

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**

APPLICATION NO. 721 OF 2023

**In the matter on its own motion –SUO MOTU based on the : Applicant
news item published in the Onmanorama Newspaper titled
“Fisheries Department launches inquiry into fingerlings die-off
at Anayirangal Dam”**

Versus

**Member Secretary, Kerala State Pollution Control Board and : Respondent(s)
others**

**REPORT FILED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER, KERALA STATE
POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, IDUKKI**

STANDING COUNSEL FOR 1ST RESPONDENT

Adv. Jojoy Scaria

Standing Council

NGT Principal Bench

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Dated this the 18th day of December 2023

STANDING COUNSEL FOR THE 1st RESPONDENT

Adv. Jojoy Scaria

Standing Council

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Original Application : 721/2023
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Vs.

**REPORT ON OA 721/2023 FILED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER,
KERALA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD ON BEHALF OF THE
MEMBER SECRETARY KERALA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
BEFORE THE HONORABLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL AS PER THE
NOTICE DATED 04.12.2023.**

1. I, Eby Varghese, aged 52 years, S/O T. V. Varghese working as Environmental Engineer, Kerala State Pollution Control Board, District Office, Idukki do solemnly affirm and State as follows.
2. This report is submitted as per the notice dated 04.12.2023 regarding the death of fingerlings at Anayirangal Dam in Udumbanchola Thaluk, Idukki District, Kerala State.
3. It is most respectfully submitted that notice from this Honourable NGT received the district office of the Board on 06.12.2023 and inspection was conducted on the same day.
4. The Dam is owned by Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB). As per the information collected from the Website of KSEB Dam safety organisation it is an earthen dam having a maximum water level (MWL) of 1210.07m with capacity at full reservoir



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level (FRL) of 50.86 Mm³ (Million Cubic Meters). The Dam is constructed across river Panniyar and the purpose of the dam is for power generation. It is a part of the Panniyar Hydro Electric Project.

5. During the inspection on 06.12.2023 no dead fishes could be observed in the dam and as per the information gathered during inspection fish death happened on the same day of dropping the same and no further fish deaths happened. Water samples collected from three locations in the reservoir. One from the bank of reservoir itself and two at different locations by travelling in a local boat.

6. During inspection at the dam and its surroundings, no discharge of waste water to the dam could be noticed, the analysis report of the water samples collected during inspection showed that the water quality parameters are well within limit as per the classification of water bodies based on best designated use for fish culture and wild life propagation. The dissolved oxygen level in the reservoir was tested by collecting water samples from different depths. The result showed that dissolved oxygen at the surface level is 7.4 mg/l and is gradually decreasing when going deep levels. There is no dissolved oxygen beyond 10m which is quite natural. There is natural phenomenon that in stagnant water the dissolved oxygen at deeper points may be very low as there are less chance of deep-water getting contact with atmospheric air as there are less turbulence in the water.

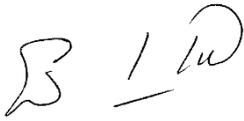
7. It is most respectfully submitted that copy of the report submitted to the District Collector Idukki by the Fisheries Department was also collected. As per the report fingerlings being deposited in reservoirs is based on a programme conducted by the fisheries department in order to increase fish availability in reservoirs which will be helpful for the tribal people in the locality. It is also reported that only 0.25% of the total fish deposited is dead and is normal.



8. It is most respectfully submitted that based on the local enquiries and the analysis report of the water samples collected, no abnormality could be observed in the water quality and the fish death might have happened due to some other reason.

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

Dated this the 18th day of December 2023



The Environmental Engineer

Kerala State Pollution Control Board

District Office Idukki



VERIFICATION

I, Eby Varghese, aged 52, S/o T.V. Varghese now working as Environmental Engineer in the District Office- Idukki of the Kerala State Pollution Control Board at Idukki, duly authorized to file this reply on behalf of the Kerala State Pollution Control Board do hereby verify on this, the 18th day of December 2023, that all what is stated above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief and is borne out from the records maintained in our office.



Eby Varghese, Environmental Engineer

District Office- Idukki

Kerala State Pollution Control Board

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
Kerala State Pollution Control Board
District Office, Idukki
Essaren Building, Anakoodu Jn,
Thodupuzha PIN-685 584



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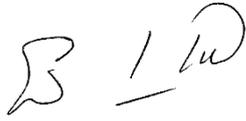
AFFIDAVIT

I, Eby Varghese, aged 52 Years, S/o T.V Varghese, residing at Perumbavoor do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows:

I am now working as Environmental Engineer in the District office- Idukki of the Kerala State Pollution Control Board at Idukki. I am competent to and duly authorized to represent the 1st respondent in the above case. I know the facts and circumstances of the cases. The factual submission made here under in paragraphs 1 to 8 of the reply are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. The legal submissions made there in are made on advice received from Counsel. In these circumstances, it is just and necessary that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to accept the accompanying report on file it is so humbly prayed in the interests of justice in this case.



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ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
Kerala State Pollution Control Board
District Office, Idukki
Essaren Building, Anakoodu Jn,
Thodupuzha PIN-685 584

EBY VARGHESE, DEPONENT

Solemnly affirmed and signed before me by the literate deponent

Personally known to me on this the 18th day of December 2023 at my office in Idukki.



STANDING COUNSEL FOR THE 1ST RESPONDENT

Adv. Jojoy Scaria

Standing Council

NGT Principal Bench