

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

ORIGINAL APPLICATION No 156 OF 2023

IN THE MATTER OF:

THOTA GANGA RAJU, ANDHRA PRADESH

.....APPLICANT

VS

The Principal Secretary, Water Resources

(Irrigation) Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh

& Ors

..... Respondents

REPORT FILED BY THE 4TH RESPONDENT APPCB

DATE- 08 -11-2023



**M/s MADHURI DONTI REDDY
ADVOCATE**

**STANDING COUNSEL FOR GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
A.P. POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

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**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE BENCH AT CHENNAI
Original Application No. 156 of 2023**

Thota Ganga Raju ,Andhra Pradesh

Applicant

Versus

The Principal Secretary,
Water Resources (Irrigation) Department,
Government of Andhra Pradesh & Ors.

...RESPONDENTS

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Place:

Dt.: 06/11/2023.


For A.P. Pollution Control Board
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
ANDHRA PRADESH POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
REGIONAL OFFICE, ELURU.

**REPORT OF A.P. POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD IN THE MATTER OF
O.A.No.156 of 2023 (SZ).**

1. The Original Application (O.A.) No.156 of 2023 has been registered in the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Southern Zone(SZ), Chennai on representation of the Sri Thota Ganga Raju, Tundurru Village, Bhimavaram Mandal, West Godavari District regarding water pollution of Adavikodu Channel due to discharges of sewage & toilet waste of Srungavruksham Gram Panchayat, Palakoderu Mandal, West Godavari District through irrigation field Bhodhe/Pipe No.10 and illegal fish/prawn culture water.
2. The Hon'ble NGT (SZ) in its Order dt.10.10.2023 directed the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board(APPCB) to inspect the in question and file a detailed report along with the remedial measures, if any, required. The case is listed on 09.11.2023. The copy of the order is enclosed as **Annexure – A**.
3. The APPCB Officials inspected the Adavikodu Irrigation Canal at Srungavruksham Village and its surroundings on 26.10.2023. The applicant Sri Thota Ganga Raju and Sarpanch of Dusanapudi Village & Matyapuripalem Village were accompanied the APPCB officials at the time of inspection. The inspection photographs are enclosed as **Annexure – B**.
4. The Adavikodu Channel is an irrigation canal of river Godavari. It is flows from Vendra Village to Srungavruksham village. It is divided into two streams, one stream is flows towards Tundurru Village & other 7 Villages (Srungavruksham, Bantumilli, Dusanapudi, Matyapuripalem, Kamsalapalli, Jonnalagaruvu & Kamsali Bethapudi) called as Tundurru Branch Channel (also called left bank of Adivikodu Channel) and another stream is flows towards Vempa Village & other 7 Villages (Immapalli, Bethapudi, Kanukuvada, Pedagaruvu, China Garuvu, Rajula Garuvu, Vartippa) called as Mutyamkodu Irrigation canal (also called right bank of Adivikodu Channel). The Tundurru Branch Channel ends at Kamsali Bethapudi Village in Devarakodu drain and Mutyamkodu Irrigation canal ends at Vartippa Village in Upputeru drain.
5. The Tundurru Branch Channel of Adavikodu Channel is being distributed as irrigation and drinking water purpose for 7 downstream villages (Tundurru, Bantumilli, Dusanapudi, Matyapuripalem, Kamsalapalli, Jonnalagaruvu & Kamsali Bethapudi) of Tundurru Branch Channel used both irrigation and drinking water purpose after treatment.
6. It was observed that the Tundurru Branch Channel of Adavikodu Channel is flowing in Srungavruksham village. The sewage of the Srungavruksham Grampanchayat is joining to Tundurru Branch Channel of Adavikodu Channel through Irrigation Pipe No.10 (agricultural field bhodhi) and flows through 7 downstream villages. The sewage of Srungavruksham Grampanchayat also joining to Tundurru Branch Channel of Adavikodu Channel through other agricultural field bhodhi at reverse side of Kanakadurgamma Temple, Srungavruksham village. It was also observed that Sewage and Toilet pipe line outlets of Srungavruksham Grampanchayat are connected to Irrigation Pipe No.10 (agricultural field bhodhi). The Sarpanch of Dusanapudi & Matyapuripalem villages were informed that they removed sewage outlets into Tundurru Branch Channel of Adavikodu Channel. The water contamination with sewage is observed from Srungavruksham village.
7. The APPCB officials contacted the Water Resource Department at the time of inspection and they have informed that the sewage is joining from houses of Srungavruksham village through Irrigation Pipe No.10 (agricultural field bhodhi) and informed to secretary of Srungavruksham Grampanchayat which the sanitation is comes under Panchayat Raj Department.
8. The APPCB officials also contacted the secretary of Srungavruksham Grampanchayat and he informed that the Panchayat meeting was held on 21.08.2021 to divert the sewage water in the village through another route and blue print was prepared by the Village surveyors to isolate the contamination of sewage of the village.

