

W.P.No.40809 of 2015**THE HON'BLE CHIEF JUSTICE**
and
R.MAHADEVAN, J.

The report has been filed by the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) / the seventh respondent. It has been averred that eight ambient air quality monitoring stations are operating under TNPCB in Chennai under National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP) and are functioning on 24 hour basis and samples are collected from NAMP stations twice a week and then analysed for the Particulate Matter (PM₁₀) (PM₁₀ is particulate matter less than 10 microns size) and gaseous pollutants such as Sulphur di oxide (SO₂) and Nitrogen di Oxides (NO₂). The result of the aforesaid is reflected as under:

Area	Annual average concentrations of pollutants in µg/m3			
Industrial, Residential, Rural & Other areas	SO ₂	NO ₂	PM ₁₀	
	50	40	60	
	24 hrs average concentrations of Pollutants in µg/m3			
	SO ₂	NO ₂	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
	80	80	100	60

The ambient air quality data collected from the above mentioned air quality monitoring stations (NAMP) indicate that the parameters such as sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide are found to be well controlled in Chennai including the industrial area. The average values of Respirable Suspended Particulates levels

exceeded the standard in Chennai at Kilpauk, Thiyagarayanagar, Nungambakkam and Anna Nagar Monitoring stations (NAMP).

The exceedance of Particulate Matter (PM_{10}) levels at few stations in Chennai city are mainly due to the Metro Rail work, dust contributed by pipe line, telephone/electrical cable laying activities on the road and also due to the re-suspension of traffic dust generated from automobile emissions and heavy vehicular traffic and pedestrian movement. The average values of pollutants recorded at the above monitoring stations under NAMP programme during the period 2015-2016 are in Annexure-VI.

2. Similarly, in Thoothukudi, Coimbatore, Salem, Madurai, Trichy, Cuddalore and Mettur, the NAMP stations are functioning in a similar manner and the data analysis shows that the parameters such as sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide are found to be well controlled at all the aforesaid places. The average value of PM_{10} are found to exceed the permissible limits in certain locations due to increase in number of vehicles and the surface dust generated by vehicular movement, as also due to digging and laying activities for pipelines, electrical and telephone cables and due to heavy commercial and industrial activities.

3. The Emission Under Control Certificates (EUCC) for all vehicles are issued by the private emission testing centres authorised by the Transport Department under Rule 116 (b) of the Tamil Nadu Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 and the TNPCB is not concerned with the same.

4. In pursuance to the directions passed by this Court, air quality near the traffic movement areas in the aforesaid cities and locations were carried out and it was found that the values of SO_2 and NO_2 are within the prescribed limits, whereas the values of PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ are exceeding in some locations, major sources of which is vehicular emission, vehicular movement and road dust.

5. The Ambient Air Quality in traffic intersection areas of major cities of Tamil Nadu on the basis of 24 hour monitoring data has been found to be as under:

<i>S.No</i>	<i>Name of the City</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Date of monitoring</i>	<i>Parameters, $\mu g/m^3$</i>			
				<i>PM_{10}</i>	<i>$PM_{2.5}$</i>	<i>SO_2</i>	<i>NO_2</i>
1.	Erode	Traffic Police post (Swastic Roundana)	June 12-13, 2015	182	98	36	53
		Traffic Police Post (PS Park Roundana)	June 12-13, 2015	112	61	29	45
2.	Namakkal	Sowrastra Thirumanamandabam (Near Bus Stand)	Feb 4-5, 2016	86	-	16	32
		Police Station Building (Trichy Road)	Feb 4-5, 2016	103	-	17	28
		Veeravilas Complex Building, Trichy Road	Feb 4-5, 2016	118	-	17	28
		Municipal Office Building, Paramathi Road	Feb 4-5, 2016	100	-	19	24
		Municipal Elementary School, Kottai	Feb 4-5, 2016	100	-	17	43

S.No	Name of the City	Location	Date of monitoring	Parameters, $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$			
				PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}	SO ₂	NO ₂
3.	Trichengodu	Municipal Shopping Complex (New Bus Stand)	Feb 8-9, 2016	82	-	21	32
		Commercial Complex Building, T.Code Union Office	Feb 8-9, 2016	110	-	18	38
		Municipal Middle School Building	Feb 8-9, 2016	92	-	21	42
		Trichengodu Lorry Owners Association Building	Feb 8-9, 2016	96	-	16	26
4.	Coimbatore	Ukkadam Police Station	31, July to 1, Aug. 2015	159	51	12	46
		Annamalai Motors, Mettupalayam Road	31, July to 1, Aug. 2015	119	47	13	36
		Rathinam International Public School, Hope College Road	31, July to 1, Aug. 2015	173	54	13	41
Prescribed Standard for Ambient Air Quality (24 hours Standard)				100	60	80	80

6. In respect of the traffic movement areas in these locations, the result has been found as under:

<i>S.No</i>	<i>Name of the City</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Date of Sampling</i>	<i>Parameters, $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$</i>			
				<i>PM₁₀</i>	<i>PM_{2.5}</i>	<i>SO₂</i>	<i>NO₂</i>
1.	Cuddalore	Imperial Road	Annual	58	38	11	21
2.	Chennai	Kilpauk		79	-	15	20
		T.Nagar		94	-	15	23
		Nungambakkam		98	-	15	21
3.	Trichy	Main Guard Gate		125	27	15	22
		Central Bus Stand		124	-	14	21
4.	Coimbatore	District		45	28	4	25

<i>S.No</i>	<i>Name of the City</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Date of Sampling</i>	<i>Parameters, µg/m³</i>			
				<i>PM₁₀</i>	<i>PM_{2.5}</i>	<i>SO₂</i>	<i>NO₂</i>
		Collector Office					
5.	Madurai	Madurai Corporation Office		79	-	16	27
6.	Salem	Sowdeswari College Building		53	16	8	27
7.	Thoothukudi	AVM Building		91	-	11	15
Prescribed Standard for Ambient Air Quality (Annual Average)				60	40	50	40

7.The result of such air quality check carried out for the month of May, 2016 is as under:

<i>S.No</i>	<i>Name of the City</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Date of Sampling</i>	<i>Parameters, µg/m³</i>			
				<i>PM₁₀</i>	<i>PM_{2.5}</i>	<i>SO₂</i>	<i>NO₂</i>
1.	Cuddalore	Imperial Road	June, 2016	50	29	11	14
2.	Chennai	Kilpauk		91	-	12	18
		T.Nagar		90	-	13	19
		Nungambakkam		63	-	12	18
3.	Trichy	Main Guard Gate		134	28	13	21
		Central Bus Stand		148	-	14	23
4.	Coimbatore	District Collector Office		39	22	4	23
5.	Madurai	Madurai Corporation Office		69	-	17	27
6.	Salem	Sowdeswari College Building		47	19	6	24

<i>S.No</i> .	<i>Name of the City</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Date of Sampling</i>	<i>Parameters, $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$</i>			
				<i>PM₁₀</i>	<i>PM_{2.5}</i>	<i>SO₂</i>	<i>NO₂</i>
7.	Thoothukudi	AVM Building		134	-	12	15

8.The aforesaid, thus, shows that a constant monitoring is taking place and undoubtedly vehicular pollution is the major source of the problem, for which authorities should look into necessary measures as may be feasible.

9.No further orders are, thus, necessary in this petition.

(S.K.K., CJ.) (R.M.D.,J.)
30.08.2016

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The Hon'ble Chief Justice
and
R.Mahadevan, J.

(sra)

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