

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

**Original Application No.295 of 2024 (SZ)**

[Earlier O.A. No.1186 of 2024(PB)]

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion SUO  
MOTU based on the News item  
published in The Hindu, dated:  
08-09-2024, under the caption  
"Lakes developed under Smart  
Cities Initiative in Coimbatore  
turn dumping grounds for plastic  
waste".

And

Coimbatore City Municipal  
Corporation, Through its  
Commissioner, Coimbatore and  
Ors.

... Respondent

**STATUS REPORT FILED BY THE COMMISSIONER,  
COIMBATORE CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**

I, M. Sivaguru Prabakaran, S/o Thiru. Marimuthu, aged about 37 years  
having office at the Corporation Office, Coimbatore do hereby solemnly affirm  
and state as follows:

1. I am the Commissioner of Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation and  
the Respondent herein, as such I am well acquainted with the facts of the case

  
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from the records maintained therein and filing this Status Report on behalf of the Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation.

**2.** I state that Krishnampathy Lake, a vital water body in Ward No. 75 of the West Zone, has been at the center of the Coimbatore Municipal Corporation's conservation efforts. Recognizing the challenges posed by non-biodegradable waste accumulation, particularly in urban water bodies, the Corporation has adopted a multi-pronged approach to address the issue. A combination of daily maintenance, public awareness campaigns, stricter enforcement, and innovative solutions aims to transform Krishnampathy Lake into a clean and sustainable public space. This detailed report outlines the measures taken and their outcomes thus far.

**3.** I state that to maintain the cleanliness of Krishnampathy Lake and its surroundings, the Corporation has deployed dedicated staff responsible for daily monitoring and cleaning operations. These teams ensure timely removal of waste, both biodegradable and non-biodegradable, thus preventing pollutants from entering the water body. Supervisory staff conducts regular inspections to assess the effectiveness of cleaning efforts and address any challenges. This proactive approach has resulted in noticeable improvements, with the lake and its surroundings being consistently maintained in good condition.

**4.** Public cooperation is integral to the success of any conservation effort. To foster this, the Corporation has launched extensive awareness campaigns targeting residents and visitors. These initiatives aim to educate the public about the harmful effects of littering and the importance of protecting water bodies. Informative signboards and posters have been strategically placed around the lake to encourage

  
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responsible waste disposal practices. Additionally, the Corporation has utilized social media platforms and organized community events to amplify the message and reach a broader audience. These campaigns have been instrumental in changing public attitudes and behaviours toward waste management.

- 5.** In an effort to curb irresponsible waste disposal, the Corporation has implemented strict penalties for individuals and organizations caught dumping waste in or around the lake. Enforcement teams conduct regular patrols to identify violators, ensuring accountability. Challans are issued for the penalties collected, providing a transparent record of enforcement actions. These measures have proven effective in deterring littering, with fewer incidents of unauthorized dumping reported in recent months. Copies of the challan receipts are attached to this report for reference.
- 6.** The Respondent Corporation has taken targeted steps to address the issue of plastic waste, a significant contributor to water body pollution. Eateries and commercial establishments operating near Krishnampathy Lake have been advised to transition from plastic to bio-degradable alternatives. This initiative is being implemented in phases, allowing businesses sufficient time to adapt. Simultaneously, the Corporation is exploring policy changes to regulate plastic usage in the vicinity of the lake. These efforts aim to create a plastic-free zone around the water body, further enhancing its ecological health.
- 7.** To ensure the long-term preservation of Krishnampathy Lake, the Respondent Corporation is developing several forward-looking initiatives. Public information systems, including digital and physical boards, will be installed to educate visitors about sustainable practices.

  
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Proposals to introduce drinking water kiosks around the lake are under consideration, aimed at reducing the use of single-use plastic bottles. Additionally, buyback schemes for used plastic bottles are also being explored to encourage recycling and minimize waste. The Corporation also plans to involve local communities more actively in conservation efforts through participatory programs and stakeholder engagements. These initiatives reflect the Corporation's commitment to creating a sustainable and environment friendly public space.

8. The Respondent Corporation's efforts to conserve Krishnampathy Lake demonstrate a balanced approach that combines strict enforcement with community engagement. By addressing immediate challenges and planning for the future, the Corporation aims to preserve the lake's ecological integrity while enhancing its value as a public space. The successful implementation of these measures requires continued public co-operation and support. With Public support, this Respondent Corporation can ensure that Krishnampathy Lake remains a clean and sustainable resource for generations to come.

It is therefore humbly prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to take this report on record and close Original Application No.295 of 2024 (SZ) or pass such further or other orders as this Hon'ble Court may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case and thus render justice.

Solemnly affirmed at Coimbatore,  
on this the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2025  
and signed his name in my presence.

COMMISSIONER  
CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION  
COIMBATORE

Before me

Advocate, Coimbatore.

**B. VIJAYAKUMAR, B.Com., B.L.**  
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**BEFORE THE NATIONAL  
GREEN TRIBUNAL  
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

**O.A No.295 OF 2024  
IN  
(Earlier O.A. No. 1186 of 2024)**

**IN THE MATTER OF:  
Tribunal on its own motion SUO  
MOTU based on the News item  
published in The Hindu, Dated:  
08.09.2024, under the caption  
“ Lakes developed under Smart Cities  
Initiative in Coimbatore turn dumping  
grounds for plastic Waste”**

**-Vs-**

**Coimbatore City Municipal  
Corporation, Through its  
Commissioner, Coimbatore and  
others.**

**....Respondent**

**STATUS REPORT FILED BY  
THE COMMISSIONER,  
COIMBATORE CITY  
MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**

**M/S. NAJEEB USMAN KHAN  
COUNSEL FOR COIMBATORE  
CORPORATION  
CELL No: 98400 33766**