

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, SOUTH ZONE**

**ORIGINAL APPLICATION NUMBER 199 /2024**

[Earlier OA No. 506 of 2024 (PB)]

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**Suo Moto matter in respect of news item appearing in News Bangalore Mirror dated 02.03.2024 titled “Neglect of lakes led to city’s parched scenes, say experts”**

*And*

**Karnataka Tank Conservation & Development Authority, Through its Chief Executive Officer, Bengaluru & Others**

.....

*Respondents*

**AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF KARNATAKA STATE**  
**POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

PAPERBOOK

[PLEASE SEE INSIDE FOR INDEX]



**DEVRAJ ASHOK**

**COUNSEL FOR KARNATAKA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

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PLACE: BENGALURU

DATE: 18/08/2025



THROUGH COUNSEL

DEVRAJ ASHOK

PH: 8050637442

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, SOUTH ZONE**

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**AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF THE KARNATAKA STATE**

**POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

I, Shri. K . S Sudhakar, son of Shri. Shivaram Gowda, aged about 52 years, presently working as the Environmental Officer, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (the “KSPCB”), do hereby solemnly affirm and state that I am duly authorized and competent to depose the present affidavit on behalf of the KSPCB. I am familiar with the facts and circumstances about the present matter,



*K. S. Sudhakar*

based on the official documents/records of the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board and also in my official capacity and depose as set forth below:

1. It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of the present proceedings pertains to the depletion of groundwater in the city of Bengaluru and surrounding areas due to neglect of lakes. In this regard, it is respectfully submitted that KSPCB has been monitoring the water quality of lakes and taking adequate measures to prevent pollution, in accordance with applicable law.

2. In this regard, it is respectfully submitted that the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka has dealt with the issue of protection and rejuvenation of lakes of Bangalore, in Writ Petition No. 58125 of 2017. The Hon'ble High Court, by order dated 25.07.2024, constituted a committee to be headed by the Chief Secretary of the Government of Karnataka, to effectively address these issues. It is respectfully submitted that the matter is still pending consideration before the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka, with the next date of hearing being 18.08.2025. A true copy of the relevant orders of the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka in WP No. 58125 of 2017, as obtained from the official website of the Karnataka High Court, is annexed herewith as **ANNEXURE R1**. In due compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka, a committee has been constituted by the State Government on 26.08.2024 under

the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Karnataka, and other departments (the "**Committee**"). The first meeting of the

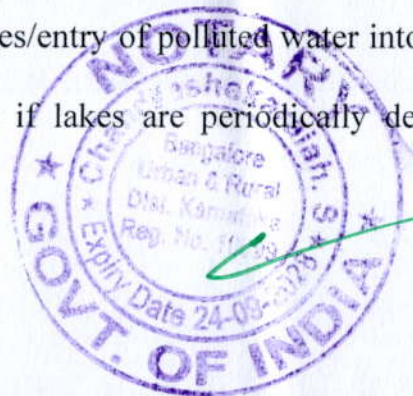


*K. S. Sule*

said committee was held on 26.11.2024, and during the discussion, the committee suggested the adoption of a strategy for the protection of lakes and tanks of Bangalore, with the involvement of various stakeholders. In view of this, the KSPCB has already sought details of strategies developed, from the various stakeholders, for the prevention of pollution of lakes, and the same will be discussed in the next meeting of the Committee. A copy of the formation of the committee vide Government Order FEE 368 EPC 2024, Bangalore, is produced herewith as **ANNEXURE-R2**. Minutes of the meeting dated 26.11.2024 and 03.01.2025 are annexed herewith as **ANNEXURE R3 and R4**.

3. It may be noted that lakes and tanks in and around Bengaluru are under the custody and jurisdiction of various Government Authorities, such as the BDA, BWSSB, BBMP and even village panchayats. As such, these Government Authorities have to exercise their powers to protect the lakes and ensure that the lakes are maintained in an ecologically sustainable manner.

4. Without any prejudice to the above submissions, KSPCB, in its capacity, has undertaken periodic and situation-based analysis of water samples, so as to monitor the water quality of various lakes. The KSPCB has issued notices to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike ("**BBMP**"), Bengaluru Development Authority ("**BDA**") and the BWSSB, requiring them to ensure the stopping of entry of illegal discharges/entry of polluted water into the lakes. It may also be relevant to submit that if lakes are periodically desilted and are free from



*K. S. Srinivas*

pollution and encroachments, the water holding capacity of lakes and thereby the percolation of water increases, eventually leading to recharge of groundwater. Copies of the notices issued to BWSSB, BDA and BBMP are collectively annexed herewith as **ANNEXURE R5**.

