

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**

Execution Application No.41/2023
In
Original Application No.94/2021

With

M.A. No. 48/2024
In
Original Application No.94/2021

Haider Ali Applicant

Versus

Union of India & Ors. Respondent(s)

With

Original Application No.348/2024

News Item titled "Bengaluru stadium to get treated water supply for IPL matches amid crisis" appearing in India Today dated 21.03.2024

Date of hearing: 19.03.2025

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRAKASH SHRIVASTAVA, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDHIR AGARWAL, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. A. SENTHIL VEL, EXPERT MEMBER**

Applicant: Mr. Ali Md. Maaz & Ms. Ayushi Agarwal, Advs. for Applicant in E.A 41/2023 & M.A 48/2024

Respondent: Mr. Abhinav Mukerji, Senior Advocate with Ms. Bihu Sharma, Advs. for BCCI (Through VC)
Mr. Samrat Sen, Senior Advocate with Ms. Manali Ali, Mr. Paritosh Sinha, Mr. Amitava Mitra & Ms. Priyata Chakraborty, Advs. for R - 5 & 12 (Through VC)
Mr. Sanjay Upadhyay, Senior Advocate with Ms. Mansi Bachani & Mr. Surya Gupta, Advs. for R - 27
Mr. Gigi. C. George, Adv. for CGWA
Mr. Azim H. Laskar & Mr. Kishor Dutta, Advs. for R - 8
Ms. Ritika Jhurani, Advs. for R - 9, 17 & 26 (Through VC)
Mr. Kunal Mimani, Mr. Kartikey Bhatt, Mr. Abhinav Rana & Ms. Deepti Karadkar, Advs. for R - 19
Mr. Aditya Verma, Mr. Samar Singh, Mr. K. Rigved Prasad, Adv. for R - 23
Mr. Prashant Mishra, Adv. for R - 25 (Through VC)
Mr. Prashant Manchanda, Adv. for Punjab Cricket Association
Mr. Piyush Dwivedi, Adv. for Hyderabad Cricket Association
Mr. Pradeep Misra & Mr. Daleep Dhyani, Adv. for UPPCB (Through VC)
Mr. Darpan K.M & Mr. Rajat Jonathan Shaw, Advs. for the State of Karnataka in OA 348/20204 (Through VC)
Mr. Balaji Srinivasan & Mr. Aditya Nath, Advs. for R - 4 in OA 348/20204

ORDER

1. Tribunal in this original application is examining the issue of use of ground/fresh water for irrigating/maintaining the cricket play grounds without resorting to the use of STP treated water.
2. Tribunal by order dated 26.11.2024 had directed the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) to compile the information disclosed in the response of the respondents-Cricket Stadiums and tabulate it specifically including the status of borewells, extent of groundwater drawal, permission for the borewell, status of use of STP treated water, status of Rain Water Harvesting System (RWHS) installed in the stadiums and the Environmental Compensation (EC) imposed.
3. CGWA has filed the report dated 17.03.2025 and has disclosed the status in the tabulated form as under:

“Status of stadiums located in CGWA regulated States/UTs as per reply filed before Hon’ble NGT/Information provided to CGWA:

Sr . No	Name of Stadium	Status of Borewell	Extent of GW withdrawal (Quantum)	Permission for Borewell	Status of use of STP treated water	Status of RWIHS installed in the Stadium	EC imposed by the Board	Status of deposit of EC
1	ACA cricket Stadium, Barsapar a Assam	5 Borewell	54KLD/16590 KLY as NOC Avg. 69 KLD as per Telemetry data	NOC obtained (NOC NO: CGWA/NO C/1 NF/ORIG/2 024/20129)	STP Installed (capacity 10 KLD) Recycled water not being used.	Implemente d 1 no. of recharge pit constructed	Rs. 1120230/.	Rs. 1120230/