9. The APPCB officials identified some fish/prawn culture ponds either side of the Tundurru Branch Channel of Adavikodu Channel from Srungavruksham Village to Tundurru Village. It was observed that there is no separate drainage system to divert the pond discharges after cultivation and the discharges of fish/prawn ponds are joining into Tundurru Branch Channel of Adavikodu Channel by inserted pipes. The water resource department issued notices to cultivators to remove illegal discharge pipes. Also that the water resource department removed the discharge pipes and some farmers are approached the Hon'ble High Court and get interim orders in W.P. No.4363/2022 as informed.
10. Earlier the APPCB, Regional Office, Eluru received a similar complaint from the same applicant which was forwarded from the Sub Collector, Narasapuram, West Godavari District on 17.11.2021, regarding water pollution of Adavikodu Channel due to discharges of unauthorized fish/prawn ponds and sewage of Srungavruksham Grampanchayat, Palakoderu Mandal, West Godavari District. On receipt of the complaint, the APPCB officials inspected the Adavikodu Irrigation Canal at Srungavruksham Village and its surroundings on 23.11.2021. The report with recommendation was submitted to the Sub Collector, Narasapuram, West Godavari District on 24.11.2021. The copy of the report is enclosed as **Annexure –C**.
11. Remedial measures recommended:
- The EE, APPCB, Regional Office, Eluru addressed a letter to Panchayat Secretary, Srungavruksham Village on 30.10.2023 to cover the Srungavruksham Village under Swatch Bharat and Open Defecation Free Schemes of Government of India and Government of Andhra Pradesh. The copy of the letter is enclosed as **Annexure – D**.
 - The Panchayat Raj Department may be directed to isolate the sewage contamination to drinking water source. The Rural Water Supply (RWS) under Panchayat Raj Department shall provide safe pipeline network for drawl of drinking water to supply public after treatment under Jaljeevam Mission, Govt of India.
 - The Panchayat Secretary, Srungavruksham Village shall take necessary action such as stipulating condition that there shall not be allowed discharge of sewage into nearby abutting canals while issuing Panchayat permissions for new construction of houses. The existing sewage discharge pipelines shall be routed to septic tanks as a preventive measure.
 - The sewage of Srungavruksham Village and discharges of fish/prawn ponds shall be reduced or controlled by diverting them to the nearby notified drains after treatment to avoid water pollution of Tundurru Branch Channel of Adavikodu Channel.
 - There is no industrial contamination.
12. The water samples were collected from following points and submitted to APPCB, Zonallaboratory, Visakhapatnam for analysis:
- Water sample collected from Irrigation Bhodi No.10 at Railway Track, Srungavruksham Village.
 - Water Sample collected from Irrigation Bhodhi backside of Kanakadurgamma Temple, Srungavruksham.
 - Water Sample collected from Irrigation Bhodhi No.10, Near Adavikodu Channel, Srungavruksham (Before joining into Adavikodu Channel).

