

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI IN

Original Application No. 76 of 2017 (SZ)
Original Application No. 259 of 2017 (SZ) &
M.A.No.209 to 214 of 2017 (SZ)

With

Original Application No. 260 of 2017 (SZ)

REPORT FILED BY THE COMMITTEE CONSTITUTED IN THE
MATTER OF O.A NO.259/2017 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
ORDER DATED 09.03.2021 OF HON'BLE NGT

The committee constituted as per the order dated 06.01.2020 in the matter of O.A No. 259 of 2017, Lawyer's Environmental Awareness Forum (LEAF) Versus the State of Kerala & Others, hereby submit the following, subsequent to the order dated 09.03.2021.

The Hon'ble NGT Southern Zone, Chennai vide order dated 09.03.2021 in the matter of O.A. No. 259/2017 (SZ) directed the committee to ascertain the probable peak period and conduct the ambient air quality study and suggest remedial measure after identifying the source and apportioning the liability of the person who will carry out the remedial measures in an effective manner to curb the air pollution in Cochin. It was also directed to conduct Emission inventory and source apportioning studies in these areas (Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Kochi, Alappuzha, Kozhikode, Thrissur, Kasaragod, and Kannur districts) so as to ascertain the

nature of pollution for a long time and ascertain the source of pollution and then suggest remedial measures to curb the same. The committee met via google meet on 16.04.2021 and 03.05.2021. Copy of the minutes of the meeting are produced herewith and marked as Annexure R2 (1) and R2 (2) respectively.

In the committee meeting conducted on 16.04.2021, the committee members discussed about the possibilities of conducting and completing the air quality monitoring studies before 14.07.2021. The convenor pointed out the difficulties in conducting the air quality monitoring studies before July 14th as peak status is not expected to achieve and as it's a time consuming process which requires proper planning, execution, financial aid which may take minimum one year duration. The Committee discussed about the time duration likely to be required for carrying out the study and about the cost of carrying out the source apportionment study per city and the source of funding for the same. The committee observed that the source apportionment study will take a minimum of fifteen months' time as it includes monitoring as well as air quality modelling and the cost of study may vary from one to two crore per city which depends upon the factors like size of the city, rate of development in the city etc.

The Committee members then discussed about the points to be considered in finalizing the agencies to conduct the air quality monitoring and modelling. CPCB member, informed that CPCB has already framed a conceptual methodology and framework for carrying out emission inventory/ source apportionment studies. The committee members opined that the agency should have sufficient equipment and sufficient expertise in the field for

carrying out the work and should do air quality monitoring covering all major seasons round the year. It was finally decided to incorporate at least four agencies and request them to suggest their methodologies.

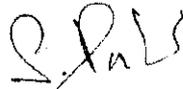
The next committee meeting was conducted via google meet on 03.05.2021. Discussions were held on the proposal shared by the member from NEERI and on the agencies (Viz. IIT madras, NIT Calicut, ARAI, CSIR-NEERI, TERI) suggested by the CPCB member to carry out the source apportionment and emission inventory studies as per CPCB guidelines. The Committee also discussed the criteria to be followed for the selection of agencies with prior experience in the field to carry out the study. NEERI Nagpur, IIT Mumbai, IIT Delhi, IIT Kanpur, ARAI (Automotive Research Association Of India) Pune and TERI (The Energy And Resources Institute) Delhi are some of the organizations having expertise in the field with experience for conducting the study as per the CPCB methodology. As per the suggestions, actions were initiated to get the LoE and project proposals/ project estimate from the above organizations for conducting source apportionment and emission inventory studies for the eight cities.

It is humbly submitted that, source apportionment and emission inventory studies need a lot of resources in terms of funds, manpower, infrastructure and time to cover all seasons for the study. As there is a large financial implication of an approximate amount of minimum sixteen crores with these studies, Kerala Board/ Govt. of Kerala has to make provisions for the funds and once the funds are earmarked, the source

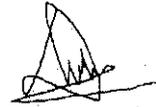
apportionment/ emission inventory studies in eight cities/ town can be carried out as detailed project activities. Considering the paucity of funds to undertake the source apportionment studies in eight cities together Kerala State Board is of the opinion to conduct the study in one city only (i.e.; In Cochin area) rather than conducting the study in all the eight cities together. The committee suggested to include one more city i.e.; Thiruvananthapuram, considering the importance of being the capital city. Also opined that time requirement and fund requirement needs to be conveyed to Hon'ble NGT and suggested to explore the possibility of securing funds from NGT Environmental Compensation (EC) fund maintained by CPCB or KSPCB.



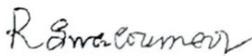
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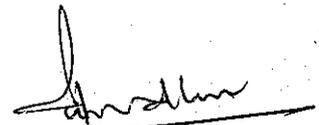
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