

## **Minutes**

**Agenda : Review meeting on implementation of progress of projects as per Hon'ble NGT Order in OA 673/2018 and other related matters**

**Chair : Sri.Seeram Sambasiva Rao, Special Secretary, Environment**

**Time / Date : 10.30 AM / 12.11.2025 (online)**

### **Participants**

Sri. Suneel Pamidi IFS, Director, Environment & Climate Change

Smt. Sreekala. S, Chairperson, Kerala State Pollution Control Board

Sri.Rathish Menon, Member Secretary, Ker. State Poll. Control Board

Sri. SamthoshKumar LT ,Additional Secretary, Environment

Officials from concerned Departments

The Special Secretary welcomed the participants and gave a brief introduction outlining the purpose of the meeting. He directed DOECC to confirm whether the directions issued during the previous meeting held on 29.08.2025 had been incorporated into the presentation. Following this, the Member Secretary, Kerala State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) was invited to present updated presentation.

The Member Secretary gave a brief introduction regarding the status of polluted river stretches in the State. He informed that, as of 2025, there are 18 polluted river stretches identified. Action plans have already been prepared for 10 stretches, and the implementation of the action plan components is in progress. Among the 8 newly added stretches, action plans for 3 stretches (River Korayar, Kalpathipuzha & Pullur) have been prepared, while those for the remaining 5 stretches (River Vamanapuram, Neyyar, Ayroor,

Mamom & Chalakudy) are under preparation.

The Environmental Engineer, District Office, Thiruvananthapuram, KSPCB informed that 4 newly added stretches are River Vamanapuram, Neyyar, Ayroor & Mamom at Trivandrum. Although the draft action plan points had been shared with various stakeholder departments, updates have not yet been received. The DD, representing PD, LSGD (Principal Directorate), informed that the department will follow up with the field officers and ensure that the required data are filled in and submitted promptly. The EE further informed that the responsibility of the Kerala State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) is to monitor the drains identified by the Local Self Government Department (LSGD) and emphasized that further activities under the action plan can be undertaken only after the identification of these drains by the LSGD.

The Director, DoECC, enquired whether the completed action plans have been submitted to the River Rejuvenation Committee (RRC). In response, the Member Secretary, Kerala State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), informed that all the action plans will be submitted to the RRC after receipt of the remaining ones. The Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Department, Thiruvananthapuram, informed that the pending action plans are expected to be completed and submitted within 2 weeks time.

The Special Secretary enquired about the conduct of meetings under the chairmanship of the District Collector, Pathanamthitta. The District Collector, Pathanamthitta, informed that in the district, the Irrigation Department had taken the initiative to organize the meeting by identifying a convenient date as per the Collector's availability.

The Department then informed all concerned stakeholder departments, following which the meeting was conducted successfully.

The Special Secretary further advised that the Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Department, who is the Chairman of the DLTC, shall take similar initiative as done in Pathanamthitta to convene frequent review meetings for the preparation of Action Plans for Polluted River Stretches.

Progress of major action points were discussed in detail in the meeting. The progress reported by the departments and comments made by the RRC are tabulated and attached.

**Key decisions of the meeting:**

1. The DLTCs must be proactive in conducting review meetings. Issues that can be resolved at the district level should be addressed within the DLTCs, while matters requiring higher-level decisions may be escalated to the RRC meetings for resolution at the Government level. (Action: Irrigation Department)
2. The monitoring of Delisted rivers will be continued. (Action: Kerala State Pollution Control Board)
3. Monitoring Committee shall be constituted under the chairmanship of the District Collector. (Action: Environment Department)
4. In the case of River Karamana, certain activities have been dropped. The reasons for dropping these projects and the proposed alternatives, if any, shall be justified and updated in the shared Google spreadsheet. (Action: Corporation of Thiruvananthapuram)

5. A revised timeline shall be provided in the shared Google spreadsheet, as the original timelines for certain activities have already been exceeded. Updated and realistic timelines should be ensured for all pending activities. (Action: All stakeholder Departments)
6. A representative from the Groundwater Department shall be invited to attend the forthcoming meetings. (Action: Environment Department)
7. All Joint Directors, LSGD, shall regularly review matters related to the STPs included in the prepared Action Plans. (JD, LSGD)
8. The Joint Directors, LSGD, may be included as members of the DLTC to facilitate timely updating of data. (Action: Environment Department)
9. A clear plan with defined timelines shall be presented for e-flow management, as it constitutes an Action Plan point for most of the river stretches, as it constitutes an important action plan point. (Action: Irrigation Department)
10. To enhance stakeholder coordination, competent senior officials from LSGD and KWA may also be incorporated into the River Rejuvenation Committee. (Action: Environment Department)

The meeting concluded at 12:00 PM.

SEERAM SAMBASIVA RAO I A S

SPECIAL SECRETARY