- Water sample collected from Tundurru Branch Channel of Adavikodu Channel, Srungavruksham.

This report is submitted for kind consideration. The APPCB will abide by all such directions as the Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and appropriate.

Place:

Dt. : 06/11/2023.


For A.P. Pollution Control Board
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
ANDHRA PRADESH POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
REGIONAL OFFICE, ELURU.

Item No.4:-**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI***(Through Video Conference)***Original Application No.156 of 2023 (SZ)**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Thota Ganga Raju
Andhra Pradesh

...Applicant(s)

The Government of Andhra Pradesh
Rep. by its Principal Secretary,
Andhra Pradesh and Ors.

... Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 10.10.2023.**CORAM:****HON'BLE Smt. JUSTICE PUSHPA SATHYANARAYANA, JUDICIAL MEMBER****HON'BLE Dr. SATYAGOPAL KORLAPATI, EXPERT MEMBER**For Applicant(s): Mr. Thota Ganga Raju (*Party in Person*)

For Respondent(s): Mrs. Madhuri Donti Reddy for R1 to R6.

ORDER

1. Let notice be issued to all the respondents through the Tribunal as well as privately.
2. The learned counsel Mrs. Madhuri Donti Reddy accepts notice on behalf of Respondents No.1 to 6.
3. The Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board is directed to inspect the area in question and file a detailed report along with the remedial measures, if any, required.
4. Post the matter on **09.11.2023**.

Sd/-

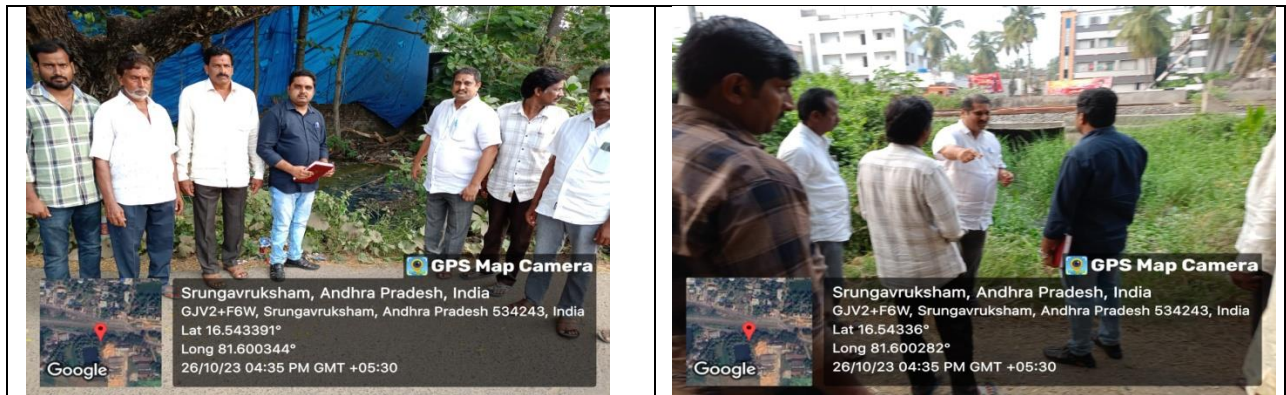
Smt. Justice Pushpa Sathyanarayana, JM

Sd/-

Dr. Satyagopal Korlapati, EM

O.A. No.156/2023 (SZ)
10th October 2023. Mn.

Inspection photos of the Adavikodu Irrigation Canal at Srungavruksham Village in connection with Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) O.A.No.156 of 2023 (SZ) filed by the applicant of Sri Thota Ganga Raju, Tundurru Village, Bhimavaram Mandal, West Godavari District.



