

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

**APPLICATION NO 43 of 2017 (SZ)
[SUO MOTO]**

Applicant : **The Tribunal on its own motion on the
Implementation of the Bio-Medical Waste
Management Rules, 2016 in Kerala**

Respondents : **The State of Kerala & Others**

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Dated this the 16th August 2021

Rema Smrithi, Advocate
ADDITIONAL STANDING COUNSEL FOR THE 5th RESPONDENT

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

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO 43 of 2017 (SZ)

[SUO MOTU]

**REPORT FILED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER, KERALA
STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, FOR AND ON BEHALF OF
THE 5th RESPONDENT**

Adv. Rema Smrithi.

ADDITIONAL STANDING COUNSEL FOR THE 5th RESPONDENT:

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

APPLICATION NO 43 of 2017 (SZ)
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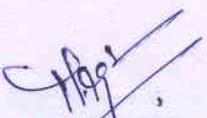
Respondents : The State of Kerala & 7 Others

**REPORT FILED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
ON BEHALF OF THE 5th RESPONDENT**

1. I, Mini Mary Sam, aged 54 years, W/o. Sri. Ranjan Jacob Environmental Engineer, Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Ernakulam do hereby submit that I am authorized to represent the 5th respondent and that I am conversant with the facts of the said case as available from the official records and I state as follows:

2. The Board Officers inspected Kalamassery Medical College on 02.07.2021 and it was reported that the augmentation work of STP had been completed. In the meeting held on 29.06.2021 by the Additional Chief Secretary, Environment Department it was decided to explore the possibility of helping the Hospital authorities in identifying any nearby STP for treating the effluent till the augmentation of STP is completed and initiated for operation. Accordingly the Board's District Officer conducted a discussion on 14.07.2021 with GCDA to explore the feasibility of utilizing the STP of Jewahar Lal Nehru stadium for the treatment of sewage from the Medical College. The minutes of the




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meeting is attached as **Annexure 1**. The Joint Secretary, Health Department also conducted discussion with the hospital authorities and GCDA to evolve the terms and conditions to be agreed upon by the hospital and GCDA. The Board has assured the support in monitoring the trial run operation of STP to check the adequacy and confirming the compliance to discharge standards.

3. Regarding common biomedical waste treatment facility at Ernakulam, KEIL started the trial run from 24.05.2021 with non COVID BMW from Govt. health care facilities of the three districts allotted to them by the Health Department. Now it is reported by KEIL that the collection of non COVID waste from these hospitals in three districts is stabilized and the average daily quantity is only 2.1 T/day as against the plant capacity of 16 T/day. Average daily quantity of COVID BMW from Kalamassery MC is 0.37 tonne (370 kg) and non COVID BMW is 0.073tonne (73 kg).

4. In the meeting convened by Additional Chief Secretary, Environment Department on 29.06.2021 the matter of effective distribution of BMW among the two facilities, IMAGE, Palakkad & KEIL at Ernakulam, was discussed. The current situation of one facility struggling to operate with optimum capacity while the other operating with full capacity and still accumulating waste of around 8T/day was noted. The Pollution Control Board Chairman was asked to convene a meeting with KEIL & IMAGE authorities to solve this issue and work out a solution. The Chairman KSPCB held a meeting on 19.07.2021 with KEIL and IMAGE authorities. The minutes of the meeting is attached as **Annexure 2**. KEIL requested for permission to collect BMW from Govt. and private hospitals from the area within 75 km from the facility which covers 5 districts as the facility was proposed accordingly.



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5. CPCB granted registration to KEIL in "COVID 19 BMW" app for the collection of COVID waste. The Board also issued instructions to DMOs and the Superintendents, Medical Colleges in the three districts to give COVID BMW also to KEIL vide letter dated 22.07.2021 with intimation to IMAGE and Board's Regional/District offices concerned. It is reported by KEIL that even if they start collecting COVID waste also from the Govt. hospitals in the three districts it would not be sufficient to run the plant viably. KEIL pointed out that as service charge for Govt. health care facilities is at subsidised rate, the transportation cost could be utilized effectively only if the waste from both the Govt. hospital and private hospitals in the same area are allotted. In the meeting the Chairman asked IMAGE to submit alternate proposal, if any, in this regard allowing KEIL to collect waste from both Govt. and private health care institutions within 75 km. As per the CPCB guideline for CBWTF a minimum of 10,000 beds are to be made available and CBWTF shall be allowed to cater waste from health care units situated at a radial distance of 75 km. It is evident from the data updated in the COVID19BMW app that they are getting about 4.5 t/day max (as on 09.08.2021) including both COVID and non COVID BMW. In consultation with ACS, Environment Department, an order bearing no. PCB/HO/EE2/BMW-03/GENERAL dtd 13.08.2021 in this regard is issued. Copy of the order is attached as **Annexure 3**

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

Dated this the 16th August 2021




Deponent

Mini Mary Sam
Environmental Engineer(HG)