

----- Vs. State of Goa and Others

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Court : Mumbai Goa

Decided On : Aug-13-2013

Judge : A.P. Lavande & U.V. Bakre

Appeal No. : Suo Motu Writ Petition No.2 of 2007

Appellant : -----

Respondent : State of Goa and Others

Judgement :

A.P. Lavande, J.

Taking cognizance of deteriorating garbage situation in the State of Goa, on 14th August, 2007, this Court directed registration of the above petition and issued notices to all the Municipal Councils and the Corporation of the City of Panaji, in order to examine the compliance of the Municipal Solid Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000 ("MSW Rules 2000" for short). Ms. Norma Alvares was appointed as Amicus Curiae. Having regard to the fact that large quantity of garbage is generated in certain Village Panchayats visited by tourists, on 3rd October, 2007, the Court issued notices to 26 Village Panchayats, through their Sarpanchas and directed them to file affidavits, indicating the steps taken for identifying/obtaining necessary approvals for setting up sites for disposal of garbage. This Court was constrained to pass the above referred order since, inspite of repeated orders passed by this Court regarding disposal of garbage, no

concrete steps were being taken by the Municipal Councils, the Corporation of the City of Panaji and the Panchayats in the State of Goa.

2. In 1999, this Court registered PIL Writ Petition No.109/1999, taking suo motu cognizance of the deteriorating garbage situation in the State of Goa. All the Municipal Councils and the Village Panchayats in the State of Goa were issued notices and were directed to file affidavits stating the steps taken by them for collection and disposal of garbage. During the pendency of the said petition, MSW Rules 2000 were notified in the Gazette on 25th September, 2000. Learned Advocate General made a statement that the subject-matter of writ petition would be dealt with in accordance with the MSW Rules 2000. Accepting the statement made by the learned Advocate General, PIL Writ Petition No.109/1999 was disposed of on 15th January, 2001.

3. Thereafter, two petitions, being Writ Petition No.417/2002 and Writ Petition No.28/2003 were filed, challenging the dumping of untreated garbage at Sonsoddo by the Margao Municipal Council and dumping of garbage on Saligao plateau by Calangute Village Panchayat, respectively. Both these writ petitions were disposed of by common order dated 30th July, 2003, giving certain directions regarding management of the two garbage dump sites. The Court also issued general directions to the State of Goa and other Government Authorities. The directions included appointment of MSW Officers and Garbage Management Committees in every Municipal Council, arranging programmes for education and awareness of the public, compelling all commercial establishments to keep separate garbage containers for biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste, disposing of bio-medical waste as per the Bio-medical Waste Rules and directions to the Goa State Pollution Control Board to approve all garbage disposal sites.

4. Taking note of the principle "polluter pays", the Court directed the State Government to submit a scheme to the Court within six months regarding charging of tax or fees or the like from those who market and sell plastic bags/bottles and the like. The State Government was also directed setting up of recycling plant and running it either by itself or through a private operator with the revenue from the Government as well as from the tax/fees/charges recovered from those who

market and sell the products in plastic bags/bottles and the like.

5. In the year 2005, PIL Writ Petition No.5/2005 was filed alleging dumping of garbage along the national highway. The Court examined whether earlier orders passed by it regarding garbage disposal had been complied with. The Court directed the Director of Municipal Administration to file compliance status report with regard to the directions issued in Writ Petitions No.417/2002 and 28/2003, since it was noticed that no compliance report was filed as directed. Pursuant to the said order, the Director of Municipal Administration, the Director of Panchayats and the Goa State Pollution Control Board, filed reply. Taking note of the fact that several Municipal Councils did not have sites for treatment and disposal of garbage, this Court by order dated 3rd October, 2006, directed to identify sites for waste disposal in each of the Municipal Councils and also sites for setting up landfills and further directed that a multi-department committee be constituted forthwith, consisting of the Director of Municipal Administration, Chief Conservator of Forest, Chief Town Planner, Chairman of Goa State Pollution Control Board, Member Secretary of each of the Planning and Development Authority and the Chief Officers/Commissioner of 8 Municipal Councils/Corporation.

6. As stated above, taking note of the deteriorating garbage situation in the State of Goa, the above Suo Motu Writ Petition was registered in 2007.