2	Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium, Rajkot	3DW 2 BW	65.20M³ per day	Yes CGWA/NO C/A NF/ORIG/2024 / 19777 (30.11.2023 to 29.11.2028)	It is practically not possible to have Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) at the Stadium. Saurashtra Cricket Association has signed an agreement with Rajkot Municipal Corporation (RMC) to use treated water from its sewage treatment plants (STPs) to maintain Nirarjan Shah Stadium. As per the MOU, RMC has agreed to provide the stadium about 1 lakh liter as per requirement of treated water per day which will be sufficient to meet about 80% need of the water required for ground and outfield	Yes	Rs.928431/-	Rs.928431/-
3	Saheed Veer Narayan Singh Int. Stadium, Raipur	06 no. of BWs have been constructed in the stadium.	50 kid of GW withdrawal as per the inspection done by CGWA in the stadium.	NOC has not been applied in CGWA till date. There have been meetings with the District Collector, Raipur regarding the compliance conditions to be followed by the stadium. The DC, Raipur has directed the matter to Director, Sports Authority, Chhattisgarh state and PWD, Chhattisgarh for application of NOC from CGWA at	STP has not been installed yet within the stadium. However, a sanction order of Rs. 121.24 lakhs has been given to PWD for installation of STP and construction of RWH structures within the stadium premises.	RWH structures have not been constructed yet within the stadium. A sanction order of Rs. 121.24 lakhs has been given to PWD for installation of STP and construction of RWH structures within the stadium premises.	EC imposed EC charges of Rs.3,66,000/- (24.09,2020 to 23.12.2024) Actual EC charges will be calculated during processing of NOC	EC charges not received

				<i>the earliest.</i>				
4	VCA Stadium, Civil Lines, Nagpur	1 Dugwell, 1 BW	33 m3 per day	CGWA/NOC/INF/ORIG/2021/13898	2 STP of 10 KLD capacity installed.	Yes, installed.	NA	NA
5	MCA Cricket Stadium, Gahunje, Pune	As per inspection report, No abstraction structures found	NA	NA	Not installed	Yes, installed.	NA	NA
6	Sawai Mansingh Stadium, Jaipur	1 TW	22.5 KLD as reported during inspection	Not applied for NOC	Not known	Not known	Rs. 819485 (till 01.11.2023)	Yes Rs. 819485 (till 01.11.2023) deposited
7	Holkar Stadium (Indore, MP)	4BW active and 1BW dead	Approved-8100m cube per year	NOC granted No. 20396, dated 6 Nov. 2024	STP is not feasible in our stadium owing to very less quantum of sewer generation. The sewage is disposed off through the sewer system of Indore Municipal Corporation	RWIH has been operational since the development of the stadium and the RWIH is working well with proper maintenance.	Rs. 16,04,795/-	16,04,795/- on 14.2.2024. In addition to the above EC, a penalty of Rs. 1,00,000/- is paid on 7.6.2024 for late submission for NOC
8	DR. DY Patil Stadium, Mumbai	As per Inspection report, No abstraction structures found	NA	NA	Not installed	Yes, Installed	NA	NA
9	Brabourne Cricket Stadium (CCI)	CCI does not have any ground water abstraction structures. The borewell excavated by CCI [pursuant to the permission granted by MCGM on 03.11.2018] for watering the plants in the nursery was voluntarily sealed by CCI in July, 2023 due to high salinity in the extracted water, CCI is not extracting any ground water whatsoever	CCI sources 190KLD of water through MCGM and H.H Roadlines & Water Suppliers.	in view of the CCI's usage of ground water being less than 5m3 per day for "drinking/ domestic purposes CGWA has granted an Exemption Certificate under Clause (vi) of the 2000 Guidelines, exempting CCI from the requirement of obtaining an NOC	CCI had appointed consultants for providing the necessary design and feasibility reports for installing STP and RWH systems.	Yes, Installed	Revised EC Charges of Rs 1880820 /-as per the inspection report and further calculation communicated to the CCI. After this CCI again requested for copy of inspection report which provided to PP on 24.02.2025	Not received
10	Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai	As per Inspection report, No abstraction structures found		Not required	Installed	Installed	NA	NA

