

MINUTES OF START UP MEETING OF THE DISTRICT LEVEL MONITORING

COMMITTEE (DLMC) ON 06-07-2019

AT GOVT. GUEST HOUSE, ERNAKULAM

Present:

1. Hon'ble Justice A.V. Ramakrishna Pillai, Chairman, SLMC
2. Smt. Sreekala S., Member Secretary, SLMC (Member Secretary, KSPCB)
3. Sri. S. Suhas IAS, District Collector, Ernakulam
4. Smt. Madhavikutty M.S, ACUT, Ernakulam
5. Sri. K. N. Syam Mohan Lal, Divisional Forest Officer, Malayattoor
6. Sri. N. K. Kuttappan, DMO, Ernakulam.
7. Sri. M.J. Sojan, Addl. S.P, Aluva
8. Sri. Binil John , Deputy Director of Panchayat, Ernakulam
9. Sri. Sujith Karun, District Cordinator - Haritha Keralam Mission
- 10.Smt. Dhanya M.S, Technical Consultant, Suchithwa Mission
- 11.Smt. G. Poonguzhali IPS, DCP L&O, Kochi City
- 12.Sri. P. H. Shine, District Coordinator, Suchithwa Mission
- 13.Sri. C.K. Mohanan, Asst. Co-ordinator, Suchithwa Mission
- 14.Sri. C.T. Joju, DFO, Kothamangalam
- 15.Smt. Vinaya K.S, Senior Environmental Engineer, KSPCB, RO, Ernakulam

(Smt.Shaleena V.Nair (Sub Judge), Secretary, DLSA could not reach in time as she was held up in another meeting at Collectorate. However, she had assured full support and co-operation of DLSA to the activities of the DLMC)

Participants:

1. Sri. M. A Baiju, Chief Environmental Engineer, KSPCB, Regional Office, Ernakulam
2. Smt. Mini Mary Sam, Environmental Engineer, District Office-1, Ernakulam

3. Sri. Dinesh K. S, Environmental Engineer, District Office-2 , Ernakulam
4. Smt. Bindu V Gopal, Environmental Engineer, KSPCB, Head Office
5. Smt.Rameena.V.V, Assistant Environmental Engineer, District Office-2, Ernakulam
6. Smt.Shahana.M.A, Assistant Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Ernakulam
7. Smt. Asha A. B, Assistant Engineer, Regional Office, Ernakulam
8. Smt. Kquiny Sabin, Assistant Engineer, Regional Office, Ernakulam

The startup meeting of the District Level Monitoring Committee (DLMC for short) commenced at 3.00 pm at Govt. Guest House Ernakulam. Meeting was Chaired by the Chairman, Hon'ble Justice A.V. Ramakrishna Pillai, (former Judge, High Court of Kerala), State Level Monitoring Committee (SLMC). The Chairman, SLMC welcomed all the members of the District Level Monitoring Committee and other participants. In the introductory remarks the Chairman, SLMC explained the purpose of the constitution of the State Level Monitoring Committee and District Level Monitoring Committee (DLMC) .

Hon'ble Justice A.V. Ramakrishna Pillai, Chairman, SLMC:

The Chairman brought the attention of the members of the DLMC to the following directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi in OA No.606/2018 dated 25.4.2019. The Chairman further insisted the need for circulating those directions among all the officials concern especially the secretaries of the various local bodies in the District, for the implementation of those directions as well as the various provisions of the environmental legislations in letter and spirit in a time bound manner. The directions of the Hon'ble Tribunal are as under:

- i. At least three cities and three towns in the state and at least three villages in every district of the state may be identified, within two weeks and earnest and demonstrable endeavor be made to make them fully compliant in respect of environmental norms **within six months**. Remaining state may be made fully compliant **within one year**.
- ii. A quarterly report be furnished by the Chief Secretary, every three months. First such report shall be furnished by July 30, 2019.
- iii. The Chief Secretary may personally monitor the progress, at least once in a month, with all the District Magistrates.
- iv. The District Magistrates may monitor the status of complaints of environmental norms, **at least once in two weeks**.

- v. The District Magistrates or other officers may be imparted requisite training.
- vi. Estimate of value of environmental degradation and cost of restoration be prepared and compensation be planned and recovered from polluters for environmental restoration and restitutions on that basis.
- vii. Performance audit of functioning of all regulatory bodies may be got conducted and remedial measures be taken, within six months.
- viii. Introduction of a policy of giving ranking, based on performance on the subject of environment and giving of rewards or other incentives on that basis to individual areas, localities, institutions or individuals may be considered. This may also include encouraging students or other citizens significantly contributing to the cause of environment. The best practices may be evolved, if necessary, in the light of experiences on the subject. This may help in educating and involving public at large which may help in enhancing of environmental laws.
- ix. The Chief Secretary may remain present in person before the Tribunal with the status of compliance in respect of various issues mentioned in para 22 as well as any other issues discussed in the above order on 06.11.2019. It is made clear that Chief Secretary may not delegate the above function and the further requirement of appearance before this Tribunal to anyone else. However, it will be open to him to change the date, by advance intimation by e-mail at ngt.filing@gmail.com to adjust their convenience.