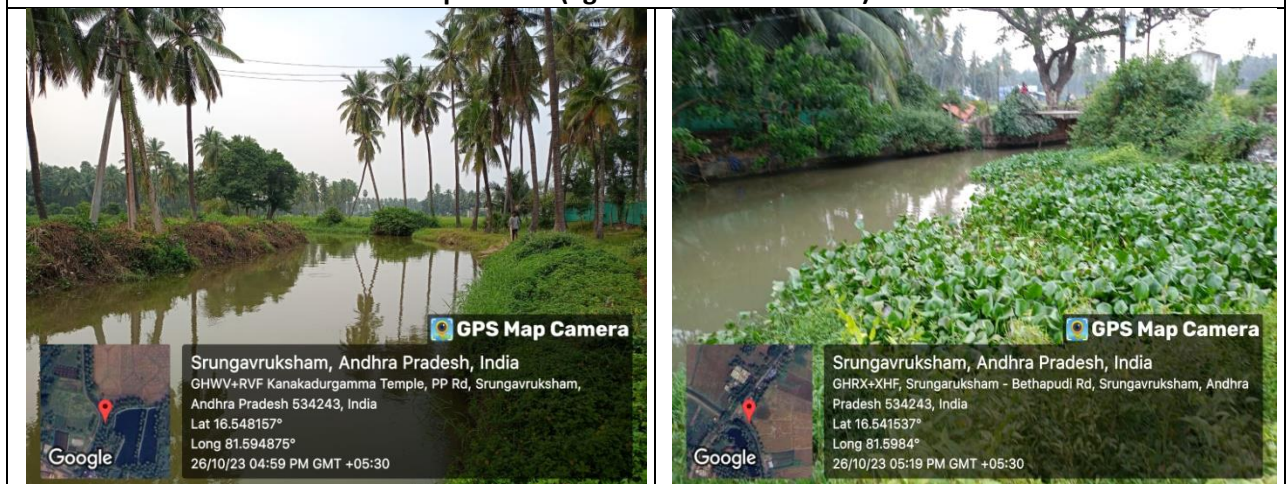
Sewage of Srungavruksham Village joins into Irrigation Pipe No.10 at Railway Track



Sewage of Srungavruksham Village joins into Irrigation Bhodhi at backside of the Kanaka Durgamma Temple Srungavruksham Village.



Sewage and Toilet pipe line outlets of Srungavruksham Grampanchayat are connected to Irrigation Pipe No.10 (agricultural filed bhodhi)



Tundurru Branch Channel of Adavikodu Channel is flowing at Srungavruksham village.



**ANDHRA PRADESH POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
REGIONAL OFFICE: ELURU**

*D.No.22B-3-2, Kaanukolanivaari Street, Powerpet Railway Station Road,
Powerpet, Eluru-534002*

K. Vijaya Mohan
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER

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Lr. No. WG-1/APPCB/RO-ELR/2021-451

Dt.24.11.2021

To
Sri C. Vishnu Charan, I.A.S,
Sub Collector,
Narsapuram,
West Godavari District.

Sir.

Sub: APPCB-RO-ELURU- Complaint filed by Sri Thota Gangaraju, Advocate & Others of Tundurru Village, Bhimavaram Mandal, West Godavari District, and it was forwarded from Sub Collector, Narsapuram regarding water pollution of Adivikodu Channel due to discharges of unauthorized fish/prawn ponds - Report – Submitted – Reg.,

Ref: 1. Complaint filed by Sri Thota Gangaraju, Advocate & Others of Tundurru Village, Bhimavaram Mandal, West Godavari District, forwarded from Sub Collector, Narsapuram on 17.11.2021.
2. Inspection of the Board officials on 23.11.2021.

It is to submit that, this office has received a complaint from Sub Collector, Narsapuram, on 17.11.2021, filed by Sri Thota Gangaraju, Advocate & Others of Tundurru Village, Bhimavaram Mandal, West Godavari District regarding water pollution of Adivikodu Channel due to discharges of unauthorized fish/prawn ponds. The complainant also alleged that, the Adivikodu Channel is being used as drinking water source of Tundurru & other surrounding villages. But, it was polluted by sewage of upstream villages of Adivi Kodu Channel, thereby causing health problems.

