

IN THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, KALAS MAHAL, CHENNAI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 06/2024 (SZ)
[EARLIER OA 714/2023(PB)]

IN THE MATTER OF:

**Tribunal on its own motion
SUO MOTU based on the
News Item in The Hindu
Bureau Dt 24.11.2023 titled “2
Worker die while cleaning
water tank”**

... .. Applicant

VERSUS

**Deputy Commissioner,
Bengaluru and Ors.**

... .. Respondents

Previous D.o.H: 06.12.2024

Next D.o.H: 25.02.2025

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MUKESH KUMAR
Advocate for Respondent no. 3
KSPCB

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Place: New Delhi
eFiled on: 24.02.2025

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ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಮಾಲಿನ್ಯ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣ ಮಂಡಳಿ Karnataka State Pollution Control Board

“ಪರಿಸರ ಭವನ”, 1 ರಿಂದ 5ನೇ ಮಹಡಿಗಳು, ನಂ. 49, ಚರ್ಚ್ ಸ್ಟ್ರೀಟ್, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು - 560 001, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ, ಭಾರತ
“Parisara Bhavan”, 1st to 5th Floor, # 49, Church Street, Bangalore - 560 001, Karnataka State, India
No. PCB/CNP/15/GEN/19 | 688

Date: 15 FEB 2025

To,

1. Principle Secretary
Social Welfare Department
Government of Karnataka,
No. 232 2nd floor Vikas Soudha,
Bangalore -560001.
2. Secretary
Karnataka State Safai Karmachari Development
Cooperation, Bengaluru.

Sir,

Subject: Submitting information regarding the steps taken for complete ban on the practice of Manual Scavenging in Bangalore City

Ref: 1. Report published in The Hindu Bureau, New Delhi, newspaper dated: 30.01.2025.

2. WP No. 324/2020 (Dr Balaram Sing V/s Union of India & Others) Judgement dated: 20.10.2023 & 29.01.2025.

3. D.O letter from Principle Secretary, Social Welfare Department Government of Karnataka, dated: 31.01.2025.

4. Letter received from Karnataka State Safai Karmachari Development Cooperation letter dated: 31.01.2025

With respect to above matter, as per your letter vide ref (3) & (4) it is mentioned that Writ Petition No: 324/2020 (Dr. Balaram Sing V/s Union of India & Others) d & d conducted a survey of manual scavengers, out of a total of 775 districts, 465 districts and 5 other metropolitan corporations including Bangalore City have submitted an Affidavit to the Hon'ble Supreme Court that manual scavenging is free will be notified. Further, it is also mentioned in reference letter that the Hon'ble Supreme Court has issued an order to submit affidavit by February 13 regarding the action taken to completely ban manual scavenging in the concerned Municipal Corporations in the hearing held on 29th January 2025 and as per reference (1) it will be reported in The Hindu Bureau, New Delhi, daily newspaper and Bangalore City District Manual. A complete report on the steps taken to completely ban the scavenging practice is directed to submit the action taken report on ban on Manual scavenging system in Bengaluru City by KSPCB.

In this regard it is bring to your kind notice that, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board is not encouraging the manual scavenging for the sewage treatment plants (STPs) which are installed in the industries / organizations, and Board also stipulating conditions while issuing

the consent order that Industries/organization shall not carryout any manual scavenging activity and the content of conditions stipulated in consent order will be as below:

"The applicant shall make use of the Mechanical Cleaning Equipment's to clean the STPs, instead of resorting to manual cleaning by contacting the Urban Local Body or any other authorized private agency in this regard by making use of Sucking & Jetting Machines. Necessary protective equipments, safety gadgets, lifesaving oxygen supply shall be made available at the STP at all times. Precaution shall be taken to avoid any personnel coming in contact with Methane Gas generated. Necessary protective equipment with prescribed calibration shall be made available at all times"

Further, it is the responsibility of Urban Local bodies coming under Urban Development Department to take necessary action to control the manual scavenging activity in their areas. Hence, it is requested to obtain the further information from Urban Development Department in this regard. This is for your kind information.

Yours faithfully,



Member Secretary

Karnataka State Pollution Control Board

