



IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MR. NITIN JAMDAR

&

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE SYAM KUMAR V.M.

FRIDAY, THE 21ST DAY OF NOVEMBER 2025 / 30TH KARTHIKA, 1947

WP(PIL) NO. 146 OF 2025

PETITIONER

C R NEELAKANDAN
AGED 69 YEARS
S/O RAMAN NAMBOOTHIRI, RESIDING AT 'THANAL',
THRIKKAKKARA P.O, ERNAKULAM, PIN - 682021

BY ADVS.
SRI.V.HARISH
SRI.RAJAN VISHNURAJ
SHRI.VARUN JACOB

RESPONDENTS

- 1 UNION OF INDIA
REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION,
KRISHI BHAWAN, DR.RAJENDRAPRASAD ROAD, NEW DELHI,
PIN - 110001
- 2 SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC
DISTRIBUTION, KRISHI BHAWAN,
DR.RAJENDRAPRASAD ROAD, NEW DELHI, PIN - 110001
- 3 FOOD SAFETY AND STANDARDS AUTHORITY OF INDIA
REPRESENTED BY ITS COMMISSIONER, 3RD AND 4TH
FLOOR,
FDA BHAWAN, KOTLA ROAD, NEAR BAL BHAWAN,
NEW DELHI, PIN - 110002



- 4 STATE OF KERALA
REPRESENTED BY ITS CHIEF SECRETARY, SECRETARIAT,
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 682031
- 5 COMMISSIONER OF FOOD SAFETY FOR KERALA
OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER OF FOOD SAFETY, THYCAUD
P.O., THIRUVANTHAPURAM, KERALA, PIN - 695014

BY ADV SHRI.B.PRAMOD- SENIOR PANEL COUNSEL
SRI. P.G. PREMOD-SR.GOVERNMENT PLEADER
SMT. CHITRA P GEORGE- SC FOR R3

THIS WRIT PETITION (PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION)
HAVING COME UP FOR ADMISSION ON 21.11.2025, THE COURT ON
THE SAME DAY DELIVERED THE FOLLOWING:



JUDGMENT

Dated this the 21st .day of November, 2025

Nitin Jamdar, C. J.

Heard Mr. V. Harish, the learned counsel for the Petitioner, Mr.B. Pramod, the learned Senior Panel Counsel for Respondent Nos.1 and 2, Ms. Chithra P George, the learned Standing Counsel for Respondent No.3 and Mr. P.G. Pramod, the learned Government Pleader for Respondent No.4.

2. This petition is filed for directions to the statutory authorities particularly, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India to address the issue of microplastic contamination, which is alleged to be present in bottled drinking water. In the petition the Petitioner has elaborated various aspects of the microplastics and the fact that microplastics in bottled drinking water is not regulated.

3. The learned counsel for the Petitioner accepts that what is required is the exercise of framing of appropriate regulation. The learned counsel also submits that at the first instance, the Respondents be called upon to look into the representation of the Petitioner highlighting the need for framing of regulation.

4. The Petitioner has already made a detailed representation in that regard, which is annexed as Ext.P13. Let the Respondent No.3 look



into the representation made by the Petitioner as regards its feasibility, correctness and other parameters. It is for the Respondent No.3, statutory authority to take necessary decisions in that regard.

5. With these observations, the writ petition is disposed of. The response of Respondent No.3 to the representation of the Petitioner be communicated to the Petitioner. Though we at present not fixing any specific timeline as it is a policy matter, we expect the authority to look into the representation at the earliest.

Sd/-

**NITIN JAMDAR
CHIEF JUSTICE**

Sd/

**SYAM KUMAR V.M
JUDGE**

smm

APPENDIX OF WP(PIL) 146/2025

PETITIONER EXHIBITS

- Exhibit P1 A TRUE PHOTOCOPY OF THE STUDY PUBLISHED ON 03.09.2024 TITLED OCCURRENCE AND CHARACTERIZATION OF MICROPLASTICS IN BOTTLED DRINKING WATER' IS ANNEXED
- Exhibit P2 A TRUE COPY OF THE STUDY PUBLISHED ON 03.07.2024 IN THE UTTAR PRADESH JOURNAL OF ZOOLOGY TITLED PRESENCE OF MICROPLASTIC IN BOTTLED WATER FROM MUMBAI MARKET
- Exhibit P3 TRUE COPY OF THE STUDY PUBLISHED BY CHEMOSPHERE JOURNAL ON 26.08.2023 TITLED 'SCREENING FOR MICROPLASTICS IN DRINKING WATER AND ITS TOXICITY PROFILING IN ZEBRAFISH'
- Exhibit P4 TRUE COPY OF THE STUDY CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AT THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, PUBLISHED ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2018, TITLED 'SYNTHETIC POLYMER CONTAMINATION IN BOTTLED WATER
- Exhibit P5 A REVIEW' BY CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY, CANADA, PUBLISHED ON 14.06.2025 IN THE JOURNAL OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
- Exhibit P6 A TRUE PHOTOCOPY OF THE STUDY TITLED 'RAPID SINGLE-PARTICLE CHEMICAL IMAGING OF NANOPLASTICS BY SRS MICROSCOPY' PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL OF CHEMISTRY ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE, PNAS (2024)
- Exhibit P7 A TRUE PHOTOCOPY OF THE STUDY CONDUCTED BY RESEARCHERS OF VARIOUS UNIVERSITIES IN POLAND PUBLISHED ON 25.08.2023 BY DESALINATION AND WATER TREATMENT SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING JOURNAL TITLED 'MICROPLASTICS IN BOTTLED WATER AND BOTTLED SOFT DRINKS'
- Exhibit P8 A TRUE PHOTOCOPY OF THE STUDY TITLED 'GENERATION OF MICROPLASTICS FROM THE OPENING AND CLOSING OF DISPOSABLE



- PLASTIC WATER BOTTLES'
- Exhibit P9 A TRUE PHOTOCOPY OF THE STUDY TITLED
'MORPHOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL
CHARACTERIZATION OF NANO PLASTICS IN
HUMAN TISSUE' DATED 12.03.2025
- Exhibit P10 A TRUE PHOTOCOPY OF THE STUDY TITLED
'MICROPLASTICS FOUND IN HUMAN
BLOODSTREAM' DATED 24.03.2022
- Exhibit P11 A TRUE PHOTOCOPY OF THE STUDY TITLED
'OCCURRENCE, HUMAN EXPOSURE, AND RISK
OF MICROPLASTICS IN THE INDOOR
ENVIRONMENT' DATED 22.11.2021
- Exhibit P12 A TRUE PHOTOCOPY OF THE GENERAL COMMENT
NO. 15, RIGHT TO WATER UNDER
INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC,
SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS
- Exhibit P13 A TRUE PHOTOCOPY OF THE REPRESENTATION
DATED 26.09.2025 PREFERRED BY THE
PETITIONER BEFORE THE 3RD RESPONDENT