

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HEADED BY THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY, MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION AND WATER SUPPLY DEPARTMENT HELD ON 25.8.2022 AT 5.00 PM IN THE CONFERENCE HALL OF MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION AND WATER SUPPLY DEPARTMENT BASED ON THE DIRECTION OF THE NGT IN O.A. No.37 of 2012.

The Meeting was held on 25.8.2022 to discuss the illegal dumping of garbage at periya eri lake in Tambaram.

The following Officials were Present in above said meeting:-

Sl.No	NAME	DESIGNATION
1	Thiru.B.Vishnu Chandran, IAS	Joint Commissioner of Municipal Administration, O/o the Director of Municipal Administration.
2	Thiru.A.R.Rahul Nadh, IAS	District Collector, Chengalpattu District
3	Dr.S.Selvan	Chief Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board.
4	Dr.M.Elangovan	Commissioner, Tambaram City Municipal Corporation.
5	Dr.D.Vasudevan	Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, Chennai Zone, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Arumbakkam.
6	Tmt.P.Saradha	Joint Commissioner (Admin)
7	Dr.Umaiyaakunjaram	District Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board.
8	Thiru.Selvakumar	Executive Engineer, Water Resources Department

9	Thiru.V.Murugesan	Executive Engineer, Tambaram City Municipal Corporation.
10	Dr.Parthipan	Chief Health Officer, Tambaram City Municipal Corporation.

The Commissioner, Tambaram City Municipal Corporation has made a presentation regarding dumping of solid waste into the Pallavaram Periya Eri and activities carried out by the Corporation based on the directions of the National Green Tribunal vide O.A. No.37 of 2012 etc.

Gist of the case:

Thiru. S.P.Surendranath Karthik filed a case before the NGT against the Pallavapuram Municipality now merged with Tambaram Corporation stating that the local body was dumping the solid waste into the Pallavaram Periya Eri and the waterbody is at a distance of 7.5 km from Chennai Airport and it is a natural resource for residents and migratory birds in the area. Further, he has stated that the area of the waterbody is about 300 acres as per revenue record but actually shrunk to 75 acres now and due to dumping of garbage and discharge of the untreated effluent and the sewage into the waterbody, purity of lake the water is getting affected.

Orders of the NGT dated 7.2.2020:

Hon'ble Tribunal in its order dated 07.02.2020 has directed for inspection of Joint committee by the District Collector, Chengalpattu, Superintending Engineer, Public Works Department and Water Resources Organization, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board & Commissioner, Tambaram City Municipal Corporation (erstwhile Pallavapuram Municipality) to evaluate the progress of disposal of Legacy waste, status of removal of encroachments etc., and it was directed to submit the action plan for removal of the existing garbage by doing biomining with shorter timeline.

Compliance to the orders issue by NGT on 7.2.2020:

Based on the above directions, the Joint committee has inspected the waterbody on 08.08.2020 and submitted its report on 28.02.2021. The committee recommended to provide CCTV camera and to maintain sewer line laid along the Radial road and to carry out the improvement work in the Southern side of the said waterbody.

Further, the Committee submitted its findings on the status of solid waste management with short term and long term plans for processing and the disposal of Legacy waste from the catchment area of Pallavapuram Periya Eri.

- In respect of the inflow of sewage, sullage and deposit of solid waste into the Eri, the sullage has been arrested to the maximum extent that the local body has carried out Intersection and Diversion (I&D) works, by giving house service connections (HSC) in under ground sewerage scheme. Further, the local body has carried out improvements to the waterbody by provision of bund, footpath, desilting, fencing and flood control measures with shutter arrangements etc., at an estimated cost of Rs.14.98 crore on the northern side which is separated by radial road.
- In the Southern side, the legacy waste dumped was removed upto ground level under Swachh Bharat Mission and the removal and processing of legacy waste below ground level is proposed to be taken up under SBM 2.0 for which necessary estimate has been prepared for Rs.5.00 crore and the same has also been verified by Centre for Environmental Studies, Anna University.
- Further, the local body practiced 100% collection of solid waste, and disposal of non degradable waste through recycling vendors and cement factories and creation of awareness among public through various IEC activities including the movement launched by the Government 'People's Movement for Clean cities'.
- Since the Under Ground Sewerage Scheme was fully completed in Zone II of Tambaram Corporation (Pallavapuram area), all house holds have been covered with House Service Connections and the inflow of sewage and sullage water into the Eri and its catchment area has been completely arrested.
- Regarding the biomining of legacy waste, about 1,08,000 m³ of Legacy waste dumped above ground level has been removed at an estimated cost of Rs. 7.00 crore.
- For the legacy waste lying below ground level, it was estimated that about 61,000 m³ of solid waste to be processed and removed for which estimate has been prepared for Rs. 5.00 crore and the same has been proposed under Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 and 15th CFC grant 2022-23.