The Chairman clarified that **Kalady, Pampakuda and Chottanikara, Panchayaths** are identified as the Model Local Bodies in Ernakulam District, **which are to be made fully compliant in respect of environmental norms within six months and other local bodies within one year from the date of the aforesaid order.** It was also informed that lethargy of local bodies in complying with the directions of the Hon'ble Tribunal would be viewed seriously and the Secretary of such local bodies would be held liable for violations.

Sri. S Suhas IAS, District Collector Ernakulam:

The District Collector & Chairman of the DLMC informed that the public hearing regarding the waste to energy plant at Brahamapuram of this district has been conducted and the final report would be submitted by the consultant within a week so that the project would be implemented after the approval of Environmental Clearance.

Smt. Sreekala.S, Member Secretary, KSPCB & SLMC:

The Member Secretary, KSPCB & SLMC pointed out that heavy penalty would be imposed

on defaulters as per the 'Polluter Pays Principle'. She also pointed out the importance of compliance of Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules 2016 .

Smt. Dhanya M. S, Technical Consultant, Suchitwa Mission:

Explained the difficulty in waste collection from the houses on account of the refusal on the part of waste generators to remit user fee. Suchitwa Mission has given technical and financial support to local bodies for providing Solid Waste Management and for setting upon common STP. The scarcity of inoculum was pointed out as one of the major problems faced in converting bio-degradable waste into compost at source.

The Chairman discussed the special issues in Ernakulam district especially, the flow of leachate from fish market, Aluva to Periyar, flow of leachate from Brahmapuram dumping yard to Kadamprayar, the improper functioning of common ETP in Edayar industrial area, the improper functioning of waste water treatment plant of Water Authority in Elamkulam, construction of Padmasarovaram Pathway in Chilavannur lake in Elamkulam Village, Kanayannur Taluk, by depositing construction and demolition waste, failure on the part of the Kalamassery Municipality in properly disposing of the plastic waste instead of dumping in the open area etc.

The Chairman directed the Committee to go through the website of SLMC (www.krslmc.in) to see the directions given to the Corporation of Kochi by the SLMC in its different meetings. The Chairman also directed the members to all the issues pertaining to the Environmental issues shall be forwarded to the SLMC in the email id: slmckerala2019@gmail.com.

The following resolutions were taken in the meeting:

1. DLMC shall monitor the progress and status of compliance of environmental norms by all concerned especially the local bodies in the district regularly.
2. After collecting data through the aforesaid monitoring, the DLMC shall be **convened once in three weeks** for reviewing the progress and for suggesting remedial measures to achieve better results.
3. Monthly progress report on the basis of the above shall be prepared and forwarded to the Chief Secretary with a copy to SLMC in the e-mail ID **slmckerala2019@gmail.com**, so that the details in the said report could be made use of for preparing the quarterly report to be submitted before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal.
4. Training programs shall be arranged for the secretaries of the local bodies in the district on environmental laws with special references to their powers and duties as

well as the technical aspects on the subject. The training programs shall be arranged jointly by the District Legal Service Authority, Pollution Control Board, Suchithwa Mission and Haritha Keralam Mission. The copy of presentation included in the notes circulated by the Chairman, SLMC among the members of the Committee can be made use of for guidance in the matter.

5. Awareness programs shall be arranged in educational institutions in the district by the District Legal Services Authority with the assistance of Education Department, Haritha Keralam Mission and Suchitwa Mission.
6. The District Legal Service Authority shall conduct social audit for assessing the problems faced by the public on issues of environmental protection and also for assessing the final result of each activity undertaken by the DLMC.
7. Cleaning programs shall be undertaken by all local bodies not only during pre-monsoon season but also throughout the year.
8. Door to door collection of segregated waste shall be arranged by the local bodies within their limit. The local bodies can insist for payment of user fee by the waste generators. The possibility of realizing user fee along with property tax from those who are refusing the same can be explored. However, people below poverty line may be exempted from paying user fee.
9. Local bodies shall install waste segregation plants within their local limits as per the Solid Waste Management Rule 2016. The Secretary concerned shall make sure that proper working condition and personal protective devices are available to the cleaning workers.
10. Local bodies shall ensure that industrial/commercial waste as well wastes from hotels and restaurants are not being dumped into public drains and all water bodies.
11. Local bodies shall install cameras to identify persons dumping waste in important public places and water bodies. Environmental degradation shall be assessed and compensation shall be levied from violaters.
12. As plastic wastes from industrial units are more or less homogeneous in nature, it should be collected separately and sent to units for shredding or recycling.
13. Major commercial establishment/industrial units shall be directed to have their own plastic shredding units as it requires only a small area for operation. The Secretary LSGI concerned and District Industries officer shall oversee the same.
14. The land for providing common treatment facility for bio-medical and solid waste as

well as the land for a common rendering plant for poultry waste shall be identified by the District Administration with the help of local authority. District administration shall provide high priority for indentifying land for establishing common treatment facilities for solid waste management, waste water treatment, bio-medical waste as well as a common rendering plant for animal/ poultry waste.

