

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI
IN**

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 45 of 2024

Petitioner: Suo Moto

Versus

Respondent(s): Water Resources Department
Rep. by its Secretary to Govt of Kerala,
Thiruvananthapuram and others.

**REPORT FILED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER, REGIONAL
OFFICE, ERNAKULAM FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE KERALA STATE
POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

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Adv. Rema Smrithi.

ADDITIONAL STANDING COUNSEL FOR THE RESPONDENT No.5

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1	Report filed by the Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Ernakulam for and on behalf of the Kerala State Pollution Control Board.	1

Dated this the 19 Day Of June 2026

Rema Smrithi, Advocate
ADDITIONAL STANDING COUNSEL FOR THE RESPONDENT

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STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

I, Noby George, aged 48 years, S/o late K.T George, residing at Ernakulam presently working as Environmental Engineer, Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Legal Cell, Regional Office, Ernakulam do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows:

1. I am the Environmental Engineer, Kerala State Pollution Control Board (hereinafter referred to as Board), Legal Cell, Regional Office, Ernakulam duly authorised to file the affidavit before the Hon'ble Tribunal.




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2. It is respectfully submitted that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, vide order dated 19.02.2026, directed the Kerala State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) to examine the report submitted by the Local Self Government Department to confirm the compliance. The Kerala SPCB was also directed to assess the environmental compensation payable by the violators.
3. It is submitted that, with respect to the rejuvenation of River Kadambayar, the Local Self Government Institutions (as mentioned in the report filed by LSGD) falling under the jurisdiction of the District Office of the Kerala State Pollution Control Board are (i) Edathala Grama Panchayat; (ii) Thrikkakkara Municipality; (iii) Kunnathunadu Grama Panchayat; (iv) Kizhakkambalam Grama Panchayat and (v) Kochi Corporation.
4. Pursuant to the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal and based on the report submitted by the Local Self Government Department, the Kerala State Pollution Control Board examined the compliance status of the concerned Local Self Government Institutions and initiated appropriate directions.
5. After prior intimation, officials of the Board conducted on-the-spot verification at the Edathala Grama Panchayat on 25.05.2026 and at the Thrikkakkara Municipality on 26.05.2026. Inspections were conducted at Kunnathunadu Grama Panchayat on 01.06.2026, Kizhakkambalam Grama Panchayat on 03.06.2026 and Kochi Municipal Corporation on 03.06.2026. The actions taken by the Board based on the report submitted by the Local Self Government Department are detailed below:




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Action reported in Report filed by LSGD	Compliance status/ Remarks
Edathala Grama Panchayath	
Palakuzhi stream, a tributary of Kadambrayar, is cleaned and protected every year under MGNREGS, and the allocation of Rs. 2 lakh for the restoration of Palakuzhi Thodu during the year 2024-25.	Officials of the Board conducted on-the-spot verification at the Edathala Grama Panchayat on 25.05.2026. The compliance status was verified during the spot verification. Documents to be received
Thrikkakkara Municipality	
The Municipality has reported the levy of a fine of Rs. 26,590/- for the period from March to August 2024 for depositing garbage in water bodies, a scheme for setting up a Sewage Treatment Plant using the Sanitation Mission Fund, augmentation of Haritha Karma Sena for waste collection bio waste management under the Kerala Solid Waste Management Project (KSWMP). Issuance of notice by the Health Department to flats to set up their own sewage treatment plants and installation of surveillance cameras.	Officials of the Board conducted on-the-spot verification at the Thrikkakkara Municipality on 26.05.2026. Documents to be received.
Kunnathunadu Grama Panchayat	




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Pursuance to the Kadambarayar Action Plan, surveillance cameras have been installed near the Manakkadav bridge on the banks of Kadambrayar and follow-up action is being taken by forming local body level squads for continuous inspections

Inspections were conducted at Kunnathunadu Grama Panchayat on 01.06.2026. During the inspection, it was observed that a CCTV camera had been installed near Mankakkadavu Bridge for surveillance and prevention of waste dumping into the river. The Waste Dumping Squad Register maintained by the Panchayat was verified. Panchayat representatives informed that no incidents of waste dumping had been reported after the installation of the CCTV camera. Records relating to surveillance activities and enforcement activities were verified.

Kizhakkambalam Grama Panchayat



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Cleaning/ conservation work in all streams which are tributaries of Kadambrayar within the limits of Kizhakkambalam Grama Panchayat is included in MGNREGS and undertaken every year. In the 2024-25 Annual Plan, for the work Karukulam Kadambrayar Valiya Thodu Side Protection Rs. 36,02,000/- has been allocated for the fourth reach and follow-up action is being taken by forming local body level squads for continuous inspections to prevent dumping of waste in water bodies.	Panchayat representatives informed that the Kadambrayar River passes through six wards of the Panchayat. During the inspection, side protection works along the Karukulam-Kadambrayar Valiya Thodu were found to be in progress. It was observed that CCTV camera is not installed at vulnerable bridge locations/river stretches for monitoring and preventing waste dumping into the river.
Kochi Corporation	
A survey of the sources of discharge of waste Kadambrayar has been completed.	Document was not submitted during the inspection. It was informed that the document would be submitted later; however, it has not been received yet and is to be verified.
A sewage treatment plant with a capacity of 100 KLD has been installed at the Brahmapuram waste plant. Also, the plan to establish FSTP with 1 MLD capacity included in the AMRUT project has been approved by the Cabinet and the State Level establishment of Technical Committee has approved the project.	100 KLD FSTP found operational. Letter of Acceptance for establishment of 1.0 MLD FSTP at Brahmapuram under AMRUT 2.0 through DBOT mode was submitted by Kochi Municipal Corporation.
Projects have been undertaken by conducting gap analysis to augment the existing infrastructure related to waste management.	Facilities including FSTP, Black Soldier Fly plants, sanitary waste incinerator and CBG plant were found established and operational




