



FIFTEENTH KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

COMMITTEE

ON

**PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS
(2023-26)**

FORTY FOURTH REPORT

(Presented on 11th February, 2025)

**SECRETARIAT OF THE KERALA LEGISLATURE
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM**

2025

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(2023-26)**

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**The action taken by Government on the Recommendations contained in the
Fifty Sixth Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings
(2016-19) relating to Kerala Water Authority, based on the Report of the
Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended
on 31st March 2011, 2013, 2014**

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COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS (2023-26)

COMPOSITION

Chairperson:

Shri. E. Chandrasekharan

Members:

Shri A.P.Anilkumar

Shri Anwar Sadath

Shri Ahammad Devarkovil*

Shri T. V. Ibrahim

Shri P. Mammikutty

Shri K. P. Mohanan

Shri D. K. Murali

Shri P. Nandakumar

Shri Kadakampally Surendran

Shri P. Ubaidulla

Legislature Secretariat:

Dr. N. Krishna Kumar , Secretary

Shri Venugopal R, Joint Secretary

Shri Anilkumar B, Deputy Secretary

Shri Mohanan. O, Under Secretary

*In the vacancy of Shri K. B. Ganesh Kumar sworn in as Transport Minister w.e.f. 16.01.2024

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Committee on Public Undertakings (2023-26) having been authorised by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, present this Forty fourth Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations contained in the Fifty Sixth Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings (2016-19) relating to Kerala Water Authority, based on the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended 31st March, 2011, 2013, 2014.

The Statement of Action Taken by the Government included in this Report was considered by the Committee in its meetings held on 16.09.2021 and 26.10.2022.

This Report was considered and approved by the Committee in the meeting held on 04.12.2024.

The Committee place on record their appreciation for the assistance rendered to them by the Accountant General (Audit), Kerala, officials of Water Resources Department and Kerala Water Authority who were present during the examination of the Action Taken Statements included in this Report.

Thiruvananthapuram,

11.02.2025

E. CHANDRASEKHARAN,
Chairperson,

Committee on Public Undertakings.

REPORT

This Report deals with the Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 56th Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings (2016-19) relating to Kerala Water Authority based on the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended 31st March 2011, 2013 and 2014.

The Fifty Sixth Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings (2016-19) was presented in the House on 24th January 2018. The Report contained Nineteen recommendations and the Government furnished replies to all these recommendations.

The Committee examined the statement of Action Taken received from the Government on 16.09.2021 and 26.10.2022. The Committee accepted the reply on recommendation in Para No. 33 and sought additional information on Para Nos. 32, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49 and 50 in the meeting held on 16.09.2021. After considering the additional information the Committee accepted the replies on Para 32, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47 and 50 without remarks in the meeting held on 26.10.2022. These recommendations, additional information sought by the Committee and the replies furnished by the Government form Chapter I of this Report.

The replies of additional information received on Paras 48 and 49 are accepted by the Committee with remarks in the meeting held on 26.10.2022 which form Chapter II of this report.

CHAPTER – I**REPLIES FURNISHED BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE WITHOUT REMARKS**

Sl. No.	Para No.	Department Concerned	Conclusions/Recommendations	Action Taken by the Government
1.	32	Water Resources	<p>The committee vehemently criticized KWA for inordinate delay in the completion of Water Supply Schemes rendering them thoroughly ineffective. The Committee strongly recommends to take drastic measures to complete the ongoing projects and ensure water connection to consumers without delay.</p>	<p>KWA finalizes proposal for water supply projects based on the requirements and resolutions from local bodies for the handing over of required land. Accordingly, KWA prepares project reports with detailed implementation schedule. The implementation of all the projects is based on the schedule. But in some cases the projects are delayed mainly due to following reasons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The local bodies do not hand over the required locations in time. The local bodies initially agree or pass resolution that the land will be handed over by them for the project. But after getting sanction for the project, the earlier stand taken by LSGD is not adhered to in some cases. • Delay in getting permission for road cutting and rail crossing • Public protest in some areas • Tender processing delays due to insufficient delegation of powers • Reduction in fund availability etc. <p>KWA has taken specific measures to overcome these impediments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action has been taken to resolve the above issues based on reviews at various levels and delegation has also been enhanced.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tender for the works will be invited only after getting the land in possession⁶• Projects Divisions have been formed exclusively for implementation of major projects.• At present the implementation of NRDWP projects is upset due to reduction in central allocation. In this regard KWA has already restructured the implementation of the projects taken up under NRDWP. Accordingly implementation of 55 Non-started NRDWP projects has been stopped for considering those projects under other heads. No new projects under NRDWP have been sanctioned and priority has been given to those projects which can be completed investing minimum amount.• State Government has provided an additional allocation of Rs. 100 Crore for the completion of ongoing NRDWP projects.• KWA has finalised Annual work Plan for the year 2018-19 wherein specific target have been fixed for water connection, revenue collection in addition along with other targets relating to projects implementation and maintenance.• Exclusive Monitoring wing has been set up at Head Office level for regular monitoring of projects implementation. The issues in connection with implementation is taken up at various levels to sort out the same.
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Additional information sought on Para32

The Committee wants to know the present status of the measures taken to complete the ongoing projects and ensure water connection to consumers without delay.

Measures taken to complete the ongoing projects without delay :

- 1 In order to ensure timely completion of projects, Project Divisions are established w.e.f. 2009 at District level for exclusive monitoring of the ongoing projects.
- 2 Project Implementation Units are established at KWA HQ level for the consolidated monitoring of Projects under various Schemes at State level.
- 3 The Projects are monitored using the "PASK" (Project Alert System in KWA) software in which the progress, both physical and financial, of projects are made available in the Public domain. The field officers can register the progress and issues, if any, which can be brought to the notice of higher levels and resolved at the earliest. The Reviews at various levels are conducted periodically based on the information uploaded in PASK.
- 4 Delay in the permission for road cutting: The ROW (Right of Way) Portal of PWD is available in which the request for road cutting sanctions can be registered. The Portal hosted by IT mission is aimed at resolving the road cutting sanction issues at the earliest.
- 5 *The Railway sanctions are resolved at HQ level meetings with the Divisional Authorities of Railways. Further, such requests are also registered in the recently constituted e-PMG Portal, patronized by the State and Central Governments which enables early resolution of all such issues. Thus, earnest actions have been taken to avoid delay.*