5. Following from the above, it is submitted that KSPCB, is granting Consent for Establishment only to projects/industries, which strictly meet the siting guidelines notified by the Government of Karnataka, with respect to lakes and tanks. KSPCB is also scrutinizing applications for Consent for Establishment from projects/industries, with due caution before granting Consent for Establishment, so as to eliminate any possibility of stray pollution being caused. The KSPCB is also insisting that industries, apartments, commercial complexes, IT/BT units, hotels, hospitals etc., (i.e., organizations that are covered by the consent mechanism, under KSPCB) to set up their sewage/effluent treatment system and treat domestic sewage effluent and/or industrial effluent as the case may be, to the standards specified by the KSPCB and further utilize the treated effluent within their premises for various secondary uses like gardening, toilet flushing (treated sewage,), cooling water make up and in construction activities. As a consequence, typically there has been no discharge of treated/untreated sewage from these sectors. However, where there have been stray incidents of any illegal discharge, the KSPCB is initiating action against such violators as per the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. As a consequence, as submitted herein above, the main



*K. S. Shetty*

reason for pollution of lakes has typically been because of illegal entry of surface runoffs and due to illegal discharge of sewage and sullage effluent from the unorganized sectors, particularly in areas where appropriate civic amenities are lacking or where underground sewerage system and Sewage Treatment Plants have not been established by the concerned departments such as the BWSSB, BDA and BBMP.

6. It is respectfully submitted that the KSPCB will be obliged to provide any other information that may be required by this Hon'ble Tribunal.

*K. S. Sulli*  
DEPONENT

**VERIFICATION**

Verified on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2025, at Bengaluru, that the contents of the above affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief and nothing material is concealed therefrom.

*K. S. Sulli*  
DEPONENT



SWORN TO BEFORE ME  
*5/13/2025*  
CHANDRASHEKARIAH. S  
Advocate & Notary  
No. 917, Kempegowda Nilaya  
3rd Cross, Muthurayaswamy Extension  
Sunkadakatte, Bangalore-560091



ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಉಚ್ಚ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯ HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA

6  
ANNEXURE R<sub>1</sub>

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಉಚ್ಚ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯ  
HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA



Search



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Status: **Pending**

Case Number: **WP  
58125/2017  
(KAHC010140802017)**

Classification: **GM RES**

Date of Filing: **19/12/2017  
11:31:48**

Petitioner: **SRI RAMASWAMI  
S**

Petitioner Advocate: **VIKRAM  
BALAJI B L**

Respondent: **THE STATE OF  
KARNATAKA**

Respondent Advocate: **HCGP  
FOR R1-R3 (MA NOT FILED)**

Filing No.: **WP 58125/2017**

Judge: **SURAJ GOVINDARAJ**

Last Posted For: **FURTHER  
HEARING**

Last Date of Action:  
**28/07/2025**

Last Action Taken:  
**ADJOURNED**

Next Hearing Date:  
**18/08/2025**

**Daily Orders: WP 58125/2017**

1 SURAJ GOVINDARAJ 28/07/2025

1. Shri V.Lakshminarayan, learned senior counsel, submits that a resolution has been passed by the Panchayat. He submits that once an account is opened, contributions from all the layouts will be collected and the STP will be established. He submits that the said resolution will be placed on record before the Principal Bench within two days.
2. Re-list this matter on 18.08.2025.

**Last Updated On: 2025-07-29 11:11:24**

2 SURAJ GOVINDARAJ 15/07/2025

1. Learned Senior counsel for the petitioner seeks for and is granted a week's time to file necessary application as also to amend the cause title.
2. Re-list on 28.7.2025.

**Last Updated On: 2025-07-16 14:44:52**

3 SURAJ GOVINDARAJ 01/07/2025

^  
TOP

7

1. Being of the considered opinion that Shanthipura Gram panchayat, Sarjapur hobli, Anekal taluk is a necessary party to decide the lis between the parties, represented by PDO is brought on record as respondent No.4.
2. Counsel for the petitioner is directed to carry out amendment and file amended cause title.
3. Sri.B.J.Somayaji, learned counsel is directed to accept notice for respondent No.4.
4. Learned counsel for the petitioner seeks for a week's time to furnish details of the persons who had formed Vinayaka, Naidu and Yella Bogi layouts in Shanthipura gram panchayat so as to bring them on record as party respondents.
5. Relist on 15.07.2025.

**Last Updated On:** 2025-07-03 10:36:07

4

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

05/06/2025

1. At the request of learned Senior counsel, relist on 1.7.2025.

**Last Updated On:** 2025-06-06 14:47:08

5

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

22/04/2025

1. Learned Additional SPP as also Sri.V.Lakshminarayan, learned senior counsel submit that land in Sy.No.177/2 of Chicknagamangala, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk has been identified for the purpose of establishment of STP.
2. Learned Additional SPP submits that the said land could be given free of cost for purpose of establishment of the STP subject to expenses of construction of the STP being taken up by the petitioners and the other persons who have formed layouts around the lake.
3. Sri.V.Lakshminarayana, learned senior counsel seeks for and is granted four weeks' time to place on record a proposal for the establishment of the STP including the financing and construction thereof.
4. Relist on 5.6.2025.

