

**MINUTES OF THE START UP MEETING OF THE DISTRICT LEVEL
MONITORING COMMITTEE(DLMC) HELD ON 19-07-2019 AT
GOVT. GUEST HOUSE, KANNUR**

DLMC/KNR/MNTS-1/2019

Present:

1. Hon'ble Justice A. V. Ramakrishna Pillai, Chairman, SLMC
2. Smt. Sreekala S., Member Secretary, SLMC (Member Secretary, Kerala State Pollution Control Board)
3. Smt. Mercy E. P., Additional District Magistrate, Kannur
4. Sri. V. D. Vijayan, Additional SP, Kannur
5. Sri. C. Suresh Kumar, Sub Judge, District Legal Service Authority, Kannur
6. Sri. Jaison Mathew, Deputy Director of Panchayath, Kannur
7. Dr. Mohanan E., Deputy DMO(H), Kannur
8. Sri. K. V. Jayaprakash, Range Forest Officer, Thalipparamba
9. Sri. E. K. Somasekharan, District Co-ordinator, Haritha Keralam Mission, Kannur
10. Sri. K. R. Ajaya Kumar, Assistant District Co-ordinator, Suchitwa Mission, Kannur
11. Smt. Anita Koyan, Environmental Engineer, District Office, Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Kannur.

Participants:

1. Smt. Bindu V. Gopal, Environmental Engineer, Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Head Office, Thiruvananthapuram
2. Sri. Radhakrishnan P., Corporation Secretary, Kannur Municipal Corporation
3. Sri. Aji K. R., Secretary, Payyannur Municipality
4. Sri. Sureshan M., Secretary, Andhoor Municipality & i/c Secretary, Mattannoor Municipality
5. Sri. Abhilash K., Municipal Secretary, Thalipparamba Municipality
6. Sri. Byju P. P., Health Inspector, Thalipparamba Municipality
7. Sri. Santhosh Kumar, Municipal Secretary, Panoor Municipality
8. Sri. Damodaran A. K., Health Inspector, Payyannur Municipality
9. Sri. Sajith Kumar K. K., Municipal Secretary, Koothuparamba Municipality
10. Sri. Ansal Isaac, Municipal Secretary, Iritty Municipality
11. Sri. Sivadas, Corporation HS, Kannur Municipal Corporation
12. Sri. K. Mohanan, Municipal Secretary, Thalassery Municipality
13. Sri. George O. M., Secretary, Udayagiri Panchayath
14. Sri. Ramachandran V., Assistant Secretary, Padiyoor, Kalliyad Panchayath

15. Sri. Santhosh Kumar V. P., Secretary, Pariyaram Panchayath
16. Sri. Sirajudheen K., Programme Officer, Suchitwa Mission, Kannur
17. Sri. Sajeer T. S., Technical Consultant, Suchitwa Mission, Kannur

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

Hon'ble Justice A.V. Ramakrishnapillai, Chairman, SLMC:

The Chairman brought the attention of the Members of the DLMC to the following directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in the order dated 25.4.2019 in O.A.No.606/2018 and insisted the need for circulating those directions among all the officials concerned, especially to 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 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 compliance 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 restitution on that basis by Police Department and District Legal service Authority.
- 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.

It was also informed by the Chairman that villages of Pariyaram, Padiyoor and Udayagiri are identified as Model Local Bodies 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 would be viewed seriously and the Secretary of such local bodies would be held liable for violations.

The Chairman, SLMC informed the meeting that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in the order dated 15.7.2017 in O.A.No.710/2017 and connected cases has directed that a District Environmental Plan has to be operated by the District Committee chaired and monitored by the District Collector (District Magistrate). Such Environmental Plans and Constitution of District Committee be placed on the website of Districts concerned and the monthly report of monitoring by the District Magistrate be furnished to the Chief Secretary and be placed on the website of the District. The same shall be kept on such websites for a period of one year. This shall be made operative from 1.08.2019.

It was also suggested by the Chairman, SLMC that all local bodies shall conduct meetings of the governing bodies so as to ensure that all projects are implemented smoothly.

Smt. Mercy E. P., ADM, Kannur: It was informed that pre monsoon cleaning drive for the disposal of solid wastes was carried out.

Dr. Mohanan E., Deputy DMO (H): The Deputy DMO informed that there are no solid waste management problems in hospitals.

Smt. S. Sreekala, Member Secretary, KSPCB & SLMC: It was suggested that the local bodies should take action for the disposal of septic waste and solid wastes.

Sri. Jaison Mathew, Deputy Director of Panchayaths: It was informed that disposal of hazardous, plastic, septic waste is a major problem. It was also informed that plastic shredding machine units (4 nos.) are available in the district. But there are opposition from the public against setting up of shredding units. The inadequacy of capacity of MCFs and RRFs was pointed out as a major problem.

Sri. K. R. Ajayakumar, Assistant District Co-ordinator, Haritha Keralam Mission: It was pointed out that the pollution caused by use of pesticides and other chemicals in agricultural operations is a serious problem. Therefore, inclusion of a representative of the Agriculture Department in DLMC, was suggested.