2.	33	Water Resources	The committee observes that violating statutory provision of the KVAT 2003, the Water Authority irregularly refunded works contract tax amounting to 50.95 Lakh to contractor in 2007 and the amount had not been recovered so far. The committee exhorts to probe into the matter and take immediate steps to recover the excess amount from the contractor.	The amount of Rs 50.95 lakhs has been completely recovered vide CBV 21 of 12/2017 from CC 31 st and part bill of M/s Kerala Construction Corporation towards irregular refund of work contract tax related to the work “WS Augmentation to Parur Municipality and adjoining panchayath Improvements to Chowara Headworks and laying Pumping main from Chowara to Parur sump.
3	34	Water Resources	The Committee observes that the power factor penalty amounting Rs. 4.35 Crore was imposed on Water Authority by KSEB in 2011 due to failure in installing Static Capacitors in pumping station of Kerala Water Authority. The Committee wants to know the present status of installation of static capacitors in Kerala Water Authority.	Vide Circular No KWA/JB/EW/C&QAG/REP/349/11 dated, 01.09.2014 directions were issued to avoid power factor penalty by installing static capacitors as needed immediately. Accordingly action has been taken by field officers for the installation of static capacitors. On verification of electrical bills of HT connections of Kerala Water Authority for the year 2017, it is noted that the power factor penalty is reduced to 1.347 crore from that of Rs. 4.35 crore in 2011. Moreover installation of static capacitors have enabled KWA to enjoy the benefits of power Factor incentive to the tune of Rs. 2.37 Crores.
			Additional Information sought on Para <u>34</u> The committee wants to know the present status of installation of static	At present all the pumping stations are equipped with Static Capacitors of suitable value. Meanwhile, KSEBL revised power factor (PF) value from 0.90 to 0.95 as per the Order No.560/DD(T)2018/KSERC dated 08.07.2019. Due to this revision, some installed capacitors were not having sufficient value to the

			capacitors in Kerala Water Authority	required bench mark. However, as per KSEBL High Tension (HT) connection bills for the period from January 2021 to November 2021, the penalty has been considerably reduced. The net penalty on an average works out to Rs.1.01 crore per annum as against Rs.4.35 crore reported earlier. Out of 273 HT connections, KSEBL allowed incentive for 65 nos. amounting to Rs.10.14 lakh per month and only 126 nos. are penalized (Rs.18.54 lakh per month). For the remaining 82 nos., there is no penalty or incentive as above G.O provides that no penalty and incentives for consumers with leading power factor. Action is in progress to upgrade all the Static Capacitors of required specification to avoid penalty.
4	35	Water Resources	The Committee express dissatisfaction over the financial mismanagement in KWA and the practice of diverting plan funds. The Committee recommends to recoup the diverted amount within the financial year.	From the formation of Kerala Water Authority, it has never earned any surplus income and is always running at a revenue deficit. The revenue deficit is partially made good with the non-plan grant received from the Government of Kerala. Due to continuous deficit many of the revenue expenses are pending including power charges to KSEB Limited. Kerala Water Authority takes the establishment charges included in the work estimate to revenue. Now there is no diversion of plan funds to non-plan.
			<p><u>Additional Information sought on Para 35</u></p> <p>The Committee directed the department to furnish the present status of the recommendation to recoup the diverted amount within the financial year.</p>	The amount of Rs.95.00 crore was utilized for the payment of power charges arrears against demand of Rs.138.00 crore. The amount had already been recouped. It is also submitted that there is no diversion of plan fund from 2016-17 onwards.

5	36	Water Resources	<p>The Committee observes that KWA surrendered Rs. 350.24 crore of budget provision during 2008-13 due to non-implementation of projects in time. Therefore the Committee urges to implement the projects in time bound way and avoid delay in acquiring land, obtaining permission from NH Authorities /Railways.</p>	<p>Delayed handling over of required lands and permission from other agencies have resulted in under utilisation of budget provision. KWA has already taken specific measures to overcome the issues in the implementation of the projects and to ensure the project implementation in time. The details have been furnished in reply to Para 32. However in most cases projects have been sanctioned based on the assurance from the local bodies concerned relating to land availability. At present tender for the works are being placed only after getting the land in possession. But in order to get the Railway crossing and NH cutting permissions, even though KWA takes all efforts to get sanction in time, the decision of the authorities concerned will be based on their procedures in which KWA has no role. However, in recent projects efforts are being taken to avoid railway crossings as far as possible if alternative solutions are available.</p>
			<p><u>Additional Information sought on Para 36</u> The Committee wants to know the current status of the recommendation to implement the projects in time bound way and avoid delay in acquiring land, obtaining permission from NH Authorities /Railways.</p>	<p>There was no surrender of funds but only surrender of balance budget allocation. This reason has been specifically shown in the surrender proposals of each year. KWA has already taken measures to ensure availability of land for implementation of projects as follows :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 The Projects are monitored using the Project Alert System in KWA, (PASK) software in which the progress of projects is made available in the Public domain, both physical and financial. The field officers can register the progress and issues on acquiring land etc. This is being reviewed periodically at appropriate levels for taking remedial action.

				<p>2 In order to avoid delay in getting road cutting permission from PWD, the online portal Right of Way (ROW) is utilized. KWA is authorised to use this portal vide G.O.(Ms) No.2/2021/WRD dated 06.01.2021. Accordingly, 15,303 applications were submitted up to 18.01.2021. Against this, 6417 Demand Notices and permission for 1649 works received. Required deposit has been remitted against 476 works. Deposit for balance works can be remitted based on the release of State Plan fund under the respective Heads.</p> <p>3 The Railway sanctions are resolved at HQ level meetings with the Divisional Authorities of Railways. Further such requests are also registered in the recently constituted e-PMG Portal, patronised by the State and Centre, which enables early resolution of all such issues.</p>
6	37	Water Resources	<p>The Committee notes that the revenue collection was not sufficient to meet even 50 percent of revenue expenditure. Therefore the Committee recommends that KWA should initiate urgent measures to maximize revenue collection as well as to curb non-plan revenue expenditure.</p>	<p>It is a fact that the revenue collection is hardly sufficient to meet even 50% of the revenue expenditure. Within the limitations, KWA has been achieving commendable progress in revenue collection over the past years.</p> <p>It may be noted that the water tariff in kerala is very low starting with Rs. 4/KL. Almost 55% of the consumers fall in the <15Kl consumption bracket in which there is no revision in tariff over the last 10 years. Considering these, the increase in revenue collection is substantial.</p> <p>Also the following steps are taken for improving revenue.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maximising service connections : A target of 2,00,000 connections per year has been set and is being monitored closely 190430 nos. of new connections were achieved in 2017-18.