**Last Updated On:** 2025-04-23 14:49:20

6

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

02/04/2025

1. Relist on 22.4.2025.

**Last Updated On:** 2025-04-03 14:19:32

7

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

19/03/2025

1. None appears for the petitioner though called twice.
2. Relist on 2.04.2025.

**Last Updated On:** 2025-03-20 10:27:02

8

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

06/03/2025

1. Learned Senior Counsel for the petitioners seeks for and is granted ten days time to obtain instructions and make his submissions.
2. Re-list this matter on 19.03.2025.

**Last Updated On:** 2025-03-10 14:55:15

9

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

19/02/2025

8

None appears.  
Re-list on 06.03.2025.

**Last Updated On:** 2025-02-21 09:56:41

10

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

06/02/2025

Learned counsel appearing for the petitioners seeks for and is granted a week's time to obtain instructions and make his submission as regards the implementation of STP. Hence, re-list this matter on 19.02.2025.

**Last Updated On:** 2025-02-06 17:00:17

11

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

21/01/2025

None appears for the petitioners. Hence, re-list on 06.02.2025.

**Last Updated On:** 2025-01-22 10:01:23

12

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

20/12/2024

None appears.  
Relist on 16.01.2025.

**Last Updated On:** 2024-12-23 11:33:04

13

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

05/12/2024

1. Sri. V Lakshminarayana, learned senior counsel appearing for petitioners seeks for two weeks time to make his submission.
2. Re-list on 19.12.2024 at 2.30 p.m.

**Last Updated On:** 2024-12-19 18:36:45

14

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

22/11/2024

1. Sri. V Lakshman, learned senior counsel seeks for and is granted two weeks time to make his submission made by learned Addl. SPP on 08.11.2024.
2. Re-list on 05.12.2024.

**Last Updated On:** 2024-11-25 14:48:38

15

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

08/11/2024

1. Learned Addl.SPP submits that on inspection insofar as the present petitioners, Shantipura Lake is concerned, a charge sheet has been laid. His further submission is that the local residents are willing to contribute for establishment of a Sewage Treatment Plant and if someone were to come forward to take the responsibility of establishing a STP, there being lands available, the same could be set up and the Shantipura Lake could be saved.
2. This submission is placed on record to enable the counsel for the petitioners to obtain instructions and make his submission.
3. Insofar as the deliberation of the committee is concerned, he seeks for and is granted two weeks' time to report on further progress.
4. Relist on 22.11.2024.

**Last Updated On:** 2024-11-11 11:03:57

9

16

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

30/10/2024

1. Learned Additional Public Prosecutor seeks for a week's time to place the report of the committee.
2. Re-list on 8.11.2024 at 2.30 p.m.

**Last Updated On:** 2024-11-04 14:36:45

17

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

24/09/2024

None appears for respondents No.1 to 3, re-list on 23.10.2024 at 2.30 p.m.

**Last Updated On:** 2024-09-25 18:56:48

18

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

11/09/2024

None appears for respondents No.1 to 3.  
Re-list on 24.9.2024 at 2.30 p.m.

**Last Updated On:** 2024-09-12 19:20:48

19

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

28/08/2024

1. Learned Additional SPP submits that Committee has been constituted and the order has been received by him, given three days time, he would place the same on record.
2. Re-list on 11.09.2024.
3. Registry is directed to put up the memo filed by the respondent No.1.

**Last Updated On:** 2024-08-29 10:58:41

20

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

25/07/2024

1. Learned Additional SPP submits that due to continues discharge of the sewage and effluent into the storm water drain an FIR in Crime No.368/2024 has been registered by the Parappana Agrahara Police Station for the offences under section 279, 280, 292 and 293 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Samhita (BNS).
2. His submission is as also that provision of Section 12 of the Karnataka Tank Conservation and Development Authority Act, 2014 as also been invoked as regards the said prohibited Acts punishment being prescribed under Section 23 of the said Act.
3. The aspect of pollution being caused to the lakes and tanks has assumed huge importance having deleterious effect on the life of the citizen of Bengaluru.
4. With high influx of people into Bengaluru and the activities being carried on it is required for the State to protect the environment so as to enable the citizen to lead proper life within the meaning of Article 21 of the Constitution of India. The right to life would also include, right to an unpolluted atmosphere with a good environment.
5. Hence, I am of the considered opinion that a committee would be required to be formed consisting of the relevant stake holders, who can take up the matter and make available a good environment for citizens of Bengaluru.
6. Hence, the Chief Secretary Government of Karnataka is requested to constitute a committee preferably consisting of the Principal Secretary, Forest, Ecology and Environment, the Chairman or Member Secretary of the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, the Principal Secretary, Revenue Department, the Principal Secretary, Rural and Panchayat Raj Department with the representative of Police Department as nominated by Director General of Police and Inspector General of Police, Government of Karnataka. As also to include experts from Indian Institute of Science, Indian Institute of Management, TATA Institute of Fundamental Research, non-governmental organizations as also representatives of the State Level Environmental Impact Assessment Authority. So has to obtain the views of such experts and arrive at a manner and methodology of achieving the above.
7. Re-list on 28.8.2024 to report further progress.

