

MINUTES OF THE START UP MEETING OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE
CONSTITUTED BY THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI AS PER ORDERS DATED 22.01.2020 IN
O.A.No.12/2020 (SZ) IN RELATION TO THE REMOVAL OF
DEMOLIOTION WASTE OF HIGH RISES IN MARADU MUNICIPALITY

VENUE: GOVERNMENT GOUEST HOUSE, ERNAKULAM

DATE & TIME : 03.02.2020; 10 A.M.

Chaired by : Justice A.V. Ramakrishna Pillai, Chairman, SLMC

Present:

1. Smt. Sreekala S., Member Secretary, SLMC (Member Secretary, KSPCB)
2. Sri. Snehil Kumar Singh I.A.S., Sub Collector, Kochi.
3. Smt. Sandhya Devi, Deputy Collector, Ernakulam (Representing District Collector, Ernakulam could not attend the meeting due to official exigencies).
4. Sri. M.A. Baiju, Chief Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, KSPCB, Ernakulam.
5. Sri. Mohammed Arif Khan, Secretary, Maradu Municipality.

Participation:

1. Sri. Antony M. Vattoly, Asst. Executive Engineer, Kodakara Block.
2. Sri. Achuth Joseph, Prompt Enterprises (The agency engaged in the removal of concrete debris).
3. Sri. Irshad, Prompt Enterprises.
4. Sri. A.Abdul Rahman, Vijay Steel (The agency engaged in the segregation of steel from the concrete waste).
5. Sri. Nivaz, Vijay Steel.
6. Smt. Mini Mary Sam, Environmental Engineer, District Office-1, KSPCB, Ernakulam.
7. Smt. Bindu V. Gopal, Environmental Engineer, Head Office, KSPCB, Trivandrum.
8. Smt. Shahana M.A.,Asst. Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, KSPCB, Ernakulam.

In the introductory remarks the Chairman, SLMC brought the following directions issued by the SLMC meeting held on 24.01.2020, in relation to the removal of demolition waste of the high rises in the Maradu Municipality, to the notice of the meeting.

1. *Covering a height of thirty five feet using metal barriers shall be provided around all demolition sites till the debris are removed completely.*
2. *Instead of hoses, water sprinklers should be used for dust suppression till the debris are removed completely.*
3. *The leachate arising on account of water sprinkling over the debris should be collected and filtered, and only thereafter the same be allowed to percolate through ground.*
4. *Water contaminated with cement dust and other particles shall not reach the nearby water bodies under any eventuality.*
5. *Ensure that all the Construction and Demolition Waste are transported in covered vehicles only. If this direction is violated steps shall be taken to get the vehicle seized by the authorities concerned.*
6. *The roads adjacent to the demolition site along which the debris are being transported, shall be wetted as often as required to avoid spreading of dust emanating from the spillovers.*
7. *Ensure that adequate number of vehicles are made available for the transportation of waste from the site.*
8. *The possibility of leasing land for setting up Construction and Demolition Waste processing plant shall be explored.*
9. *The KSPCB, through its Regional Office, Ernakulam, shall convey the aforesaid directions to all concerned and shall closely monitor whether the aforesaid are complied with in letter and spirit. CC TV cameras shall be directed to be installed at the strategic points of all sites to make the monitoring process effective. Weekly reports regarding the activities shall be submitted by the KSPCB to the SLMC. The first report shall be filed within a week.*

The Chairman asserted that the complete responsibility of safe handling of construction waste is that of the Secretary, Maradu Municipality and it is the responsibility of the KSPCB to ensure that the removal is in accordance with the Construction and Demolition Rules, 2016 preserving the environment. The Chairman also pointed out that nobody has the right to deviate from the procedures envisaged by the aforesaid rules. The legislative intent is to prevent pollution and therefore the Rules have to be implemented in letter and spirit; it was re-iterated.

Therefore, the Pollution Control Board was directed to monitor the handling of the waste without fail. To make the monitoring effective, it was directed that CCTV Cameras should be installed in the strategic points at all the four sites.

Though the Secretary, Maradu Municipality informed the Chairman that it may be difficult to install CCTV Cameras as there is no power supply at the sites at present, *the Chairman directed that alternate power support has to be provided and the direction has to be implemented without raising lame excuses.*

It was further directed that Tri-party agreement should be entered into by the service providers, Municipality and the party who is further managing the materials and the same should be handed over to the District Collector with copy to other members of the Joint Committee.

The representatives of the agencies engaged in the removal of waste informed the meeting that it is not practicable to use sprinklers. The Chairman, SLMC pointed out that use of sprinklers is most effective method to suppress dust as comparatively lesser quantity of water is required for sprinkling. This would be helpful in avoiding the chance of reverse flow of contaminated water to the back waters; it was pointed out. *However, it was directed that if any other method is adopted it will have to be certified by the Pollution Control Board as effective.*

Representatives of M/s. Prompt Enterprises informed the meeting that 6000 tons of waste has already been removed. It was also informed that they can remove the remaining waste, only if the service provider engaged in the segregation of steel, completes that process in time. They also informed that seventy five days would be required for removal of debris, after the segregation process is over.

However, the Chairman informed the service providers that neither the SLMC nor the Government has power to extent time except with the permission of the Hon'ble Supreme Court which had already fixed a time limit for the completion of the removal of the waste.

14

The Sub Collector, Kochi suggested that an undertaking in writing regarding the time limit within which they would be able to complete the process of removal, be obtained from both the service providers.

Therefore, it was directed that both the service providers should submit undertaking in writing before the District Collector, Ernakulam with copy to the other members of the Joint Committee stating the time within which they would be able to complete the process of removal of demolition waste.

It was further directed that Maradu Municipality should keep a log book for the movement of the disposal of the waste and calendar of events. The details regarding 6000 tons of waste already shifted also should be submitted.

It was further directed that, if service providers are planning to crush the waste, a Tri-party agreement between the crusher, service providers and the Municipality should be entered into, to make the process transparent.

The Member Secretary informed that a proper management plan has not been submitted by the service providers till date.

It was directed that proper management/action plan has to be submitted by the Maradu Municipality and same shall be got approved. The plan shall be submitted to the District Collector and the KSPCB.

Representative of M/s. Vijay Steels informed that erecting metal barriers at a height of 35 ft is difficult as debris is filled inside the sites. It was also pointed out that support from outside cannot be given as there are public roads outside the sites.

It was asserted by the Chairman that the mandate regarding the covering of the demolition sites is provided by C & D Rules, 2016 and it cannot be diluted at all. *It was directed that the service providers should evolve methods to full fill the conditions and any deviation would be viewed seriously.*

The Chief Environmental Engineer was directed to review the progress with the Maradu Municipality and check the same on weekly basis.

The Chief Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Ernakulam informed the meeting that though he had issued four letters to the Maradu Municipality regarding waste removal, no reply has been received so far. The Secretary,

Maradu Municipality, however, informed that reply has been submitted to the District Office, KSPCB.

The Chairman, SLMC informed the Secretary of the Maradu Municipality that it would be improper on the part of the Secretary to sleep over his legal duties.

The Chairman, SLMC further informed that the further meeting of the Joint Committee would be chaired by the District Collector, Ernakulam.

The meeting concluded at 12.30 p.m.

The meeting was followed by the inspection of all sites by the Chairman and Members.



CHAIRMAN
STATE LEVEL MONITORING COMMITTEE