

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

**Application No. 237 of 2017**

Manakunnam Village Padashekara

Samrakshana Samithy

Petitioner

VS

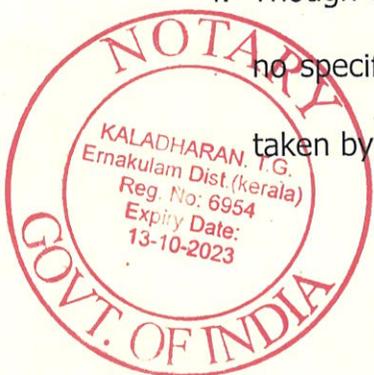
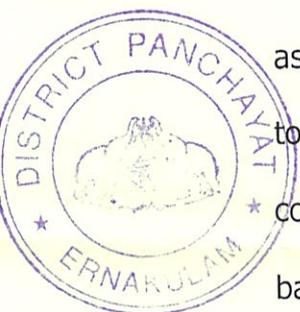
Thripunithura Municipality & others

Respondents

**AFFIDAVIT FILED BY THE 6<sup>th</sup> RESPONDENT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE ORDER OF  
THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL DATED 10-08-2020**

I, Joby Thomas, age 40, S/o C.M.Thomas, residing at Chirapurath(H), Nellimattom P.O, Kavalangad and having office at District Panchayat, Ernakulam do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows:-

1. I am the Secretary-in-Charge of the 6<sup>th</sup> Respondent, Ernakulam District Panchayat. I know the facts of the case as borne out from the records and I am authorized and competent to swear this counter affidavit on behalf of the 6<sup>th</sup> Respondent.
2. Vide Order dated 10-8-2020 this Hon'ble Tribunal had directed the Respondent Panchayats to file an independent status report regarding implementation and steps taken to remedy the situation to protect the water body, i.e., Konothupuzha river.
3. The Secretary of the 6<sup>th</sup> Respondent, Ernakulam District Panchayat was included as the 4<sup>th</sup> member in the Committee formed to study and prepare the Action Plan to be submitted before this Hon'ble Tribunal. Report of the said committee was considered by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal on 10-08-2020 and on that basis an Order was issued incorporating suggestions therein.
4. Though the Ernakulam District Panchayat is the 6<sup>th</sup> Respondent in the said case no specific directions are there in the said order as to the steps that should be taken by the 6<sup>th</sup> Respondent.



*Joby Thomas*  
Secretary  
District Panchayat  
Ernakulam

Sworn and signed before me  
Attested

T.G. KALADHARAN  
ADVOCATE & NOTARY NOTARY  
TRANS AVENUE, MVELIFURAM  
KAKKANAD P.O. PIN-682030  
MOB:+91 9446485499

*06/10/2020*

5. However, there are specific directions regarding the steps to be taken by the local self-governing bodies where the river is flowing through viz., Thrippunithura Municipality, Chottanikkara, Udayamperoor, Mularthuruthy, and Amballoor Grama Panchayats as well as the bodies/establishments like Shuchitwa Mission, Haritha Kerala Mission, Pollution Control Board, Irrigation Department etc.
6. Rivers and water courses, as well as their protection and maintenance are vested in the Grama Panchayats as per Section 218 of the Kerala Panchayat Raj Act, 1994. Hence, there are limitation to what can be done by the District Panchayat in this regard.
7. However, if the respective Grama Panchayats are willing to undertake projects to install monitoring cameras, protective nets, centralized/decentralized solid waste treatment etc. the 6<sup>th</sup> Respondent Ernakulam District Panchayat is ready and will to extend all cooperation and help necessary as per Government Guidelines.

All the facts stated above are true.



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

*Joby Ch*  
Deponent.  
Secretary  
District Panchayat  
Ernakulam

Solemnly affirmed and signed before me by the deponent who is personally known to me on this the      day of October, 2020 at my office at Kakkanad.



*T.G. Kaladharan*  
Advocate  
06/10/2020.

T.G. KALADHARAN  
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TRANS AVENUE, MAVELIPURAM  
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**OA NO. 237 OF 2017**

Manakunnam Village Padashekara  
Samrakshana Samithy  
... Petitioner

Vs

Thripunithura Municipality & 15 ors  
... Respondent

**STATUS REPORT FILED BY  
RESPONDENT NO. 6**

M/s. S. Sree Kumar Associates  
COUNSEL FOR RESPONDENT NO.6