

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

**IN**

**ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 268 of 2017**

Petitioner : A.P Mathew

Versus

Respondents : Chief Conservator, Forest & Others

**VOLUME 1**

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Dated this the 6<sup>th</sup> day of October 2020

**Rema Smrithi**, Advocate  
ADDITIONAL STANDING COUNSEL FOR THE RESPONDENT

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SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

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**ADDITIONAL REPORT FILED BY THE SENIOR  
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER, REGIONAL OFFICE,  
ERNAKULAM FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE KERALA STATE  
POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD AS PER THE ORDER DATED  
30.09.2020**

Adv.Rema Smrithi.

ADDITIONAL STANDING COUNSEL FOR THE RESPONDENT:

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**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
SOUTHERN BENCH, CHENNAI**

**Original Application 268/2017 (SZ)**

**A.P Mathew**

Vs

**Chief Conservator, Forest Department Kerala, & Others**

**ADDITIONAL REPORT FILED BY THE SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL  
ENGINEER, REGIONAL OFFICE, ERNAKULAM FOR AND ON BEHALF OF  
THE KERALA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD AS PER THE ORDER  
DATED 30.09.2020**

I, Vinaya K. S., Aged 49 Years, W/o K R Manoj, working as Senior Environmental Engineer, Kerala State Pollution Control Board Regional Office, Ernakulam do hereby submit that I am authorised to represent the 4<sup>th</sup> respondent and that I am conversant with the facts of the said case and I may state as follows:

1. I may humbly submit that the recent order dated 30.09.2020 in the above-mentioned original application is specifically giving instructions to the Board and the committee to submit their report respectively to the Tribunal and the next hearing was posted on 08.10.2020.
2. It is respectfully submitted that, Cheruthoni river which is located in Idukki District, flows through the Cheruthoni town. It is a part of the Periyar River system. River Periyar originates from Sivgiri hills in Western Ghatts, joins with Mullayar at Mullaperiyar dam. From the downstream of Mullaperiyar dam River Periyar flows through Vandiperiyar and reaches Idukki, - Cheruthoni - Kulamav dam systems. Idukki dam is constructed across the river Periyar and the dam has no shutter to release excess water. Instead Cheruthoni dam is provided with shutters. Cheruthoni river originates from the downstream of Cheruthoni dam. It joins with river Periyar at Vellakkayam. But river Periyar is practically not existing for a certain length between downstream of Idukki dam and Vellakkayam as the Idukki dam has no shutters. During summer season, the



*Vinaya*  
VINAYA K.S.  
Senior Environmental Engineer

Cheruthoni Rivers almost barren at Cheruthoni town and only seeping from Cheruthoni dam makes a lean flow.

3. It is submitted that, as per the direction in the Order on OA 268/2017, dated 19.06.2020, the Cheruthony River, its premises and Cheruthony town was inspected by the Board official on 14.09.2020. There are a number of small restaurants, lodges commercial establishments and residential apartments on one bank of the river. The other bank is almost free land. A non-perennial stream, flowing through the Cheruthoni town joins the Cheruthoni River. Samples from the river Cheruthoni was collected and analyzed. Analysis report of the river water are enclosed as **Annexure R4(a)**. In all the commercial as well as residential establishments, septic tank – soak pit system provided for black water which are located at the bank of the river. Almost all the restaurants have leach pit like collection system for collecting wash water. Inspection was conducted to all establishments and verified their system of waste water disposal. The details are given below:

Name of Establishment	Activity	Waste disposal facility
Hotel Taj	Restaurant	Closed condition
Thoufeeq Hotel and Restaurant	Restaurant with 56 seats	Underground tank is provided within the building. Wash water finally percolated to soil. Septic tank soak pit for black water.
Hotel Stone age:	Hotel	Provided Sewage Treatment Plant and soak pit. Hotel is Under renovation works.
Hotel Sapphire	Restaurant with 24 seats	Underground collection tank provided
Pappens hotel	Restaurant	Closed.
Natuaral foods	Chicken stall	Underground tank provide for wash water.
Uppum Mulakum - Kantahris	Restaurant with 10 seats	Underground tank provided.
Kurinji Tourist home	No Restaurant, 7 rooms,	Septic tanks soak pit.



*Vinaya*  
VINAYA K.S.  
Senior Environmental Engineer

Shikkara tourist home	No Restaurant, Tourist home 24 rooms	Septic tanks soak pit.
Central hotel	Restaurant with 24 seats	Collection tank provided.
Janakeeya hotel	Restaurant with less than 5 seats	No facility for wash water disposal.
Apsara residency	No Restaurant, Tourist home with 13 rooms	Septic tank soak pit
Hotel Aswathy	Restaurant with 26 seats	Underground collection tank.
Hotel Bismilla	Restaurant with 28 seats	Underground collection tank.

4. It is submitted that, due to the presence of Thick vegetation at the banks a detailed verification could not be conducted for finding any unauthorized discharges to the river. The analysis report of the water collected from the river at Cheruthoni town revealed that contamination of the river water is mainly bacterial and it is caused by the discharge of domestic waste water in this stretch. Also pollution due to plastic waste was observed in the river. Actions have been initiated for bringing the above units under the statutory regime if required and to provide adequate waste treatment facilities.
5. It is respectfully submitted that in the original petition it was mentioned about a check dam, pay and park area and latrine were constructed in the river. It was noticed during inspection that the check dam was partially destroyed in the flood. Also pay and park area, and toilet mentioned in the original application were not seen existing; instead now a public toilet is seen existing near the bus stand. Septic tank soak pit system is provided for sewage disposal. In the petition they have mentioned, an illegal crusher. The crusher unit namely CMJ granites is situated far away from the river and it is not functioning now. The Crusher does not have valid consent of the Board.

All that is stated above are true to the best of my knowledge information and belief.

Dated this the 6<sup>th</sup> day of October 2020.



*Vinayes*  
Deponent

(Senior Environmental Engineer)