				<ol style="list-style-type: none">2. Annual collection targets have been set for each division and the status is monitored through Revenue Monitoring Cell of Kerala Water Authority.3. Priority is given for projects to utilise the already installed production capacities and laying distribution system in areas where production components have already been completed. This will help to service more areas and there by provide more service connections.4. Rolling out ABACUS to all Sections : Steps are being taken to bring all connections under ABACUS so as to have better control and monitoring of revenue collection.5. Establish Anti Water Theft and Leak Detection squads in all districts. A proposal submitted by KWA for establishing Anti Water Theft and Leak Detection Squads is under examination by Government and this will help to cut revenue loss considerably.6. Replacement of old and damaged pipes for reducing leakage and Non Revenue Water.7. Mapping connections to schemes is in progress in ABACUS to evaluate health of schemes and to take connective steps on a case to case basis. <p>On the expenditure side, substantial reduction may not be possible as major expenditure heads like salary and power charges are beyond the control of KWA. Expenditure on other heads like repair and maintenance is already much less than required and further reduction would result in deterioration of service quality. However on the power</p>
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				<p>charges side, KWA is taking the following steps to curtail expenditure.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Replacement of old pump sets with energy efficient pump sets. II. Avoiding penalty by maintaining power factor above 0.90. III. Disconnecting power connection to unutilised pump houses. IV. Rationalising connected load/ contract demand issues. V. Energy audit with the help of Energy Management Center. Energy audit to all AMRUT lines through EESL. 																						
		<p><u>Additional Information sought on Para 37</u></p> <p>The Committee wants to know the current status on the measures taken by KWA to maximize revenue collection as well as to curb non-plan revenue expenditure.</p>	<p>The revenue collection has increased above 50% from the year 2016-17 as shown below:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>2016-17</td> <td>-</td> <td>55.24%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017-18</td> <td>-</td> <td>54.74%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018-19</td> <td>-</td> <td>56.39%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019-20</td> <td>-</td> <td>56.92%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020-21</td> <td>-</td> <td>57.58%</td> </tr> </table> <p>(Compiled from Annual Accounts for the above years under submission for C&AG Audit).</p> <p>The revenue collection has also increased due to increase in number of water connections. Total number of water connections has been increased from 13.67 lakh as on 31.03.2015 to 31.61 lakh as on 31.03.2021. The Demand v/s collection since 2014-15 are shown below.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Demand (Rs. In</th> <th>Collection (Rs. In</th> <th>% of Collection to demand</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	2016-17	-	55.24%	2017-18	-	54.74%	2018-19	-	56.39%	2019-20	-	56.92%	2020-21	-	57.58%	Year	Demand (Rs. In	Collection (Rs. In	% of Collection to demand				
2016-17	-	55.24%																								
2017-18	-	54.74%																								
2018-19	-	56.39%																								
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Year	Demand (Rs. In	Collection (Rs. In	% of Collection to demand																							

	Crore)	Crore)	
2014-15	488.86	372.51	76
2015-16	562.96	444.9	79
2016-17	729.74	512.96	70
2017-18	822.68	542.36	66
2018-19	845.9	545.38	64
2019-20	931.46	723.08	78
2020-21	1037.15	601.45	58

There is revision of tariff for water charges with effect from 01.04.2021 as per GO (Ms) No. 9/2021/WRD dated 10.02.2021, @ 5% annual hike on floor rate of 2014 revision. However, drinking water upto 15,000 liters per month is supplied to about 5.12 lakh BPL families free of cost.

(i) With the implementation of JJM Projects, the number of water connections increased and this will hike the revenue income from water charges.

(ii) Annual collection targets is monitored by RMC at Head Office Level and Chief Engineer / Deputy AM at Regional Level. Circle level monitoring is done by Superintending Engineer and Accounts Officer. Revenue monitoring is done upto Division Level by Executive Engineer and Revenue Officer.

			<p>(iii) Rolling out of ABACUS in all Revenue Section Offices under KWA has been completed.</p> <p>(iv) The replacement of old and damaged pipes for avoiding leakage under different schemes like JNNURM and Non Revenue Water is in a phased manner.</p> <p>(v) To monitor the leaks, loss, unauthorized tapping and theft in Distribution System, a unit of Anti Water theft Squad is operating in Central Region under the control of Chief Engineer (Central Region). In Thiruvananthapuram area, a leak detection squad is constituted to operate with limited powers than that in Central Region and monitoring. In other areas, no separate system is constituted for AWTS. But through special surveillance works within Division and Sub offices, leaks, unauthorized tapping and theft are monitored regularly.</p> <p>(vi) Replacement of faulty water meters are done regularly and monitored in revenue review meeting from Head Office to Sub Division level and targeting on 100% working water meters. Directions have been issued to replace faulty meters at the cost of Consumers and if they are not willing, at the cost of KWA and recover the cost through their future bills.</p> <p>(vii) KWA has taken earnest efforts to curb non-plan expenditure (Revenue Expenditure). As part of it, steps have been taken to reduce power charge</p>
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				<p>as detailed below.</p> <p>i) About 89 HT connections in which connected load is higher than Recorded maximum Demand were identified. Requested the CMD, KSEBL (October 2021) to reduce Connected Load which will result in monthly savings of Rs. 23,75,345/- and thereby annual savings of Rs. 2.85 Crore. The full board of KSEBL has given approval for the same in its meeting held on 15.12.2021.</p> <p>ii) As detailed against Para No. 34, the penal charges for power factor has been reduced considerably from Rs. 4.35 crore to Rs. 1.04 crore per annum.</p>
7	38	Water Resources	<p>The Committee recommends to take necessary steps to recover arrears of Rs. 532.83 Crore towards water charges defaulted mainly by Government Departments and Autonomous Bodies.</p>	<p>Major defaulters of KWA are Government Departments and Local Self Government Institutions (LSGIs). There are certain limitations in disconnecting the defaulted water connections of Government Departments and in the view of the huge arrears, this fact has been brought to the notice of the Government during higher level discussion. The KWA was directed directions to conduct Adalath exclusively for Government Departments and LSGIs. Accordingly two revenue adalaths for Government Departments and LSGIs have been conducted during January 2018 under all the Divisions of Kerala Water Authority. 1769 Nos. of consumer attended the Adalath and 1342 Nos of cases were settled. Rs. 51.87 crores of fine and penal interest have been waived off in the adalath and 7.42 crore has been collected in cash. An amount of Rs. 20.49 Crores is to be remitted as per the adalath settlement. The Chief Secretary convened a meeting on 16.03.2018 to discuss the settlement of dues of KSEBL from KWA. The huge water charge arrears of various LSGI & Government Department was brought to the notice of the Chief Secretary and Chief Secretary directed to recover the dues of</p>