7. By order dated 9th July, 2008, the Court directed that the following immediate measures be complied with by all the Municipal Councils/Corporation, namely :- (a) to segregate the waste that is collected into organic waste (biodegradable) and inorganic waste (non-bio-degradable); (b) to compost the organic waste; (c) to bale (compact and tie securely) the plastic waste (bags/sheets); and (d) to store securely any residual waste for burial in a sanitary landfill, when it becomes available.

The Court also directed that within a period of six months, the Municipal Councils of Margao, Vasco, Ponda, Bicholim, Sanguem and Sanquelim which were already in possession of garbage disposal sites, should set up the sanitary landfills as per MSW Rules. As regards other Municipal Councils, namely Mapusa, Quepem, Cuncolim, Curcholem-Cacora, Pedne, Canacona, Valpoi and the Corporation,

which were not having sites, they should set up the landfill sites within a period of six months, after possession of such sites were handed over to the Councils/Corporation by the Government. The Court also recorded the statement of the Advocate General that the Government would provide 50% grant to each Councils/Corporation towards setting up of composting stations and the landfill sites. The Court also directed that henceforth, the setting up of composting stations should be mandatory in all multi-dwelling buildings of more than 20 residential units.

8. On 30th January, 2009, the Court issued show cause notices to some Municipal Councils which had not complied with the directions regarding the immediate measures in terms of order dated 9th July, 2008, namely Cuncolim, Curchorem, Pedne, Sanquelim, Valpoi, Sanguem and Quepem, calling upon them as to why appropriate action for disobedience of the Court's order should not be taken against them, including order imposing fine against them to be recovered from their personal salaries.

9. By order dated 12th February, 2009, the Court directed that till further orders the concerned municipalities may not give construction permission to multi-dwelling units without prior permission from the Court. The said order was vacated after the Goa State Pollution Control Board reported compliance of majority of measures directed by this Court by the concerned municipalities.

10. On 18th February, 2009, after perusing the affidavits of the coastal Village Panchayats which disclosed that most of them did not have sites for handling the disposal of garbage and taking note of the fact that it would take sometime for completing the procedure regarding acquisition of land, the Court, inter alia, directed the concerned Panchayats to take interim measures by making appropriate arrangements for composting of the biodegradable waste, and granted time of six weeks to locate the place for biodegradable waste and commence composting on that basis at the sites. All the concerned Panchayats were directed to collect plastic waste, store and bale at appropriate place or send the material for recycling.

11. On 23rd June, 2009, finding that none of the Village Panchayats had complied within the order dated 18th February, 2009, the High Court directed each of the coastal Village Panchayats to deposit an amount of Rs.25,000/- with the Court to show their bonafides. The said order was complied with by the coastal Village Panchayats.

12. On 3rd August, 2009, the Court directed all the Village Panchayats which are respondents to undertake waste collection programme, extending to all wards of the village panchayats. Plastic waste collection must be done regularly, once in a week to help the citizens to develop habit of segregating waste and also to make it convenient to store the plastic waste. With the consent of the learned Counsel for the parties, Monday was fixed for such plastic waste collection by every village panchayat. The plastic so collected was to be collected by the plastic collector, nominated by the Director of Panchayats, twice in a month.

13. Being totally unsatisfied with the inaction by the Municipal Councils/Corporation in setting up the landfill sites and taking note of the fact that most of the Councils had requested for extension of time for the same, this court on 25th November, 2009 directed category 'A' Municipal Councils to deposit a sum of Rs.50,000/- and category 'B' Municipal Councils Rs.25,000/- each to prove their bona fides. Three months' extension was granted to set up landfill sites. The Court observed that in case the said facilities were not set up at the end of three months and the Court was not satisfied with the bonafides or the steps taken by the Municipal Councils/Corporation, the amount deposited pursuant to the order of the Court would be forfeited in favour of the State Government. However, the Court clarified that the said order would not apply to Bicholim, Sanquelim and Canacona Municipal Councils and the Corporation of the City of Panaji. Pursuant to the said directions, the Municipal Councils have deposited the amount as directed.

14. Thereafter, various Municipal Councils/Corporation filed applications for extension of time to construct landfill sites on various grounds. The Court granted time.