Orders of the National Green Tribunal dated 27.7.2022:

Tribunal in the order dated 27.07.2022 has disposed the application with the following direction:-

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10. It is seen from the above narrative that inspite of repeated orders of this Tribunal in the last ten years, the situation continues to be far from satisfactory. Disposal of solid waste in the catchment of the lake affects the natural character of the water body. The transportation from Ganapathipuram to Appur dumpsite is crucial in the management link. Disposal of waste at Appur dumpsite and its impact on the Pallavaram Periya Eri water body needs monitoring. It is to be ensured that no sewage effluents are enter the water body. Remaining legacy waste has to be bio-mined and the recovered material properly utilised. Continued failure of the Municipal Corporation in performing its constitutional and statutory duties, to the detriment of rule of law and right of citizens to clean environment is resulting in deterioration of health and safety of citizens which is expected to be a matter of concern of all the authorities. Protection of environment is inalienable duty of the State which does not appear to be realized. Thus, prompt and stringent action is necessary to remedy the situation in a time bound manner with the involvement of authorities at higher level.

11. Accordingly, we direct that a five member joint committee headed by Additional Chief Secretary, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department with Additional Chief Secretary, Environment and Forest, State PCB, District Magistrate, Chengalpattu and Municipal Corporation, Tambaram as Members **may meet within one month** to take stock of the pending work and **prepare an updated action plan to be executed in the outer limit of six months**. The State PCB will be the nodal agency for coordination and compliance. The Committee may place its proceedings on the website of State PCB. The progress may be reviewed at least once in a month. The Committee may ensure availability of necessary funds, if necessary, by raising revenue from the local residents and augmenting the same from any other stakeholders, including the industries / institutions operating in the area. The Committee may also ensure restoration of the water bodies, freeing them from any waste or encroachment and taking other measures, considering directions of this Tribunal".

Compliance to the orders:

The Municipal Commissioner, Tambaram City Municipal Corporation has stated that, the Corporation has taken following steps in compliance to the orders dated 27.7.2022.

- The legacy waste dumped above ground level for 1.08 lakh m³ has been removed through biomining work at an estimated cost of Rs.7.00 cr.
- For removal of the garbage below ground level, the legacy waste was assessed as 61,000 m³ by the Centre for Environmental Studies, Anna University and Detailed Project Report has been prepared at an estimated cost of Rs.5.00 crore and the same is proposed to be posed for financial assistance under SBM 2.0 and 15th Finance Commission Grant.
- Tambaram City Municipal Corporation (TCMC) has taken several steps to implement Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 from door to door collection, secondary transportation, scientific processing and final disposal by implementing door to door collection to cover 100% of the houses through 146 nos of primary collection vehicles and segregated wet waste is being processed through 27 nos of Micro Composting Centres (MCC) of capacity 70 MT per day. The Corporation is constructing 2 more MCCs for which necessary funds have been sanctioned. Tambaram City Municipal Corporation has taken effective steps to implement Solid Waste Management Rules 2016 within the local body and stopped the disposal of solid waste in the catchment areas of the Lake.
- The solid waste dumped in Ganapathipuram Transfer Station has also been cleared without making any impact to the waterbody.
- All the households in the area (Zone-II) has been covered with Under Ground Sewerage house service connections and Tambaram City Municipal Corporation ensured that no sewage effluent enters into the waterbody.
- Tambaram City Municipal Corporation (TCMC) assured that the remaining legacy waste lying below the ground level will be removed through biomining process, under SBM 2.0.

Further the Commissioner informed that the Corporation has selected 15 wards as '**Model ward**' out of 70 wards and activities are

being carried out to achieve 100% segregation of waste at source. He informed that the Pallavapuram Periya Eri is having an extent of about 300 acre and there are no sewer outfalls into the waterbody.

The Additional Chief Secretary, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department instructed the Commissioner to conduct an exercise to identify sewer / sullage out falls, solid waste dumping and instructed to stop if any found. In respect of solid waste transportation to Appur dumpsite, the Additional Chief Secretary, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department instructed the District Collector to appoint a sub committee and give a report. The Commissioner was asked to furnish overall Solid Waste Management Plan with dust bin free city, modernized transfer station, scientific processing facility etc., for getting financial assistance under Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 concept. The Additional Chief Secretary, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department instructed to utilise separate collection vehicles with frequency of twice a day i.e. morning and evening in commercial areas and enforce strictly to achieve 100% waste collection.

The Executive Engineer, Public Works Department stated that, about 600 encroachments are in the waterbody and necessary action is being taken to issue notices to encroachers.

SHIV DAS MEENA
ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

//TRUE COPY//

S. Sathir

Section Officer.

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2/1/12*