				<p>Government institutions and LSGD from source by Finance Department and to remit the same to KSEBL. As per the direction of the Chief Secretary, 24% per annum of fine applicable to water charge dues of Government institutions has been reduced to 6% for OTS payments. Thus the arrears of Government Institutions and LSGDs are re-calculated as Rs. 371.72 Crore as on 31.12.2017. Consumer wise list were forwarded to the Finance Department for recovering the arrears of all Government Departments, LSGIs from source. Moreover, in the meeting chaired by Principal Secretary, Finance on 29.10.2018 to discuss various issues related to settlement of dues of electricity charges and water charges by Government Department and LSGIs, it has been decided interalia to conduct a meeting with Government Departments by the Secretary, Finance (Expenditure) to discuss and provide adequate Non plan funds from next year on wards to these Departments for settling the dues of water charges and electricity chargers. Kerala Water Authority is taking all possible steps to collect the dues from defaulters.</p>
			<p><u>Additional Information sought on Para 38</u> The Committee wants to know the current status on the measures taken to recover arrears of Rs. 532.83 Crore towards water charges defaulted mainly by Government Departments and Autonomous Bodies.</p>	<p>As on 01.12.2021, the dues from the Government Departments and Autonomous/PSUs stood at Rs. 483.34 Crore and 13.35 Crore respectively. Letters have been issued to Heads of Department requesting early settlement of dues.</p>

8	39	Water Resources	<p>The Committee expresses its dissatisfaction on the purposeful lagging of drinking water supply scheme related to Cheruthuruthy and Nedumpura village in Thrissur districts and there by denying drinking water to these villages and causing an unfruitful expenditure of ₹4.67 crore. The Committee wanted to furnish a report on the present status of this project.</p>	<p>The major components namely, 4 MLD Water Treatment Plant, sump and 98% of compound wall had already been completed and partially commissioned on 12.07.2017 and supply effected through the existing distribution network and 70% of the project area was already covered by commissioning of 4 MLD Water Treatment Plant and sump, The balance area can be covered only after completing the Railway Crossing work arranged by P.H. Division, Thrissur. The balance work related to Package-I such as compound wall, road repairing, flow measuring equipment, scours line etc., are in progress and nearing completion. The detailed report on the project is as follows:</p> <p>SPAN-WSS to Cheruthuruthy and Nedumpura Villages Package – Design, Construction and Commissioning of 4 MLD Water Treatment Plant, 10.42 LL Sump and compound Wall at Athikkaparambhu.</p> <p>The Administrative Sanction for the project was accorded vide A.S.No.KWA/HO/WN-7/08-09 dated 05.08.2008 of Managing Director, Kerala Water Authority for an amount of Rs. 814.00 lakhs and Technical Sanction was issued by the Chief Engineer, Central Region, vide T.S.No.KWA/CE/CR/34/08-09 dated, 14.08.2008. The project was arranged in two Packages namely; Package-I – Design Construction and Commissioning of 4 MLD Water Treatment Plant and 10.42 LL Sump and compound wall and Package-II Supplying, laying distribution system in Cheruthuruthy and Nedumpura Villages.</p> <p>The Package-I was arranged under Project Division Nattika whereas Package – arranged under P.H.Division, Thrissur.</p>
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				<p>The work for Design and Construction of 4 MLD Water Treatment Plant and 10.42 LL sump and compound wall was tendered on 28.11.2009 and the work awarded to Mohammed Kunhi, Contractor with agreed PAC Rs. 374.25 Lakhs. The Agreement was executed for the work on 21.06.2010 vide Agreement No. 02/SE/PHC/TSR/2010-11. Due to technical reason, it was required to revise the design of the plant, the position of filter house etc. The revised Design of the water Treatment Plant was approved and obtained from WASCON on 04.06.2012. Work was commenced at site on 30.03.2012.</p>
			<p><u>Additional Information sought on Para 39</u> The Committee wanted to furnish a report on the present status of Drinking Water Supply Scheme related to Cheruthuruthy and Nedumpura village in Thrissur districts.</p>	<p>The Package I of this scheme – Design, Construction and Commissioning of 4 MLD treatment plant and 10.42 LL sump and compound wall at Cheruthuruthi and Nedumpura Villages was completed and handed over to PH Division, Thrissur on 31.01.2020. The Package II in the mentioned work was to lay the pipe line under Railway track, for which the Railway authority denied permission. Instead, permission was granted for laying the pipe line along the over bridge. So the pipe line could not be laid at that time. Hence this proposal was included in Jal Jeevan Mission Phase II – 3rd SLSSC and issued the Administrative Sanction and Technical Sanction Tendering process is in the progress.</p>
9	40	Water Resources	<p>The Committee observes that the Kottayam Water Supply Scheme Kuriyottumala project, Kattappana Ayyappankoil Elappara water supply project etc. are still incomplete even</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • .Kottayam WSS – Completed • WSS to Kuriyottumala (WSS to Pathanapuram – Piravanthoor) in Kollam District – Completed. • Wss to Elappara – Completed.