15. Taking note of the slow pace adopted by the Village Panchayats in acquiring sites for the disposal of solid waste/garbage, as well as inadequate composting

units, this Court by order dated 28th January, 2010, directed the coastal Village Panchayats not to issue occupancy certificates to commercial projects already constructed, having five family units or more, until such time they have their own disposal facilities for solid waste made available or the concerned Village Panchayat has a site for waste disposal as required under the Rules. By the very same order, the Court directed the Village Panchayats of Arambol, Mandrem, Paliem, Querim, Anjuna, Calangute, Betalbatim, Varca, Colva, Majorda, Cavelossim, Cansaulim, Chicalim, Chicolna-Bogmalo, Sancoale, Fatorpa and Naquerim-Betul to show cause why the amounts deposited by them should not be forfeited due to their failure to comply with the interim measures directed by the Court vide its orders dated 18th February, 2009 and 3rd August, 2009.

16. The Goa State Pollution Control Board submitted a comprehensive report in July, 2012, containing individual assessment of each of the Municipal Councils/Corporation/coastal Village Panchayats. The report also gives details of approximate quantity of waste generated and the methods adopted by the local authorities for its treatment and disposal. The report also gives data, per local body, on the population density, number of commercial establishments, hotels, restaurants, multi-dwelling units, etc. Perusal of the report discloses that all the Municipal Councils/Corporation in the State of Goa have waste disposal sites for treatment of garbage and all the Municipal Councils, except Mormugao Municipal Council, have sites for setting up landfills or landfills are already constructed.

17. Considering the report submitted by the Board, this Court by order dated 11th August, 2010 directed that no licence/permission for new construction of buildings/structures shall be granted by certain village panchayats, without seeking prior permission of this Court and further directed that till further orders, the Village Panchayats of Poinguinim, Arambol, Morjim, Paliem, Candolim, Anjuna, Calangute, Fatorpa, Betul, Benaulim, and Varca shall not issue licence/permission for construction of new buildings/structures, without seeking prior permission of this Court. In view of the compliance later on, by order dated 7th September, 2010, the Candolim Village Panchayat was deleted from the said list.

18. Finding that there was prima facie breach of the order of this Court dated 9th July, 2008, this Court on 20th June, 2011, issued notices to the Municipal Councils/Corporation to show cause as to why action of contempt of the Court should not be initiated for breach of the order dated 9th July, 2008. At the instance of the Municipal Councils/Corporation, the said show cause notices were subsequently discharged since some of them had set up landfill sites and the rest were given additional time to set up and commission the landfill sites.

19. In view of the order dated 11th August, 2010, passed by this Court restraining certain Village Panchayats from granting construction licences, several miscellaneous applications were filed by some individuals, as well as by builders seeking permission to construct their individual residences, building projects, hotels, commercial establishments, etc., as well as undertakings that they would set up composting units for disposal of biodegradable waste. For quite sometime the Court accepted such undertakings and directed the Goa State Pollution Control Board to examine the facilities proposed to be set up by each applicant and thereafter granted permission for construction licences to be considered by the Village Panchayats. Taking note of the fact that a large number of such applications were being filed in the Court and that the applications did not come from the Village Panchayat, on 27th February, 2012, this Court observed thus :

"It is clarified that none of these applications shall be taken up nor any exemption from the earlier order would be granted unless the Pollution Control Board certifies that the municipal council has taken steps to comply with the MSW Rules, 2000 in case of municipal councils, and by the Panchayats under earlier directions of this Court. Equally, as far as the Panchayat areas are concerned, if the panchayat has put up necessary facilities it is for them to get them certified through Pollution Control Board and unless they make a statement that they have so applied and the Board has inspected the facilities there is no question of considering any applications."

20. Thereafter, various miscellaneous civil applications have been filed by several persons for recall of the order dated 27th February, 2012 and for direction seeking the concerned village panchayats to consider their applications to undertake

constructions. It was the contention of the learned Counsel for the said applicants that the applicants cannot be made to suffer on account of inaction/negligence on the part of the respective Village Panchayats. It was further their contention that they would even individually ensure the disposal of garbage by substantially complying with The MSW Rules, 2000. It was further their contention that their right to construct buildings, more particularly for residential purpose, cannot be defeated on account of inaction on the part of the respective Village Panchayats for not complying with the Rules and the orders passed by this Court. Learned Advocate General and learned Amicus Curiae submitted that those Village Panchayats which have consistently defaulted in not complying with the MSW Rules, 2000 on all parameters, must be restrained from granting any permission/licence for construction purpose and the rights of the individuals to undertake construction must yield to larger public interest. We have considered the rival submissions and we propose to give certain directions considering the earlier orders passed by this Court and the report submitted by the Goa State Pollution Control Board.

