

Item No. 03

(Court No. 1)

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

(By Video Conferencing)

Original Application No.164/2022

S. Srinivas Rao & Ors.

Applicant(s)

Versus

State of Andhra Pradesh

Respondent

Date of hearing: 05.04.2022

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ADARSH KUMAR GOEL, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDHIR AGARWAL, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE PUSHPA SATHYANARAYANA, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE PROF. A. SENTHIL VEL, EXPERT MEMBER**

Application is registered based on a complaint received by post

ORDER

1. Grievance in this application is against unscientific dumping of marble slurry on agricultural land near Harischandrapuram railway station, Kotabommali Mandal, Srikakulam District, Andhra Pradesh, adversely affecting the environment and public health. Marble slurry in question is generated from the Marble Polish units located at Nimmada, Peddabammidi and Yetturallapdu, in violation of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. 700 stone cutting and polishing units were located in Tandur which have now been shifted to the industrial area. Adverse impact of dumping of marble slurry is air pollution affecting the public health as well as the agricultural land in the area due to increased salinity of soil,

micronutrient deficiency and reduced percolation of water. Fine particles of slurry settle on the crops and degrade the quality of resources. Water quality of irrigation canal gets deteriorated which in turn adversely affect the eco-system.

2. Suggestions given in the application are:-

- “1) Marble Slurry dumping site may be located within the existing marble processing premises or it may be located at isolated locations preferably 01 KM away from any notified habitat area human habitation at suitable location as approved by the SPCB/PCC and shall be provided with proper approach roads for safe transportation of marble slurry.
- 2) The marble slurry dumping site shall not be located on the 100-year flood plain where it will restrict the flow and marble slurry dumping site should be located at least at a distance of 1000 meters away from any natural or artificial water bodies.
- 3) The existing marble dumping site should take adequate measures such that the runoff from the marble slurry dumping site should not be allowed to go into the surface water or any natural or artificial water bodies. SPCB/PCC should monitor the adequate measures made at old dumping sites.
- 4) The dumping site shall be designed, constructed, operated and maintained at least for a period of 15 years. The base & side of dumping site should be of 01 meter or thicker with compacted clay lining having hydraulic conductivity, to eliminate any seepage. The dumping site should also provide proper water decanting system like decanting well or network of perforated PVC pipes at the bottom of site for collection of slurry water.”

3. Having regard to the averments in the application, we consider it necessary to require verification of factual position and remedial action by statutory authorities.

4. Accordingly we constitute a joint Committee comprising CPCB, State PCB and District Magistrate, Srikakulam to undertake visit to the site, interact with the stakeholders and prepare an action plan. State

PCB will be the nodal agency for coordination and compliance. The Committee may meet within two weeks, undertake visit to the site and interact with the stakeholders. The Committee may ascertain the present consent practices of slurry disposal at notified sites as per Air and Water Acts, prescribed consent conditions for slurry generating industries for slurry utilisation and preventing damage to the environment, including agriculture and remediation of existing site(s).

5. Based on facts found, the statutory regulators may take remedial action as per law. An action taken report may be furnished to this Tribunal within two months by e-mail at judicial-ngt@gov.in preferably in the form of searchable PDF/ OCR Support PDF and not in the form of Image PDF.

List for further consideration on 20.07.2022.

A copy of this order along with the copy of complaint be forwarded to CPCB, State PCB and District Magistrate, Srikakulam by e-mail for compliance.

Adarsh Kumar Goel, CP

Sudhir Agarwal, JM

Pushpa Sathyanarayana, JM

Prof. A. Senthil Vel, EM

April 05, 2022
Original Application No.164/2022
SN