

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

Original Application No. 186 of 2023

(Under Section 14 & Section 15 r/w Section 18 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010)

IN THE MATTER OF:

RAVINDRANATH SHANBHOGUEAPPLICANT

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA AND OTHERSRESPONDENTS

**REPORT FILED BY THE FIFTH RESPONDENT IN THE ABOVE
CASE**



Adv. Rema Smrithi.V.K

ADDITIONAL STANDING COUNSEL

**BEFORE THE HONOURABLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
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VOLUME 1

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Dated this the 05th day of January, 2026.

Rema Smrithi. V.K., Advocate
Additional Standing Counsel

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VOLUME 2

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Dated this the 05th day of January, 2026.

Rema Smrithi. V.K., Advocate
Additional Standing Counsel

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

Original Application No. 186 of 2023

(Under Section 14 & Section 15 r/w Section 18 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010)

IN THE MATTER OF:

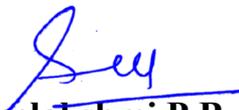
RAVINDRANATH SHANBHOGUEAPPLICANT

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA AND OTHERSRESPONDENTS

VERIFICATION

I, Sreelakshmi P.B, aged 43 years, Environmental Engineer, Kerala State Pollution Control Board, District Office, Kasaragod, do hereby verify on this the 05th day of January, 2026, that all what is stated above are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and information.


Sreelakshmi P.B.

Environmental Engineer

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

Original Application No. 186 of 2023

IN THE MATTER OF:

RAVINDRANATH SHANBHOGUEAPPLICANT

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA AND OTHERSRESPONDENTS

**STATUS REPORT ON OA 186/2023 (SZ) FILED BY THE
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER, KERALA STATE POLLUTION
CONTROL BOARD, DISTRICT OFFICE KASARAGOD ON BEHALF OF
THE MEMBER SECRETARY KERALA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL
BOARD BEFORE THE HONORABLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL**

I, Sreelakshmi P.B, aged 43 years, currently working as Environmental Engineer of the District office of Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Kasaragod, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows:

1. I am the Environmental Engineer, Kerala State Pollution Control Board (hereinafter referred to as Board), and duly authorized to represent the 5th respondent in the above case. I am aware of the facts affirmed by me in this report. I am swearing this report based on the best of my knowledge, information and belief and the facts revealed from the records.
2. It is respectfully submitted that the Hon'ble Tribunal on 29.10.2025 directed that
“Let a comprehensive report be submitted by M/s. PCK, which must also address the missing endosulfan barrels; any damage caused by the presence of endosulfan in soil and water; and any remedial measures required. It is



Srey

Sreelakshmi P.B
Environmental Engineer
KSPCB, District Office
Kasaragod

clarified that, as recommended by the CPCB, all related expenses shall be borne by M/s. PCK. Let the report prepared by M/s. PCK in compliance with these directions be circulated in advance to the applicant and other counsels to enable them to file objections, if any. The analysis shall be carried out in the presence or under the supervision of the Kerala SPCB/CPCB. It is open to the CPCB/Kerala SPCB to engage any expert agency in this regard”

3. It is respectfully submitted that the Regional Director, CPCB, Bengaluru, has directed that M/s. PCK Ltd. shall obtain authorization from the Kerala SPCB under the Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016, for the environmentally sound disposal of endosulfan stocks / contaminated waste materials through an authorized and selected TSDF operator having adequate facilities for safe disposal in compliance with the said Rules. The copy of Letter F.No.CM-13013/8/2023-LAB-RD-BENGALURU RD (Bengaluru)/651 dated 03.12.2025 is produced herewith and marked as **Annexure R5(a)**.

4. It is respectfully submitted that in view of the Order of the Hon'ble Tribunal and based on Annexure R5(a) the Board had issued directions to M/s. PCK directing to comply the order and also obtain Board's authorization for disposal of the Endosulfan barrels. Copy of Letter No.KSPCB/1939/2023-SEE-1 dated 30.12.2025 is produced herewith and marked as **Annexure R5(b)**. M/s. PCK had not applied for authorization till date and also not submitted any action taken to dispose the Endosulfan barrels. Hence, the District Office of the Board convened hearing with M/s. PCK to review the action taken by M/s. PCK to dispose the Endosulfan barrels and also to provide necessary support for obtaining Board's authorization. M/s. PCK had not attended the hearing convened by the Board. M/s. PCK on 01.01.2026



Srey

Sreelakshmy P.B
Environmental Engineer
KSPCB, District Office
Kasaragod

reported that the Endosulfan stock is presently under the control of revenue department. The copy of Letter No. KSD/Endosulfan/1330 dated 01.01.2026 is produced herewith and marked as **AnnexureR5(c)**.

5. It is humbly submitted that M/s.PCK had not reported the present status on disposal of barrels.

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

Dated this the 05th day of January, 2026.




The Environmental Engineer
Kerala State Pollution Control Board
District Office Kasaragod
On behalf of the 5th Respondent



केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड
CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE, GOVT. OF INDIA

F. No. CM-13013/8/2023-LAB-RD-BENGALURU-RD (Bengaluru) 03-12-2025

To

The Managing Director,
Plantation Corporation-Kerala (PCK),
Head Office, Muttambalam P.O, Kottayam, Kerala - 686 004,
Email: mdpckltd@pcklimited.in & operationsdept@pcklimited.in

VOLUME 2
Annexure R5(a)

Sub: Honourable NGT matter of OA No. 186/2023(SZ): Disposal of endosulfan stockpiles and further studies.

Ref: Honourable NGT order dated 29-10-2025.

Sir,

Please refer the Honourable NGT order dated 18-09-2024, wherein CPCB was directed to coordinate with Central Insecticides Board & Registration Committee (CIB&RC) under the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation to investigate the method by which the stacked endosulfan stock can be disposed-off in an environmentally sound manner. As per the deliberations of the expert group including the representative from CIB&RC, expert team and officials of CPCB, Kerala SPCB, District Administration and Health Department of Kerala Government (Kasaragod and Palakkad), representatives of TSDF Operators, inspected the stock piles stored at the four estates of M/s. Plantation Corporation of Kerala Ltd., (M/s. PCK Ltd.) located in Kasaragod and Palakkad Districts of Kerala during 21-23rd November, 2024. As suggested by the expert team, the endosulfan stockpiles were transferred to new drums during 19-24th June 2025 under the supervision of the joint expert team members. Detailed inventory of the endosulfan stocks to be disposed prepared, in presence of expert team and the representatives of District Administration (Kasaragod and Palakkad). All the endosulfan liquid transferred to new drums (110 L). contaminated materials were secured in drums, labelled, marked and kept under safe custody of M/s PCK Limited for the ultimate disposal. A detailed report indicating the inventory and ultimate disposal options was submitted to the Honourable Tribunal. After considering the report, Honourable NGT vide order dated 29-10-2025 (copy enclosed for record and ready reference) directed that:

CONFID.

क्षेत्रीय निदेशालय (बेंगलूरु) : निसर्ग भवन, ए-ब्लॉक, प्रथम एवं द्वितीय तल, तिम्मय्या रोड, 7-डी मैन, शिवनगर, बेंगलूरु - ५६० ०७९.

Regional Directorate (Bengaluru) : " Nisarga Bhawan ", A-Block, 1st & 2nd Floors, Thimmaiah Road, 7th D - Main, Shivanagar, Bengaluru - 560 079.

दूरभाष / Telephone : 080-23233739, 23233827, 23222539, Fax : 080-23234059

ई-मेल / E-mail : zobangalore.cpcb@nic.in

प्रधान कार्यालय : परिवेश भवन, पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली- ११० ०३२.

Head Office : Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 110 032.

दूरभाष / Telephone : 011-43102030, Fax : 22305793, 22307078, 22307079, 22301932, 22304948

ई-मेल / E-mail : cpcb@nic.in वेबसाइट / Website : www.cpcb.nic.in

"At this stage, it would be appropriate to direct M/s. Plantation Corporation of Kerala Limited (M/s. PCK) to jointly examine the reports of the State, Kerala SPCB, and CPCB along with their recommendations and the objections raised by the applicant and to conduct a thorough study.

Let a comprehensive report be submitted by M/s. PCK, which must also address the missing endosulfan barrels; any damage caused by the presence of endosulfan in soil and water; and any remedial measures required".

Honourable NGT also specifically directed that as recommended, all expenses shall be borne by M/s. PCK and study shall be conducted under the supervision of Kerala SPCB/ CPCB.

Meanwhile, as already recommended by the joint expert team, M/s. PCK Ltd shall obtain authorization from Kerala SPCB under HOWM Rules, 2016 for environmentally sound disposal of endosulfan stocks/ contaminated waste materials through the authorised and selected TSDF operator having adequate facilities for safe disposal fulfilling the requirements of HOWM Rules, 2016.

It is therefore requested to take necessary action and for ensuring compliance in line with the Hon'ble NGT directions dated 29.10.2025 in the matter.

