

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

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: 01.04.2024

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

Respondent: Mr. Shrinivas B.S., Adv. for R - 2
Mr. Mukesh Kumar, Adv. for KSPCB (Through VC)
Mr. Darpan K.M. & Mr. Durgha Prakash, Advs. for the State of Karnataka
(Through VC)

ORDER

1. This OA is registered *suo motu* on the basis of the news item titled "Bengaluru stadium to get treated water supply for IPL matches amid crisis" appearing in 'India Today' dated 21.03.2024.

2. The news item relates to the supply of treated water to M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru for the upcoming Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024 matches amid the water crisis. The news item reveals that the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) upon the request of Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) has permitted supply of treated water to the Stadium from the Cubbon Park Wastewater Treatment Plant. As per the news item, there are currently three matches scheduled in Bengaluru and approximately 75,000 liters of water is required per day at the Stadium during the matches. The news item also discloses that Bengaluru is currently facing a shortage of 500 million liters of water per day against the actual requirement of 2,600 MLD and that out of 14,000 borewells in the city, 6,900 have dried and KWSSB has

even banned the use of drinking water for car washing, gardening, construction and maintenance work in Bengaluru but has permitted the use of such huge quantity of water in the stadium for the purpose of holding matches.

3. The news item raises substantial issue relating to compliance of the environmental norms.

4. Power of the Tribunal to take up the matter *suo-motu* has been recognized by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of "*Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai vs. Ankita Sinha & Ors.*" reported in 2021 SCC Online SC 897.

5. Hence, we implead the following as respondents in the matter:

- (1). Karnataka State Pollution Control Board through its Member Secretary.
- (2). Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board through its Chairman.
- (3). Deputy Commissioner & District Magistrate, Bengaluru.
- (4). Karnataka State Cricket Association through its Secretary.

6. Respondents No. 1 to 3 are represented through the Counsel and they have sought three weeks' time to file their response.

7. Let notice be issued for Respondent No. 4 for filing the response.

8. The Execution Application No. 41/2023 in OA No. 94/2021 is pending before the Principal Bench of the Tribunal relating to use of groundwater and utilization of STP treated water in the stadiums and is listed on 02.05.2024. It has been pointed out that the stadium in

question is also using groundwater of which no record at present is available with the Counsel for Respondents 1 to 3.

9. Hence, Respondent No. 2 is directed to file a detailed report disclosing complete details of quantity and source of water being used in the concerned stadium and also the quality of treated water supplied. Let the same be filed at least one week before the next date of hearing 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.

10. List along with EA No. 41/2023 on 02.05.2024.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

April 01, 2024
Original Application No. 348/2024
DV