11	Barabati Cricket Stadium, Cuttak, Odisah	4 numbers of TWs	60.54 m3/day (22097.10cum/year)	Yes	Not Installed	Not Installed	1283145	1283145
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Status of stadiums located in SGWA regulated States/UTs as per reply filed before Hon'ble NGT/Information provided to CGWA:

Sr . No	Name of Stadium	Status of Borewell	Extent of GW withdrawal (Quantum)	Permissi on for Borewel l	Status of use of STP treated water	Status of RWIHS installed in the Stadium	EC imposed by the Board	Status of deposit of EC
1	Dr. Y.S. Rajasekh ara Reddy ACA-VDCA Cricket Stadium, Vizag	Existing 2 Bore wells and working in Good Condition	50 KLD	No (Not taken any permissi on from SGWA	The number of international matches conducted at the Answering respondent's stadium are very limited and at an average of 11 days in a year. Sewarage/effluent generated during match days is also very less and negligible for the rest of the days. The same would not warrant installation and operation of an STP. In view of the same, the answering respondent, by way of latter dated 08.09.2023 requested the commissioner of the Greater Vishakhapatnam Municipal Corporation for providing the treated water connection capable of Supplying 50,000 lit per day.	Constructed 1 Rain Water Harvesting Pit and it is not maintaining properly	The pollution control board has informed that there is no need for EC	-
2	Eden Garden, Kolkata	5 TW	40KLD(8m³/hr for daily 5hrs) 75 KLD (15m³/hr for daily 5hrs) 90 KLD(18m³/hr for daily 5hrs 60 KLD (12m³/hr for	Yes	Reminder letter issued to the Hony Secretary, Cricket Association of Benal, Dr. B.C. Roy Club House, Eden Gardens Stadium, Kolkata for the status report of installation of STP facilities but till date undersigned (Superintending Geologist) has yet not received any status report. At the time of re-inspection the concern	Reminder letter issued to the Honorary Secretary, The cricket Association of Bengal, Dr. B. C. Roy Club House, Eden Gardens Stadium, Kolkata for	Not applicabl e (as per WBGWR Act, 2005 and concerne d rules 2006)	Not applicable (as per WBGWR Act, 2005 and concerned rules 2006)

			Daily 5 hrs) 125KLD (25m/hrfor daily 5 hrs)		person from the CAB informed vervally that the status of STP work is under process.	the status report of installation of RWH facilities but till date undersigne d has not received any status report. At the time of re- inspection the concern person from the CAB informed verbally that the status of RWH work is Under		
3	Arun Jailley Stadium, Delhi	Permission of Two (2) Tubewells issued on 03/06/202 4 by SG WA.	To measure the quantum of ground water withdrawal by flow meter is being purchased and fixed in a week's time. Once it is installed adject quantum will be conveyed to the authority.	Permissi on issued by SGWA	STP installed. Treated water is being used for maintenance of Cricket Ground	Yes, 17 RWH structures have been constructed in the premises.	No	NA
4	Green Park Stadium, Kanpur	3	30 KLD	On Going since 30.07 .2024	Proposed	Proposed	No	No
5	Atal Bhihari Bajpayee Stadium, Lucknow	1	48 KLD	Yes	STP in place but not being operated. However, project proponent has Informed that O & M is to be done by L DA and they have requested LDA in this regard.	Yes	Nil	Nil
6	MA Chidamb aram Stadium, Chennai	Nil	Ground water drawal Nil- Water supply Source- CMWSSB non event Days 71.3 KLD (9.95 KLD Domestic Swimming pool- 1.50 KLD, Greenbelt-59.80 KLD). Event Days-414 KLD (321.25 KLD Domestic, Floor Washing 31.15 KLD, swimming pool-1.5 KLD Greebelt-59.80 KLD)	NA	Sewage Treated Water of 60 KLD utilized for maintenance of Cricket Ground & Greenbelt	Rain Water Harvesting Sump - 909 KL 81 KL - 3 Nos. 12 KI - 1 No. 129 KL - I No. 210 KL- 2 Nos. 105 KL - 1 No. Open Well 315 KL Open well 1 - 95 KL Open well 2	Nil	Nil