		<p>after so many years of their commencement and recommends to examine the factors hindering these projects. The committee wants to furnish a detailed report on the incomplete water supply scheme of water authority.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WSS to Kattappana – Ayyanpankovil : CARWSS to Kattappana and adjoining Villages was sanctioned on 20.11.2002 for Rs. 1832 lakhs. Revised sanction was issued on 26.11.2002 for Rs. 2314 lakhs. The project envisaged coverage of the entire area of Kattappana, Ayyapankovil and Kanchiyar Panchayaths with potable water targeting 12,0000 people. <p>The major components of the Water Supply Scheme have been completed except the electro – mechanical works. A proposal submitted under SLSC 2016 for an amount of 9 crore, for arranging the balance works. Due to shortage of NRDWP funds, the AS has been cancelled. Hence the balance electro – mechanical works and distribution works in Ayyanpankovil Panchayath is proposed under KILFB 2017-18. In principal approval for the above project been accorded by Government. The approval of KILFB is awaited.</p>
		<p><u>Additional Information sought on Para 40</u> The committee wants to furnish a current status on the incomplete water supply scheme of water authority regarding Kottayam Water Supply Scheme Kuriyottumala project, Kattappana Ayyappankoil Elappara water supply project etc.</p>	<p>CARWSS to Kattapana and adjoining villages was sanctioned on 20.11.2002 for Rs. 1,832 Lakhs. Revised sanction was issued on 26.11.2002 for Rs. 2,314 Lakhs. The project envisaged coverage of the entire area of Kattappana, Ayyappankovil, Kanjiyar Panchayaths with potable water targeting 1,20,000 people. The major components of the water supply scheme have been completed except the Electro Mechanical works. Due to the shortage of AS amount for completion of the scheme, a proposal was prepared under SLSSC, 2016 for an amount of Rs. 9 Crore for arranging the electrification and balance works. Due to the shortage of NRDWP funds, the above work was cancelled. Hence the balance Electro Mechanical Works, Distribution Works</p>

and Weir in Ayyappankovil Panchayath were proposed under KIIFB 2017-18 and the Administrative Sanction has been accorded for Rs. 4,642.4 lakhs in 2018 vide order no. WRD-025-06 PA-01 dated 13.11.2018. Technical sanction was also obtained to implement the work through 3 packages. Even though the tender was invited 2 times, nobody has quoted the work. Then these three packages were combined and a Global Tender was invited. But only one firm has quoted for this work. Hence the work was re-tendered due to single tender and this time also only one firm has quoted the same.

Under these circumstances, the above tender was cancelled by Tender Committee with a direction to implement the order no. GO (P) No. 114/2021/Fin dated 13.08.2021 and to revise the estimate based on DSR 2018 in compliance with Head office direction. Based on this direction, the estimate as per DSR 2018 is prepared. Tenders invited again and cancelled since a single qualified offer was received. The re-tendering is in progress. The detailed status of the work is as noted below:-

Works Taken Up Under ARP

SL No.	Name of Work	Status
1	Well	Completed
2	Raw Water Pumping Main (Thonithady Source to TP)	Completed
3	WTP	Completed

				4	GI Tanks and Sump (7Nos)	Completed
				5	Clear Water Gravity Main (Alady Kurisumala to Kalthotty)	Not started (due to paucity of ARP fund, the contractor did not start the work)
				6	Clear Water Pumping Main (WTP to Alady Kurisumala)	Completed
				7	Clear Water Pumping Main (Kalthotty to Lebbakkada)	Completed
				8	Clear Water Gravity Main (WTP to Marykulam Zone 1)	Completed
				9	Clear Water Pumping Main (Kalthotty to Nariyampara Top)	Not started (due to paucity of ARP fund, the contractor did not start the work)
				10	Clear Water Gravity Main (Nariyampara top to Idukki Kavala)	80% completed (due to paucity of ARP fund, the contractor did not complete the work)
				11	Clear Water Gravity Main (Idukki Kavala to Kochuthovala)	Completed
				12	Distribution System in Zone II (Kanjiyar Pt)	Completed
				13	Distribution system Zone IV (Kattappana Pt)	Completed
Work Taken up under NRDWP						
				Sl. No.	Name of Work	Status
				1	Distribution system in Ayyappankovil Pt.	Completed
				2	Distribution system in Kanjiyar Pt. And clear water pumping	Completed

				<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td>main from Kalthotty to Meppara</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Distribution system in Kattappana and Gravity Main from Nariyampara Top to Bottom</td> <td>Completed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Gravity Main from Idukki Kavala to Mulakamedu and distribution system</td> <td>Completed</td> </tr> </table>		main from Kalthotty to Meppara		3	Distribution system in Kattappana and Gravity Main from Nariyampara Top to Bottom	Completed	4	Gravity Main from Idukki Kavala to Mulakamedu and distribution system	Completed
	main from Kalthotty to Meppara												
3	Distribution system in Kattappana and Gravity Main from Nariyampara Top to Bottom	Completed											
4	Gravity Main from Idukki Kavala to Mulakamedu and distribution system	Completed											
10	41	<i>Water Resources</i>	<p>The Committee suggests that the simultaneous collection and distribution of water will render the water supply projects fruitful and effective in time and recommends to take necessary steps to carry out this likewise.</p>	<p>Earlier water supply projects were arranged as a Comprehensive water supply scheme including collection, treatment and distribution system. But various factors like delay in handing over of required land by local bodies, delayed permission from Railway, PWD, Electrical Inspectorate etc. have delayed the implementation of the entire project and the completed scheme component, became idle for long time for want of completion of minor balance components of the projects. This resulted in delay and cost over-run of the projects. Hence, later KWA Board have directed to arrange the comprehensive water supply projects in a phased manner. Taking into consideration the fund availability, the time required for the completion of the major components etc. at present the distribution work is being taken up or sanctioned only when the production components are nearing completion, It is also likely that the distribution system will fail if it is laid for long without charging or without using for a long time. The distribution in last phases the following advantages are there:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • blocking of funds can be avoided. • More number of schemes can be considered simultaneously • possibility of investing funds for procurement of pipes in the initial stages of project implementation can be controlled and thus the 									

				<p>possibility of dead investment can be avoided.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once the production components are completed and treated water is available, the distribution system can be taken up utilising other funds such as local body fund, MLA/MP fund etc.
			<p><u>Additional Information sought on para 41</u></p> <p>The Committee wants to know steps taken to carry out simultaneous collection and distribution of water in water supply projects as recommended by the Committee.</p>	<p>Before the JJM Project was launched by the Government of India, most of the projects implemented by KWA were having insufficient fund flow and hence KWAS was forced to move for phasing the Projects. The production components, transmission/ storage components and distribution system were done in separate phases. But the JJM objectives to provide FHTCs to all rural households by the end of March 2024 and the project has sufficient fund flow. Hence as part of JJM project, all the WSS of KWA, which had only production components are proposed to include distribution systems till the consumer connection. All the WSS to KWA for which minimal level of treatment and distribution alone was existed are now considered under JJM to provide full fledged water treatment plant and end mile connectivity to the consumer. Areas where no WSS existed also are now considered under JJM and full fledged WS projects are proposed.</p> <p>Thus on completion of all these projects, simultaneous collection and distribution of water will be made possible as suggested by the Committee.</p>
11	42	Water Resources	The Committee expresses its dissatisfaction on the non functioning of the Revenue Monitoring Committee in Kerala Water Authority and	Revenue Monitoring Committee (RMC) headed by the Managing Director and Technical Member, Regional Chief Engineers, Accounts Member etc as members is existing in KWA to monitor the revenue collection in KWA. During the past few years its function was in slow pace. During December 2017, the

