

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
(SOUTHERN ZONE BENCH, CHENNAI)
IN
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 142 OF 2013 (SZ)**

**PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE COMPLIANCE OF JUDGEMENT DATED
31/8/2017 OF THE HON'BLE NGT**

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Dated at Chennai on this the 22nd day of April, 2022.

M/s. E.K.KUMARESAN

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

Preliminary Report on the compliance of judgment dated 31/8/2017 of the Hon'ble NGT in Applications- OA142/13, 290/13, 453/13 filed by Sri. Joy Kaitharath, Sri. Suresh Kumar & Smt. Kamalakshy Amma

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal passed the following directions with respect to the judgment dated 31/8/2017 :

a)Directed the first respondent KMML to deposit a sum of Rs. 1 .00.00,000/- (Rupees One Crore only) under "polluter pays" principle in favour of Chairman, Kerala State Pollution Control Board" who shall keep the said amount in a separate account named as Environment relief fund for remediation of Chavara Region due to pollution caused by KMML". The said amount which shall be managed by the Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala and Chairman, Kerala State Pollution Control Board jointly, shall be utilised for remediation and or for distribution to affected 157 persons either as per the direction of this Tribunal or as per the decision of the State Government.

b)The KMML and the State Pollution Control Board shall file their periodical compliance report to the Registry of National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone once in three months beginning with quarter ending on 30.11.2017 followed by quarter ending with 28.02.2018, 31.05.2018 and 3 1.08.2018 by the 10th of every succeeding month which shall be placed before the Bench for further directions. The KMML and the Kerala Pollution Control Board shall also display the quarterly compliance reports on their website

As per the directions in the Judgment, Kerala Minerals and Metals Limited has taken following actions:

- a. Handed over the DD for Rs. 1 Crore to Kerala State Pollution Control Board on 22.09.2017.
- b. Started preparation of DPR for the long term and short term measures recommended by M/s NEERI.
- c. Provides drinking water to the local residents in sufficient quantities.

As per the judgment of the Hon'ble NGT dated 31/8/2017, the iron oxide generated in KMML is of non- hazardous nature. Company prepared the schedule for both short term and long term measures to mitigate environmental impacts as suggested by M/s NEERI to execute through competent and expert developers/ contractors with suitable time frame for completion and presenting the design to the Kerala State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) for its approval. KSPCB already

approved the DPR prepared for short term measures.

Action plan and current status in respect of the various term measures taken by KMML is detailed below:

Short Term Measures

Item	Work status	Target	Remarks
Construction of garland drain around the iron oxide (IOP)/ Effluent Treatment Plant(ETP) ponds	Work order for the construction of Garland drain around new ETP/IOP and old ETP/IOP has been issued on 08.10.2019 and 08.04.2021 respectively and the works are now progressing.	Time frame set is 6 months (August 2022)	About 75% of garland work around New ETP and 25% around Old ETP has been completed
Remediation of affected land near KMML premises.	Work Order for the Test patch for remediation of contaminated area inside KMML premises and its consultancy works on 05.12.2019 to M/s FEDO. They have submitted a detailed project report with schematic drawing and lay out of the contaminated land remediation work. Tendering was done in three occasions i.e, 25.02.2020, 24.06.2020 & 19.08.2020 and no response have been received. Due to non-receipt of offers, action for doing the activity on trial basis has been initiated. Land preparation for land remediation sample Test patch area development activities have been started on trial basis inside KMML.	Time Frame Set is One year (February 2023)	Land Preparation for the Test Patch Unit started in March 2022
Solid waste management in	Considering the constraint for shifting the entire quantity of	Time set is One year	Stage - 1 of this work can be

<p>KMML (In-situ/Ex-situ storage) - Geotube</p>	<p>sludge to newly proposed containment system and limitation of vacant land availability, another technological option was identified and the new technology involves dewatering and storage of solid waste using GEOTUBES. As per the request of Geotube suppliers, KMML submitted request to KSPCB on 23/02/22 for Environmental clearance approval to go ahead with the collection and containment of Iron oxide slurry in Geotubes from the elevated new iron oxide pond. Dewatered Iron oxide solids can be done and be safely transferred to offsite once the proposal is implemented.</p>	<p>after getting approval from KSPCB</p>	<p>completed in a period of 8-10 months</p>
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Long Term Measures

Item	Work Status	Target	Remarks
<p>Acid Regeneration Plant (ARP) technology modification to generate saleable iron oxide.</p>	<p>Global Tender was invited from technology providers for the process modification of existing Acid Regeneration Plant on 10.06.2019. The offer submitted by M/s INDROX GLOBAL PVT LTD is evaluated, approved by the Board in its meeting held on 15.01.2022 .</p>	<p>18 months from order</p>	<p>The project proposal is under consideration of Government</p>
<p>Value addition of by products (Iron oxide</p>	<p>KMML identified M/s Renuka Equipments Pvt Ltd, Nagpur, with the help of M/s NEERI, as</p>	<p>18-24 months</p>	

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/ETP sludge)	<p>the competent technology provider for the management of iron oxide stored in the old pond, by converting the same in to usable product. A detailed techno-commercial offer for setting up a pilot plant by M/s REPL has been received and is evaluated. The proposed technology is not a field proven one and also involves investment around Rs300 to 400 Crore on commercial scale set up.</p> <p>In order to select potential agencies to carry out value addition of iron oxide & ETP sludge on a total responsibility basis with suitable technology, company have published a global expression of Interest in March 2022. Offers were received and action has been taken to appoint a consultant to carry the technical evaluation of the proposal.</p>		
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Other Actions Initiated by KMML

Item	Work status	Target	Remarks
Iron Oxide residue Sales	<p>KMML invited e-tender for the sales of iron oxide residue for further process/value addition at end user on 19.12.2019. M/s Miracle sands and Chemicals, Tuticorin quoted for the tender and sales order was issued to the party on 09.06.2020 for shifting 10,000 MT to the end user end.</p> <p>Sales order of iron oxide sludge was extended for obtaining statutory approvals</p>		

	from TNPCB and KSPCB. M/s Miracle sands and Chemical has informed KMML that they will be visiting the site shortly for a technical discussion regarding collection/storage/transportation of Iron oxide residue and preparation of SOP. It will be put up for final sanction from Central Pollution Control Board.		
ETP sludge sales	Sales order was issued on 09.06.2020 for shifting 10,000 MT of ETP sludge from ETP pond. About 8000MT of ETP sludge has been shifted already and further shifting is in-progress.	1 year	10,000 MT sales will be completed by April 2022
Supply of adequate potable water to the people residing in and around KMML	KMML is supplying about 7 to 8 Lakh liters/day drinking water of portable quality to the local residents.	On going	In progress

Final report in this regard will be submitted once the report from the side of the Kerala State Pollution Control Board is received.

K. ASOKAN
Additional Secretary
Industries Department
Govt. Secretariat
Thiruvananthapuram

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