						- 220 KL		
7	Rajeev Gandhi International Stadium, Hyderabad	2	181 KLD	Permission issued by SGWA	Nil	One recharge pit	Yes	Yes
8	Sports Hub International Cricket Stadium, Trivandrum	1	11,000 LPD	SGWA NOC received	STP implemented at stadium	An MOU was signed on 01.10.2024 with the Kerala Rural Water Supply and sanitation agency (jalanidhi) for the installation of a rainwater harvesting system source development by constructing dyke, reservoir, etc and improvement of water supply system has been submitted by the agency, and the process to initiate tender proceedings is underway.	-	-
9	Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association Stadium, Dharamsala	2	9,73,334 liters per annum (Irrigation of the ground is being done 3 days in a week). Each requires 8,000 liters of water	Under application to the Govt. of HP	NA	Yes, rain harvesting tanks having capacity of 2,30,000 liters have been installed and are in operation.	NA	NA
10	Chaudhary Banal Lal Cricket Stadium	During the time of acquisition of land for the construction of the Chaudhary Bansi Lal Cricket Stadium i.e. 2006, two borewells were already in existence.	2000L of groundwater for mega sport events and 500L of groundwater for other days on average.	NOC to the Haryana Water Resources Authority on 06.07.2023 for the Chaudhary Bansi Lal Cricket Stadium and the same is under consideration by HWRA.	Installed	Respondent has commenced the process for the establishment of an STP.		
11	IS Bandra Cricket Stadium, Mohali	02 Borewells	3000m3 per day	Yes, NOC valid upto 27.06.2007	The Punjab Cricket Association has requested the Soil Conservation Department regarding setup & feasibility check of the STP inside the Stadium premises at PCA, Mohali. The	The Punjab Cricket Association has already completed 2 Nos Borewells for Rain Water Harvesting	-	-

				<i>technical officers from the Soil Department of Punjab had visited the site on 21.08.2023 to check the feasibility of the Sewerage Treatment Plant. The PCA is awaiting the formal plan in this regard from the department.</i> <i>It is pertinent to inform that Punjab Cricket Association is in the process of completing its new stadium at Mullanpur (Punjab) wherein the Rain water Harvesting System as well as STP Plant are already in place."</i>	<i>in PCA Stadium, Mohali. As per the work order M/s. M S Constructionns has to complete the works by 08.10.2023 (copy enclosed).</i>		
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4. Submission of Counsel for the applicant is that if the cricket stadiums are granted NOC for drawal of ground water then same will be used for irrigating the cricket ground and will defeat the very purpose of filing the original application. He submits that in fact STP treated water should be used for irrigating the grounds to avoid the use of fresh water for that purpose.

5. Full details relating to use of STP treated water or fresh water by all the respondents have not come on record, therefore, we direct respondents/cricket stadiums to file additional reply within four weeks disclosing the monthly and yearly use of quantity of water for irrigating the ground, proportion of STP treated and fresh water used for the same. Report will also disclose bifurcation of proportion of fresh water such as ground water, supply from the municipality/ULB or any other source etc. Along with this report, respondents/cricket stadiums will also disclose if despite the scarcity of fresh water they intend to continue to use fresh water for irrigation of the grounds and the status of RWHS installed in the stadiums.

6. So far as M.A. No.48/2024 is concerned, it was an interim application for staying the operation of IPL starting from 08.04.2024 and

ending on 26.05.2024. With the afflux of time, nothing survives in this MA, which is accordingly dismissed as infructuous

7. List on 17.07.2025.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Sudhir Agarwal, JM

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

March 19, 2025
Execution Application No.41/2023,
M.A. No. 48/2024 & Original Application No.348/2024
JG..