



## GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

### **Abstract**

Environment Department - WP(C) 35818 of 2019 filed by Kerala Bottled Water Manufactures Association(KBWA)- High court judgment dt 24.12.2019- complied-Orders issued

# **ENVIRONMENT(B) DEPARTMENT**

G.O.(Rt)No.1/2020/ENVT Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 01/01/2020

Read. High Court order dt 24.12.2019 in WP(C) 35818 OF 2019 filed by Kerala Bottled Water Manufactures Association(KBWA)

#### **ORDER**

Kerala Bottled Water Manufactures Association has filed WP(C) 35818/2019 before the Hon'ble High Court aggrieved by the hastened decision to impose complete ban on single use plastic items including PET/PETE bottles below 500 ml and they have been subjected to irreparable loss owing to the piling up of raw materials and stocks and hence prayed for court's intervention for exempting from the ban.

The Hon'ble High court as per the judgment read above have ordered that the 1st respondent - Secretary to Environment, Government of Kerala shall consider the representation for enlargement of time and take appropriate decision in the matter adverting to the grievances of the petitioner and to take a decision at the earliest.

Government have examined the matter in detail. The ban has come at a time when the proliferation of single-use disposables has resulted in a massive increase in the amount of waste generated per person. Being a very densely populated consumerist state, this has taken a serious toll on our fragile ecology. Our rivers, mangroves, hills, seas and even forests are overflowing with large quantities of unprocessed waste. More than 3,000 tons of waste were removed from our forest in the past one year alone under Project Green Grass. The Government of Kerala, has through the Suchitwa Mission, over the past five years sensitized citizens towards the adoption of a Green Protocol for government institutions and public functions by completely replacing disposable items with reusable and eco-friendly substitutes. The program has been met with wide acceptance across the state. Despite the government's best effort, we have not been able to completely eliminate the indiscriminate pollution of our dumping of large quantities of waste into our nature. These circumstances have necessitated the ban. In this circumstance Government feel no need for the enlargement of time and Government stick on to the earlier decided date ie from 1.1.2020.

The Hon'ble High Court order dated 24.12.2019 in 35818 of 2019 is thus complied with.

# (By order of the Governor) VALSA.V ADDITIONAL SECRETARY

To:

The Registrar, High Court of Kerala
Kerala Bottled Water Manufactures Association
Eastern Corporate Office, NH Bypass, Edapally, Kochi
Member Secretary, Kerala State Pollution Control Board
Stock file/Office copy

Forwarded /By order

Section Officer