21. During the pendency of the writ petition, several affidavits have been filed on behalf of the respondents. The writ petition was taken up for final hearing on 10th April, 2013. In the course of hearing, learned Advocate General submitted that the Pollution Control Board would carry inspection of all 13 Municipal Councils, the Corporation of the City of Panaji and 26 coastal Village Panchayats to verify whether the interim directions issued by this Court had been complied with.

22. We heard learned Advocate General, the learned Counsel for the respondents, and learned Amicus Curiae Mrs. Alvares, at length.

23. Mr. A.N.S. Nadkarni, learned Advocate General appearing on behalf of respondents No.1, 3 to 6 submitted that setting up of a Waste Management Plant and disposal of garbage is the responsibility of the local authorities viz., the Corporation, Municipalities and Panchayats. However, the authorities have shown a complete lackadaisical attitude and their inaction amounts to remiss in duties. He submitted that though disposal of garbage is the responsibility of the local authorities, considering the effect of pilage of garbage on tourism, health and

sanitation, the State Government has decided to take following steps :

(1) Establishment of Integrated Municipal Solid Waste Management Facility at Baiguinim Village, the work of which has been entrusted to the Goa State Industrial Development Corporation. The said facility would consist of:

- (i) Treatment of wet/bio-degradable/organic waste;
- (ii) Recycling Centre for dry/recyclables or sorted waste;
- (iii) Landfill for disposal of inert material not more than 10% of the total waste;
- (iv) Other miscellaneous common facilities comprising of weighbridges, administration building, roads, laboratory, etc.

The technology and layout of the plant has been planned in such a way so as to treat the source segregated waste. Corporation of the City of Panaji will evolve a model Municipal Solid Waste facility, operational in all seasons which would not create any environmental issues and would help in creating a world-class infrastructure facility for the residents of the region.

The plant has been designed to comply with the MSW Rules 2000. Though, presently, the integrated Municipal Solid Waste Managing Facility is being set up for the Corporation of the City of Panaji, at Baiguinim, the same will be extended to other Municipalities as well. The plan is to have three such garbage disposal facilities for treatment of garbage all over Goa, inasmuch as it is not feasible to have the garbage disposal for other Municipalities. However, the garbage will be collected from a common collection centre which would be notified and then taken to the plant for disposal.

The Government has also set up Monitoring-cum-Working Committee for the solid waste management under the chairmanship of the Minister for Environment to tackle the garbage issue and at present, the said Committee ensures that the garbage is collected from the State Highways and shortly, the garbage collection would be extended to all the Districts, Municipal and Panchayat Roads in the State of Goa.

24. Ms. Alvares, learned Amicus Curiae, submitted that appropriate proceedings be taken against the local bodies which consistently defaulted in complying with the directions given by this Court from time to time. In the course of hearing, learned Amicus Curiae has suggested certain directions which may be given to the Corporation/Municipal Councils/Village Panchayats, having regard to the reports submitted by the Goa State Pollution Control Board, after carrying out the inspection thereof. Learned Counsel appearing for the respondents which have not complied with the directions issued by this Court from time to time, have sought further time to comply with the directions given by this Court. We do not deem it necessary to refer to the submissions made by each of the Counsel appearing for the respondents, more particularly having regard to the order that we propose to pass, disposing of the petition, and having regard to the fact that a sizable number of local authorities have defaulted in complying with the directions given by this Court, from time to time.

25. Some of the learned Counsel appearing on behalf of the respondents which have not complied with the directions given by this Court and the MSW Rules 2000, have submitted that they would comply with the directions and the Rules within a reasonable time and till such time, no order be passed by this Court restraining them from granting construction licences.

26. We have carefully considered the submissions made by learned Advocate General, learned Amicus Curiae and the learned Advocates appearing for the respondents. We had made it clear during the course of hearing of the petition that final order would be passed on the basis of the reports submitted by the Goa State Pollution Control Board in July, 2012. Since the writ petition was heard for quite some time prior to July, 2012 and having regard to the time already taken during the arguments, it would not be possible to adjourn the matter by granting time to some of the respondents to comply with the directions given by this Court or to comply with the MSW Rules, 2000. We propose to dispose of the writ petition having regard to the orders passed by this Court from time to time and the orders passed by this Court in the disposed of writ petitions, dealing with the issues and in the light of the submissions made by all the learned Counsel appearing for the parties and the learned Amicus Curiae.

27. In view of the above, the writ petition is disposed of by giving the following directions to the respondents :-

(I) DIRECTIONS TO THE CORPORATION/ MUNICIPAL COUNCILS :-

(1) By way of final opportunity, the Corporation of the City of Panaji and the Municipal Councils of Mapusa, Ponda, Curchorem, Margao, Pedne, Sanguem and Valpoi are granted time of one year to complete the construction of landfills for the burial of residual/inert waste collected by the Corporation/ Municipalities.

(2) In so far as Mormugao Municipal Council is concerned, a Committee consisting of the following members is constituted to identify suitable site for setting up of landfill :

(a) Director of Municipal Administration;

(b) Chief Conservator of Forests;

(c) Chief Town Planner;

(d) Chairman of Goa State Pollution Control Board;

(e) Member Secretary of Mormugao Planning and Development Authority;

(f) Chief Officer of Mormugao Municipal Council. The Committee shall identify the site within a period of two months from today and the State Government shall take appropriate steps to acquire the land suggested by the committee and hand over possession of the acquired land to the Mormugao Municipal Council within a period of six months from the date of submission of the report by the Committee.

(3) The Mormugao Municipal Council will construct the landfill within one year from the date of handing over possession of the land to it by the State Government.

(4) The Corporation of the City of Panaji/Municipal Councils to ensure that the plastic waste that accumulates after segregation of the waste, shall be baled and stored at the Councils' waste disposal site or at any site that may be selected by the State Government for plastic waste collection, until the agency appointed for

the purpose collects the same.

(5) The Director of Municipal Administration shall appoint M/s. Good Earth Management Enterprises Pvt. Ltd., which has been appointed by the Director of Panchayats for collection of plastic waste from the Village Panchayats or any other agency approved by the Goa State Pollution Control Board to collect the baled plastic waste from all Municipal Councils/Corporation, every fortnight for safe and hygienic disposal.

(6) By way of last opportunity, time of three months is granted to the Municipal Councils of Mapusa, Ponda, Curchorem, Margao, Sanguem and Valpoi to set up adequate composting facilities for disposal of organic/biodegradable waste to the satisfaction of the Goa State Pollution Control Board.

(7) The Board shall inspect the facilities within one month thereafter and file a report in this Court, within two weeks thereafter, stating as to whether these Municipal Councils have taken measures for disposal of organic/biodegradable waste in terms of order dated 9th July, 2008 passed by this Court. The Board shall also send a copy of its inspection report to the concerned District Magistrate who shall consider it for taking appropriate action in accordance with the law in case of non-compliance of the directions by any Municipal Council.

(II) DIRECTIONS TO THE VILLAGE PANCHAYATS.

(1) The Village Panchayats shall ensure that the plastic waste that is collected every week from all wards of the Village Panchayats is baled properly and stored at an appropriate site, until it is collected by the agency appointed for the purpose. If the Government selects a site for storage of plastic waste, the Village Panchayats shall transport the plastic waste to this site in secure condition for baling.

(2) In case of non-compliance of direction No.(1), the Director of Panchayats shall report the same by filing appropriate application, so as to enable this Court to pass further orders, including initiation of contempt proceedings against the concerned Village Panchayat/s.

(3) By way of last opportunity, time of three months is granted to the Village Panchayats of Calangute, Candolim, Taleigao, Benaulim, Colva and Chicalim to make adequate composting facilities for disposal of organic/biodegradable waste to the satisfaction of the Goa State Pollution Control Board.

(4) Within one month thereafter, the Board shall inspect the facilities and file report in this Court within a period of 15 days, stating therein as to whether these Village Panchayats are in full compliance with the order dated 18th February, 2009, passed by this Court regarding the steps to be taken for disposal of organic/biodegradable waste. The Board shall also send a copy of the report to the concerned District Magistrate who shall take appropriate action in accordance with law against the erring Village Panchayat/s.

