

**BEFORE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**

Original Application No. 619/2025

News Item titled "A fire that fails to die down" appearing in The Hindu dated 07.11.2025

Date of hearing: 02.12.2025

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRAKASH SHRIVASTAVA, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE DR. A. SENTHIL VEL, EXPERT MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. AFROZ AHMAD, EXPERT MEMBER**

ORDER

1. This original application is registered *suo motu* on the basis of the news item titled "A fire that fails to die down" appearing in The Hindu dated 07.11.2025.

2. The news item relates to the air and water pollution caused due to waste treatment plant "M/s Fresh Cut Organic Products Private Limited" at Ambayathode in Kattippara Panchayat, Kozhikode, Kerala. As per the News Article, Rs. 22 crores factory processes waste from poultry to pet food. The unit has an installed capacity of 25 tonnes/day. The smell from the unit makes life miserable for people living in the area. The main river that provides drinking water is also polluted by the effluents discharged from the unit. Skin diseases, allergies have become common in the area. As per the unit, they are conforming to norms. Presently, the unit is closed down due to agitation. The district-level facilitation Committee has given clearance based on PCB inspections. However, there is a need to ascertain that the unit meets all norms before starting and to clean up the area as the pollution persists.

3. The above matter indicates violation of the Environment Protection Act, 1986, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

4. The news item raises substantial issues relating to compliance with the environmental norms and implementation of the provisions of scheduled enactment.

5. Power of the Tribunal to take up the matter *suo-motu* has been recognized by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of "*Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai vs. Ankita Sinha & Ors.*" reported in 2021 SCC Online SC 897.

6. Hence, we implead the following as respondents in the matter:

(1). Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Through its Member Secretary, Plamoodu Jn., Pattom Palace P.O. Thiruvananthapuram-695 004.

(2). District Magistrate, Kozhikode, District Collector Office, Kozhikode Collectorate, Civil Station P.O, Kozhikode 673 020.

(3). Central Pollution Control Board, Through its Member Secretary, Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032.

(4). Ministry of Environment, Forest, Regional Office, Bangalore, Integrated Regional Office, Kendriya Sadan, 4th Floor, E&F Wings, 17th Main Road, Koramangala II Block, Bangalore – 560034.

7. Issue notice to the above respondents for filing their response/reply by way of affidavit before the Southern Zonal Bench of the Tribunal at least one week before the next date of hearing. If any respondent directly files

the reply without routing it through his advocate, then the said respondent will remain virtually present to assist the Tribunal.

8. Since the matter falls within the jurisdiction of Southern Zonal Bench of the Tribunal, therefore, the OA is transferred to the Southern Zonal Bench, Chennai for appropriate further action. Let the original record of the OA be transferred to Southern Zonal Bench, Chennai.

9. List before Southern Zonal Bench at Chennai on 29.01.2026.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

Dr. Afroz Ahmad, EM

December 02, 2025
Original Application No. 619/2025
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