

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
(SOUTHERN ZONE BENCH, CHENNAI)  
IN  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 100 OF 2021 (SZ)**

**REPORT SUBMITTED BY THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR, PALAKKAD**

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Dated at Chennai on this the 17<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2022.

**M/s. E.K.KUMARESAN**

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Dated : 01/11/2021

**Detailed report submitted by the District Collector, Palakkad in OA 100 of 2021 before the Honourable National Green Tribunal (NGT), SZ, Chennai as per the Order dated 01.10.2021 of the Tribunal**

1. The background of the OA No. 100 of 2021 (SZ) before the National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone, Chennai in the matter of Tribunal on its own motion Suo Moto based on the news item published in The Hindu Newspaper, Chennai Edition dated 09.04.2021. " Dumping of garbage foiled near Anamalai, trucks seized" is that solid waste mixed with some biomedical waste brought from Kerala was illegally dumped at a place in Anamalai district of Tamilnadu.
2. In the Order dated 01.10.2021, the Honourable Tribunal ordered among the other things, that the Palakkad District Collector was directed to ascertain the supervisory mechanism undertaken by them were properly implemented to avoid such things being repeated in future and file a detailed report regarding the same.
3. It is submitted that as per the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, Rule 12 (b) specifies that it is the duty of the District Magistrate (District Collector) to review the performance of local bodies, at least once in a quarter, on waste segregation, procuring, treatment and disposal and take corrective measures in consultation with other stake – holders. In OA 606 of 2018 before the Hon'ble NGT, The Tribunal had ordered formation of State Level Monitoring Committees (SLMC) to oversee the implementation of environmental laws. SLMC had further ordered formation of District Level Monitoring Committees (DLMC) in each district. District Collector is the Chairperson of the DLMC. The DLMC of Palakkad district is convened periodically, till now eight meetings have been convened. The last meeting was convened on 09.08.2021 and the one before that was on 16.06.2021.

4. In the DLMC meeting the foremost agenda discussed is the status of solid waste collection, storage, treatment and disposal of local bodies. It is targeted that all the local bodies achieve 100 percent collection and the gaps identified are directed to be rectified within fixed time line. In the district hundred percent of the local bodies have door to door collection system. All of them have either permanent or temporary material collection facilities called MCF. Resource Recovery Facility (RRF) are functional in six municipalities, 4 blocks and 6 panchayaths, where processing of plastic waste take place. All the 95 local bodies of the district have agreement with Clean Kerala Company (a state – government agency) or authorised private agencies for collection of the plastic (recyclable) waste as well as non – recyclable waste collected by the local bodies.
5. Clean Kerala Company collects the recyclable and non – recyclable waste from the local bodies. The agency transport the recyclable waste to authorised recyclers and the non- recyclable waste to cement industries outside the state. Similarly, it is ensured by the local bodies that if private agencies are collecting the waste, it is finally reaching authorised recyclers, cement industries or other authorised agencies only.
6. One of the two common biomedical treatment facilities (CBWTF) in the state is located in Palakkad district. It is named IMAGE and was the only CBWTF till May, 2021. It processes about 55 tons per day of biomedical waste. 71 nos. Of vehicles, specifically designed and authorised by the Kerala State Pollution Control Board are utilised for collection. All these vehicles are GPS tagged. QR code system is implemented in the waste collection bags to ensure end – to – end traceability of waste collected. As per the annual report of IMAGE, Palakkad, the CBWTF, of 2020, 8238 tons of recyclable materials including plastic and glass were handed over from the facility to authorised recyclers.
7. Thus only authorised agencies like Clean Kerala Company or private agencies collect and transport solid waste. And only CBWTF handles the biomedical waste. It is ensured that any illegal transport of solid or biomedical waste does not occur from the district into neighbouring states.
8. It has been already reported before the Hon'ble Tribunal that the state government has issued guidelines vide GO (Rt) No.1673/2021/L.SGD dated 06.09.2021 for removal and transport of waste from MCF/RRF to designated disposal or treatment facilities. It will be ensured that all the departments and agencies involved comply with these guidelines henceforth and the matter will be reviewed in DLMC meetings.

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9. It is thus hereby affirmed that necessary steps are being undertaken to ensure that illegal transport of solid or biomedical waste to other steps is prevented. The direction of Hon'ble Tribunal dated 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021 is hereby complied.

Date : 01.11.2021

District Collector, Palakkad

Yours faithfully,

Encl:

Signature valid

Digitally signed by MR. JNMAI

JOSHI

Date: 2021.11.01 15:09:49 IST

Reason: Approved