**Last Updated On:** 2024-07-26 17:45:46

21

HEMANT CHANDANGOUDAR

10/07/2024

Interim order granted earlier is extended till the next date of hearing.  
Re-list on 25.07.2024 at 2.30 p.m.

**Last Updated On:** 2024-07-12 12:48:02

22

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

04/07/2024

Learned HCGP seeks for and is granted a week's time to file an affidavit of the DCP.  
2. Re-list on 10.07.2024 at 2.30 p.m.  
3. Interim order earlier granted is extended till the next date of hearing.

**Last Updated On:** 2024-07-10 12:03:10

23

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

20/06/2024

1. Learned Additional SPP submits that report has already been filed.  
2. Re-list on 04.07.2024 at 2.30 p.m.  
3. Interim order earlier granted is extended till the next date of hearing.

**Last Updated On:** 2024-06-21 14:39:21

24

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

11/06/2024

Adjourned

25

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

25/04/2024

11

1. Learned Addl. SPP has filed a memo enclosing Hydrological Survey report. Same is taken on record. He submits that the petitioner as also other persons are letting untreated sewage into stormwater drains in terms of the said report. If that be so, the petitioner and any other person discharging sewage in stormwater drain are restrained from doing so. Respondents are at liberty to take appropriate action in accordance with law if found violating.
2. Relist on 11.06.2024.
3. Interim order earlier granted is extended till next date of hearing.

**Last Updated On:** 2024-04-27 11:27:34

26

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

12/03/2024

1. Learned Additional State Public Prosecutor (Addl.SPP) has filed a memo enclosing the letter issued by the Deputy Commissioner of Police to the Indian Institute of Science (IISC) and other Government Organizations.
2. He submits that IISC has agreed to carry out hydrological survey which shall be completed on or before 19.04.2024.
3. His further submission is that, not only as regards Shanthipura Lake and the Raja Kaluve relating to Shanthipura Village, sewage is dumped into other Raj Kaluves in the city of Bengaluru. If that be so, it would be for the respondents to investigate into those matters and ascertain who the culprits or offenders are.
4. At this stage, learned Additional SPP would submit that the present investigating officer being the Deputy Commissioner of Police (Southeast), would not have jurisdiction to investigate into all the other aspects. If that be so, it is for the Director General of Police to either appoint the Deputy Commissioner of Police (Southeast) as the Enquiry Officer as regards all these occurrences or to constitute a task force to enquire into these aspects.
5. Necessary orders are to be passed by the Director General of Police in this regard at the earliest.
6. Re-list on 25.04.2024 at 2.30 p.m. for filing the report of IISC and reporting the progress in the matter, and also for further hearing.

**Last Updated On:** 2024-03-16 10:37:52

27

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

06/03/2024

1. Sri.C.K.Baba, DCP, South East is present before this Court in person.
2. Once again a short accommodation is sought for by the learned Additional SPP to comply with the order dated 23.09.2022. He submits that co-operation has been requested from the various departments as also IISC. On enquiry as to whether any letter correspondence has been initiated, he submits that oral requests have been made and no written correspondence have been exchanged. The manner in which oral requests have been made cannot be understood. When it is an inter department issue and correspondence is to be made to ensue cooperation from other departments, investigation being required to be made, enquiry to be conducted, it is but required that correspondence is exchanged in writing and not oral.
3. Learned Additional SPP submits that necessary correspondence will be issued within two days' time to the concerned departments as also to IISC.
4. To place the said correspondence on record, re-list on 12.03.2024 at 2.30 p.m.

**Last Updated On:** 2024-03-07 17:40:57

28

SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

27/02/2024

The investigating officer is present before the Court and has filed an interim report indicating the action taken till date.

He has sought time to obtain the hydrological survey report from an expert and to identify the concerned officers who failed to take necessary action to prevent the pollution of Shantipur tank, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk.

The interim report is extremely bald and does not contain the details of the inspection conducted by the investigating officer. It also does not contain the dates when the notices were issued to the Panchayat Development Officer, the Administrative Officer, as well as the Karnataka Tank Conservation and Development Authority.

