limits, however, no Major private Hospitals / Multi Specialty Hospitals are situated in the limits of Peerkankaranai Town Panchayat. The Bio Medical Waste which are being generated from the above Hospitals are collected by the private vendors M/s.G J Multi Clave who is authorised by the Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board. This Respondent Town Panchayat is periodically monitoring and ensuring that the Bio Medical Wastes are not disposed unscientifically and not dumped within the local body.

DISPOSAL OF PLASTIC WASTE

19. I humbly submit that the Government of Tamil Nadu in its Government Order in G.O.Ms No: 84, Environmental and Forest Department, dated 25.06.2018 directed for eradication of the use of one time use and throw away plastics in urban local bodies. Pursuant to the said direction, continuous raids, monitoring activities and IEC activities are being carried out by this local body to ban the sale and use of one time use and throw away plastics.


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20. I humbly submit that this Respondent is conducting surprise inspection and in the said inspection, 25 kgs of one time use and throw away plastics were seized and a sum of Rs.5,000/- was imposed and collected as fine.

RESPONSE TO NEWS PAPER ARTICLE:

21. I humbly submit that there was a fire incident at the dump site in question on 06.09.2020 night by the miscreants and the same was immediately put off by this Respondent on the next day. This Respondent has made a complaint before the Peerkankaranai Police Station to take action against the offenders and the same is pending investigation.

22. I humbly submit that after the above incident, additional workers were deployed by this Respondent to monitor the dump site. Now the Town Panchayat is taking all efforts to ensure that all SWM activities are being carried out in compliance with the SWM Rules 2016. Since the Town Panchayat is a smaller urban local body which is functioning with very less staff & workers they may be condoned and may be given time upto 30.06.2021 to ensure compliance of SWM Rules 2016 and to obtain separate land for Resource Recovery park from the District Collector, Chengalpattu.

23. I humbly submit that this respondent has been following the directions of this Hon'ble Tribunal diligently and also the Environmental Laws without any default in implementation of disposal of Solid Waste management facility.

Under the above circumstances, I respectfully pray that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to record the above submission and close the application and pass any such further or other order as it may deem fit and proper in the circumstances of the case and thus render justice.

Dated at Chennai on this the 24th day of June, 2021


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7TH RESPONDENT

VERIFICATION

I, D.Srinivasan, Son of Mr.Dhanam, aged about 51 years, the Executive Officer (i/c) of Peerkankaranai Town Panchayat, having Office at Peerkankaranai Town Panchayat, Chengalpattu District, do hereby verify that the contents of Paragraph Nos. 1 to 23 are true to the best of my knowledge and Paragraph Nos. 1 to 23 are believed to be true on legal advice and that I have not suppressed any material fact.

Verified at Chennai on this the 24th day of June, 2021


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