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27/2/19

**MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE STATE LEVEL
MONITORING COMMITTEE (SLMC) CONSTITUTED BY THE
NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL (NGT), HELD AT 2.00 PM ON 14TH
FEBRUARY 2019 AT SOPANAM HALL, MASCOT HOTEL,
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM**

SLMC/KER/MNTS-1/2019

Present :-

1. Justice.A.V.Ramakrishna Pillai, Chairman, SLMC
2. Smt.Sreekala.S., Member Secretary, SLMC (Member Secretary, KSPCB)
3. Shri.T.K.Jose., IAS, Member, SLMC (Additional Chief Secretary, Local Self Government Department)
4. Dr.Usha Titus, IAS, Member, SLMC (Principal Secretary, Environment Department)
5. Shri.K.Sajeevan, Member, SLMC (Chairman, KSPCB)

Participation:-

1. Dr.Mithra.T. IAS, Additional Secretary, Local Self Government Department.
2. Smt.Minimol.D., Deputy Secretary, Local Self Government Department.
3. Dr.Ummuselma, Joint Director (Health), Department of Urban Affairs
4. Dr.Ajith Haridas, Chief Scientist, CSIR-NIIST, Thiruvananthapuram.
5. Shri.T.A.Thankappan, Chief Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, KSPCB.
6. Shri.M.A.Baiju, Chief Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, KSPCB.
7. Shri.Baburajab.P.K., Chief Environmental Engineer, Head Office, KSPCB.
8. Dr.Sheela.A.M. Senior Environmental Engineer, Head Office, KSPCB.
9. Shri.Renju.R.Pillai, Senior Consultant (Design), Suchitwa Mission.
10. Shri.P.Kesavan Nair, Managing Director, Clean Kerala Company Limited.

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The Member Secretary welcomed the Chairman and Members of SLMC as well as other participants.

The Chairman in his introductory remarks, inviting the attention of the members and participants to the different orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in O.A.Nos. 529, 581, 582, 606 and 673 of 2018 stressed the need for a holistic, integral and co-ordinated effort to implement the various provisions of the environmental legislations. It was suggested that successful models in handling the wastes be chosen to find out whether the same could be replicated in other places. The necessity of finalizing a strategy for monitoring the compliance of the provisions of each rule in separate meetings, was also suggested. The Secretaries concerned were requested to make their suggestions sufficiently early to make the process easy.

In the discussions followed, the details of the progress hither to achieved in the implementation of the provisions of various environmental laws as well as the suggestions for improvement were also placed the meeting. They are as the follows:

- (a) **Shri.T.K.Jose, IAS** : The strategies as well as the steps taken by the department under him was explained. It was pointed out that decentralized way of treatment of waste is implemented in the state. Composting of biodegradable waste at community level, institutional level and at household level is practiced. For non-degradable wastes, material collection facility and resource recovery facility where collected plastics are shredded which can be used for road tarring are experimented. Waste to energy plants are envisaged at Kollam, Thrissur, Palakkad and Kannur which are at various stages, viz, tending, allotment of land etc. Small plants are under implementation at Sulthan Bathery and at Chinna Canal, Munnar. Suchitwa Mission has been set up by the Government for giving technical support to the local government institutions. Steps for giving awareness programmes in the field of waste management through Haritha Keralam Mission were also taken.
- (b) **Dr.Usha Titus** : Periodical monitoring of sewage treatment plants attached to living apartments, hospitals, hotels etc to ensure the tolerance level of effluents with the assistance of Haritha Karma Sena was advised.

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- (c) **Shri.K.Sajeevan:** The fact that there is only one bio-medical waste disposal facility in Kerala was pointed out. Sites for the treatment of bio-medical waste at ^{Kilanoor} Kilimanoor and Ambalamedu are proposed. Round the clock surveillance squad is functioning in some district offices of the Board for monitoring of the compliance status of different units.
- (d) **Dr.Ajith Haridas:** Necessity to ensure the implementation of various Rules in the state as well as making the information regarding the activities to the general public was pointed out.
- (e) **Shri.P.Kesavan Nair:** It was pointed out that E-waste collected in the State is being sent to other States for dismantling/recycling as there is no recycler/dismantler of e-waste in Kerala. Glass wastes are collected and transferred to Pondicherry. Domestic hazardous waste is transmitted to KEIL.
- (f) **Shri.Renju.K.Pillai :** Steps taken by Suchitwa Mission were explained, proposals for setting up of slaughter houses and crematoriums in consultation with LSGD are under evaluation.

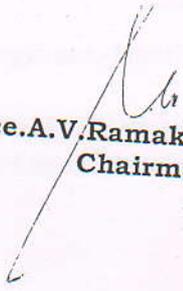
This was followed by a detailed presentation by the official of the KSPCB regarding the implementation of various rules.

After discussion, the following decisions were taken:

- a) Meetings of SLMC are to be conducted twice in a month preferably on the second and fourth week of every month. To ensure continuity of action, the presence of Head of Departments who are the Members of the committee has to be ensured in all the meetings. However their presence can be dispensed with under compelling circumstances. In such cases a competent officer who is able to answer the queries has to be deputed.
- b) A nodal officer not below the rank of Deputy Secretary has to be designated by each department for the effective co-ordination between SLMC and different departments. The KSPCB has to collect information through the nodal officers to be placed before SLMC. Similarly decision of the SLMC has to be transmitted through the nodal officer^s to different bodies. The presence of the nodal officers shall be ensured in all meetings.
- c) An official website has to be launched exclusively for the SLMC. The proceedings of each meeting shall be published after the minutes are signed by the Chairman to ensure transparency.

- d) The date, time and venue along with agenda items of each meeting are to be brought to the notice of all the Members of SLMC and others concerned by the SPCB sufficiently early. Change of date, time, venue etc if any, also shall be intimated sufficiently early.
- e) The draft minutes of each meeting prepared by SPCB has to be forwarded to the Chairman for correction if any and for approval. Thereafter it shall be loaded in the official website of the SLMC. The minutes so prepared, signed and published shall be passed in the next meeting.
- f) Strategies evolved and its implementations as well as the hurdles experienced during its implementation; strategies evolved but yet to be implemented and the strategies yet to be evolved are to be submitted to the SLMC by the different departments. The Secretaries concerned shall make their suggestions sufficiently early to make the process easy.
- g) Action plan specifying the time line for implementation has to be submitted by the Government. Suggestions can be made by all members which are to be collected and forwarded to the Chairman within two weeks thereafter so that the same can be finalized in the next meeting.
- h) Officials of the Corporation of Kochi shall be invited to the next meeting for assessing the steps taken in the case of Brahmapuram plant. The Kerala Water Authority also shall be invited for assessing the steps taken for sewerage schemes.
- i) Role models for waste management are to be identified and are to be highlighted.

The meeting concluded at 4.30 PM.


Justice.A.V.Ramakrishna Pillai.
Chairman.