		<p>recommends to strengthen the Revenue Monitoring Committee to ensure effective collection of revenue and to computerise the accounting system.</p>	<p>RMC was convened by the Managing Director in connection with Revenue Adalaths in KWA. In the meeting held on 19.06.20218 in the chamber of Technical Member, it was decided to conduct RMC meetings frequently so as to accelerate the revenue collection and to collect the outstanding arrears from the defaulters. Accordingly, a video conference was arranged on 03.07.2018 to review the progress of data migration to e-abacus software, connection status, Revenue Recovery procedure, Revenue target, etc, The following decisions were taken in the above RMC meeting:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monthly Revenue meeting to be conducted in all divisions. 2. RMC Units shall monitor high value connection across the State and all bulk connections with consumption more than 250KL. 3. Regional Chief Engineers shall monitor 50 major connections in all circles 4. Superintending Engineers shall monitor 100 major connections in all divisions. 5. Executive engineers shall monitor all Non domestic connections, Meter Replacement, unidentified connections etc. <p>It was suggested to conduct Video Conference in every month for review with special focus on revenue collection.</p>
		<p><u>Additional Information sought on para 42</u> The Committee wants to know the steps</p>	<p>(i) Revenue Review meetings are conducted regularly which is headed by the Managing Director covering all the Divisions. Due to earnest effort, the Revenue</p>

			<p>that has been taken to strengthen the Revenue Monitoring Committee to ensure effective collection of revenue and to computerize the accounting system.</p>	<p>collection for the period 2020-21 was Rs. 601.45 Crore and collection for the month of March alone stood at Rs.115.71 Crore. During the year 2021-22 (up to November 2021) ten Review Meetings were conducted (on 18.06.2021, 25.06.2021, 02.07.2021, 15.07.2021, 29.07.2021, 08.09.2021, 23.09.2021, 06.10.2021, 23.10.2021 and 03.11.2021).</p> <p>(ii) RMC unit is monitoring high value consumers directly and through Revenue Officers. Reminder letters have been sent to Heads of different Government Departments requesting settlement of huge arrears.</p> <p>30</p> <p>(iii) In addition to this, Chief Engineers of Regions are making reviews by the help of Deputy AM in this aspect.</p>
12	43	Water Resources	<p>The Committee recommends that steps should be taken to allocate fund for acquiring land even while a project is in its budding stage.</p>	<p>KWA finalises proposals for water supply projects in which the provision for land acquisition is to be done by local bodies. But in some occasions the local bodies do not hand over the required locations in time. The local bodies initially agree or pass resolution that the land will be handed over by them for the project. But after getting sanction for the project, the earlier stand taken by LSGIs may not be adhered to. In such cases, deviation in the original scope is warranted which in turn results in change in the design, project cost including the cost of the land. Now actions are initiated to procure required land utilising the State Plan fund. However, the limited budget allocation has its own limitation on procuring all the land required for the projects.</p>
			<p><u>Additional Information sought</u></p>	

			<p><u>on para 43</u></p> <p>The Committee wants to know the steps taken to allocate fund for acquiring land even while a project is in its budding stage.</p>	<p>Land acquisition cost is not allowable in guideline for JJM, AMRUT, NABARD projects where KWA is only an implementing agency. Hence the provision of funds for Land Acquisition cannot be included in the DPR. But in the case of KILFB, RKL, the provision for LA is included as per the Guidelines of the funding agency. In State plan proposals also, LA cost can be included in the DPR itself, if necessary, and land not made available by LSGIs.</p>
13	44	Water Resources	<p>The Committee exhorts to take rapid action to provide water connections to consumers from Ranni Major Irrigation Project until Jalanidhi Project gets commissioned.</p>	<p>Water Connections are being given from Ranni Major Scheme(CWSS to Ranni, Pazhavangadi & Vadasserikkara) to Jalanidhi area after obtaining an undertaking from the consumers to the effect that they will transfer the KWA connection to Jalanidhi as and when the scheme is commissioned.</p>
			<p><u>Additional Information sought</u></p> <p><u>on para 44</u></p> <p>The Committee wants to know the steps taken to provide water connections to consumers from Ranni Major Irrigation Project until Jalanidhi Project gets commissioned.</p>	<p>KWA has provided water supply from the scheme Ranni Pazhavangadi-Vadaserikkara in the area where Jalanidhi Scheme was being implemented. The Jalanidhi schemes of Ranni-Oottupura and Ranni-Thattekkad were commissioned on 10.09.2017 and 25.09.2017 respectively. Hence the recommendation of the committee is complied with.</p>
14	45	Water Resources	<p>The Committee accuses the Water Authority for not providing enough water connection in some areas and</p>	<p>KWA takes measures to provide water connection as much as possible. Present number of connections is 23.30 lakhs. Last year's achievement is 1.90 lakhs. Next year's target is 2.70 lakhs. Now annual work plan is finalised for the financial</p>

		<p>recommends to facilitate pipe extension to areas which face water scarcity. It also emphasizes the timely allotment of fund for the installation of distribution of lines nearing completion.</p>	<p>year in which major thrust is given to improve the connection and revenue. Specific target is fixed to all the officers concerned up to Assistant Engineers. Regular monitoring at various levels is being done to evaluate the progress. However it is observed that the high cost associated with house connection due to the enhanced rate for road cutting sanction from PWD/LSGD after the commissioning of the projects resulted in poor house connection in all schemes. Hence, it is required to develop new proposals to provide subsidised house connection along with project implementation as done in JICA project, to ensure maximum connection with minimum investment of the consumer. Additional budget allocation is required for this. By this KWA can maximise the house connection along with the project commissioning and can ensure the financial sustainability of the scheme. Regarding pipeline extension in water scarce areas, priority is given to water scarce areas subject to feasibility. The fund for the ongoing works is being allocated depending on the budget provision. At present priority is given to those projects which are nearing completion and which will render immediate benefit to the people.</p>
		<p><u>Additional Information sought on para 45</u> The Committee wants to know the measures taken to extend pipe to areas which face water scarcity and timely allotment of funds for installation and distribution of pipe lines which are nearing completion.</p>	<p>As pointed out by the Committee, KWA was not able to provide enough water connection in some areas prior to the declaration of JJM by Government of India, since the fund flow of the ongoing projects was very slow. During that period also, KWA was trying to facilitate pipe extension to the areas which faces water scarcity by posing such proposals under the Heads where funds are available. Priority was also given for allotment of funds for the installation of distribution line nearing completion. These are in line with the recommendation of the</p>

				Committee. In JJM projects, KWA does not have such restrictions of fund flow. Hence, all rural areas of the State can be covered by the end of March 2024.
15	46	Water Resources	Considering the water scarcity and drought related issues the Committee wants to furnish the current status regarding the installation of water kiosks in every village.	Providing drinking water kiosks is the responsibility of respective District Collectors and is normally provided and managed by the Revenue & Disaster Management Department. However, the drinking water to be supplied through the kiosks is provided by Kerala water Authority through filling points located at the KWA premises. Revenue authorities/LSGI collect drinking water from these filling stations and transports through tanker lorries to the kiosks.
			<p><u>Additional Information sought on para 46</u></p> <p>Considering the water scarcity and drought related issues the Committee wants to know the current status regarding the installation of water kiosks in every village.</p>	<p>Prior to the implementation of JJM, water scarcity and drought related issues were dominant and water kiosks were installed wherever necessary on demand.</p> <p>KWA proposes to provide piped water connection to all the households of the state by 2024 and thereby water shortage in majority of the areas in drought period can be solved. Source improvement work and construction of water treatment facilities from perennial sources, being implemented as part of JJM also reduce the possibility of acute water shortages during drought seasons in future.</p> <p>Even then KWA is providing sufficient water to kiosks at public places, if necessary, on demand.</p>
16	47	Water Resources	The Committee expresses its dissatisfaction that the water supply	ARWSS to Vandanmedu-Anakkara Villages was sanctioned in 1995-96 for an amount of Rs. 518.98 lakh under NRDWP. It was envisaged to cover the

		<p>schemes in Vandanmedu-Anakkara village has not been commissioned or even the land was not acquired after a period of 15 years and with an expenditure of ₹ 5 crores 18 lakhs and abandoned the scheme. The Committee recommends that viability of the project should be ensured before commissioning the scheme and directs to furnish the report of the Vandenmedu Panchayath giving assurance to procure land for the project and the original project report of the said scheme.</p>	<p>Vandanmedu and Anakkara villages benefiting a population of 48250. All the components of the project except the proposed weir of 5 M height were already completed. While preparing the project report itself it was obvious that the flow in the river is meager. Hence a weir of 5 meter height was proposed in the project report itself to ensure adequate stroage during summer. The Panchayath issued a resolution to the effect that the land liable to be submerged will be taken over. But till date the panchayath has not succeeded in taking over the land. Hence the construction of the weir could not be proceeded with. The only solution to overcome the situation is to utilize Idukki Dam Reservoir, the one and the only available sustainable source of Idukki District. A proposal is under consideration for the utilisation of already completed components. It is proposed to have a comprehensive project with the source on the bank of Idukki Reservoir covering 18 panchayths including Vandenmedu Panchayath. The project is indented to cover a population of 316100 out of 1108974 as per 2011 census in Idukki District. The MD, KWA has been instructed that the viability of the projects should be ensured before commissioning the schemes in future and the MD, KWA has given assurance in this regard. A Copy of the Original project report of WSS to Vandanmedu-Anakkara Village is attached as <u>Annexure- I</u>.</p>
		<p><u>Additional Information sought on para 47</u> The Committee wants to know the current status of water supply scheme in Anakara and Vandenmedu Panchayaths.</p>	<p>CARWSS to Vandanmedu and Anakkara Villages was sanctioned on 12.03.1996 for Rs.518.98 Lakhs. The project envisaged coverage of Vandanmedu and Anakkara Villages with potable water calculating 48250 people. The components like well as Amayar, WTP, GLSRs and Pumping Mains of this water supply schemes are completed. The major component for the</p>

			<p>source of this scheme was a RCC weir of height 5m. When the weir is constructed, an extent of 5 hectares of agricultural land will be submerged. KWA requested the panchayath several times to hand over the land. But the land could not be handed over by the Vandanmedu Panchayath authorities due to the protest of cardamom planters. Hence the weir was not constructed and the source “Amayar” dried up and is not adequate for a WSS. So, the scheme could not be completed and commissioned. As the source is inadequate, the only solution to overcome the situation is to utilize an alternate water source like Idukki Dam reservoir or Mullaperiyar Canal, the only available and sustainable sources of water nearby this Panchayath. But the implementation of a Water Supply Scheme using these sources exclusively for Vandanmedu and Anakkara Villages is not economical by considering the peculiar topography of project area, high altitudes with highly undulating terrains in Idukki District. Hence a comprehensive water supply schemes for covering 18 Panchayaths including Vandenmedu in Idukki district was proposed.</p> <p>Now as part of “JAL JEEVAN MISSION”, a new proposal for Vandenmedu, Chakkupallam, Karunapuram and Vandiperiyar Panchayaths by using the Mullapriyar reservoir as the source has been submitted and is included in the Agenda of 4th SLSSC. The proposed scheme is intended to provide FHTCs to all households of Vandenmedu and adjoining 3 panchayaths by utilizing feasible existing components under the scheme “CAR WSS to Vandenmedu and Anakkara Villages”.</p>
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17	50	Water Resources	<p>The Committee opines that the water authority should make genuine effort to improve professionalism. The Committee emphasizes the necessity of sufficient study before preparing projects. It also recommends the cancellation of indefinite projects and fix responsibility and recover the amount from the officers responsible.</p>	<p>KWA prepares project after proper survey and investigation. In most cases the delay in completion of projects is due to the reasons beyond the control of KWA such as land availability, sanction from other Departments, etc. At present complete Detailed Project Report is prepared before the commencement of projects. KWA has prepared a Comprehensive District Plan (CDP) and priority has been given in planning projects based on the CDP. Priority has been given to water scarce areas and also to distribution networks of those projects in which production components have been completed. At present Annual Work Plan is prepared in which specific targets have been prepared for various activities such as water connection, revenue collection, project implementation, etc. In order to strengthen the project implementation activities, restructuring of head office has been completed and exclusive wing for Planning, Monitoring and Operations have been formed. A separate IT wing is also formed and various IT related activities are being taken up by that wing. Genuine efforts are being made to resolve the issues at various levels and to ensure benefits to the public. In such cases the cancellation of the projects will be considered after evaluating all the possible ways to materialise the Projects. Utilization of installed capacity is being given high priority. Professional NRW management, Customer friendly online new connection facility, payment of water bills, etc. Are being worked upon.</p>
			<p><u>Additional Information sought on para 50</u></p> <p>The Committee wants to know the current status of the measures taken on the recommendation of Committee to</p>	<p>As part of improving professionalism in KWA, the following measures were implemented:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A web based project monitoring system was developed and being utilised for weekly review, updation of data, risk management etc. 2. Similarly, for the Water Supply Schemes being operated and maintained by

			<p>cancel indefinite projects, fix responsibility and recover the amount from the officers responsible.</p>	<p>KWA, maintenance works, their payment and the manpower engaged for operations etc. are managed through out the State using a dedicated software viz. Monitoring Accounting & Reporting by Centralized HR system (MARCH).</p> <p>3. For addressing public grievances, a call centre at the CCU buildings as well as an information system helps a lot to improve the services to the public.</p> <p>As recommended by the Committee, before preparing the project sufficient study on feasibility is done by PPD wing of KWA. Indefinite projects are being short-closed by the competent authorities regularly and in all such cases, defaulters are identified and penal measure are being taken.</p> <p>Thus, the recommendation of the Committee has been complied with.</p>
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CHAPTER – II

ACTION TAKEN STATEMENTS FURNISHED BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE WHICH HAS BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE WITH REMARKS

Sl. No.	Para No.	Department Concerned	Conclusions/Recommendations	Action Taken by the Government
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(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	48	Water Resources	<p>The Committee evaluates that the performance of the water authority is not up to the mark. It directs that the Authority should locate spots where water loss from leakage, theft etc, takes place and take urgent steps to curb it. Committee also suggests that for carrying out proper water audit meters should be installed at all the main water supply schemes.</p>	<p>Kerala Water Authority has taken proactive measures of curbing the Non-Revenue Water figures through pipe replacement, installation of bulk flow meters for measuring the quantity of water produced, measures for maximising billing, and has also taken necessary action for the formation of anti-water theft squads and leak detection and surveillance squads. The details are given below.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Under the AMRUTH Scheme, Rs.146.75 Crores has been allocated for the renovation of water supply schemes. These works include the replacement of old and leaking pipelines. 2. Replacement of old and damaged pipelines are being planned in KIIFB schemes also, in which Rs.433.33 Crores has been allocated for pipe replacement. 3. In addition to the above, funds have been allocated under State Plan 2016-17 and 2017-18 for pipe replacements and the works are being arranged. <p>A project to ensure 24X7 Water Supply in three cities-Thiruvananthapuram/Kochi/ Kozhikkode has been taken up with ADB Assistance. One of the 33objectives of the project is to reduce NRW to the National bench mark figure of 20%.</p>
			<p><u>Additional Information sought on para 48</u></p> <p><i>The Committee evaluates that the performance of the water authority is not up to the mark. It directs that the Authority should locate spots where</i></p>	<p><i>As part of improving the water supply operational performance of KWA, following actions have been taken:-</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>To locate the spots where water loss from leakage, theft etc. takes place, a Non Revenue water and Anti water theft squad is functioning under the CE, Central Region with the leadership of an Assistant Executive Engineer. A leak detection squad with minimum facilities is functioning under the Trivandrum</i>

			<p><i>water loss from the leakage, theft etc. takes place and take urgent steps to curb it. Committee also suggests that for carrying out proper water and audit meters should be installed at all the main water supply schemes. The Committee wants to know the current status of measure taken on the recommendation.</i></p>	<p><i>water scheme area. Though special facilities are not available under the remaining areas, leaks and thefts are being detected and rectified by general surveillance regularly.</i></p> <p><i>2. For the urgent rectification of leaks detected, Blue Brigade is functioning under Trivandrum WS project in all other maintenance Divisions of KWA. Running contract are arranged for immediate leak rectification.</i></p> <p><i>3. For carrying our water audit, flow meters are installed at locations in main WS projects throughout the State.</i></p>
2	49	Water Resources	<p>The Committee recommends that the Kerala Water Authority should adhere to the prevailing water distribution system and impose methods to expand the institution rather than switching over to bulk water system proposed by different sources.</p>	<p>In order to strengthen KWA, adequate financial and physical support are essential. To improve the service, the present staff pattern is to be revised. A lot of new projects have been commissioned and more are to be completed. But there is no change in the number of staff during last 30 years compared to the expansion in water supply coverage. This creates lot of issues in managing the system. All existing and ongoing water supply scheme require exhaustivte field management, liaison with various agencies like Railway, PWD, NHAI, LSGDs, PCB, Factories and Boilers Department, Electrical Inspectorate, KSEB and finally the consumer management. The budget provision is also an issue in providing portable drinking water to the water scarce areas. KWA has already requested allocation of a portion of fund from 14th Finance Commission grant of the local bodies for the maintenance of the water supply projects by KWA. However, KWA is striving to deliver better service with in the available facilities.</p>
			<p><u><i>Additional Information sought on Para 49</i></u> <i>The Committee recommends that the</i></p>	<p><i>Prior to the announcement of JIM by Government of India, KWA was facing severe shortage of funds for installation or extension of distribution system all</i></p>

		<p><i>Kerala Water Authority should adhere to the prevailing water distribution system and impose methods to expand the institution rather than switching over to bulk water system proposed by different sources. The Committee wants to know the current status of measures taken on the recommendation.</i></p>	<p><i>over the State and hence proposal for providing treated water to Grama Panchayath as a bulk consumer was agreed by KWA for a few Panchayaths in the State. After the announcement of JJM, since sufficient funds are available, KWA has explored the methods for expansion of the institution and bulk water supply to Panchayath are not considered now. Instead, KWA is proposing completion of distribution systems in all Grama Panchayaths of the State so that KWA will be able to provide quality assured potable water to all rural households in the State before 31st March 2024 and thereby Institutional arrangements to assure the quality of water thus applied, is also being arranged by KWA. Thus the recommendation of the committee is fully complied with.</i></p>
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Remarks:

1. The committee suggested to invigorate the work of anti-theft squad in water authority.
2. The Committee suggested that schemes under Jal Jeevan Mission should be completed in time and if there is any hindrance occurs it should be intimated to the Committee.

Thiruvananthapuram

11.02.2025

E.Chandrasekharan

Chairperson

Committee on Public Undertakings