

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN
TRIBUNAL
WESTERN ZONE BENCH
ORIGINAL APPLICATION 30 of 2020

Sarang Yadwadkar & Ors.

...Applicant

Vs

Pune Municipal Corporation & Ors.

...Respondents

**WRITTEN NOTES ON BEHALF OF PUNE
MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (PMC)
RESPONDENT NO. 1 ARE AS UNDER-**

1. R-1 PMC received a telephonic complaint regarding broken sewage chamber from Mr. Sarang Yadwadkar on 12/04/2020. Upon receiving the said complaint by Mr. Sarang Yadwadkar, officers from the Drainage Department, PMC along with PMC contractor Mr. Lalu Devkar visited the site where sewer chamber was broken. During the visit, it was observed that the chamber of the sewer line coming from Warje connected to the Erandawane STP has been broken.
2. On 13/04/2020, PMC contractor was instructed by R-1 to repair the damaged sewer chamber. On 14/04/2020, the Executive Engineer, Building Permission

Department, Zone – 6 was instructed by the Drainage Department to take appropriate action in accordance with the law against the plot holders who had dumped the debris which damaged the sewage line, namely, respondent No. 4 and Respondent No. 5.

3. It is pertinent to note that India was under a strict lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic during April 2020. The city of Pune was also under a strict lockdown in the light of first wave of corona virus. Taking into account the situation that was being caused due to discharge of sewage directly into the river, the broken sewer line was fully repaired by 18/05/2020 inspite of the lockdown.
4. PMC is conscious of its duties relating to the repair and upkeep of sewer lines and sewer chambers. In spite of the Covid-19 First wave lockdown, the PMC has repaired the damaged sewage chamber thereby preventing further discharge of polluting material into the Mula Mutha river.
5. The damaged sewer chamber no longer exists because the damaged sewer chamber has been already repaired by the PMC and sewage is no longer being discharged into the river at the impugned site.

6. Respondents no. 4 and 5 were served with notices under section 53 (1) of the Maharashtra Regional Town Planning Act, 1966. In his reply to the said notices dated 16/05/2020, Respondent no. 5 has stated that he has removed encroachments made by him.
7. Covid-19 restrictions were implemented in Maharashtra from March 2020 and nationwide lockdown was imposed from 22nd March 2020 onwards. I state that the PMC officers were deputed on covid-related duties which were the highest priority at that time. The applicant had sent a whatsapp message to an officer of the PMC regarding the breakage of the sewer chamber. It can be seen from the whatsapp message that said officer of the PMC referred the applicant to the relevant officer within a few hours. Considering the serious condition during the First wave of Covid-19 pandemic, the PMC repaired the damaged sewage chamber as promptly as was possible during the complete strict lockdown.
8. The damaged sewage chamber was damaged by Respondents No. 4 and 5 and has been repaired by the present respondent No. 1 PMC. The sewage is now flowing smoothly into the Erandawane STP and sewage is presently not entering the river at the

impugned site. The report filed by the Joint Committee also mentions the proposed plans by the PMC to bridge the gap between sewage generation and sewage treatment.

9. PMC has proposed 11 new STPs with total capacity of 396 MLD considering the population growth upto the year 2027 under the Japan International Co-operation Agency 'JICA' project under which JICA is providing funds for the project. The JICA project aims at zero discharge of sewage into the Mula Mutha river. This project is undertaken by the Central Government and the PMC with majority of funding from the Central Government. The details of the proposed STPs under the JICA project by the PMC are as below-

Sr. No.	STP Location	Capacity in MLD	Area Ha.	Time period for completion	Present Status
1	Botanical Garden	10	0.55	2025	Land of 0.25 Ha is in PMC possession, for remaining 0.30 Ha land NOC from Agriculture University is received.
2	Baner	25	0.95	2025	Land acquisition is under process & will be acquired shortly.
3	Waraje	28	1.14	2025	Land acquisition is under process & will be acquired shortly.
4	Vadgaoan	26	1.02	2025	Government land is in possession of PMC
5	Tanajiwadi	15	0.35	2025	Land is in possession of PMC
6	Near Naidu Hospital	127	4.05	2025	Land is in possession of PMC
7	Dhanori	33	1.36	2025	Land is in primary possession of PMC
8	Bhairoba	75	2.19	2025	Land is Possession of PMC
9	Mundhwa	20	0.91	2025	Land is Possession of PMC
10	Kharadi	30	0.7	2025	Private Land of 0.7 Ha is in primary of possession of PMC
11	MastyaBeej Kendra	7	0.26	2025	Land is in possession of PMC
	Total	396			

Pune

Date 25/01/2022

Ryara
Advocate for R1