

**JUSTICE A V RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI**  
(Former Judge, High Court of Kerala)  
**CHAIRMAN**

**State Level Monitoring Committee, Kerala**

(An authority constituted by the  
National Green Tribunal)  
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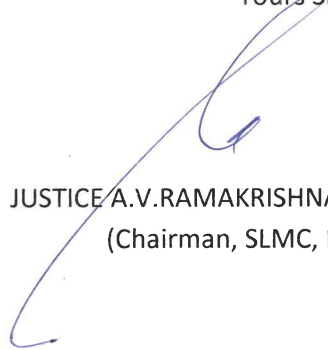
26-06-2023

Sir,

Kindly see the appended Report regarding the present status of waste dump site at Cubaloor in Mangalvady Panchayath in Kasaragod District.

The same may kindly be placed before the Hon'ble Tribunal for consideration and orders.

Yours Sincerely,

  
JUSTICE A.V. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI,  
(Chairman, SLMC, KERALA)

To  
The Registrar,  
National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone Bench,  
Kalas Mahal, Kamarajar Salai, PWD Estate,  
Chepauk, Triplicane, Chennai, Tamil Nadu-600005.

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

**NEW CASE**

**REPORT**

PRESENTED BY JUSTICE A.V.RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI  
(FORMER JUDGE, HIGH COURT OF KERALA)  
CHAIRMAN, STATE LEVEL MONITORING COMMITTEE, KERALA  
(FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE AFORESAID COMMITTEE)  
REGARDING THE PRESENT STATUS OF WASTE DUMP SITE AT  
CUBALLOOR IN MANGALPADY PANCHAYATH, KASARGOD DISTRICT

**PRESENTED ON : 26.06.2023**

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## REPORT

On the basis of news reports that the Waste Dump Yard at Cubanur in Mangalpady Panchayath within the local limits of Manjeswaram Taluk in Kasaragod District, remains unattended by the authorities concerned and it is gradually attaining the magnitude of the dump yard at Brahmapuram in Ernakulam District, I made a local inspection of the site during the forenoon of 7.5.2023. This was under due notice to the District Office of the Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Kasaragod as well as to the Secretary to the Mangalvady Panchayath.

As authorised by the Environmental Engineer, KSPCB, Wynad District who was holding additional charge of the Kasaragod District, Sri.Harikrishnan K and Smt.Arunima Rajeev, Assistant Engineers of KSPCB, Kasargod accompanied me in the inspection. Sri.Shibu P, Secretary of the Mangalvady Panchayath, Sri.Vijayakumar Ray, Member of Ward No.18 of the aforesaid Panchayath as well as Sri.Majeed, Member of Ward No.10 of the said Panchayath were present at the time of the inspection. **Annexure-A series** are the photographs of the site inspection.

The Dump site is an abandoned laterite mine having an extent of 2.5 acres used for dumping the un-segregated solid waste from the nearby local areas for years. The members of the Panchayath who were present at the site informed that the dumping at this yard started nearly 18 years ago. Initially, the quantity of the waste dumped at the site was approximately 1 tonne per day. However, later this was increased from 5 to 10 tonnes per day. Reportedly, it was further increased 15 to 20 tonnes per day. Though outwardly, it may appear that the quantity of waste dumped at the yard is not much, the outward appearance is

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only a tip of an iceberg, as 90% of the waste materials are lying below the surface level as the site was a laterite stone quarry, originally.

Mangalpady Panchayat is one of the largest Panchayaths in Kasaragod District having 23 Wards and having a population of more than One lakh and is spread over an area of 36.3 Kilometres. The entire solid waste materials from the Panchayath are brought to the site without segregation. The Panchayath has built a material collection centre having an area 732 Sq.Mtr. to store the bio-degradable waste. Though initially the non-degradable waste mainly plastic brought to the yard was segregated, baled and disposed of through renders. However, these activities were stopped after a while and the entire un-segregated waste materials (Degradable and Non-degradable) were brought and deposited at the site in an unscientific manner. At present heaps of un-segregated waste can be found in and around the material collection facility.

The Ward Members stated that the reason for the increase of the quantity is because of the dumping of waste on road sides by the public including casual labourers from other States. It was reported by them that there were protests from the local inhabitants against this unscientific waste dumping as leach ate from the waste during rainy season reaches their courtyards there by polluting the sources of their drinking water. Their grievance appears to be true because the leach ate flow is likely to reach the courtyards of the local inhabitants due to the uneven surface of the terrene, the same being a hill area. According to the Members of the Panchayath who were present at the time of inspection there is lethargy on the part of the government as well as the local body to solving the issue.

The Secretary of the Panchayath stated that initially a survey was conducted to assess the quantity of waste deposited at the site and it was

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assessed that the quantity was 3725 Cu.Mtrs. However, it was an incorrect assessment as the survey was done without taking the depth of quarry into account. Therefore, a subsequent assessment was conducted and the quantity is assessed 15697 Cu. Mtrs. The Secretary further stated that a project has been prepared for bio-mining of the entire waste deposited at an estimated cost of Rs.50 Lakhs and the project is yet to be approved by the DPC.

The KSPCB reported that they have conducted several inspections in the site and directions were issued to the local body from time to time to comply with the solid waste management Rules 2016. However, the local body had failed to comply with the direction and therefore action has been initiated for imposing an environmental compensation for the breach.

It is evident that the authorities concerned as well as the Government are not taking keen interest to addresses the issue and to provide a viable and effective solution at the earliest. If the issue is left unattended indefinitely, untoward incidents like those occurred at the Brahmapuram Yard in Ernakulam District are likely to occur in Mangalpady also.

This report is placed before this Hon'ble Tribunal for immediate interference and appropriate action.

Dated this the 26<sup>th</sup> day of June 2022.

  
Justice A.V.Ramakrishna Pillai  
(Former Judge, High Court of Kerala )  
Chairman, SLMC, Kerala.









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