

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
(SOUTHERN ZONE BENCH, CHENNAI)**

**ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 300 OF 2024 (SZ)**

In the matter of:

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU based on the news item in The Hindu dt. 27.09.2024 titled "Munnar Panchayat – Owned dumping yard continues to be haunt for wild animals"

-VS-

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF), Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram  
and Ors. ----Respondent(s)

**REPORT FILED BY THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR, IDUKKI / 2<sup>ND</sup>**

**RESPONDENT**

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Dated at Chennai on this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024 **5**.

*fr. G. J. 20/8/25*

**M/s. E.K.KUMARESAN**

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

**Report Submitted in connection with the case OA NGT(SZ)-300/2024 before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Chennai**

This report is submitted in connection with the case pending before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Chennai, regarding the improper waste management practices at the Munnar Panchayath owned dumping yard located at Kallar Nallathanni, Idukki District, Kerala.

The alleged solid waste management facility is located in Kallar Nallathanni of Idukki District. The facility includes Resource Recovery Facility (RRF), Material Collection Facility (MCF) and the Munnar Green Compost Unit, which handles the composting of biodegradable waste. The solid waste generated within the jurisdiction of Munnar Panchayath, which includes both biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste, is reported to be collected by the Panchayath and processed at the said facility. According to the Panchayath's records, the facility is in 50 cents of land and receives an average of 4.80 tonnes of biodegradable waste and 3.5 tonnes of non- biodegradable waste daily, vegetable waste being directed to the compost unit, while dry waste being transferred to the MCF for further processing, non-recyclable waste and recyclable plastic being segregated, bailed, and stored separately, before being handed over to Re-City, a green aid group in contract with the Panchayath for waste disposal. The biodegradable waste is then converted into fertilizer in the green compost unit, using a specialized inoculum developed to suit Munnar's unique climate conditions.

After the implementation of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, the Munnar Grama Panchayath was instructed to ensure proper treatment and disposal of solid waste. Regular interventions by the

Pollution Control Board led to the Panchayath addressing legacy waste through bio-mining. A tender was floated and an agreement was executed by the Panchayat with the Socio-Economic Unit Foundation on 20.10.2020. Bio-mining was found almost completed during the inspection conducted by the Board Officials on 15.03.2023. During a visit conducted by Board Officials along with the Secretary of the Environment Department and Panchayat officials on 09.07.2024 in the waste treatment plant, it was observed that bio degradable waste collected from various areas of the Panchayat was dumped in heaps within the facility premises. Consequently, the Panchayat was instructed to dispose of the waste scientifically as per the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and to submit a detailed report. The Secretary of the Panchayat reported the following:

- a. Steps are being taken to hand over food waste to pig farms.
- b. Measures are being taken to scientifically dispose of dumped waste and resume bio-mining.
- c. The Panchayath plans to include solar fencing construct a bio gas plant, install a double-chamber incinerator for sanitary waste, allocate funds for CCTV cameras, and appoint a health inspector to oversee waste management operations.
- d. The Resource Recovery Facility (RRF) will be revamped in the 2024-2025 plan.

After Noticing the presence of wild life in the Kallar plant and the threat related direction given to the Munnar Grama Panchayath to construct Trench around the dumping yard.

The matter is submitted for information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

  
District Collector

➤ IDUKKI  
DISTRICT COLLECTOR  
IDUKKI



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