

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
(SOUTHERN ZONE BENCH, CHENNAI)  
IN  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 141 OF 2021 (SZ)**

BETWEEN

Tribunal on its own motion Suo Motu based on the News item In Kerala Kaumudi Newspaper, web edition Dated 06.06.2021, "A New Ray of Life for Pallikkalar."

AND

The Principal Secretary to Govt of Kerala and Ors

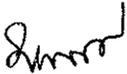
... Respondents

**ACTION TAKEN REPORT FILED BY SECRETARY, WATER  
RESOURCES DEPARTMENT/2<sup>ND</sup> RESPONDENT**

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Dated at Chennai on this the 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022.



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

Standing Counsel for State Government of Kerala - NGT(SZ) Chennai Bench



**ACTION TAKEN REPORT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE ORDER DATED 30.09.2022 OF HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL IN OA141/2021 SUO MOTO BASED ON THE DE-CONTAMINATION OF PALLICKAL RIVER**

Pallikkal River is one of the smallest river of Kerala (42Km) originating from the lower foothills of the Western Ghats near Kodumon in Pathanamthitta district and ends in the Vattakayal in Kollam district with a drainage area of 220 sqkm.

Natural characteristics of Pallickal River are getting changed due to extensive sand mining, waste disposal including slaughter housewaste, huge amount of plastic more particularly from Karunagapally market and from Kannyetty, Chambakadavu and Kallukadavu area, causing deep torrential water flow in the river and stagnant water at some other locations leading a total menace to the Pallikkal River. There is also heavy sewage discharge and urban run-off in the middle and the upper courses. This prevents flow of fresh water into the river's lower course.

For the conservation and protection of Pallickal River, several works were carried out by Irrigation Department. To keep natural flow of river by removing flood waste, plastic waste and spoil, many works were arranged using Disaster Management and Flood Control and Flood damage works etc. About 37236.275 m<sup>3</sup> waste and spoil has been removed through the de-silting works till 2021. The following works include conservation of Pallickal River wherein fencing is provided at various places to prevent deposit of waste into the river.

1. Jilla Panchayath - Conservation of Pallickal River- Construction of Kadavu and allied works on left bank of Pallickal River near Anayadi Bridge in Sooranad North Panchayath- 6.5 Lakhs
2. Jilla Panchayath - Conservation of Pallickal River- Construction of Kadavu and allied works at Ambiyil kadavu on right bank of Pallickal River at Sooranad North Panchayath.- 8.00 Lakhs

In addition to the above works there were 21 works executed through room for river and 9130 m<sup>3</sup> of spoil and plastic waste mixed

*[Handwritten signature]*

with clay was removed before the South West Monsoon season of 2022. This helps to regain original depth and width of river and these by achieving the natural flow through it.

Apart from the above the Manalickal thodu which is a tributary of Pallickal River and act as a garbage carrier to the river was cleaned by pre-monsoon works. The 200m of the above thodu (from downstream of Erottu Palam bridge to mouth point when it meet Pallickal river) was de-silted and 1231.12 m<sup>3</sup> of waste and spoil which causes obstruction to flow and causing environmental issues. Execution of this work helped to avoid pollution issues of the river to an extent.

Rejuvenation of Pallickal River in Pathanamthitta district was included in the State budget 2021-22 Sl.No. 475 of Appendix II, Vol .II for implementing through Irrigation department. AS per GO(Rt)No.62/2022/WRD dated 25.01.2022 Administrative Sanction was accorded for the rejuvenation of Pallickal river for an amount of 8.00 Crores under the head of account 4711-01-103-99-01-00-PV.

The Proposal mainly includes:

1. Fencing both banks of river at town areas to avoid throwing of waste into the river and placing of surveillance camera.
2. Cross bars at suitable locations so that the water can be stored and supplied for both domestic and agricultural purposes as and when necessary.
3. Desilting the river where ever necessary to regulate and allow free flow of water.
4. Embankment protection by constructing retaining wall.

Regarding encroachment mentioned in the Order , it is reported that the extent of encroachment can be ascertained only after demarcating the boundary of encroachment. This can be done only after detailed survey by Revenue department.

PRANABJYOTI NATH IAS  
SECRETARY  
Water Resources Department

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

**Original Application No. 15 of  
2020**

**BETWEEN**

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