

**GOVERNMENT OF KERALA**

Local Self Government (WM) Department

No.WM1/291/2022/LSGD

06-04-2026, Thiruvananthapuram

From

Principal Secretary to Government

To

Secretary, Finance (WCD) Department

Secretary, Planning (A) Department

Principal Director, LSGD

Project Director, KSWMP

Executive Director, Suchitwa Mission

Sir/Madam,

Sub: LSGD - Minutes of the 9th Empowered Committee Meeting of
KSWMP held on 11.03.2026 - Forwarding of - Reg.

Ref: Letter No. 235/ADM/2022/KSWMP dated 28.03.2026 from the
Project Director, KSWMP

I am to forward herewith the approved minutes of the 9th Empowered
Committee Meeting of KSWMP held on 11.03.2026, for information
and necessary action.

Yours Faithfully,

NANDANA S PILLAI K A S

UNDER SECRETARY

For Principal Secretary to Government.

Approved for Issue,
Signed by

Sheeba. S. C

Date: 07-04-2026 10:46:10

Section Officer.

Minutes of the 9th Empowered Committee Meeting of KSWMP held on 11.03.2026 at 11:00 AM in the chamber of the Secretary, Local Self Government Department.

The meeting started at 11:00 AM under the chairmanship of Secretary, LSGD. The following Members were present:

1. Smt.Anupama T V IAS, Secretary, LSGD
2. Dr. Divya S Iyer IAS, Project Director, KSWMP
3. Dr. Harikumar K IAS, Deputy Project Director, KSWMP
4. Shri. Shibu.A, Additional Secretary, Finance (WCD) Department
5. Shri. Shaji T.S, Under Secretary, Planning (A) Department
6. Shri Mohammed Huwaiz.M, Joint Director, State WM Cell, Principal Directorate, LSGD
7. Shri.Jahamgeer.S, Director (Operations), Suchitwa Mission

Agenda 1 : Business Development Plan for Haritha Karma Sena workers – Request for approval of revised implementation strategy.

The Deputy Project Director explained in detail the scenario necessitating a change to the revised implementation strategy for the Business Development Plan for Haritha Karma Sena workers and requested approval of the following:

1. Regularisation of the funds already expended under the earlier implementation plan, as the Bank has directed 100% release of funds from the Government of Kerala's share [total amount: ₹38,60,912/-].
2. Re-approval for the revision of the three already implemented Business Development Plans (BDPs) in Guruvayur, Wadakkanchery and Anthoor by modifying the implementation strategy for the utilisation of working capital.
3. Issuance of a Government Order based on the revised implementation strategy and revision of the agreement accordingly

Decision Taken:

The Committee examined in detail the circumstances necessitating the revision of the implementation strategy of the Business Development Plan (BDP) for Haritha Karma Sena (HKS) workers and observed that the revision was based on the directions of the World Bank's Social Expert.

In this context, the Committee directed SPMU to obtain a clear written justification from the World Bank on the following:

- i. The rationale for directing revision of the existing implementation strategy despite prior written approval from the Bank.
- ii. The basis for the earlier communication from the Bank expert instructed SPMU to designate the HKS Consortium as the implementing agency.

Further, considering that implementation activities have already commenced and that there are increasing demands from ULBs for the rollout of the Business Development Plan, the Committee decided to approve the revised implementation strategy so as to ensure that implementation remains unaffected. The Committee also decided to request the World Bank to provide the required written justification at the earliest for issue of necessary orders.

Agenda 02 : Release of payment to M/s. UFO Moviez India Ltd and Cube Cinema Technologies for theatre campaign services

The Committee observed that the theatre screening services for the KSWMP All-Kerala Awareness Campaign were formally entrusted to M/s UFO Moviez India Ltd. and M/s Qube Cinema Technologies Pvt. Ltd. for the screening of awareness advertisements across cinema theatres in Kerala. The Committee was informed that the screening records were duly verified and certified by the IEC Expert of SPMU, confirming that the campaign was executed in accordance with the approved plan and agreed deliverables.

