

Before The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal

Southern Zone, Chennai

Original Application No.89 of 2017 (SZ)

R. Kunhikrishnan and two others : Applicants

Vs

Union of India and Others Respondents

**REPORT FILED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER, KERALA
STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, DISTRICT OFFICE, KANNUR ON
BEHALF OF 5th RESPONDENT IN THE ABOVE CASE**

Report filed as per the direction of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal by Smt. Anita Koyan, Aged 51 years, D/o Sri. A.Kumaran, residing at Malaparamba, Kozhikode, Environmental Engineer, Kerala State Pollution Control Board, District Office, Kannur, on behalf of the 5th respondent.

Indian Naval Academy (herein after referred to as the Academy) located at Ezhimala conducts basic training for all officers inducted in to the Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard. The campus has training institutions, officers' residential accommodations, squadron, academic, main building complex, civilian accommodation, naval sailors accommodation and hospital. There were complaints against the Academy for the pollution of the wells of nearby residents in January 2017. Board has taken several measures and has issued instructions to the Academy for redressing the complaint and has also complied with the time to time directions of Hon'ble NGT and has submitted reports detailing the action taken.

The Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 4.03.2020, has disposed of the case with directions to respondents. The specific instructions to KSPCB and joint committee Formed by the Hon'ble NGT of which KSPCB is a member are as given below

v) Kerala State Pollution Control Board is directed to make periodical monitoring of the progress of the establishment of the new proposed STP and its functioning and also check the improvement of the well water quality in the neighboring areas.

vi) As per Order dated 28.01.2020, this Tribunal had directed the committee to suggest the remediation method by which the water quality in the nearby wells can, be improved but no such report is seen filed even today. However, we direct the Kerala State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) or the committee which is already seized of the matter to suggest concrete recommendations and remedial measures to solve the problem of contamination of water caused in the nearby wells of the residential area near to the academy and give proper direction to the eight respondent / Ezhimala Naval Academy to improve the water quality in the neighboring areas.

vii) The committee shall submit a periodical report regarding the suggestions given and the steps taken by the Indian Navel Academy Ezhimala to resolve the issue of improving the quality of potable water in the neighboring wells which the Board found as contaminated.

viii) They can also consider the question of improving the green belt within the campus, so that water percolation into the soil can improve.

ix) Pollution Control Board shall submit a report to this Tribunal periodically once in three months for consideration of this Tribunal to monitor the improvement of the situation particularly with reference to the water quality in that area.

It is informed that inspection to the Academy could not be conducted due to the rising COVID pandemic issues followed by lock down. However compliance to the instructions of the Board has been enquired and status collected.

The treated sewage analysis results are displayed and the values are seen within tolerance limits which shows the existing Sewage Treatment Plant is functioning satisfactorily. The copy of the result is attached herewith.

Also the construction of new two Sewage Treatment Plants of capacity 0.6 and 0.3 MLD is nearing completion . Over ninety percent of the work is said to have completed. The rest of the two new Sewage Treatment Plants are in tendering stage, and it takes almost two to three months for completing the tendering procedures.

The collection of well water samples from nearby wells could not be done as the district is under lock down due to COVID. It is submitted that the collection and analysis of well water samples will be carried out as soon as the lockdown is lifted.

The Indian Navel Academy is complying with the instructions of the Board.

Dated 02nd day of June 2021.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Anita Koyan', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER

ANITA KOYAN
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
KERALA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD