Proceedings of the Chairman, District Disaster Management Authority and the District Magistrate, Palakkad
(Present : P. Marrykutty, IAS)

Palakkad District is worst drought affected area in Kerala during this year 20016-2017. Rain fall is short by 60% and almost all water bodies are dried off by January 2017. The ambient temperature shoots up to as high as 48°C in certain areas of the district and relative humidity also becomes very high during February, March, April and May. Wind velocity is comparatively low and thus the weather condition become extremely stressful to human beings, animals and other living things. The rivers, ponds and Wells (bore well/ open well) in this district are almost dried off and the ground water level is also decreasing day by day as revealed from the report of Ground water Department. The people of this district is facing a disaster like acute drinking water scarcity just akin to a disaster. Now drinking water is being supplied through tanker lorry in some areas of Palakkad District. By the month of 2017 March-May drinking water supply will have to be extended to most of the other areas also.

Section 30(2)iii of the Disaster Management Act 2005 (Act 53 of 2005) empowers the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) to take action for ensuring proper measures for prevention of disasters. Section 30(2)v
further empower the DDMA to issue direction to different authorities at district level and local authorities to take such other measures for the prevention of disaster.

Section 26(2) of the Disaster Management Act 2005 (Act 53 of 2005) empowers the Chairperson of the District Authority to exercise all or any of the powers of the District Authority subject to ex post facto ratification of the District Authority.

In this circumstances, in the DDMA meeting convened on 28/01/207, it was resolved that in the interest of preventing disasters, it is necessary to control and regulate over exploitation of drinking water and also to prevent the illegal function of kiln in this District. So in exercise of the power of District Disaster Management Authority as aforesaid, the following orders are issued.

ORDER

Under Section 26(2), 30(2)iii, 30(2)v 34(j)(m) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 (Act 53 of 2005) order is hereby issued to the Secretaries of all Grama Panchayath and Municipality in Palakkad district, District Officer of Ground Water Department, Deputy Chief Engineer of Electrical Division, Palakkad and Shornur, Executive Engineer, Kerala Water Authority, Palakkad & Shornur, Executive Engineer, Irrigation Division, Malampuzha, Chittur, Kanjhirapuzha, Principal Agricultural Officer, Palakkad, District Police Chief, Palakkad and all Companies which uses water as raw material.
1. All companies which uses either ground water or water from other sources as raw materials should reduce its utilization of water up to 75% during the drought season i.e. from the 1st of February to 31/05/2017 or till the attainment of sufficient rain fall whenever is later. Ground water Department and Kerala water Authority officials and Irrigation department officials should monitor this and give necessary order/notice to concerned companies to reduce their utilization of water up to 75%. The concerned department should take legal actions against the companies which disobey the order.

2. Usage of water for sand filterisation should be stopped till 2017 June 15 or till the rainy season.

3. Pumping of water for Agriculture except Paddy cultivation is strictly prohibited and the electric connection of those violating this should be disconnected by KSEB. The Agricultural Department should stop the subsidies for this type of Electric Connections. The KSEB should also disconnect the connections for coconut plantation which is used for Toddy production.

4. The Officials of the Mining and Geology, the Revenue Department, the Kerala Water Authority, the Irrigation Department and the Agricultural department should take actions against the illegal kiln functioning in this District and stop its function immediately. The concerned departments should take legal actions against the the owners of the kilns who disobey the order.

5. Water which is stored in the check dams should be secured by the Police to prevent it. The District Police Chief should take necessary action for implementing the same.
6. The Companies who violates these above orders shall face the consequences under section 58(1)(2) and violation by Departments concerned will attract action under section 55(1),(2) and 56 of Disaster Management Act-2005.

This order shall be enforced and executed with immediate effect. This order shall be retained till 31.05.2017 or till attainment of sufficient rainfall.

Given my seal and signature on this the 30th day of January 2017.

(Marykutty .IAS)
Chairperson,DDMA,
District Collector & District Magistrate,
Palakkad.

To All concerned Departments and Individuals.