

**MINUTES OF THE START UP MEETING OF THE DISTRICT LEVEL
MONITORING COMMITTEE(DLMC) HELD ON 29-06-2019 AT HOTEL AIDA,
KODIMATHA, KOTTAYAM.**

DLMC/KTM/MNTS-1/2019

Present:

1. Hon'ble Justice A. V. Ramakrishnapillai, Chairman, SLMC
2. Smt.Sreekala S., Member Secretary, SLMC (Member Secretary, Kerala State Pollution Control Board)
3. Sri. P.K.Sudheer Babu, IAS, District Collector, Kottayam
4. Sri. C.Ajitha Kumar, ADM, Kottayam
5. Sri.Nasim A., Additional SP, Kottayam
6. Sri. P.M.Shafiq, Deputy Director of Panchayath
7. Smt. Tihej George, Secretary, District Legal Service Authority, Kottayam
8. Dr.P.N.Vidyadharan, Deputy DMO(H)
9. Sri. Biju S, Deputy Range Officer, Erumeli
10. Sri. Ramesh P, District Co-ordinator, Haritha Kerala Mission, Kottayam
11. Sri.Philip Joseph, District Co-ordinator, Suchitwa Mission
12. Sri. Josemon J, Environmental Engineer, Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Kottayam

Participants:

1. Sri.Baburajan P.K, Head Office, Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Thiruvananthapuram.
2. Sri. M.A.Baiju, Chief Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Ernakulam.
3. Smt. Bindu V. Gopal, Environmental Engineer, Head Office, Thiruvananthapuram.

4. Sri.Eby Varghese, Environmental Engineer, District Office, Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Idukki.
5. Smt. Shahana M.A., Assistant Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Kerala State Pollution Control Board, EKM.
6. Sri.Saiju J.S, Assistant Environmental Engineer, District Office, Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Kottayam.

The startup meeting of the District Level Monitoring Committee (DLMC for short) commenced at 3.30 pm at Hotel Aida, Kodimatha, Kottayam. The meeting was Chaired by Hon'ble Mr. 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 (SLMC for short) and the District Level Monitoring Committee (DLMC for short).

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.
- 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 Kadaplamattom Panchayath, Moonilavu Panchayath and Poonjar Panchayaths 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.

Sri. P.K.Sudheer Babu, IAS, District Collector, Kottayam:

The District Collector informed that premonsoon cleaning drive for the disposal of solid wastes was carried out.

Dr.P.N.Vidyadharan Deputy DMO (H):

The Deputy DMO informed that there are solid waste management problems in hospitals.

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

The Member Secretary said that for solving problems of solid waste from hospitals the local bodies should take action for the disposal of septic waste and solid wastes.

Sri. P.M.Shafiq, Deputy Director of Panchayaths:

The Dy. Director of Panchayaths informed that disposal of hazardous, plastic, septic waste is a major problem. Also informed that plastic shredding machine unit (10 nos.) are available in this district.

Sri.Ramesh P, District Co-ordinator Haritha Keralam Mission:

The District Co-ordinator Pointed out the pollution problems caused by use of pesticides, and other chemicals used in agricultural purpose which may cause pollution problems. So he suggested to include a representative from agriculture department also in DLMC.

**Sri. M.A.Baiju, Chief Environmental Engineer, Regional Office,
KSPCB,Ernakulam:**

The Chief Environmental Engineer informed that agencies are available for the collection and the disposal of E-waste.

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 and the DLMC shall be convened once in a month for reviewing the progress and for suggesting remedial measures to achieve better results.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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 Suchithwa Mission.
5. 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.
6. Cleaning programs shall be undertaken by the local authority not only during pre-monsoon season but also throughout the year.
7. 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.

8. Local bodies shall install waste segregation plants within their local limits.
9. Local bodies shall ensure that industrial waste as well wastes from hotels and restaurants are not being dumped into drains and water bodies.
10. Local bodies shall install cameras to identify persons dumping waste in public places and water bodies.
11. 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.
12. Major commercial establishment/industrial units shall be directed to have their own plastic shredding units as it requires only a small area for operation.
13. 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.
14. Directorate of Panchayath and Urban Directors shall collect details with respect to status of waste handling in village and urban local bodies respectively.
15. 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.
16. 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.
17. 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.

18. 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.
19. 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.
20. Performance Audit of all regulatory bodies may be conducted and remedial measures to be taken within 6 months.
21. 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) Representative of Animal Husbandry Department.
 - 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. To make strict verification in the check post near forest area and ensure that the vehicles containing wastes are not entering forest areas.
22. The District Legal Services Authority shall render necessary assistances for coordinating the activities of the DLMC to avoid stumbling blocks.

23. The nodal officer of the DLMC 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.
24. 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.
25. 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.


District Collector

**DISTRICT COLLECTOR
KOTTAYAM**