

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
(SOUTHERN ZONE BENCH, CHENNAI)
IN
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 237 OF 2017 (SZ)**

**ACTION TAKEN REPORT SUBMITTED BY THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
ERNAKULAM / 14TH RESPONDENT**

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Dated at Chennai on this the 17th day of February, 2022.

M/s. E.K.KUMARESAN

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

BEFORE THE HONOURABLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

Original Application No. 237 of 2017 (SZ)

Manakunnam Village

Padasekhara Samrakshna Samithi : Applicant(s)

Vs

Tripunithura Municipality and others : Respondents

ACTION TAKEN REPORT FILED BY THE 14th RESPONDENT AS DIRECTED BY THIS
HONOURABLE COURT ON 11.11.2021.

BEFORE THE HONOURABLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

Original Application No. 237 of 2017 (SZ)

Manakunnam Village
Padasekhara Samrakshna Samithi : Applicant(s)

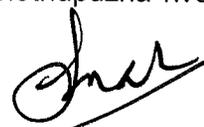
Vs

Tripunithura Municipality and others : Respondents

ACTION TAKEN REPORT FILED BY THE 14th RESPONDENT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE
ORDER OF THE HONOURABLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL DATED 11.11.2021.

I, Jafar Malik, IAS, aged 32 years, S/o Abrar Ahmed residing at Collectors Bungalow, Club Road, Ernakulam, Kochi-682011 do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows:

1. I am the District Collector, Ernakulam, who is the 14th respondent in the above Original Application. I am well conversant with the facts of the case, and competent to swear to this Action Taken Report in my official capacity.
2. It is respectfully submitted that the Honourable National Green Tribunal, vide its order in OA No. 237/2017, dated 11.11.2021, had directed this joint Committee to file further progress report regarding the steps taken and the improvement made in protecting the Konothupuzha river. In



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compliance with the said order, action taken report for the rejuvenation of Konothupuzha River is submitted herewith.

3. As per the order of this Honourable Tribunal, an action plan for the rejuvenation of Konothupuzha River has been formulated. A Detailed Project Report for the entire stretch of the river with an estimate of Rs. 20.80 crores has also been submitted to the Government by the Irrigation Department, and the approval of the same is pending with the Government. Reminder has been sent to the Government in this regard.

4. **Actions against pollution:**

The Joint Committee has assigned the following responsibilities to Kerala State Pollution Control Board.

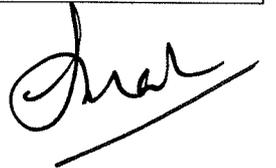
1. To monitor water quality in different reaches of the river to identify the polluting sources.
2. To monitor regularly the quality of effluent discharge to the river from various agencies/firms and to monitor the availability and proper working of STPs.

5. The first action to be initiated for the river rejuvenation is to assess the present water quality of the river before the rejuvenation works so as to verify the improvements in the water quality. The Pollution Control Board had conducted two sets of monitoring in Konothupuzha river on 26.6.2020 and 24.6.2021. The analysis report of the samples showed that the river is contaminated with organic wastes and coliforms. The analysis report shows the river is polluted with high organic loading. Based on the analysis reports, the polluted stretches are identified where the organic loading and high coliform content is detected. The details of polluting stretches have been informed to Tripunithura Municipality by the Pollution Control Board for taking urgent steps to find out all illegal outlets and close them so as to improve the water quality.

6. The various apartments/ commercial buildings/ industries etc. are inspected and action being initiated against the violators by the Pollution Control Board. The details are given below.



No.	Name of the Establishment	Action taken on 25.06.2021	Action taken on 08.09.2021	Present Status
1.	Choice Paradise Apartments, Tripunithura	Time allotted for revamping of existing of STP, Time completed on 31.07.2021	Inspection conducted 06.09.2021 STP revamping almost completed. Installation of filtration system pending. Reported to be completed within one month	The STP is made functional. The treated samples are collected. Further actions will be initiated based on analysis report
2.	Star Homes Annex Apartment Tripunithura	Direction issued and also letter issued to Tripunithura Municipality to furnish details of occupier for taking legal action against the builder	Show cause notice issued	
3.	Valey Heights Apartment Tripunithura	Notice issued due to the improper working of STP and operating without valid consent to operate	Show cause notice issued	Direction issued to make STP operation and informed that Board will initiate legal action including cancellation of occupancy and levy of Environmental compensation.
4	Service Station at Tripunithura Owned by Karthikeyan M N	Letter issued due to the unauthorised functioning of the unit	Closure Direction issued	Installed ETP



