

#Naagarika - Citizens' Watch Committee

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October 17, 2018

Karnataka State Pollution Control Board

"Parisara Bhavan" #49, 4th & 5th Floor, Church Street Bangalore-560001 Represented by its Chairman Sri, Lakshman

Dear Sir:

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Subject: Complaint about illegal dumping of sewage in the rajakaluve opposite HOSMAT hospital

- 1. We are writing to you on behalf of Naagarika Citizens' Watch Committee about illegal dumping of sewage in the *rajakaluve* opposite HOSMAT hospital.
 - On September 19, 2018, a Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board tanker (Jetting Machine) bearing number KA 53 B 3472 was observed dumping untreated sewage into the *rajakaluve* opposite HOSMAT hospital. Upon being questioned by a passer-by, the driver stated that sewage was being dumped into the said *rajakaluve* on a regular basis, and that they had been instructed by the Assistant Engineer, Mr. Ramesh, and the Assistant Executive Engineer, Mr. Dinakar, to dump sewage at the said location. The driver of the jetting machine has stated that sewage is disposed untreated into water bodies as a matter of routine in all places of Bengaluru (ಮಾಮೂಲಿ ... ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಂದು ಕಡೆನೂ ನಾವು ಇದೇ ತರಹ ಬಿಡ್ತಾ ಇರೋದು). Video footage of the dumping of sewage and the statements made by the driver regarding the persons who had directed the same is annexed with this complaint (CD / DVD), along with newspaper reports of the said incident.
- 3. The said *rajakaluve* leads to Bellandur Lake, and both water bodies are already exceedingly polluted. The level of pollution in these water-bodies will spread diseases and infections amongst people in and around the vicinity of these water bodies. A large number of people live in the vicinity of these water bodies, including senior citizens and children, demographics



- I. Sri Tushar Girinath, Chairman, BWSSB
- II. Sri Dr. Kemparamaiah, Engineer-In-Chief, BWSSB
- III. Sri E.Nithyananda Kumar, Chief Engineer WWM Zone, BWSSB
- IV. Mr. Ramesh, Assistant Engineer, BWSSB
- V. Mr. Dinakar, Assistant Executive Engineer, BWSSB
- 6. In pursuance of the above-mentioned factual matrix, we approached the Station House Officer, Ashok Nagar, and lodged a complaint regarding the dumping of sewage in the *rajakaluve*. Consequently, a First Information Report bearing Crime Number 0365/2018 dated October 3, 2018 was registered against (i) driver of the tanker, (ii) Mr. Ramesh, Assistant Engineer, BWSSB, and (iii) Mr. Dinakar, Assistant Executive Engineer, BWSSB. In response, BWSSB stated that the contract has been awarded to Aryan Pumps & Enviro Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Pune, and that the said company was operating the jetting tanker. A newspaper report containing the response of the BWSSB is produced herewith.
- 7. The said response of the BWSSB is unacceptable and shameful. The disposal of sewage into a *rajakaluve* has occurred with the connivance and involvement of officers of the BWSSB, who were hand in glove with Aryan Pumps & Enviro Solutions Pvt. Ltd. It cannot be the case that absolutely no steps are being taken to prosecute officers of the BWSSB, or Aryan Pumps & Enviro Solutions Pvt. Ltd. along with the employees in charge of its business. In connection with this, Section 47 of the Water Act pertains to offences committed by companies, and states that every person, who at the time the offence was committed was in charge of, and was responsible to the company for the conduct of, the business of the company, as well as the company, shall be deemed to be guilty of the offence. Therefore, the following are liable for the above offences:
 - I. Aryan Pumps & Enviro Solutions Pvt. Ltd.
 - II. Ms. Deepa Prashant Sutar, Director, Aryan Pumps & Enviro Solutions Pvt. Ltd.
 - III. Mr. Prashant Subhash Sutar, Director, Aryan Pumps & Enviro Solutions Pvt. Ltd.
 - IV. Mr. Umesh Shrimant Patil, Director, Aryan Pumps & Enviro Solutions Pvt. Ltd.



dumping waste into a lake be made liable to pay environmental compensation of Rs. 5,00,000/-. The said order of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal is attached hereto for your reference, and the relevant portion of the order is at Paragraph No. 2 of Page No. 10.

11. Public servants are entrusted with the duty to protect and preserve lakes. However, BWSSB officials have, in wilful negligence of their duties and in connivance with Aryan Pumps & Enviro Solutions Pvt. Ltd., failed to take any measures to curb the pollution of the said *rajakaluve* or Bellandur Lake, and have, through their actions, worsened the situation. The actions of these public servants amount to wilful contravention of their statutory duties to conserve water bodies and have caused grave injury to the public at large. Therefore, the public servants are liable to be punished. We request that appropriate action be initiated.

Yours faithfully,

H. S. Doreswamy

H.S. DOVINDAL

Sr Freedom Fighter

Suresh N. R.

Convener - United Bengaluru

(SUNDSH.N.R)

M. Lakshmikantha

Research Associate - Namma Bengaluru Foundation