It also does not set out the dates on which the statements of certain officials were recorded. It also does not set out any field survey conducted by the investigating officer before embarking upon an investigation.

Therefore, the interim report submitted by the investigating officer is though taken on record, is not accepted.

The investigating officer is directed to first inspect the land in and around the Shantipura tank and thereafter identify the channels, through which, the sewage water is entering to a Rajakaluve connecting to Shantipura lake and thereafter, take suitable steps against the officer/officers concerned, for not preventing the untreated effluent entering into the Shantipur tank.

As against four weeks sought by investigating officer, six weeks time is granted to him to conduct basic enquiry and also secure hydrological report from the competent authority.

List this petition on 24.11.2023.

**Last Updated On:** 2023-10-11 10:37:37

33

R. NATARAJ

05/10/2023

Learned High Court Government Pleader seeks time to place on record an interim report.  
List on 09.10.2023.

**Last Updated On:** 2023-10-06 09:24:15

34

R. NATARAJ

19/09/2023

Pursuant to the direction of this Court dated 23.09.2022, the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Sri. C.K. Baba is present before the Court and he submits that he has taken notice of the directions issued by this Court and that he has collected substantial information to comply with the directions. He also submits that an expert to conduct Hydrological survey is identified and that he needs three months time to submit Hydrological report about the quality of water running in the Rajakaluve. Having regard to the fact that the officer has collected information to comply the directions at Sl.Nos.3 and 4, he is directed to place an interim report about the steps taken to comply directions at Sl.Nos.3 and 4. The said interim report shall be submitted within a period of two weeks from today. List this petition on 05.10.2023.

**Last Updated On:** 2023-09-20 10:57:35

35

R. NATARAJ

13/09/2023

Learned HCGP seeks time to comply the order dated 05.09.2023.  
List on 19.09.2023.

**Last Updated On:** 2023-09-14 10:56:09

36

R. NATARAJ

05/09/2023

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

- Sub:** Constitution of Committee for the prevention of discharge of sewage and effluents to the lakes and tanks of Bengaluru - reg.
- Read:** The orders of the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka in W.P. 58125/2017, dated 25.07.2024.

\* \* \* \* \*

PREAMBLE:

The Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka in W.P. 58125/2017 have noted that due to discharge of sewage and effluents by the residents of Bengaluru into the storm water drains and thereby polluting the lakes and tanks of Bengaluru. In this regard the Hon'ble High Court vide daily order dated 25.07.2024, directed to the Chief Secretary Government of Karnataka to constitute a committee preferably consisting of the Principal Secretary, Forest, Ecology and Environment, the Chairman or Member Secretary of the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, the Principal Secretary, Revenue Department, the Principal Secretary, Rural and Panchayat Raj Department with the representative of Police Department as nominated by Director General of Police and Inspector General of Police, Government of Karnataka. As also to include experts from Indian Institute of Science, Indian Institute of Management, TATA Institute of Fundamental Research, non-governmental organizations as also representatives of the State Level Environmental Impact Assessment Authority to obtain the views of such experts and arrive at a manner and methodology of achieving the above.

Accordingly, the Government have decided to constitute a Committee with the objective of the prevention of discharge of sewage and effluents to the lakes and tanks of Bengaluru.

Hence this order.

GOVERNMENT ORDER NO. FEE 368 EPC 2024,  
BANGALORE, DATED: 26.08.2024.

Pursuant to the facts and circumstances explained in the preamble, the Government hereby constitutes the following Committee with the objective of prevention of discharge of sewage and effluents to the lakes and tanks of Bengaluru:

1.	Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Karnataka	Chairman
2.	Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment.	Member
3.	The Principal Secretary to Government Revenue Department.	Member
4.	Principal Secretary to Government, (Ecology and Environment), Forest, Ecology and Environment	Member

	Department.	
5.	Additional Director General of Police, Bengaluru Metropolitan Task Force (BMTF), Bengaluru	Member
6.	Chief commissioner, BBMP/ Chief Engineer, SWD, BBMP	Member
7.	Managing Director, Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board	Member
8.	Chief Executive Officer, Karnataka Tank Conservation and Development Authority	Member
9.	Scientific Officer, State Level Environmental Impact Assessment Authority	Member
10.	Experts from IISC (to be nominated by the concerned)	Member
11.	Experts from IIM (to be nominated by the concerned)	Member
12.	Experts from Tata institute of Fundamental Research, (to be nominated by the concerned)	Member
13.	Experts from NEERI (to be nominated by the concerned)	Member
14.	Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE)	NGO Member
15.	Puttenahalli Neighbourhood Lake Improvement Trust (PNLIT)	NGO Member
16.	The Member Secretary, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board	Member-Convener

By order and in the name of  
Governor of Karnataka

(B.N. Praveen)

Under Secretary to Government,  
Forest, Ecology and Environment Dept.  
(Ecology and Environment).