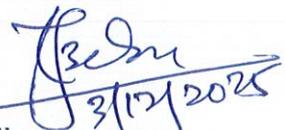
Yours faithfully

(J. Chandra Babu)
Regional Director

Encl.: As above

Copy to:

1. District Collector, Endosulfan Cell, Government of Kerala, Kasaragod, Kerala : For kind information and to facilitate the requirements for disposing the stacked endosulfan stockpile.
2. AO to MS, CPCB, Delhi : For kind information of 'MS' please.
3. The Director & DH, IPC-I, CPCB, Delhi : For information and record please.
4. The Director & DH, Legal Section, CPCB, Delhi. : For information and record please.
5. Member Secretary, Kerala SPCB, Thiruvananthapuram. : For information with a request to co-ordinate with PCK for further necessary actions.


3/12/2025
(J. Chandra Babu)

Item No.14:

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

[Through Physical Hearing (Hybrid Option)]

**Original Application No.186 of 2023 (SZ) &
I.A. No.88 of 2025 (SZ)**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Ravindranath Shanbhogue.

...Applicant(s)

Versus

Union of India,
Through its Secretary,
New Delhi and Ors.

...Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 29.10.2025.

CORAM:

**HON'BLE Smt. JUSTICE PUSHPA SATHYANARAYANA, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE Dr. PRAHSANT GARGAVA, EXPERT MEMBER**

For Applicant(s):

Mr. Gaurav Kumar Bansal.

For Respondent(s):

Dr. Kuna. Suryanarayana for R1.
Mr. R. Thirunavukarasu for R2.
Mr. G. Vignesh represented
Mr. E.K. Kumaresan for R3.
Mr. Rajat Jonathan Shaw represented
Mr. K.M. Darpan for R4.
Mrs. V.K. Rema Smrithi for R5.
Mr. Mukesh Kumar for R6.
Mr. Abraham Markos for R7.

ORDER

1. Heard the learned counsels in part.

2. The learned counsel appearing for the applicant submitted that, according to the first report of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) dated 01.01.2024, a total of 278 barrels of endosulfan had been reported, whereas only 20 barrels were recovered. However, the latest CPCB report dated 16.07.2025 accounts for only 69 barrels containing endosulfan and recommends their disposal through incineration. Therefore, the learned counsel for the applicant contends that the remaining barrels must be traced to fully eliminate the presence of endosulfan.

3. The Kerala State Pollution Control Board has reported that both Alpha endosulfan and Beta endosulfan were found only at Below Detectable Limits (BDL).

4. The applicant's counsel, however, objects that the water samples were not collected from the required distances and that the sampling was superficial.

5. At this stage, it would be appropriate to direct M/s. Plantation Corporation of Kerala Limited (M/s. PCK) to jointly examine the reports of the State, Kerala SPCB, and CPCB along with their recommendations and the objections raised by the applicant and to conduct a thorough study.

6. Let a comprehensive report be submitted by M/s. PCK, which must also address the missing endosulfan barrels; any damage caused by the presence of endosulfan in soil and water; and any remedial measures required.

7. It is clarified that, as recommended by the CPCB, all related expenses shall be borne by M/s. PCK. Let the report prepared by M/s. PCK in compliance with these directions be circulated in advance to the applicant and other counsels to enable them to file objections, if any.

8. The analysis shall be carried out in the presence or under the supervision of the Kerala SPCB/CPCB. It is open to the CPCB/Kerala SPCB to engage any expert agency in this regard.

9. Post the matter on **09.01.2026**.

Sd/-

Smt. Justice Pushpa Sathyanarayana, JM

Sd/-

Dr. Prashant Gargava, EM

O.A. No.186/2023 (SZ) &
I.A. No.88/2025 (SZ)
29th October, 2025. Mn.

Annexure R5(b)

Ph: General: 0471- 2312910, 2318153, 2318154, 2318155 Chairman:
2318150 Member Secretary: 2318151
e-mail: chn.kspcb@gov.in; ms.kspcb@gov.in FAX: 2318152 web:
kspcb.kerala.gov.in



KERALA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

കേരള സംസ്ഥാന മലിനീകരണ നിയന്ത്രണ ബോർഡ്

Pattom P.O., Thiruvananthapuram – 695 004

പട്ടം പി.ഒ, തിരുവനന്തപുരം 695 004



KSPCB/1939/2023-SEE-1

Date: 30-12-2025

Registered with A/D

From

Member Secretary

To

The Managing Director

Plantation Corporation - Kerala (PCK)

Head Office, Muttambalam P.O

Kottayam, Kerala - 686 004

Sub: - The Hon'ble NGT matter of OA No. 186/2023(SZ): Disposal of
Endosulfan stockpiles and further studies - reg.