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5	CAR Wash 12/76-E Refinery Road Nadama, Tripunithura - 682309	Letter issued due to the unauthorised functioning of the unit	Closure Intention notice issued	Closure direction issued on 23.10.2021. Action will be taken to cancel their license issued by Tripunithura Municipality and ensure that the unit is not operated.
6	Asset City Bay Owner's Association Hill Palace Road Chathari, Tripunithura P O Ernakulam-682301	Letter issued due to the unauthorised functioning of the unit	Show cause notice issued	Direction issued to make STP operation and informed that Board will initiate legal action including cancellation of occupancy and levy of Environmental compensation
7	SFS Kingdom Near Railway Over Bridge, Choice School Road P. O. Tripunithura 682301	The STP is found operational		The STP is operational and has Board's Consent to Operate valid till 30.06.2023

7. Encroachment Removal:

Based on the decision of the Joint Committee, the river boundary has been surveyed and encroachments have been identified. On identification of encroachments, the concerned Local Self Government Institution Secretaries have taken action under the Kerala Land Conservancy Act



1957 to evict all encroachers from the banks of the river. *21 encroachments were found in Tripunithura Municipality, 14 in Udayamperoor, 3 in Mulanthuruthy and one each in Amballoor and Chottanikkara Panchayaths. Of these, 4 encroachments at Tripunithura Municipality and 1 encroachment at Chottanikkara Panchayath, have been completely evicted.* The poor families living in the puzha puramboke (Govt Land) in Udayamperoor and Mulanthuruthy panchayaths cannot be evicted without rehabilitation and this will require funding from the Government. It is learned that four encroachers of Tripunithura Municipality have filed a Writ petition in the Honourable High Court of Kerala against the eviction order of the Municipal Secretary and in two of them stay orders have been obtained. *An estimate of 50 lakhs rupees has been prepared and submitted to the Government by Trippunithura Municipality for the demolition of encroachments including flats, which is pending with the Government.*

8. The Amballoor Grama Panchayath has constituted a Ward Level Monitoring Committee with Grama Panchayath Secretary, Assistant Engineer Local Self Government Department, Village Extension Officer, Health and Welfare Standing Committee Chairman and concerned ward members as the members. The Surveillance squad performs periodic inspections to find out the illegal disposal of sewage / septage in the river side and premises. Surveillance Cameras have been installed at Chottanikkara Grama Panchayath to detect direct discharge of waste into the river and steps are being taken to install the cameras on other Local Self Government Institutions as well.

9. Municipal health wing has inspected the establishments / hotels discharging sewage / waste into the river within the limits of Tripunithura Municipality and the outlets set up for discharge of waste water have been removed by giving notice to the establishments and flats which have been found to be discharging waste / waste water into the river. The Tripunithura Municipality has



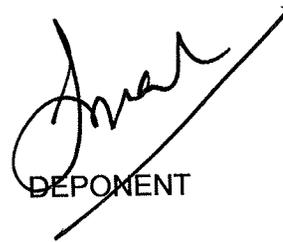
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imposed a fine of Rs. 25,000/- for dumping waste into the river. It is humbly submitted that even though plans have formulated for the implementation of projects, it can be started only after the Detailed Project Report is approved and funds are allotted by the Government.

In this circumstances, it is humbly submitted that the Honourable Court may be pleased to accept the Action Taken Report of this respondent.

All the facts stated above are true to the best of knowledge, belief and information.

Dated this the 14th day of December 2021.


DEPONENT

Solemnly affirm and signed before me by the deponent who is personally known to me on this the 14th day of December 2021 at the office of the District Collector, Ernakulam.



DEPUTY COLLECTOR
COLLECTORATE, ERNAKULAM
KAKKANAD - 682 030