In this connection, the Board officials inspected Adivikodu Channel and its surroundings on 24.11.2021. During inspection, the complainant Sri Thota Gangaraju, Advocate was accompanied with the Board Officials. At the time of inspection, the following observations were made:

1. Adivikodu Channel is an irrigation canal that originates at the Venda Village and flows towards Srungavruksham Village. From Srungavruksham Village Railway Gate, the adivikodu channel is divided into two streams, one stream is runs through Vempa village and another stream starts from Srungavruksham Village which is called as Tundurru irrigation canal and

- flows through Srungavruksham, Dusanapudi, Matyepuripalem and Tundurru Villages. It ends in Devarakodu drain near Kamsali Bethapudi Village.
2. The stream of Adivikodu Channel i.e., Tundurru irrigation canal is being used as drinking water source of Tundurru & other surrounding villages. Sewage of Srungavruksham Village is joining into Tundurru irrigation canal through sewage outlet at Srungavruksham Village (16.54145 & 81.59825).
 3. The sewage of Dusanapudi & Matyepuripalem villages also joining into Tundurru irrigation canal through sewage outlets at Anjaneya Swamy Temple, Dusanapudi Village (16.50549 & 81.59393) and at Matyepuripalem (16.50434 & 81.59353).
 4. Prawn Ponds were existed on either side of the Tundurru irrigation canal in an extent of about 3.5 Acres at Dusanapudi Village (16.50549 & 81.59393) & about 20 Acres were there nearby Tundurru irrigation canal at Matyepuripalem Village (16.49636 & 81.59287) and 5 Acres were there nearby Tundurru irrigation canal at Tundurru Village. There is no separate drainage system to divert the pond discharges and ultimately the discharges of prawn ponds released into Tundurru irrigation canal. During inspection, no discharges were observed.
 5. The tundurru village is drawing the water from Tundurru irrigation canal into well. From the well, they are lifting the water through pump house and storing it at village storage tank (pond) of an extent about 1.80 Acres. The water is used for drinking water purpose of tundurru village.
 6. The complainant informed that, earlier in the year 2004 a meeting was conducted with Ex MLA Palakollu, Govt Officials, some political party members and public at RDO Office, Narasapuram. In the meeting they discussed the possible ways to avoid the sewage of Srungavruksham Village joining into Tundurru irrigation canal. The public informed that, there is an alternate way to divert the Sewage of Srungavruksham Village by laying a pipeline through nearby Thokkodu drain, but it was not materialized till date.
 7. Water samples were collected from the following points and submitted to Zonal Lab, APPCB, Vijayawada for analysis:
 - Water Sample collected from Sewage outlet of Srungavruksham Village. (Before Joining into Tundurru irrigation canal)
 - Water Sample collected from Tundurru irrigation canal. (After Joining Sewage of Srungavruksham Village)
 - Water Sample collected from Tundurru irrigation canal near Anjaneya Swamy Temple at Dusanapudi Village.
 - Water Sample collected from Tundurru irrigation canal at Matyepuripalem Village.
 - Water Sample collected from Tundurru Village Water Tank.The analysis reports are to be received.

Further, it is submitted that, the Sewage of Srungavruksham, Dusanapudi & Matyepuripalem villages and discharges of prawn ponds can be reduced or controlled by diverting them to the nearby drains after treatment, to avoid water pollution of Tundurru irrigation canal.

This is submitted for favour of kind information.

Yours faithfully,







Vijaya Mohan
Kokkiligadda

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Kokkiligadda
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ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER

Copy to Sri Thota Gangaraju S/o Rangarao, Tundurru Village, Bhimavaram Mandal,
West Godavari District for information.

