

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM**  
**PRESENT**  
**THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE DEVAN RAMACHANDRAN**  
**&**  
**THE HONOURABLE MRS. JUSTICE M.B. SNEHALATHA**

Monday, the 17<sup>th</sup> day of November 2025 / 26th Karthika, 1947  
WP(C) NO. 996 OF 2012(S)

**PETITIONER:**

PERIYAR MALINEEKARANA VIRUDHA SAMITHI, JANJAGRATHA,  
 ELOOR DEPOT, UDYOGAMANDAL-683501,  
 REPRESENTED BY ITS RESEARCH COORDINATOR,  
 SHRI. PURUSHAN ELOOR, AGED 45 YEARS, S/O. V.V. VELAYUDHAN,  
 RESIDING AT SANKHYAPURI, ELOOR NORTH.

**RESPONDENTS:**

1. STATE OF KERALA, REPRESENTED BY ITS CHIEF SECRETARY, GOVERNMENT OF KERALA, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM-695001.
2. INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT, REPRESENTED BY ITS PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, GOVERNMENT OF KERALA, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM-695001.
3. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, KERALA BUREAU OF INDUSTRIAL PROMOTION (K-BIP), KURUP'S LANE, SASTHAMANGALAM, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM-695010.
4. ELOOR MUNICIPALITY, REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY, UDYOGAMANDAL-683501.
5. CHAIRPERSON, ELOOR MUNICIPALITY, UDYOGAMANDAL-683501.
6. CHIEF REGIONAL MANAGER, NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED, KOCHI REGIONAL OFFICE, 1ST FLOOR, OMANA BUILDING, JEWS STREET, PADMA JUNCTION-682035.
7. CHIEF REGIONAL MANAGER, NEW INDIA ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED, KOCHI REGIONAL OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, YASORAM VICTORIA TOWERS, BANERJI ROAD, KOCHI-682018.
8. KERALA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, PLAMOODU JUNCTION, PATTOM PALACE P.O., THIRUVANANTHAPURAM-695004, REPRESENTED BY ITS CHAIRMAN.

Writ petition (civil) praying inter alia that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed along with the WP(C) the High Court be pleased to direct the respondents 1 and 2 to consider and pass orders on Ext.P13 representation made by the petitioner association on behalf of the people of Eloor and to implement the Group Health Insurance Scheme for families in 9 wards of Eloor within a timeframe fixed by this Honourable Court, pending disposal of the above Writ Petition.

P.T.O.

This petition again coming on for orders upon perusing the petition and the affidavit filed in support of WP(C), this Court's order dated 05/11/2025 and upon hearing the arguments of M/S. K.K.ASHKAR & ASHIRA MOHAMED ASHROF, Advocates for the petitioner, SRI.S.KANNAN, SENIOR GOVERNMENT PLEADER for R1 to R3, M/S. DINESH R.SHENOY, R.V.RAHUL & LIJIN THAMBAN, Advocates for R4, SRI.GEORGE CHERIAN (THIRUVALLA), Advocate for R6, SRI.LAL K.JOSEPH, Advocate for R7 and of SRI.T.NAVEEN, STANDING COUNSEL for R8, the court passed the following:

P.T.O



**DEVAN RAMACHANDRAN & M.B. SNEHALATHA, JJ.**

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Dated this the 17<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025

**ORDER**

**Devan Ramachandran, J.**

It has been nearly two weeks after we passed the last order on 05.11.2025.

2. Unfortunately, the same refrain is put to us by the learned Senior Government Pleader - appearing for the Government of Kerala and the learned Central Government Counsel – appearing for the Government of India, namely that there has been correspondence with each other, but without any effective resolution yet.

3. This is extremely exasperating because countless citizens – who consume water from the river “Periyar”; as also marine wealth, are being severely and steadily contaminated and poisoned. The impact this will have on human beings in long term is less said the better.

4. Our frustration is compounded because, by our order dated 16.10.2025 - which was exactly a month earlier, we had directed the competent Authorities of the two Governments to commence a discussion and find viable methods. We are told that there was one

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such discussion; but it is conceded that, beyond that, there were no such.

5. We fail to understand why the Authorities should require orders from this Court for each and every meeting; and for each and every correspondence to be exchanged.

6. The contamination of river "Periyar" began several years ago and was noticed more than half a decade earlier. Throughout this period, water in the river has been contaminated continuously. The competent Authorities - which include that of both Governments - are surely aware of this. Fortunately, a catastrophe has not yet presented itself; and resultantly things seems to be moving on a pachydermic pace.

7. However, cataclysmic consequences may be just in the offing, or around the corner. Our intent is to ensure that this is averted, particularly because this Court has been seized of the matter.

8. Unfortunately, the official actions do not seem to answer the urgency of the concern. The Governments cannot treat this matter as being a routine one because, as we have notified them earlier, this deals with the lives of multitudes of people. When all the Authorities admit that the water in the river "Periyar" has

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been polluted because of the hazardous contamination at 'Kuzhikandam Thodu', action to rectify it ought to have been on a war footing.

9. We had initially, therefore, thought of summoning all the officers of both the Governments; but we chose not to do so today, being assured by the learned Senior Government Pleader and the learned Central Government Counsel, that an outcome will be reported to this Court at least by the next posting date.

10. That said, Sri.Babu Kuruvathazha submitted that his client has the capacity to remove the toxic waste from the 'Kuzhikandam Thodu'. However, Sri.T.Naveen – learned standing counsel for the Kerala State Pollution Control Board, submitted that this may be possible only after the “dewatering process” is complete, for which the establishment of an 'Effluent Treatment Plant' becomes imperative. We are not experts in this field; and therefore, direct the competent Authority of the Government of Kerala to look into both these viewpoints and inform us appositely by the next posting date.

11. That said, even today, we have no answer from the Government of Kerala on the “Unified Authority” that we proposed earlier. We do not know why the Government is

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dragging its feet on this, particularly when all their earlier suggestions have proved itself to be untenable. Sri.S.Kannan says that the Government requires three more months' time to think about this; and requested that we speak no further on this today and leave it to be decided on the next posting date.

For compliance of the afore, we adjourn this matter to be called on 03.12.2025.



Sd/- DEVAN RAMACHANDRAN,  
JUDGE

Sd/- M.B. SNEHALATHA,  
JUDGE

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