

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL**  
**SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**  
**ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 93 of 2023(SZ)**

The Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU based on the news item published in 'The Hindu' Thiruvananthapuram E- edition dated 07.06.2023, "Study finds disturbing evidence of marine plastic pollution off Kerala coast"

Vs

Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Through  
its Member Secretary & Others : Respondent(s)

**VOLUME 1**

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Dated this the 3rd day of July 2025



Adv. Rema Smrithi V. K.

*Sub*  
**SABAH NAZEEMUDEEN**  
Environmental Engineer

STANDING COUNSEL FOR THE THIRD RESPONDENT

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL**

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Vs

Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Through its Member Secretary & Others : Respondent(s)

**REPORT FILED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER,**  
**KERALA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, FOR AND ON**  
**BEHALF OF THE THIRD RESPONDENT**



  
**SABAH NAZEEMUDEEN**  
Environmental Engineer

Adv. Rema Smrithi V. K.

STANDING COUNSEL FOR THE THIRD RESPONDENT

**SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**  
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**VOLUME 2**

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Dated this the 3rd day of July 2025



*SJ*  
**SABAH NAZEEMUDEEN**  
Environmental Engineer

Adv. Rema Smrithi V. K.

STANDING COUNSEL FOR THE THIRD RESPONDENT

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL**

**SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

**Original Application No. 93 of 2023(SZ)**

Applicant :	The Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU based on the news item published in 'The Hindu' Thiruvananthapuram E- edition dated 07.06.2023, "Study finds disturbing evidence of marine plastic pollution off Kerala coast"
Respondents:	Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Through its Member Secretary & Others

**Report filed by the Environmental Engineer, Kerala State Pollution Control Board, District Office, Thiruvananthapuram on behalf of the 3rd respondent, Kerala State Pollution Control Board, in Original Application No. 93/2023**

1.I, Sabah Nazeemudeen, aged 42 years, working as an Environmental Engineer, Kerala State Pollution Control Board, District Office Thiruvananthapuram, is authorised to represent the 3<sup>rd</sup> Respondent in the Original Application no.93/2023 vide proceedings produced and marked as **Annexure- R3- (a)**. This report is being filed in continuation to the report filed by the Board dated 24.09.2024. The factual submissions made hereunder are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. In these circumstances, it is just and necessary that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to accept the accompanying information on file and it is so humbly prayed in the interests of justice in this case.

2. It is respectfully submitted that a review meeting related to the action plan for OA 93/2023 was held in the chamber of the Deputy Collector, Thiruvananthapuram on 07.04.2025. A true copy of the Minutes of the Meeting is produced herewith and marked as **Annexure R3-(b)**. According to the decisions taken in the said meeting, letters were issued on 13.06.2025 to various stakeholders including the Deputy Collector (Disaster Management), Inspector General & Commissioner of Police, District Police Chief, Joint Director LSGD, Secretary DTPC, Executive Engineers of the Major Irrigation and Harbour Engineering Departments, Deputy Director of Fisheries, Secretary of Thiruvananthapuram



*Sb*  
**SABAH NAZEEMUDEEN**  
Environmental Engineer

Corporation, Assistant Executive Engineer (Inland Navigation), and the Deputy Director of Tourism. These letters directed the aforementioned departments to report the actions taken in connection with OA 93/2023 for ensuring that plastic waste does not enter the coastal waters. A true copy of the letter issued is appended and marked as **Annexure R3-(c)**.

4. It is respectfully submitted that among those departments the fisheries department and Thiruvananthapuram corporation submitted replies vide letter dated 21.04.2025, 21.06.2025 respectively. The Fisheries Department, through a letter from Deputy Director dated 21.04.2025, reported the following. An initiative named "SuchitwaSaagaramSundharaTheeram" is being actively implemented to eliminate plastic pollution along the ocean and seashores and restore the marine and coastal ecosystems with public participation. In Thiruvananthapuram district, awareness notices based on scientific facts were distributed to all households and activities such as traditional art performances, sea walks, school quizzes, and awareness programmes were conducted. During the second phase on 11.04.2025, a one-day plastic cleanup drive resulted in the removal of 22,951 kg of plastic waste by 2,674 volunteers at 68 locations, with the waste sent to authorized disposal facilities. The third phase of the campaign is currently in progress as per the above report.