Sri. Santhosh Kumar V. P., Secretary, Pariyaram Panchayath: It was informed that Haritha Karma Sena of twenty members is working in the Panchayath. About 65% of the population is paying user fee. One MCF is functioning and a project is proposed for two mini MCFs. One RRF is functioning in Thaliparambu Block but the capacity achievement of is very low. This has to be enhanced. The Secretary stated that there is an overall 75% achievement in the Panchayath. He also requested that a common bye law be prepared expeditiously, so that imposition of fine on violators can be done smoothly. It was also pointed out that another project for cleaning of the sides of the National Highway with the help of Kudumbasree workers under the project named 'Pathayoram-Harithayoram' was undertaken by the Panchayath. This initiative was appreciated by the Committee with applause.

Sri. Ramachandran V., Assistant Secretary, Padiyoor- Kalliyad Panchayath: It was informed that MCF is installed in the Panchayath and door to door collection is being done. Cloth bags are distributed to the school children so as to avoid use of plastic carry bags. Plastic carry bags are being seized. The Secretary reported 70% achievement in Solid Waste Management.

Sri. George O. M., Secretary, Udayagiri Panchayath: It was reported that Haritha Karma Sena is functioning in the Panchayath covering all most 98% of the houses. Vigilance Squad has been formed for taking necessary action against dumping of waste in public places including road sides. A project for making paper bags from old newspapers is functioning in the panchayath. Green Protocol is strictly followed in all public functions as well as auditoriums. The Panchayath has registered an overall achievement of 70% in solid waste management.

Sri. Sureshan M., Secretary, Mattannoor Municipality: It was informed that there is a trenching ground in the Municipality. RRF, MCF and Bio-gas plants are functioning. Haritha Karma Sena is working in all wards. Rendering plant has started functioning in the Municipality. Bio gas plants/ring compost has been made available to all houses in the panchayath. As a part of Green Protocol, the Municipality has procured four thousand steel plates and glasses which are hired out to avoid use of single use plates and glasses.

Sri. Sivadas, Corporation HS, Kannur Municipal Corporation: It was informed that Waste to Energy plant is proposed at Chelora in the Corporation. 5MLD capacity septage treatment plant is coming up which can cater to the need of whole district. Also Thumpoormoozhi model treatment plants, bio-gas plants, pipe compost (around 2000 nos) are functioning in the Corporation. Door to door collection is being carried out in twenty one wards. Three MCFs and Plastic shredding unit are also functioning. Ten bottle booths are installed in the Corporation.

The following resolutions were taken in the meeting.

1. The District Collector (District Magistrate) shall monitor the progress and status of compliance of environmental norms by all concerned especially the local bodies in the district at least once in two weeks. The District Collector has to personally oversee the waste management activities in the district.
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 the same shall be 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 Services 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, HarithaKeralam Mission and Suchithwa Mission.
6. The District Legal Services 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 the local authority 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 to pay 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. They have to make sure that proper working condition and personal protective devices are available to the cleaning workers.
10. Local bodies shall ensure that industrial waste as well wastes from hotels and restaurants are not being dumped into drains and water bodies.
11. Local bodies shall install cameras to identify persons dumping waste in public places and water bodies. Environmental degradation shall be assessed and compensation shall be levied from culprits.
12. As plastic wastes from industrial units are more or less homogeneous in nature, they shall 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.
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 village 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 Police Department shall line the department in action, in the event of report of unauthorized waste dumping. In such cases, the copy of the FIR shall be forwarded to the District Legal Services 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 Services Authority shall render necessary assistance in assessing the damage and fixing the compensation.
18. Sanitation facilities are to be improved in hospital premises. 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 District 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 District 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 arranged for this purpose. If any such dumping in forest areas are noticed it shall be informed to the DLMC so that immediate remedial measures can be taken.
21. All the forest check posts in the District shall be directed to closely monitor the loaded heavy vehicles coming to the forest area from outside, to ensure that no waste from outside is transmitted to forest area.
22. For the proper implementation of various activities the DLMC shall be expanded adding the following.
 - a) Deputy Director of Education.
 - b) Representative of Irrigation Department.
 - c) Representative of Kerala Water Authority.
 - d) Representatives of PWD Roads as well as Buildings Divisions.
 - e) Representative of Directorate of Urban Affairs.
 - f) LSGD Engineers of the Locality.
 - g) Senior most officer of Animal Husbandry Department in the District.
 - h) Any other authority or person who, in the opinion of the District Collector, is necessary for the proper implementation of the activities of the DLMC can also be included in the Committee.
23. The District Legal Services Authority shall render necessary assistances for coordinating the activities of the DLMC to avoid stumbling blocks.
24. The nodal officer of the DLMC (If the nodal officer of the DLMC is not appointed so far a Senior officer of the Collectorate preferably the ADM shall be appointed as nodal officer without delay) shall collect information for preparing progress report, arrange meetings of the DLMC as per the schedule, forward the copies of the report to the SLMC and Chief Secretary and bring the communications from the Government and SLMC in the matter to the knowledge of the District Collector without fail.

25. The DLMC shall have link with website of SLMC (www.krslmc.in) so that the reports, minutes etc. can be uploaded in the website for public information.
26. Green Protocol Policy shall be implemented strictly during religious festivals. Awareness programs shall be arranged among devotees for promoting green practices by Suchitwa Mission.
27. Copies of these minutes signed by the Chairman, DLMC shall be circulated among all the members for future guidance. The representative of the District Panchayath 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 04.30 pm.

For DISTRICT COLLECTOR

KANNUR

ADDITIONAL

DISTRCT

MAGISTRATE
DEPUTY COLLECTOR (GENERAL)
KANNUR

