

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM
PRESENT
THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE BECHU KURIAN THOMAS
&
THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE GOPINATH P.**

**Friday, the 8th day of August 2025 / 17th Sravana, 1947
WP(C) NO. 7844 OF 2023(S)**

SUO MOTU WRIT PETITION INITIATED BY THE HIGH COURT.

RESPONDENTS:

1. STATE OF KERALA, REPRESENTED BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 695 001.
2. KOCHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY, PARK AVENUE ROAD, MARINE DRIVE, KOCHI - 682 011.
3. KERALA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, REPRESENTED BY ITS CHAIRMAN, HEAD OFFICE, PATTOM P.O., THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 695 004.
4. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR, DISTRICT COLLECTORATE, KAKKANAD, ERNAKULAM- 682 030.
5. THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, KERALA FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES, HEADQUARTERS, FIRE FORCE JUNCTION, PULIMOODU P.O., THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 695 001.
6. THE STATE POLICE CHIEF, KERALA POLICE HEADQUARTERS, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, KERALA, INDIA - 695 010.

ADDL. R7 IMPEADED

7. THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY,*(CORRECTED)
LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT,GOVERNMENT OF KERALA.

**ADDL. R7 IS SUO MOTU IMPEADED AS PER ORDER
DATED 07/03/2023 IN WPC.**

***THE NAME OF ADDL.R7 IS SUO MOTU CORRECTED AS
'THE PRINIPAL SECRETARY, LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT,
GOVERNMENT OF KERALA.'**

VIDE ORDER DATED 27/09/2024 IN WP(C) 7844/2023.

ADDL. R8 IMPEADED

8. KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD,
REPRESENTED BY ITS CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR,
VYDUTHI BHAVAN, PATTOM-695 004.

**ADDL. R8 IS SUO MOTU IMPEADED AS PER ORDER
DATED 10/03/2023 IN WPC.**

ADDL. R9 IMPEADED

9. NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF INDIA,
REPRESENTED BY ITS DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER AND
REGIONAL OFFICER, NATIONAL HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY OF INDIA
(MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS)
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, REGIONAL OFFICE,
KERALA T.C. 86/1036-1, AMBLY ARCADE,
S.N.N.R.A-9, PETTAH-P.O.,
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM – 695 024 (KERALA)

ADDL. R9 IS SUO MOTU IMPEADED AS PER ORDER
DATED 18/08/2023 IN WPC.

ADDL. R10 IMPEADED

10. SOUTHERN RAILWAYS, REPRESENTED BY ITS GENERAL MANAGER,
CHENNAI, PIN - 600 209.

ADDL.R10 IS SUO MOTU IMPEADED AS PER ORDER
DATED 18/03/2024 IN WPC.

ADDL. R11 IMPEADED

11. THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
CORPORATION OFFICE, VIKAS BHAVAN P.O.,
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, KERALA, PIN - 695 033
REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY.

ADDL. R11 IS SUO MOTU IMPEADED AS PER ORDER
DATED 15.07.2024 IN WP(C)

P.T.O.

This Suo Motu writ petition again coming on for orders upon perusing the petition, this Court's order dated 17/06/2025 and upon hearing the arguments of SRI.K. GOPALAKRISHNA KURUP, ADVOCATE GENERAL & SRI. C.E.UNNIKRISHNAN, SPECIAL GOVERNMENT PLEADER for R1, R4, R5, R6 & R7, SRI.RANJITH THAMPAN, SENIOR ADVOCATE a/w SRI.K. JANARDHANA SHENOY, STANDING COUNSEL for R2, SRI.T. NAVEEN, STANDING COUNSEL for R3, SRI.ANTONY MUKKATH, STANDING COUNSEL for Addl.R8, DEPUTY SOLICITOR GENERAL OF INDIA & SRI.T.C.KRISHNA, SENIOR CENTRAL GOVERNMENT COUNSEL for Addl.R9 & Addl.R10, SRI.K.S.PRENJITH KUMAR, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT COUNSEL for Addl. R10, SRI.SUMAN CHAKRAVARTHI, Advocate for Addl. R11, SRI.VINU T.V, SRI.VISHNU.S & SMT.POOJA MENON, AMICI CURIAE and of Adv. SRI.MOHAMMED SHAH and SRI.C.L.ANTO(PARTY IN PERSON), the court passed the following:

P.T.0



**BECHU KURIAN THOMAS, J.
&
GOPINATH P., J.**

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W.P.(C). No.7844 of 2023

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Dated this the 08th day of August, 2025.

ORDER

GOPINATH P., J.

We have heard Sri. C.E. Unnikrishnan, the learned Special Government Pleader for the State, Sri. Janardhana Shenoy, the learned Standing Counsel for the Municipal Corporation of Kochi, Sri. T. Naveen, the learned Standing Counsel for the Kerala State Pollution Control Board, the learned Standing Counsel for the Railways, and the learned Amici Curiae.

2. We have enquired with the learned Standing Counsel for the Municipal Corporation of Kochi regarding the dumping of waste in the old railway station premises, including the areas adjoining the High Court building. Sri. Janardhana Shenoy, the learned Standing Counsel appearing for the Municipal Corporation of Kochi, has

suggested that a joint inspection be carried out by the Corporation officials along with the Railway officials. We are of the opinion that the suggestion is appropriate and therefore, We direct that the officials of the Municipal Corporation of Kochi along with the officials of the Southern Railway to conduct inspection of the entire area under the control of the railways known as 'Old Railway Station premises' on Mathai Manjooran Road (adjoining the Kerala High Court building) and submit a report regarding the accumulation of any waste in the said premises. A report of the joint inspection shall be placed for the consideration of this Court by the next posting date.

3. Sri. T Naveen, the learned Standing Counsel for the Kerala State Pollution Control Board, has placed a report regarding the inspection carried out at the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) functioning in the Advocate's Chamber Complex adjoining the Ram Mohan Palace building. When it was pointed out to him that the water from the Sewage Treatment Plant appears to be overflowing, Sri. T Naveen undertook that a further

inspection will be carried out by the officials of the Kerala State Pollution Control Board and necessary remedial measures will be taken if it is found that the water from the Sewage Treatment Plant is overflowing into the premises of the Ram Mohan Palace.

4. Learned Amici Curiae has placed a report regarding the waste removal from trains and premises of the Southern Railways at Ernakulam. A perusal of the report indicates that while the Southern Railway has entrusted certain agencies for the removal of waste, it is not clear whether those agencies are accredited agencies. Since the report was filed only yesterday (07.08.2025), we direct the Standing Counsel appearing for the Railways to obtain instructions regarding the observations noted by the learned Amici Curiae in its report and to place on record an affidavit in response to the observations contained in the report along with a flow chart showing the present system for collection, segregation, and removal of different kinds of waste from trains and from within the premises of the Railway Stations.

W.P.(C)No.7844 of 2023

5. Learned Amici Curiae points out that there is considerable waste accumulation next to the Anganwadi at Ponnurunni (in Ward No.48 of Kochi Corporation), which was the subject matter of our order dated 23.12.2024. The Standing Counsel for the Kochi Municipal Corporation shall obtain instructions in this regard.

Post at 02.00 p.m. on 19.09.2025.

 **Sd/-**
BECHU KURIAN THOMAS, JUDGE

Sd/-
GOPINATH P. , JUDGE

ajt