

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**

Original Application No. 693 of 2023

In re:

New item appearing in Deccan Herald dated 24.10.2023 titled “**Pollution Control Boards are the weak link**”

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FILED BY:



**APOORV KURUP
STANDING COUNSEL FOR THE
UNION TERRITORY OF LAKSHADWEEP**

Office: A-2/141, Lower Ground Floor
Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi-110029

Contact: +011-41733001/3002/3003

Email: office@akurup.com

Place: New Delhi

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STATUS REPORT IN RESPECT OF LAKSHADWEEP POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE IN OA NO. 693 OF 2023- SUO MOTU "POLLUTION CONTROL BOARDS ARE THE WEAK LINK"-

In response to the email dated 16.12.2023 in OA NO. 693 OF 2023, it is reported as follows.

Union Territory of Lakshadweep is India's smallest UT, an archipelago consisting of 36 islands with an area of 32 sq. km. It is a uni-district Union Territory and comprises of 12 tolls, 3 reefs, 5 submerged banks and 10 inhabited islands. The islands have a total area of 32 sq. km. The capital is Kavaratti and it is also the principal town of the UT. All Islands are 220 to 440 km away from the mainland.

Total population of Lakshadweep as per 2011 census is 64,473. The total population growth in this decade was 6.30 percent while in previous decade it was 17.19 percent. The population of the UT forms 0.01 percent of India in 2011. In the UT of Lakshadweep there is one Village (Dweep) Panchayat in each of the ten inhabited island and a District Panchayat for entire territory of Lakshadweep. Union Territory of Lakshadweep has no city/town/urban local body.

Lakshadweep Pollution Control Committee was formally constituted by Govt. of India and it has been notified in the Gazette of India vide S.O.No.842 (E) on 31.08.1988. This was reconstituted by the MoEF dated on 23.03.2006, and further reconstituted on vide letter dated. 21.06.2021.

The MoEF/CPCB has sanctioned following 5 technical Staff to Lakshadweep PCC during the IXth FYP period for setting up of a C grade Laboratory in Lakshadweep and provided financial assistants for meeting salary of the staff till the end 10th Plan period.

1. Junior Scientific Assistant – 1
2. Junior Lab. Assistant - 2
3. Field Attendant - 2

After the 10th Five Year Plan period , the salary of staff and other allowances of the staff has taken over by the UT Administration under the Science & Technology sector based on the undertaking submitted by the UT Administration to the MoEF (copy enclosed). The present staff strength and the provision made for the lab in the last two years is attached as **Annexure- I**.

The Lakshadweep Pollution Control Committee is being implemented various environmental statutes namely Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974; Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986; Biomedical Waste Management Rules, Hazardous Waste Management Rules, Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules, E-Waste Management rules, Solid Waste Management Rules as well as Plastic Waste Management Rules in the Territory. The orders of the NGT related to Solid waste management, Plastic waste management, Biomedical Waste Management, etc. are also implemented.

The Lakshadweep Pollution Control Committee is monitoring of ground water quality of Kavaratti and Amini island under National Water Monitoring Programme (NWMP). The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in collaboration with concerned SPCBs/PCCs established a nationwide network of water quality monitoring. The monitoring network covers 3 Ponds and 42 Wells (20 stations at Amini, and 25 stations at Kavaratti). Water samples are being analyzed for physicochemical and bacteriological parameters for water samples apart from the field observations.

The water quality data generated has been used for evaluating the status of water resources, suggesting remedial measures of water pollution, policy decisions on water management etc. Following water quality parameters are carried out in the Department/ LPCC laboratory.

Physico-chemical parameters

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Temperature | 13. Alkalinity |
| 2. pH | 14. Dissolved Oxygen |
| 3. Conductivity | 15. Biological Oxygen Demand |
| 4. Total solid | 16. Chemical Oxygen Demand |
| 5. Total suspended solids | 17. Carbonate |
| 6. Total dissolved solids | 18. Bicarbonate |
| 7. Volatile solid | |
| 8. Chloride | |
| 9. Total Hardness | |
| 10. Calcium | |
| 11. Magnesium | |
| 12. Salinity | |

Microbiology Parameters

1. Total coliform
2. Fecal coliform
3. Fecal streptococci

The CPCB is executing a nation-wide programme of ambient air quality monitoring known as National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP). Presently only PM₁₀ is monitoring in Kavaratti Island. The Average value of PM₁₀ is 57.68µg/m³ (November 2023).

Lakshadweep Pollution Control Committee, has initiated action to invite competitive E-Tender for procuring of following equipments to assess PM 2.5 and other gaseous parameters like SO₂ and NO₂

Sl. No.	Equipment Name	QTY
1	Respirable Dust Sampler PM10 with Gaseous attachment SO ₂ , NO ₂	02
2	Manual analyzer PM2.5	02

The duties related to consent management, inspections, monitoring of compliance with standards etc. are also monitored. The equipment and infrastructure available in the lab and further need of equipment is attached as **annexure- II**.

Enclosures: as above.

Annexure- I

Lakshadweep PCC. Existing Staff Strength

Sl.No	Designation (with number of strength)	Status	Mode of Appointment	Remarks
1.	Junior Scientific Assistant - 1	Vacant	Direct	Vacancy notified
2.	Junior Lab. Assistant -2	1 post vacant	Direct	Vacancy notified
3.	Field Attendant -2	Vacant	Direct	Vacancy notified

Budget provision for the year 2020 - 2022

Sl.No	Source of expenditure	2020-21 Amount in Rs.	2021-22 Amount in Rs.	Remarks
1.	Under MH 3425 HoA 05 00 50	2.00 lakh	2.00 lakh	Purchase of equipment/chemicals
2.	Under MH 3425 HoA 05 00 21	2.00 lakh	1.50 lakh	Monitoring of Microbiology parameters
3.	Under MH 3425 OSR 60 Others 001 D&A 01 HQE 01 00 01 Salaries	390420 .00	577764.00	Salaries
Total amount in Rs.		790420.00	927764.00	1718184.00

Annexure- IILaboratory Requirement

Sl.No.	Parameters to be monitored	Instrument required	Facility available at present
1.	Colour	1. Analytical balance- 1	Colour
2.	TSS	2. Desiccator - 2	TSS
3.	TDS	3. UV-Vis-Spectro photo	TDS
4.	Odour	meter -1	Odour
5.	Temperature	4. Conductivity meter - 2	Temperature
6.	pH	5. DO meter - 2	pH
7.	electrical conductivity (EC)	6. COD digester - 1	electrical conductivity (EC)
8.	Dissolved oxygen (DO)	7. Auto Dispenser (chemical)- 2	Dissolved oxygen (DO)
9.	Ammoniacal Nitrogen	8. Digital Burette - 2	Calcium
10.	Nitrate nitrogen	9. Flame Photometer - 2	Magnesium
11.	Nitrite nitrogen,	10. Muffle furnace – 2	Total Hardness
12.	Total Phosphate	11. TKN Analyzer - 2	Total Acidity
13.	Calcium	12. TOC analyser - 2	Total Alkalinity
14.	Magnesium	13. Bacteriological Incubator - 2	Chloride
15.	Total Hardness	14. Water bath – 2	BOD
16.	Total Acidity	15. 20. Autoclave- 1	COD
17.	Chloride	16. Microscope (100X) - 2	Total Coliform
18.	BOD		Fecal Coliform
19.	COD		Fecal streptococci
20.	Sodium		Carbonate
21.	Potassium		Bicarbonate
22.	SAR		
23.	Sulphate		
24.	Sulphides		
25.	Total Coliform		
26.	Faecal Coliform		
27.	Turbidity		

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