

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL CHENNAI**

**Application No. 261/2017**

Kuruvichira Sri Nagaraja Temple,

Represented by K.S. Ravindran Nair : Applicant

VS.

Kunnathunad Grama Panchayat and another : Respondent(s)

**REPORT FILED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER, KERALA  
STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, DISTRICT OFFICE II,  
PERUMBAVOOR**

I, Dinesh K.S, aged 50 years s/o K.V. Sidharthan, now working as Environmental Engineer in the District Office - II (Ernakulam) of the Kerala State Pollution Control Board, do hereby submit the report in OA 261/2016 filed by Kuruvichira Nagaraja Temple.

This Hon'ble Tribunal had vide order dated 18.11.2020 in Application No 261 of 2016 directed the Kerala State Pollution Control Board *"to assist the Kerala State Biodiversity Board in assessing the impact of establishment of drinking water project in that area on environment and in biodiversity of the lake and if it is allowed to be establish, what are all the necessary precautions to be taken on the aspect of pollution being caused to the pond and also the biodiversity of the surrounding area"*.

It is respectfully submitted that in compliance to the above order the said Kuruvichira pond which is located in Kunnathunadu Taluk, Patimattom Village, Ernkulam district was visited by Board Officers on 01.12.2020 along with representatives of Kerala State Biodiversity Board and Secretary, Kunnathunadu Gramapanchayath. At the time of inspection the pond was completely dry and no water was present in the pond. This is not a perennial pond. It is reported by the Panchayath authorities and local people that the source of water to this pond during

summer season is through the seepage from nearby PVIP ( Periyar Valley Irrigation Project) canals . As pumping of water has not been started to PVIP canals , the pond is dry.

In the present condition the water shall not be used for drinking water purpose. If the accumulated silt and sand deposited in the pond is removed and adequate depth provided, it can be used as a fresh water reservoir. Now direct accessibility to the pond from public road is not available and the Panchayat authorities reported that they purchase private land for road accessibility, when necessary permissions and fund accorded to the drinking water project.

The following measures should be taken to conserve and use the water for drinking water purpose.

1. Periodical removal of nutrient enriched accumulated sludge helps in ground water recharge potential and removal of sediments increases the storage capacity. Sediments removed from the pond should be stored in a designated area at a suitable distance away from the pond and after drying, the dried sediments should be removed immediately so that washing of sediments back into the pond during rainy season can be avoided.
2. Periodic dredging and dewatering should be conducted for preventing further accumulation of organic sludge and sediments.
3. Stabilization of earthen embankments and shore line protection with vegetative or rock rip trap should be provided to avoid soil erosion.
4. All the inflow drainage channels should be provided with suitable silt barriers or sediment traps or sediment detention basin at suitable intervals for control of silt especially during monsoon.
5. Suitable strainers or traps should be provided to control the inflow of floating materials. Periodic removal of floating materials should be ensured. Proper fencing should be provided along the boundary of lake to avoid unauthorized entry.

After the removal of silt and organic sediments, when the pond is filled with water, the quality of water will be analyzed from this office, to check whether the water can be used for drinking purpose after treatment. Further treatment such as coagulation to remove suspended solids, pressure sand filtration to remove turbidity and unsettled suspended particles and disinfection to remove pathogens / unwanted bacteria, to be provided before supplying the water for drinking water purpose.

Necessary advice can be from taken Kerala Water Authority regarding the treatment and supply of drinking water. Periodical water quality monitoring of treated water and raw water also be done to ensure the quality of water.

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

Dated this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of December 2020.

**DEPONENT**

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**VERIFICATION**

I, Dinesh K.S, aged 50 years S/o K.V. Sidharthan, now working as Environmental Engineer in the District Office - II (Ernakulam) of the Kerala State Pollution Control Board at Perumbavoor, duly authorized to file this reply on behalf of the Kerala State Pollution Control Board do hereby verify on this, the 8<sup>th</sup> day of December 2020, that all what is stated above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief and is borne out from the records maintained in our office.

Environmental Engineer,

District Office - II

(Ernakulam),

Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Perumbavoor.