(5) Considering the population and the fact that till date not many commercial activities are undertaken in the Village Panchayats of Querim-Tiracol, Paliem, Pinguinim, Loliem, Cola, Agonda, Naquerim, Fatorpa, and Quitol, they are exempted from setting up composting stations. However, the Goa State Pollution Control Board shall carry out periodical inspections of these Village Panchayats and issue directions to them to set up composting stations if the Board is of the opinion that the composting stations are to be set up having regard to the mega housing projects and/or commercial establishments set up hereinafter in these villages.

(6)(a) The Village Panchayats of Mandrem, Morjim, Taleigao, Benaulim, Varca, Colva, Majorda, Chicalim, Sancoale and Fatorpa are directed not to issue construction licence/s to multidwelling projects of 5 residential units and above, until the Goa State Pollution Control Board is satisfied that the plastic waste is collected weekly from all wards of the Village and baled properly for onwards disposal through the plastic waste collector. The Secretary of the Village Panchayats shall inform, in writing, the Board that the plastic waste is being collected weekly from all the wards of the village and is baled and if the Board is satisfied with the arrangement of the plastic waste disposal, it shall issue a certificate to the concerned Village Panchayat/s to that effect and it is only thereafter that the concerned Panchayat/s shall be entitled to issue construction

licence/s to the multidwelling projects of 5 residential units and above.

(b) The Goa State Pollution Control Board, as well as the aforementioned Village Panchayats shall maintain a separate record of the certificates issued by the Board to the concerned Village Panchayat/s.

(c) In the event any of the aforementioned Village Panchayat grants permission/ construction licence to the multidwelling project of 5 residential units and above, without a certificate of the Board, the same shall be construed as contempt of this Court and an appropriate action would be taken against the concerned Village Panchayat and/or its official.

(III) OTHER GENERAL DIRECTIONS :

(1) The State Government shall set up two or more sanitary landfills within a period of one year for accepting the residual/inert waste for Village Panchayats of North Goa and South Goa.

(2) The State Government shall consider setting up of a plastic waste disposal unit, having regard to the fact that on transportation of plastic waste out of Goa heavy expenditure has to be incurred.

(3) The Director of Panchayats shall appoint M/s. Good Earth Management Enterprises Pvt. Ltd., or any other agency selected by the State Government to collect the baled plastic waste from the Village Panchayats every fortnight or in case any site is allocated by the State Government for storing/baling of the plastic waste, the agency selected by the State Government, shall collect the waste from the said site every fortnight.

(4) The Agency selected for collecting plastic waste shall maintain record of collection of baled plastic waste from the Municipalities and the Village Panchayats.

(5) The record shall be made available to the Goa State Pollution Control Board, on demand. The Board shall designate Officer/Officers to inspect the records preferably once in three months to ensure that all coastal Village Panchayats are

adhering to the directions given by this Court. If the Board finds that the Municipality or the Panchayat is not complying with the directions issued by this Court, the Board shall file a report to this Court in order to enable this Court to pass appropriate orders.

(6) The Goa State Pollution Control Board shall provide technical assistance and guidance regarding proper methods of disposal of biodegradable waste through composting, use of scientific methods of treating biodegradable waste to Village Panchayats and Municipal Councils, upon request being made in that regard.

28. Pursuant to orders passed by this Court, the Municipal Councils and the Village Panchayats have deposited the amounts ordered to be deposited and they have been invested in a nationalised bank. Considering the valuable services rendered by Ms. N. Alvares, as amicus curiae for a period of almost seven years, we deem it appropriate to direct that an amount of Rs.2.00 lakhs (Rupees two lakhs only) be paid to learned amicus curiae. The balance amount, along with accrued interest, if any, shall be credited in favour of the Goa State Pollution Control Board.

29. We place on record our appreciation for the valuable services rendered by Ms. Alvares, learned amicus curiae, who has not only rendered able assistance, but also has given valuable suggestions regarding the directions to be issued to the respondents in the present petition.

30. All Miscellaneous Civil Applications filed in the suo motu writ petition stand disposed of by a separate order passed today.

31. It is made clear that this Court has not dealt with the issue regarding bio-medical waste disposal. However, we expect the State Government, as well as the Goa State Pollution Control Board to take appropriate steps regarding disposal of bio-medical waste, in accordance with the rules in force.

32. Suo Motu Writ Petition stands disposed of. Needless to mention that all interim orders passed by this Court from time to time, subject to the directions given above, stand vacated.