5. It is respectfully submitted that Health Officer of Thiruvananthapuram Corporation, reported the various efforts taken up towards marine waste management and plastic removal which is as follows. Under the GIZ, Susthiram, Plastic Fisher Programme 12.3 tonnes of plastic waste were collected between March 2023 and June 2024 with the help of 2,739 volunteers across key coastal areas. Awareness programmes, beach clean-ups, and art-based outreach were conducted through the Indo-German Technical Cooperation Project. A Mega Beach Clean-up Drive on 21st September 2024, as part of the International Coastal Cleanup Day, at Vettukad, Kovalam, Veli, Shangumugham, and Pallithura involved 800 participants, 500 volunteers from "Volunteer for India" and 300 Corporation sanitation workers and removed 2 tonnes of plastic waste. Trash booms installed at 15 points prevented 514 tonnes of waste from entering the sea and a Metal mesh structure was added at Thakaraparambu. Monthly clean-up drives are ongoing in Attipra, Thiruvallom, and Vizhinjam coastal areas. From January to May 2025, a total fine of ₹3,74,322/- was collected from 1,037 individuals for violations related to improper plastic waste disposal.

6. It is respectfully submitted that both the Fisheries Department and Thiruvananthapuram Corporation have shown coordinated and sustained efforts to address marine plastic pollution.



These efforts involve public engagement, focused cleanup drives, infrastructural interventions like trash booms and barrier installations, and strict enforcement of waste management regulations. The initiatives reflect a comprehensive commitment to the restoration of coastal ecosystems and the promotion of responsible plastic waste handling along the coastal belt.

7. In addition to the above, the District Level Monitoring Committee chaired by the Sub Collector convened a meeting on 02.07.2025, where the issue of marine plastic pollution under OA 93/2023 was included as an agenda item for further discussion and follow-up.

8. The implementation of the Action plan is an ongoing process and the actions taken by all the stakeholder departments will be reviewed in the DLMC meetings and progress updated from time to time.

9. It is respectfully submitted that a Liberian-flagged vessel namely MSC ELSA-3 sank in the Arabian Sea, approximately 38 nautical miles southwest of Kochion 24.5.2025 and sacks with plastic nurdles washed to in the shores of Trivandrum coast. Kerala State Disaster Management Authority had developed a protocol for beach cleanup. The salvaging company (MERC) on behalf of the shipping company as well as the volunteers engaged by LSGD's is carrying out the beach cleanup under the supervision of the various Government Departments including the Board. The cleaned plastic nurdles are stored at the Kollam Portgodown. The cleaning of the nurdles is in progress.

10. It is respectfully submitted that the Board is fully aware of its responsibilities to prevent the pollution of environment and is diligently executing its duties as a regulatory body.

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

Dated this the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of July, 2025.



**Environmental Engineer**

**District Office, Thiruvananthapuram**

**Kerala State Pollution Control Board**

**SABAH NAZEEMUDEEN**  
**Environmental Engineer**



**KERALA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

കേരളസംസ്ഥാന മലിനീകരണ നിയന്ത്രണ ബോർഡ്

Pattom P.O., Thiruvananthapuram - 695 004  
പട്ടം പി.ഒ., തിരുവനന്തപുരം - 695 004



PCB/HO/EE-3/OA-93/2023

Date: 25.10.2024

**AUTHORISATION**

Sub: OA 93/2023 (SZ) -Suo Moto registered by Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) based on a news item published in "The Hindu" Thiruvananthapuram E-edition dated 07.06.2023 under the caption "Study finds disturbing evidence of marine plastic pollution off Kerala coast".

Ref: Authorization of even no. dated 25.08.2023

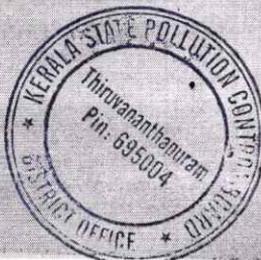
The Environmental Engineer, District Office, Thiruvananthapuram is hereby authorized to represent the Board (3<sup>rd</sup> respondent) in the above Original Application. Authorization issued vide reference is hereby cancelled.

