

REPORT ON M/S ISHA FOUNDATIONS, IKKARAI POLUVAMPATTY VILLAGE,
PERUR TALUK, COIMBATORE DISTRICT AS PER THE ORDERS OF THE
HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL (SZ), CHENNAI ORDER IN O.A NO. 42
OF 2017 DATED: 05.10.2020

1. Background:

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone, Chennai in the matter of O.A No. 42 of 2017 by Thiru. M.Vetriselvan, Chennai Vs M/s Isha Foundation & Others is ordered on 05.10.2020 interalia that;

"The Registry is directed to communicate this order to the District Collector, Coimbatore District, District Environmental Engineer and the Pollution Control Board to come with a detailed action plan for monitoring such things in future, to avoid complaints being coming from the public.

The above officials are directed to submit the respective reports before this Tribunal on or before 29.10.2020 by e-filing along with necessary hardcopies to be produced as per Rules"

Status of Compliance of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016:

M/s Isha Foundation celebrates the Mahashivaratri function on a grand scale in every year. Under the provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 the organizers have to comply with the following provisions. The current status of compliance, the gap and the suggestions to bridge the gap are furnished below:

Rule 4 (1) (a):

"Every waste generator shall, segregate and store the waste generated by them in three separate streams namely bio-degradable, non-biodegradable and domestic hazardous wastes in suitable bins and handover segregated wastes to authorised waste pickers or waste collectors as per the direction or notification by the local authorities from time to time;

"The 11th respondent, during the Mahasivarathiri celebrations, every year, is placing sufficient number of bins for three separate streams such as bio-degradable, non-biodegradable and domestic hazardous waste in the venue each year during festival to prevent people from littering the area and also for the proper collection, segregation and disposal of waste. The bio-degradable wastes, so collected are composted into manure by the process of mulching. This was done by the 11th respondent in their compost yards by mixing the waste with cow dung and the manure obtained is disposed in their own farms. The non-degradable wastes, including the domestic hazardous waste are reportedly sent for recycling".

The measures already taken is generally considered to be adequate. However, it is recommended that the organizers shall furnish report on the quantity of each stream of waste generated and the agencies to whom such wastes are disposed to the concerned Local Bodies with a copy to Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board for reference and record. Further, it has to be ensured that the domestic hazardous wastes and the E-waste, shall be disposed, only to the agencies/ units which are authorised by Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,

for their recycling/reprocessing under the provisions of relevant Waste Management Rules.

Rule 4 (1) (b):

Every waste generator shall, wrap securely the used sanitary waste like diapers, sanitary pads etc., in the pouches provided by the manufacturers or brand owners of these products or in a suitable wrapping material as instructed by the local authorities and shall place the same in the bin meant for dry waste or non- bio-degradable waste;

“The 11th respondent had provided separate bins for the collection of sanitary pads and diapers in the venue and reported that the used sanitary napkins and diapers are reportedly disposed through common biomedical waste treatment facility and the 11th respondent has entered into an agreement with the M/s Kovai Biowaste Management Pvt Ltd. However, the 11th respondent shall continue to comply with the standard operating procedure for the disposal of sanitary napkins/diapers as per the CPCB guidelines dated 06.08.2018.

Rule 4 (4):

No person shall organise an event or gathering of more than one hundred persons at any unlicensed place without intimating the local body, at least three working days in advance and such person or the organiser of such event shall ensure segregation of waste at source and handing over of segregated waste to waste collector or agency as specified by the local body.

“The 11th respondent has obtained permission from the local body i.e Ikkarai Pooluvapatti Panchayat vide letter dated 12.02.2020 regarding the disposal of

solid waste on its own and disposed the bio-degradable waste in its own premises and the non bio-degradable waste is disposed through authorized recyclers as per the letter furnished by the M/s Isha Foundation”

Rule 4 (7):

All gated communities and institutions with more than 5,000 sq.m area shall, within one year from the date of notification of these rules and in partnership with the local body, ensure segregation of waste at source by the generators as prescribed in these rules, facilitate collection of segregated waste in separate streams, handover recyclable material to either the authorised waste pickers or the authorized recyclers. The bio-degradable waste shall be processed, treated and disposed off through composting or bio-methanation within the premises as far as possible. The residual waste shall be given to the waste collectors or agency as directed by the local body.”

“At present the 11th respondent is placing the sufficient number of bins for three separate streams such as bio-degradable, non-biodegradable and domestic hazardous waste in the venue each year during festival to prevent people from littering the area and also for the proper collection, segregation and disposal of waste and the non-biodegradable waste is disposed through authorized recyclers as per the agreement furnished by the M/s Isha Foundation”.

However, considering the magnitude of the event the 11th respondent be directed to furnish the action plan for the safe collection and disposal of the solid waste generated before 15 days of the event, even though the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, prescribes only a three day's notice, to the local body, so

that the concerned local body shall evaluate the report and impose additional conditions, as decided by the Local Body. Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board, would extend all technical support in evaluating the action plan, if warranted by the Local Body. Further the 11th respondent shall implement the following:

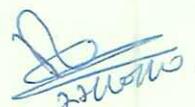
- To reserve a sufficient amount of waste bins
- To place the waste bins in visible areas and along significant places.
- Even small amounts of hazardous waste should always be collected separately and separate volunteers should be provided.
- Audio-visual displays shall be provided for waste management to the devotees at various locations

Waste Water Management (Sewarage disposal):

Further the 11th respondent has provided two Sewage Treatment Plants of capacity 380 KLD & 220 KLD respectively in the premises for the treatment and disposal of sewage for the residents.

Mahashivaratiri event is a one-day festival which starts around 6.00 p.m in the evening and ends-up on the next day early morning 6.00 a.m. During this event, the floating population will be very high. With regards to the waste water management the 11th respondent has provided sufficient number of toilets and at present the disposal mechanism for the sewage water is taking place by providing sufficient number of soak pits in the venue. However, to further reduce the impact, the 11th respondent shall arrange for bio-toilet/chemical toilet facilities in the venue with adequate capacity/numbers and the waste generated in these toilets, may be further treated in the existing sewage treatment plants, that are functional within their

premises, to such quantities, the waste water could be treated without affecting the functionality/performance of those sewage treatment plants. The excess quantity shall be arranged to be transported and discharged in to the Coimbatore Corporation existing common sewage treatment Plants with permission from Coimbatore Corporation. The grey waste water arising from the hand-washing activities, shall be collected and used in their plantation or shall be disposed in the soak pit arrangements provided.



**District Environmental Engineer
Tamilnadu pollution Control Board
Coimbatore South**

22/07/2022