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A contract has been entered into with RAIDCO for setting up a 3 TPD capacity plant for sanitary waste management and work has commenced.	3TPD sanitary napkin/diaper incinerator was found to be operational at Brahmapuram.
Haritha Karma Sena has been additionally appointed to collect bio waste from bulk waste generators.	Reported by the Corporation.
Biomining of legacy waste has been taken to prevent leaching from Brahmapuram waste plant into Chitrapuzha.	Biomining activities were found in progress at the Brahmapuram dumping yard.
Kozhichira Bund has been constructed from Manakukadav to the Kadamprayar - Chitrapuzha confluence.	During inspection, the Kozhichira Bund was found not existing at present and appeared to have been demolished. During the inspection, a side protection wall was found constructed between the dumping yard and the Kadambrayar River to prevent the migration of leachate and waste materials towards the river and thereby minimize the possibility of contamination of the water body.
1.5 TPD biomedical waste is collected and treated.	Agreement of affiliation with Kerala Enviro Infrastructure Limited (KEIL), Ambalamedu, for segregation, collection, transportation, scientific treatment and disposal of domestic biomedical waste, including unused/expired drugs and medicines was submitted by KMC.




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1 MLD FSTP @ Brahmapuram under AMRUT 2.0 (Proposal)	Letter of acceptance for establishment of 1.0 MLD FSTP under AMRUT 2.0 through DBOT mode was submitted by Kochi Municipal Corporation
Edakochi – 1.1 MLD STP (AMRUT Scheme 2.0)	The project includes a 21.7 km sewer network covering 1,897 households in Division 16. Work was awarded at a cost of ₹18.6 crore. Approximately 80% of the work has been completed. Estimate revision is pending approval with the Chief Engineer, LSGD. Target completion: End of August 2026.
5 MLD STP Elamkulam STP	STP tender has been opened. For the 27 km sewer network, the Letter of Acceptance (LOA) has been issued. For the 17 km sewer network, the Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) has been floated, with bid opening scheduled on 16.06.2026.
Sanitary waste collected by Service providers M/S Aravind Associates and A4 Mercantiles (whom ULB has agreement with) and the same is transported to KEIL for disposing at Ambalmedu for scientific management, 2-3 TPD collected and treated at KEIL.	Agreement with KEIL was verified.




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Action Plan for river Kadambrayar Drain joining Chitrappuzha (near Brahmapuram dumping yard) Activity: Restricting seepage of the leachate of plastic dumped in the dumping yard Remedial measure: Bio-mining of legacy waste	Biomining activities were found in progress. The corporation representative reported that as there is no dumping of fresh waste, there is no formation of leachate from the solid wastes.
Action Plan for river Kadambrayar Main stream (Manakkadavu to Kadambravar Chitrapuzha Confluence point) Activity: Provide proper facilities for restricting the seepage of leachate Remedial Measure: Establishing Black Soldier Fly Plant	BSF plants operated by Zigma Global Enviro Care Pvt. Ltd. and Faabco Pvt. Ltd. were found operational.
Compressed bio-gas plant (bio-methanation): Construction of a compressed Bio-gas Plant by BPCL, with a capacity to treat 150 TPD biodegradable waste, is also nearing completion in Brahmapuram, Kochi.	The CBG plant was found operational.

6. Though Vadavucode- Puthencruz Grama Panchayat was not included in the report, inspection was conducted there as the Kadambrayar River passes through the Panchayat and an action plan has been prepared for the Panchayat by the District Level Technical Committee (DLTC) formed by the order of honourable NGT in OA 673/2018 for the rejuvenation of polluted stretches of Chithrapuzha (Irumpanam to Karingachira) and Kadambrayar (Manakkakadavu Brahmapuram). Five CCTV cameras had been installed at various locations within the Panchayat. However, one of the cameras was found to be non-operational during the inspection. It was further observed that the cameras were not positioned near the bridge/ river stretch for effective monitoring and prevention of waste dumping into the river. Panchayat representatives




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informed that a sanitation survey had been completed with the assistance of Haritha Karma Sena. Supporting documents and records regarding the survey were not produced for verification during the inspection.

In light of the above, it is humbly submitted that the Board is taking sincere efforts to address the issues related to Pollution of Kadambrayar.

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

Dated this 19 day of June 2026



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Noby George", written over the typed name.

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ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
KERALA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
REGIONAL OFFICE
GANDHI NAGAR, KOCHI-682020

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER

LEGAL CELL, ERNAKULAM