

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

Application No. 237 of 2017

Manakunnam Village Padeshekera
Samrakshana Samithy
Petitioner

VS

Thrippunithura Municipality & others
Respondents

**AFFIDAVIT FILED BY THE 4th RESPONDENT IN COMPLIANCE WITH
THE ORDER OF THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL DATED
10-8-2020**

I, Nisha K.L , age 45 Years, D/o G.Bhaskaran Pillai residing at Pulari, West of Poojapura Temple, Aroor P.O, Alappuzha -688534, Kerala and having office at Mulanthuruthy GP, Mulanthuruthy P.O, Ernakulam-682314, Kerala do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows:-

1. I am the Secretary in Charge of the 4th Respondent, Mulanthuruthy Grama 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 4th Respondent.
2. The Konothupuzha river branches out as a tributary of the Thrippunithura - Chambakkara Canal and joins the Vembanad lake around the Poothotta region in Amballoor Grama Panchayat, after traversing through Thrippunithura, Chottanikkara, Udayamperoor, Mulanthurthy and Amballoor Grama Panchayats.
3. The Konothupuzha river traverses through a very short distance in Wards 14, 15, 16 and 1 of the Mulathuruthy Grama Panchayat.
4. On preliminary examination it is not seen that there no effluent discharge to Konothupuzha river from the residences within the limits of Mulathuruthy Grama Panchayat. Whenever such activities




SECRETARY I.C
Mulanthuruthy Grama Panchayat

have been found, Mulathuruthy Grama Panchayat has taken action under Section 219(H), 219(S) and 219(V) of the Kerala Panchayat Raj Act, 1994.

5. Mulathuruthy Grama Panchayat has formed a "Haritha Karma Sena" (Green Action Force) consisting of 34 members. The Haritha Karma Sena has been collecting non-biodegradable wastes from shops and houses. Though there is no centralized sewage treatment mechanism in the Mulathuruthy Grama Panchayat, all houses have soak pits/septic tanks to process domestic wastes without discharging them to rivers or other water source.

6. There is bio gas system to process wastes from public places and markets. More than 1000 bio gas plants have been given to produce cooking gas from domestic waste. The catering units in Mulathuruthy Grama Panchayat has got bio gas plants.

7. Steps are being taken to clean the mud and to restore and ensure the water flow of canals and channels in all cultivable paddy field in the Mulathuruthy Grama Panchayat by including the said works in Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005 (MNREGA) scheme. This includes the channels that join the Konothupuzna river.

8. It is submitted that the restoration of the Konothupuzha river which has a length of over 17 kilometers can be done only as an integrated programme. Since the restoration of the river can be done only through the joint efforts of all the Local Self Government Institutions through which the Konothupuzha traverses and the District Administration, the District Collector formed a committee and meeting was held on 15-6-2020. As a 1st stage it has been decided by the committee to survey the riverine area from beginning to end to find encroachments. Mulathuruthy Grama Panchayat has paid a sum of Rs. 1,46,440/- (Rupees One lakh and Forty Six Thousand Four Hundred



- and Forty Only) fixed by the Hon'ble District Collector to the Survey Department as survey cost. Though the survey was commenced it has not reached the limits of Mulathuruthy Grama Panchayat.
9. It is submitted that if any encroachment is found during the survey strict action shall be taken to remove the same. Mulathuruthy Grama Panchayat is committed to comply and implement the directions of this Hon'ble Tribunal and any further steps directed by the District Level Committee to restore and revive the Konothupuzha river.

All the facts stated above are true.

Dated this the 6th day of, February, 2021



[Signature]
SECRETARY IN CHARGE
Mulathuruthy Grama Panchayat

Deponent

Solemnly affirmed and signed before me by the deponent who is personally known to me on this the 6th day of, February, 2021 at my office at *Konothupuzha*.

[Signature]
6/2/21

Advocate

M. K. PUSHPALATHA
(K-172/91)
ADVOCATE AND NOTARY
ERNAKULAM



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... Petitioner

Vs

Thripunithra Municipality & 15 ors.

... Respondents

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RESPONDENT**

M/s S. Sree Kumar Associates
Counsel for Respondent No. 4