15. Directorate of Panchayath and Urban Directors shall collect details with respect to status of waste handling in villages and urban local bodies respectively. An action plan for faster improvement and strict compliance of Solid Waste Management Rule 2016 shall be prepared.
16. The District Police Chief Kochi City and the District Police Chief Ernakulam Rural shall line the department in action, in the event of report of unauthorized waste dumping. In such cases, the copy of the F.I.R shall be forwarded to the District Legal Service Authority and the Kerala State Pollution Control Board so as to facilitate realization of compensation from the violators on 'Polluter Pays' Principle.
17. The value of environmental degradation on account of violation of environmental laws shall be estimated and cost of restoration shall be assessed and compensation shall be fixed by the Pollution Control Board and the same shall be recovered from the violators for restoration and restitution. The District Legal Service Authority shall render necessary assistance in assessing the damage and fixing the compensation.
18. Sanitation facilities are to be improved in all hospital premises in the district. The handling and disposal of food waste in hospitals can be improved if the sources of generation of wastes are controlled. If arrangements are made in the hospital itself for the preparation of food for patients and bystanders according to specified standards with the help of public support, food from outside can be curtailed gradually as experienced in General Hospital, Ernakulam. However, proper preparation and distribution of food to the patients and bystanders as well as the continuity of the same shall be ensured before enforcing total ban on food from outside.
19. Successful models like Taluk Head Quarters Hospital, Punalur, Primary Health Centre, Kadirur, Community Health Centre, Keechery, Primary Health Centre, Thrikkakkara as well as General Hospital, Ernakulam can be adopted by similar institutions in the district.
20. The Forest Department shall ensure that concrete wastes, electronic wastes, liquor bottles, etc. are not dumped or littered in forest areas. Necessary surveillance shall be

waste disposal units in the district.

- 28.Irrigation Department shall be given directions by the District Collector to take effective steps to clear the bushes on either side of the Periyar river stretches near the industrial units in Eloor-Edayar area so that the CCTV surveillance by the KSPCB to spot out unauthorised discharge of effluents in to the river by the industrial units, more effective.
- 29.Necessary directions shall be issued by the District Collector to the Kerala State Electricity Board, Irrigation Department and Water Authority *to maintain minimum flow of 15-20% of average lean season flow* in Periyar river as directed by the Hon'ble NGT in O.A.No.498/2015.
- 30.The DLMC shall oversee the progress of the implementation of the directions in the action plan submitted by the KSPCB before the Hon'ble Green Tribunal for the rejuvenation of polluted river stretches of *Kadambrayar, Chithrappuzha and Periyar* . The local bodies sharing the banks of the aforesaid polluted river stretches shall be given strict directions to prevent the pollution of those river stretches.
- 31.Copies of these minutes signed by the Chairman, DLMC shall be circulated among all the members for future guidance. The representative of the Deputy Director of Panchayath Ernakulam and the Joint Director Urban Affairs Ernakulam shall circulate of the copies of these minutes to the Secretaries of the local bodies in the district without fail.

The Chairman thanked all participants and the meeting concluded at 04.00 pm.

S SUHAS

DISTRICT COLLECTOR

Copy to

1. Member Secretary, SLMC (Member Secretary, Kerala State Pollution Control Board)
2. The Secretary, District Legal Service Authority, Near High Court, Ernakulam.
3. The District Police Chief, Kochi City / Ernakulam Rural, Aluva.
4. The District Medical Officer, (Health) Ernakulam.

5. The Divisional Forest Officer, Malayatoor / Kothamangalam
6. The Deputy Director of Panchayat, Ernakulam (directed to circulate the copy to all Gramapanchayath in the district)
7. The Secretary, Corporation of Kochi.
8. The Chief Environment Engineer, Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Kadavanthra, Ernakulam.
9. The Senior Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Kadavanthra, Ernakulam.
10. The District Coordinator, Haritha Keralam Mission, Ernakulam
11. The District Coordinator, Suchithwa Mission, Ernakulam
12. The District Industries Officer, Ernakulam.
13. The Joint Director, Urban Affairs, Broadway, Ernakulam.(directed to circulate the copy to all Municipalities in the district)
14. The Deputy Director of Education, Ernakulam
15. The Exective Engineer Irrigation, Ernakulam
16. The Exective Engineer, PWD Roads, Ernakulam
17. The Exective Engineer, PWD Building Divisions, Ernakulam
18. The Superintending Engineer, Kerala Water Authority Ernakulam / Muvattupuzha
19. The District Officer, Animal Husbandry Department, Ernakulam.
20. The Deputy Chief Engineer Kerala State Electricity Board Ernakulam / Perumbavoor
21. The Secretary, Pambakkuda / Kalady / Chottanikkara Gramapanchayath.

Signature valid

Digitally signed by SUDAS S
IAS
Date: 2019.07.25 15:19:05 IST
Reason: Approved