To:

1. Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Karnataka, Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru.
2. Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment, M S Building, Bengaluru.
3. The Principal Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, M S Building, Bengaluru.
4. Principal Secretary to Government, (Ecology and Environment), Forest, Ecology and Environment Department, M S Building, Bengaluru.
5. Additional Director General of Police, Bengaluru Metropolitan Task Force (BMTF), BBMP Head Office, 1st Floor, NR Rd, Sampangi Rama Nagar, Bengaluru-560002.
6. Chief Commissioner, BBMP/ Chief Engineer, SWD, BBMP Hudson Circle, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560002.
7. Chairman, Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board, 2nd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, Kempegowda Road, Bengaluru-560009.

8. Chief Executive Officer, Karnataka Tank Conservation and Development Authority, Ground Floor, Beeja Bhavan, Bellary Road, Hebbal, Bengaluru - 560024.
9. Scientific Officer, State Level Environmental Impact Assessment Authority, M S Building, Bengaluru.
10. Indian Institute of Science, C V Raman Avenue, Bangalore -560 012.
11. Indian Institute of Management, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru-560 076.
12. Tata institute of Fundamental Research, Homi Bhabha Road, Colaba, Mumbai 400005.
13. National Environmental Engineering Research Institute Nehru Marg, Nagpur, Maharashtra 440020
14. Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment Royal Enclave, Sriramapura, Jakkur Post, Bangalore 560 064.
15. Puttenahalli Neighborhood Lake Improvement Trust, J P Nagar, 7<sup>th</sup> Phase, Bengaluru.
16. The Member Secretary, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Parisara Bhavan, 49, Church St, Haridevapur, Shanthala Nagar, Ashok Nagar, Bengaluru-560001.
17. Section Guard File.

No. PCB: WP No. 58125/2017:INFRA

ANNEXURE

Proceedings of the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Committee under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka constituted as per the directions of Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka in WP No.58125/2017 with regard to prevention of discharge of sewage and effluents to the lakes and tanks of Bengaluru held on 26.11.2024 at 5.00pm at Room No.317, Vikasa Soudha, Bengaluru.

**Members Present:**

1	Sri. Gaurav Gupta, IAS Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Karnataka	Chairman
2	Sri. Vijay Mohan Raj, IFS Principal Secretary to Government, (Ecology and Environment) Forest, Ecology and Environment, Department, M.S. Building, Bengaluru	Member
3	Sri. H.C Balachandra, IFS Member Secretary, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board	Member Convener
4	Sri. Devaraju, Chief Engineer, (WWM) on behalf of The Managing Director, Bangalore Water Supply & Sewage Board, Bengaluru-560009	Member
5	Sri. Raghavan, Chief Executive Officer, Karnataka Tank Conservation and Development Authority	Member
6	Sri. Hosmath, Under Secretary to Government, Revenue Department On behalf of Principal Secretary to Government, Revenue Department	
7	Sri. Kēerthi, Scientific Officer, State level Environment Impact Assessment Authority, M.S. Building, Bengaluru.	Member
8	Smt. Priyanka Jamwal, Representative from Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment Royal Enclave, Srirampura, Jakkur Post, Bangalore-560064	Member
9	Sri. Subramaniyan Shankar, Smt. Usha Rajagopalan, Representatives from Puttenahalli Neighbourhood Lake Improvement Trust, J.P. Nagar, 7th Phase, Bengaluru.	Member

**Members not present:**

1	The Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment	Member
2	The Additional Director General of Police, Bengaluru Metropolitan Task Force (BMTF)	Member
3	The Chief Commissioner, BBMP/Chief Engineer, SWD	Member
4	Experts from Indian Institute of Science	Member
5	Experts from Indian Institute of Management	Member
6	Experts from Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai.	Member
7	Experts from National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Maharashtra	Member

Principal Secretary to Government, Forest, Ecology & Environment Department (Ecology & Environment) welcomed the Chairman and all the members present and appraised about the constitution of this Committee.

With regard to discharge of sewage and effluents by the residents of Bengaluru into the storm water drains and thereby polluting the lakes and tanks of Bengaluru, Hon'ble High Court vide daily order dated 25.07.2024 in WP No. 58125/2017 have directed the Chief Secretary Government of Karnataka to constitute a committee preferably consisting of the Principal Secretary, Forest, Ecology and Environment, the Chairman or Member Secretary of the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, etc., Based on the directions of the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka, Government of Karnataka has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary to Government vide Government Order No. FEE 368 EPC 2024, dated 26.08.2024.

At the outset, Chairman of the Committee informed that the case is related to release of sewage by Residential layouts into the drains that lead to the rajakaluve resulting in pollution of lakes such as Shantipura lake/ Chikkanagamangala Lake. The Chairman further informed that similar issues are dealt by BWSSB and BBMP and also KSPCB and hence there is a need to work out coordinated efforts for effective control of pollution of lake water. Chairman also expressed about the good works of rejuvenation taken for the lakes located in Bengaluru viz Belandur Lake, Varthur lake and Chandapura Lake and Kaikondrahalli.

The representatives of the Ashoka Trust expressed that the final objective to be achieved with respect to water quality of lakes must be clearly defined to work out the interventions for prevention and control of lakes.

It was also discussed in the meeting that similar problems experienced in developed countries have been addressed and those case examples can be examined while working out interventions for prevention of pollution of lakes.

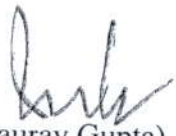
The Principal Secretary to Government, Ecology & Environment briefed about the directions issued by the Hon'ble Courts and Hon'ble NGT in respect of various lakes to prevent the pollution of lake water.

The representatives of PNLIT informed that main causes of pollution of water bodies is due to lack of adequate UGD and buffer zones around the lakes and lack of monitoring mechanism. They also suggested that effective implementation of pollution control of lakes can be achieved by involving community participation.

The main stake holders responsible for pollution of lakes are BWSSB & BBMP and stakeholders responsible for monitoring & regulatory agency is KSPCB and Department of Ecology & Environment, GOK. Hence, after detailed discussions, Committee took the following decisions :-

- (i) To work out a frame work and also to prepare a road map for control of pollution.
- (ii) To prepare strategy for monitoring mechanism including institutional and technical measures.
- (iii) The Member Secretary, KSPCB and Principal Secretary to Government, Department of Ecology & Environment to conduct weekly meetings with stakeholders to define the objectives, the framework, strategy and technical interventions for prevention of discharge of sewage and effluents to the lakes and tanks.
- (iv) The committee shall meet once in a month.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks.

  
(Gaurav Gupta)  
Additional Chief Secretary  
Government of Karnataka

Proceedings of the meeting of Committee Constituted in respect of High Court W.P. 58125/2017 to prevent discharge of sewage effluent into Lakes and Tanks of Bengaluru.

Date of Meeting held on : 03.01.2025  
 Presiding Officer : Sri. S.S. Lingaraja, IFS  
 Member Secretary, KSPCB  
 Officers/Members present in the Meeting : Enclosed as Annexure-1

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In the proceedings of the 1st Meeting of the Committee constituted as per the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka vide WP No. 58125/2017, it was informed that the Principal Secretary, DEE, and Member Secretary, KSPCB, has to conduct weekly meetings with stakeholders to define the objective, framework strategy, and technical interventions for preventing the discharge of sewage effluent into lakes and tanks. Accordingly the 1st weekly meeting was held on 03.01.2025 at 3:00 PM at the Board meeting hall, KSPCB, Parisara Bhavan, Church Street, Bengaluru-560001.

The Member Secretary, KSPCB, welcomed all stakeholders and gave a brief introduction regarding the formation of the committee and requested suggestions from stakeholders to prevent the discharge of sewage effluent into lakes thereby improving the water quality of the lakes.

The Member Secretary emphasized that Bengaluru city is developing rapidly. To mitigate the effects of rapid urbanization, it is the responsibility of BBMP, BDA, BWSSB, and the Minor Irrigation Department to maintain the lakes by preventing encroachment and water pollution.

The BBMP Engineer-in-Chief informed that the primary causes of lake pollution are:

1. Overflowing Manholes: Manholes located inside the Rajakaluves are overflowing, contributing to lake water contamination.
2. Sewage Discharge from Trunk Sewers: Sewage from trunk sewers is being discharged directly into Rajakaluves.
3. Missing or Broken Sewer Lines: Faulty or incomplete sewer lines are allowing untreated sewage to flow into lakes.

The Engineer-in-Chief emphasized that addressing these issues through BWSSB's intervention could significantly reduce sewage flow into Rajakaluves. It was suggested that BWSSB should:

- Conduct an inventory of problematic locations.
- Take necessary actions to stop sewage from entering Rajakaluves, stormwater drains (SWDs), and lakes.
- Also highlighted that wetland treatment has already been implemented in most of Bengaluru's lakes.

Additionally, the Engineer-in-Chief clarified that while the lake survey remains incomplete, efforts are ongoing in collaboration with Karnataka State Remote Sensing Applications Centre (KSRSAC) to identify and evict encroachment on buffer areas surrounding the lakes.

The BWSSB Additional Chief Engineer also informed that the difference in levels between trunk lines has hindered their ability to connect sewers to the main line.

