

The Tamilnadu Government has enacted a Ground Water Regulation Act No.27 of 1987 to regulate and control the extraction, use or transport of ground water and to conserve ground water in certain areas in the State of Tamil Nadu.

As per this Act under clause 3(2) any person desiring to sink a well / bore in Chennai Metropolitan area shall apply to CMWSSB for the grant of a permit for this purpose and shall not proceed with any activity connected with such sinking unless a permit has been granted by CMWSSB. Also under clause (5) of this act, no person shall extract or use ground water in Chennai Metropolitan area for any purpose other than domestic purpose and also for transporting ground water by means of any lorry trailer proper permit has to be obtained from CMWSSB.

In one of the occasions, on receipt of complaint from the public of Madhavaram, Manjambakkam and Milk colony area, that the ground water is being extracted by sinking borewells and using electric motors. CMWSSB officials have inspected these places and noticed that ground water is being extracted at an average depth of 150 to 200 ft. from seven borewells with electric motor without obtaining any permission from the competent authority. Water is being sold to hotels, Business complexes & multistoried buildings. The motors and pipelines used for the extraction of ground water have been seized for violation of the said act.