Inspection photos of Tundurru Irrigation canal (Adivikodu Channel) on 23.11.2021.

	
<p>Sewage of Srungavruksham (V) entering into Tundurru Irrigation canal.</p>	<p>Sewage of Srungavruksham (V) entering into Tundurru Irrigation canal.</p>
	
<p>Sewage of Srungavruksham (V) entering into Tundurru Irrigation canal.</p>	<p>Sewage of Srungavruksham (V) entering into Tundurru Irrigation canal.</p>
	
<p>Board officials contacted with complainant Sri Thota Gangaraju.</p>	<p>Sewage outlet of Srungavruksham (V).</p>



ANDHRA PRADESH POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
REGIONAL OFFICE: ELURU
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L.No.NGT OA No.156 of 2023 (SZ)/APPCB/RO-ELR/2023-370

Date: 30.10.2023

To
 The Panchayat Secretary
 Srungavruksham Village,
 Palakoderu Mandal,
 West Godavari District.

Sir,

Sub: APPCB-RO-ELURU - The Original Application (O.A.) No.156 of 2023 has been registered in Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Southern Bench, Chennai on representation of the Sri Thota Ganga Raju, Tundurru Village, Bhimavaram Mandal, West Godavari District regarding water pollution of Adavikodu Channel due to discharges of sewage & toilet waste of Srungavruksham Gram Panchayat, Palakoderu Mandal, West Godavari District through irrigation field Bhodhe/Pipe No.10 and illegal fish/prawn culture water- Reg.,

Ref: Inspection of the APPCB Officials on 26.10.2023.

* * *

It is to inform that, the Original Application (O.A.) No.156 of 2023 has been registered in Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Southern Bench, Chennai on representation of the Sri Thota Ganga Raju, Tundurru Village, Bhimavaram Mandal, West Godavari District regarding water pollution of Adavikodu Channel due to discharges of sewage & toilet waste of Srungavruksham Gram Panchayat, Palakoderu Mandal, West Godavari District through irrigation field Bhodhe/Pipe No.10 and illegal fish/prawn culture water.

The APPCB Officials inspected the Adavikodu Irrigation Canal at Srungavruksham Village and its surroundings on 26.10.2023. The following observations were made during inspection:

1. The Tundurru Brach Channel of Adavikodu Channel is flowing in Srungavruksham village and it was observed that the sewage of the Srungavruksham Grampanchayat is joining to Tundurru Brach Channel of Adavikodu Channel through Irrigation Pipe No.10 (agricultural filed bhodhi) and flows through 7 downstream villages. The sewage of Srungavruksham Grampanchayat also joining to Tundurru Brach Channel of Adavikodu Channel through other agricultural filed bhodhi at backside of Kanakadurgamma Temple, Srungavruksham village.
2. It was also observed that Sewage and Toilet pipe line outlets of Srungavruksham Grampanchayat are connected to Irrigation Pipe No.10 (agricultural filed bhodhi). The Sarpanch of Dusanapudi & Matyapuripalem villages were informed that they removed sewage outlets into Tundurru Brach Channel of Adavikodu Channel.
3. There is no sewage collection and disposal system in the Srungavruksham village.
4. There is no industrial pollution observed.

In view of the above, the Panchayat Secretary is requested to initiate necessary action to cover the Srungavruksham village under Swatch Bharat and Open Defecation Free Schemes of Government of India and Government of Andhra Pradesh to avoid such contamination. The Panchayat Secretary shall take necessary action such as stipulating condition that there shall not be allowed discharge of sewage into nearby abutting canals while issuing Panchayat permissions for construction of houses. The existing sewage discharge pipelines shall be routed to septic tanks as a preventive measure.

KATAKAM
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 ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER

Copy to the District Panchayat Officer (DPO), West Godavari District to initiate action for drawel of drinking water and supply of safe drinking water to public under Jaljeevan Mission, Govt of India.