The PNLIT Representative, Smt. Usha Rajagopalan, emphasized the following points:

- Local communities should play a crucial role in maintaining lake water quality. Collaboration between local communities, BBMP, and BWSSB is essential to remain vigilant and address emerging issues.
- BBMP and BWSSB should take immediate action to clear blockages in sewer lines to prevent pollution.
- Encroachment cases should be reported to BBMP, as it is the owner of the lakes.
- Lack of adequate coordination between BBMP and BWSSB in resolving the issue of water pollution in Bengaluru’s lakes.

Dr. Priyanka Jamwal, ATREE, Bengaluru, emphasized the following points:

- There is a need to clearly define the objective for lake restoration based on its intended usage.
- Wetlands should be constructed, and afforestations should be carried out in buffer areas to enhance lake ecosystems.
- The restoration and rejuvenation of lakes have not been done scientifically, as there has been no observable inflow or outflow from the lakes post-rejuvenation.
- Native-based solutions could be effectively implemented in SWDs and Rajakaluves to address these issues.

Sri L. N. Rao, Professor from IISc, Bengaluru, stated that their studies indicate the need to stop the entry of untreated sewage into lakes. He also suggested that biological solutions to prevent lake water pollution should be explored, as these could help prevent algal blooms and the silting of lakes.

Sri. H.N. Chanakya, Bengaluru emphasized the need for list of short term and long term measures for prevention of entry of sewage into lakes.

After deliberations on the issues raised, the Member Secretary, KSPCB in order to prevent the pollution of lakes by discharge of sewage informed the concerned departments as follows:

1. BBMP: To submit the list of
  - o Overflowing Manholes: Manholes located in Rajakaluves are overflowing, contributing to lake water contamination.

- Sewage Discharge from Trunk Sewers: Sewage from trunk sewers is being discharged directly into Rajakaluves.
  - Missing or Broken Sewer Lines: Faulty or incomplete sewer lines are allowing untreated sewage to flow into lakes.
  - Identify lakes that have been encroached upon and those severely polluted due to sewage entry, which adversely affects water quality and the flora and fauna of the lakes.
  - Undertake GIS mapping of lakes to identify the encroachment on lake bed as well as Rajakaluve.
  - Submit a list of lakes in Bengaluru, including their rejuvenation status and present status, actions taken to control pollution if any.
2. The BWSSB shall Prepare and submit an action plan to prevent lake water pollution.
3. Emphasized the importance of strong coordination between BDA, BBMP, BWSSB and MI to tackle lake pollution and encroachment issues effectively.
4. The concerned departments, to provide the following information in the next meeting:
- **Sources of Pollution:** BBMP and BWSSB to identify sources of lake water pollution.
  - **Illegal Sewage Discharges:** Detect missing or illegal sewage discharges and take action to divert sewage to the nearest STP until proper sewer connections are established.
  - **Comprehensive Progress Report on Lake Survey Work:** The Bangalore Development Authority, BBMP, and the Minor Irrigation Department, in collaboration with the Land Survey Revenue System and Land Records Department, should submit a detailed progress report on the ongoing survey work of lakes.
  - **Legal Case Information:** Details of cases registered with the Hon'ble Supreme Court, Hon'ble High Court, and other courts, along with information on pending cases before the National Green Tribunal, Karnataka Lokayukta, and directions issued by these courts, authorities, and tribunals, should be submitted.
  - **Status of Lake Boundary Demarcation:** BBMP should present the current status of lake boundary demarcation, including buffer zones and fencing.

Member Secretary  
Karnataka State Pollution Control

Board

**Annexure-I****Name & Designation of Officer Present in Meeting held on 03.01.2025.**

1. Sri. Gopal Naik Professor, IIM Bengaluru.
2. Sri. B.S. Jayalakshmi, ACE, BWSSB, Bengaluru.
3. Sri. H.N. Chanakya, IISc, Bengaluru.
4. Sri. L.N. Rao, IISc, Bengaluru.
5. Sri. S. Subramanian, PNLIT
6. Smt. Usha Rajagopalan, PNLIT.
7. Sri. D.G. Venkataram, DEO, KTCDA.
8. Sri. Vijayakumar Haridas, CE (Lakes) BBMP, Bengaluru.
9. Smt. Bagyashri Kulkarni, Urban Designer, MOD Foundation.
10. Sri. B.S. Prahallad, Engineer, In-Chief, BBMP, Bengaluru.
11. Sri. Keerti. R. Scientific Officer, KSPCB, Bengaluru.
12. Sri. B.N. Raghavendra, Executive Engineer, MDP, BBMP, Bengaluru.
13. Smt. Rekha. B.V. Executive Engineer, SWD-South, BBMP.
14. Sri Suman. D. P. Sup. Of Police, BMTF.
15. Dr. Priyanka Jamwal, ATREE, Bengaluru.

**Officers of Board Present.**

1. Sri. N.R. Raju, CEO, Infra & Lake Division
2. Sri. K.S. Sudhakar, Environmental Officer, Infra & Lake Division