For and on behalf of the  
**KERALA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

  
**CHAIRPERSON**

To,  
The Environmental Engineer  
District Office,  
Thiruvananthapuram

- Copy to:
1. Adv. Rema Smrithi V.K.  
No.2, Temple Glade Apartments,  
Kalashetra Colony, Beach Road, Besanth  
Nagar, Chennai :600 090 ,
  2. Senior Environmental Engineer-1,  
Legal Section, Head Office
  3. The Environmental Engineer,  
Legal Cell, Ernakulam



  
**SABAH NAZEEMUDEEN**  
Environmental Engineer

**Minutes of the meeting held on 07.04.2024 in the chamber of Additional District Magistrate reg OA 93 of 2023 - Marine Plastic Pollution of the Kerala Coast**

A meeting was held on 07.04.2024 in the chamber of the Deputy Collector (District Magistrate- General) for reviewing the action plan prepared for OA 93/2023 - Marine Plastic Pollution of the Kerala Coast

The meeting started at 4:00 PM

The following officers were present during the meeting.

1. Sri. G. Sreekumar, Deputy Collector (District Magistrate- General).
2. Dr. S. Sasikumar, Health Officer, Thiruvananthapuram Corporation.
3. Sri. Sasikumar P G, Manager, Clean City, Thiruvananthapuram Corporation
4. Sri. Sathesh Miranda, Secretary, DTPC, TVPM
5. Sri. A B Sajeev Kumar, Deputy Director, Fisheries Department
6. Er. Hari R, Executive Engineer, Major Irrigation
7. Er. Sabah Nazeemudeen, Environmental Engineer, KSPCB
8. Er. Rahul R, Assistant Engineer, KSPCB
9. Sri. V S Geetha, JS, Office of the JD,LSGD

The Environmental Engineer, KSPCB briefed the action plan prepared with respect to OA 93/2023. The Health Officer, Thiruvananthapuram Corporation informed that they are planning a mass beach cleaning program on 11.04.2025 at Vizhinjam. The Deputy Collector (DM) instructed the representatives of Corporation and LSGD, to update the details of MCF, Mini MCF, RRF, and trash boom details, and to compile the action taken report of Varkala Municipality and coastal grama panchayats. Thiruvananthapuram Corporation has to submit their own report to avoid duplication of data.

The EE, Major Irrigation, reported that, a new project is proposed for installing fencing at Amaylzanjan thodu at some locations. The Deputy Collector (DM) instructed to send a letter to the Police Department and Harbour Engineering Department to furnish the updated report on the action plan. The Deputy Collector (DM) has suggested that there shall be coordination between the departments regarding the utilization of the CSR fund of companies.



  
**SABAH NAZEEMUDEEN**  
Environmental Engineer

The representative of DTPC reported that they have increased the manpower by incorporating Kudumbashree members for waste collection. The wages are also distributed by the said department. DTPC and the Tourism Department were combined to conduct cleanup activities in the major tourist spots in Thiruvananthapuram District.

The Deputy Collector (DM) has instructed the corporation to find out the hotspot locations for entering plastic waste into the marine environment by engaging the squad formed for SUP inspection.

The representative of the corporation informed that there are two companies managing solid waste in corporation areas: Clean Kerala Company Ltd. (CKCL) and Green Worms Company. Among them, all the vehicles of CKCL are fitted with GPS tracking, whereas vehicles of Green Worms are not installed with a GPS tracking system. The LSGD has to report the status of the fines imposed on defaulters on the usage of SUPs .

The Deputy Collector (DM) has instructed the concerned departments to review the action plan and submit an updated report, including all the initiatives conducted by their respective departments, by 30.04.2025. The action plan shall be shared with the concerned department by KSPCB.

