

Item Nos.04 to 06:-

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

[Through Physical Hearing (Hybrid Option)]

**Original Application No.180 of 2023 (SZ)&
I.A. Nos.128 of 2023 & 57 of 2024(SZ)**

AND

Original Application No.183 of 2023 (SZ)

AND

Original Application No.59 of 2024(SZ)

[Earlier O.A. No.789 of 2023(PB)]

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU
based on the Visual media titled Chennai
Rains: மக்களை வதைக்கும் Oil
Companies Shocking Story - Michaung
Ground Report covered by on
VIKATAN TV Chennai dt.06.12.2023.

With

The District Collector,
Chennai District and Ors.

...Respondent(s)

AND

R.L. Srinivasan,
Chennai.

...Applicant (s)

Versus

The Tamil Nadu Coastal Zone Management Authority,
Rep. by its Member Secretary,
Chennai and Ors.

...Respondent(s)

AND

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU
based on the news item in The News
Minute dt: 11.12.2023 titled **"TN Govt
forms 20-member committee to mitigate
oil spill in Kasimedu harbour"**.

With

Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare,
Govt. of Tamil Nadu,
Rep. by its Commissioner and Ors.

...Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 24.01.2025.

CORAM:

HON'BLE Smt. JUSTICE PUSHPA SATHYANARAYANA, JUDICIAL MEMBER

HON'BLE Dr. SATYAGOPAL KORLAPATI, EXPERT MEMBER

O.A. No.180/2023:-

For Applicant (s):

Suo Motu.

For Respondent(s):

Dr. D. Shanmuganathan for R1, R8 & R9.
Mr. S. Sai Sathya Jith for R2.
Ms. Rebecca represented
Mr. Gautam S Raman for R3.
Dr. S.B. Nirmalatha represented
Mr. N.R. Ramesh Kanna for R4.
Mr. Abdul Saleem, Sr. Adv. a/w.
Mr. S. Saravanan for R7 and R10.
M/s. Ritwick Dutta, Rahul Choudhary &
G.Stanly Hebzon Singh - I.A No. 57/2024.

O.A. No.183/2023:-

For Applicant (s):

Mr. A. Yogeshwaran.

For Respondent(s):

Dr. D. Shanmuganathan for R1 to R6.
Mr. S. Sai Sathya Jith for R7.
Mr. Abdul Saleem, Sr. Adv. a/w.
Mr. S. Saravananfor R8.

O.A. No.59/2024:

For Applicant(s): Suo Motu.

For Respondent(s): Dr. D. Shanmuganathan for R1 to R3.
Mr. S. Sai Sathya Jith for R4.
Mr. Abdul Saleem, Sr. Adv. a/w.
Mr. S. Saravanan for R5.

ORDER

1. Today, when the matter was taken up, the learned Senior Advocate appearing for the Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL) filed the report, pointing out the discrepancies in the report of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in comparison with the other agencies, which had done the study on this oil spill.

2. Primarily, they have pointed out a discrepancy in oil quantity estimation, quantity assessment, etc. In this regard, the learned Senior Advocate appearing for the CPCL wanted to file a detailed report, as they have engaged two of the experts in Oceanography who are already on the job.

3. The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) is directed to file a report on the action taken against the Oil Company and whether the environmental compensation is quantified, etc. Further, the TNPCB has to file an action plan for the remediation and the status as on date.

4. The learned counsel appearing for the applicant in Original Application No.183 of 2023(SZ) was totally dissatisfied with the reports of the IIT as well as National Institute of Oceanography (NIO), contending that these reports were not based on the actual

samples taken in the affected locations. He also submitted that the study of the depth of the oil was not done, as they had taken only random samples. Similarly, he highlighted that soil contamination cannot be remediated unless it has been properly assessed and quantified.

5. The learned counsel appearing for the applicant wants to file a report by the authorities based on a study of the soil, water, mangroves and residential areas, particularly in relation to the remediation measures being implemented for the oil-affected area.

6. The TNPCB should consider all these aspects as well before submitting their report.

7. Post the matter on 25.02.2025.



Sd/-
Smt. Justice Pushpa Sathyanarayana, JM

Sd/-
Dr. Satyagopal Korlapati, EM

O.A. No.180/2023 (SZ) &
I.A. Nos.128/2023, 57/2024 (SZ)
O.A. No.183/2023 (SZ) &
O.A. No.59/2024(SZ)
24th January, 2025. AD.