Ref: - 1. The Hon'ble NGT Order dated 29.10.25 of OA No.186/2023(SZ)
2. F.No.CM-13013/8/2023-LAB-RD-BENGALURU RD (Bengaluru)/651
dated 03.12.2025

Sir,

Kind attention is invited to above subject matter and references cited.

Vide ref.(1) the Hon'ble Tribunal has directed as follows:

“5. At this stage, it would be appropriate to direct M/s. Plantation Corporation of Kerala Limited (M/s. PCK) to jointly examine the reports of the State, Kerala SPCB, and CPCB along with their recommendations and the objections raised by the applicant and to conduct a thorough study. 7. It is clarified that, as recommended by the CPCB, all related expenses shall be borne by M/s. PCK. Let the report prepared by M/s. PCK in compliance with these directions be circulated in advance to the applicant and other counsels

to enable them to file objections, if any. 8. The analysis shall be carried out in the presence or under the supervision of the Kerala SPCB/CPCB. It is open to the CPCB/Kerala SPCB to engage any expert agency in this regard”.

In view of the directions of the Hon’ble NGT, it is requested to take urgent and necessary action to ensure compliance with the order dated 29.10.2025.

You are also directed to apply and obtain authorisation under the Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016 (HOWM), for the environmentally sound disposal of endosulfan stocks/contaminated waste materials through an authorised TSDF operator having adequate facilities for safe disposal.

Kindly treat this matter as most urgent..

Yours faithfully,

Signed by

Ratish Menon

Date: 30-12-2025 21:28:55 **MEMBER SECRETARY**

Encl.as above

Copy to :

- 1.The Regional Director
Regional Directorate (Bengaluru)
‘Nisarga Bhavan’, A Block,
1st & 2nd Floors, Thimmaiah Road
7th D Main, Shivanagar
Bengaluru - 560 079

- 2.The Chief Environmental Engineer

Regional Office, Kozhikode (for information and follow up)

3. The Environmental Engineer
District Office, Kasaragod (for information and follow up)
4. The Environmental Engineer
District Office, Palakkad (for information and follow up)
5. Dr. Deepesh .V
Scientist D
Central Pollution Control Board
Regional Directorate
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
Bengaluru 560079

THE PLANTATION CORPORATION OF KERALA LTD

(A Government of Kerala Undertaking) Reg. Office: KOTTAYAM)

An 9001: 2015 Certified Company

GSTIN No: 32AAACT7596H2Z2

Annexure R5(c)

KASARAGOD ESTATE, Muliya PO-671542

Ph. No. 04994-250223, 9496076070

01.01.2026



E-mail: pckksd@gmail.com

KSD/Endosulfan/ 1330

To:

The Environmental Engineer,
Kerala State Pollution Control Board, District Office, Kasargod,
MAM Arcade, Near Railway Station, Kanhangad-671315.

Madam,

Subject: Online meeting for review of the status of disposal of Endosulfan -- Reg.

Reference: Lr. No. PCB/KSRD/DO/ENDOSULFAN/1765/2004 dated 23.12.2025.

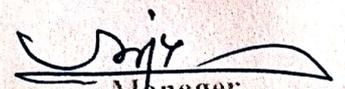
With reference to the subject mentioned above, an online meeting has been scheduled for 31 December 2025 at 11:00 AM regarding the disposal of Endosulfan barrels. Please accept my apologies for the inability of our representative to attend the meeting.

The Plantation Corporation of Kerala Limited relies fundamentally on revenue generated from agricultural products. At the scheduled time of the meeting, a pre-fixed auction of cashew crops was being conducted at the Kasargod Estate. As this auction date was determined well in advance, any postponement would have risked significant financial loss to the Corporation, particularly if weather conditions became unfavourable. Therefore, the officials were required to attend the auction to safeguard the Corporation's existence.

Regarding the status of the material mentioned in your letter, I would like to clarify that the unused Endosulfan is not currently in the stock of the Plantation Corporation. While it was previously held by PCK, the Endosulfan stock is currently under the custody of the Revenue Department.

Nevertheless, the Plantation Corporation will extend its full cooperation to all activities and legal procedures required for the disposal of the barrels in accordance with the Hazardous and Other Wastes Rules.

Yours faithfully,


Manager