All the departments were asked to put forward their ideas for preventing marine plastic pollution and to update the action plan immediately before 30/04/2025

### Decisions

1. Updation of the details of MCF, Mini MCF, RRF, and trash booms installed (Action- Thiruvananthapuram Corporation and JD, LSGD).
2. Compiling the action taken report of Varkala Municipality and coastal grama panchayats (Action- JD, LSGD)
3. Send letters to the Police Department and Harbour Engineering Department requesting the updated report on the action plan. (Action:Deputy Collector (DM))
4. Finding the hotspot locations for entering plastic waste into the marine environment by engaging the squad .(Corporation, JD LSGD)
5. The details of penalty imposed on defaulters for the usage of Banned Single Use Plastics (Action : JD LSGD, Corporation)



3

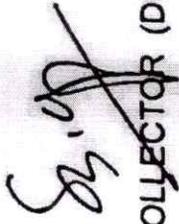
  
**SABAH NAZEEMUDEEN**  
Environmental Engineer

6. Reviewing the action plan and submit an updated report, including all the initiatives conducted by 30.04.2025. ( All departments)

The meeting concluded at 5:10 PM.

23.04.2025

Kudappanakunnu



DEPUTY COLLECTOR (DM)



H



SABAH NAZEEMUDEEN  
Environmental Engineer

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**KERALA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**  
കേരള സംസ്ഥാന പരിമിതപ്പെടുത്തൽ നിയന്ത്രണ ബോർഡ്

DISTRICT OFFICE, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM  
ജില്ലാ ഓഫീസ്, തിരുവനന്തപുരം

T. C. 12/96 (4.5), PLAMOODU JN., PATTOM P.O., THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 695 004

ടി.സി. 12/96 (4.5), പ്ലാമൂട് ജംഗ്ഷൻ, പട്ടം പി.ഒ, തിരുവനന്തപുരം - 695 004



PCBDTM/512/2024-EE

13/06/2025

From,

Environmental Engineer

**IMMEDIATE**

To,

1. Deputy Collector  
Disaster Management
2. Inspector General & Commissioner of Police  
Thiruvananthapuram City
3. District Police Chief  
Thiruvananthapuram Rural
4. Joint Director, LSGD  
Thiruvananthapuram
5. Secretary  
District Tourism Promotion Council
6. Executive Engineer  
Major Irrigation Department  
Thiruvananthapuram
7. Executive Engineer;  
Division Office, Harbour Engineering Department  
Thiruvananthapuram
8. Deputy Director of Fisheries  
Thiruvananthapuram
- 9.. Secretary  
Thiruvananthapuram Corporation
10. Assistant Executive Engineer  
Inland Navigation
11. The Deputy Director,  
Department of Tourism,  
Thiruvananthapuram

*Saba*  
**SABAH NAZEEMUDEEN**  
Environmental Engineer



Sub: OA 93/2023 – News item published on 'The Hindu Thiruvananthapuram E- edition' dated 07/06/2023 under the caption – " Study find disturbing evidence of Marine Plastic Pollution of Kerala Coast" – Submission of detailed report- reg.

- Ref: 1. Interim order of Hon'ble NGT on OA 93/2023 dated 04/04/2025  
2. Minutes of meeting held on 07/04/2025  
3. E-mail dated 28/04/2025

Sir/Madam,

Your kind attention is invited to the subject matter. As per the reference cited (2), a meeting was conducted regarding progress and updation of the action plan for Marine Plastic Pollution. The action plan and minutes of the meeting are enclosed. Next posting of the case is scheduled on 07/07/2025. On the basis of these circumstances, please submit a detailed action taken report on the matter on or before 19/06/2025. In case there is no necessity for taking action in this matter from your department, reply may be submitted accordingly. Kindly ensure that the reports are submitted without causing any further delay. It is kindly further informed that non submission of these reports will have to be reported accordingly to the Hon'ble NGT as the Tribunal is insisting for a comprehensive report based on the information from all the departments. This is for your kind information and urgent necessary action.

Enclosure: as above

Copy to

- (1) The Chairperson  
(2) The Chief Environmental Engineer  
Regional Office, Plamood Pattom P O -695004

Yours Faithfully

Sd/-

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER

Forwarded by Order

  
ASSITANT ENGINEER



  
SABAH NAZEEMUDEEN  
Environmental Engineer