Decision Taken:

The Committee authorised Project Director, KSWMP to release payment to M/s UFO Moviez India Ltd amounting to ₹33,99,930/- (Rupees Thirty three lakh ninety nine thousand nine hundred and thirty only) and M/s Qube Cinema Technologies Pvt. Ltd. amounting to ₹31,69,789/- (Rupees Thirty one lakh sixty nine thousand seven hundred and eighty nine only).

Agenda 03 : Appointment of FS Consultant for alternate site to Cheemeni and additional land, if any

The Empowered Committee deliberated in detail on the proposal regarding the engagement of a feasibility study consultant and associated preparatory activities for the proposed Scientific Landfill at Ambalamedu and alternate sites (Kannur and Ayyankuzhy). The Committee also examined the position of the World Bank regarding SLF under the project, with reference to the communication dated February 3 addressed to the Government.

In respect of Ambalamedu, the Committee noted that a decision has been taken in the Chief Minister–level meeting to identify alternate land, and accordingly, the site is no longer being actively pursued. The Committee further observed that uncertainties relating to land acquisition and statutory clearances continue to persist, and that SLF development is likely to be excluded under the ongoing project restructuring. In this context, the financial prudence of proceeding with the preparation of the draft bid document (RFB), involving substantial consultancy cost without reasonable assurance of implementation, was critically examined.

The Committee also deliberated on the proposal for undertaking feasibility studies for alternate land parcels at Kannur and Ayyankuzhy. Based on the proposal submitted by Tata Consulting Engineers, it was observed that the estimated cost for conducting full-fledged feasibility studies, including detailed investigations and testing, is significant. The Committee noted that the identified land parcels are predominantly private land and that the feasibility of implementing SLF projects at these locations remains uncertain. Further, the possibility of the Government adopting alternative solid waste management solutions under the evolving project framework was also taken into consideration.

The Committee further observed that direct engagement of Tata Consulting Engineers for this purpose, at the proposed rate of approximately Rs 1.5 crore for a single land parcel, is not justified. Noting that only a Letter of Award (LoA) has been issued at present and that the agreement is yet to be executed, the Committee directed that the matter be re-examined prior to contract finalization, including the possibility of appropriately limiting the scope of work, if considered necessary.

In light of the above, the Committee deliberated on the necessity, timing, and scope of the proposed consultancy engagements.

Decision Taken

1. Ambalamedu SLF – Draft RFB

The Committee decided not to proceed with the preparation of the draft bid document (RFB) for the Ambalamedu SLF, in view of the prevailing uncertainties, the decision to identify alternate land, and the lack of implementation assurance.

2. Feasibility Study for Alternate Sites (Kannur and Ayyankuzhy)

The Committee decided that comprehensive feasibility studies shall not be undertaken at this stage, and that only a preliminary assessment may be carried out for potential alternate sites.

3. The Committee further decided that direct engagement of Tata Consulting Engineers for this purpose is not justified. Accordingly, the Committee authorized the Project Director, KSWMP to carry out the preliminary assessment through appropriate modalities and, if deemed necessary, to proceed with open procurement.

Agenda 04 : Reporting the status of procurements after the 8th EC

The Committee noted the status of procurements after the 8th Empowered Committee and also the value of contracts.

Status of Signed Contract Component 1 & 3 after the 8th EC

Signed Contract					
Sl No	Name of the Contracts	Name of the Consultant	Date of Signing	Duration	Contract Value (Including GST)
1	Communication Consultant	M/s BWorld Corporate Solutions Pvt. Ltd.	05.11.2025	1.8 years	Rs.21,238,112.00/-
2	Njeliyanparambu Dumpsite	M/s Zigma Global Environ Solutions Pvt Ltd	09.02.2026	10 months	Rs.312,047,257.00/-
	Total Value of the Ongoing Contracts (incl Tax)				Rs.33,32,85,369

Status of the Overall State Level Procurement under Component 1 and 3 Empowered Committee is as below:

Sl.	Contract	No.	Value	Value (Million USD @	Expenditure	Expenditure (Million USD
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No	Type		(INR Cr.)	85 INR/\$)	(INR Cr.)	@ 85 INR/\$)
1	Consultancy	38	252.26	29.68	76.24	8.97
2	Non-consultancy	7	2.62	0.31	2.47	0.29
3	Works	3	126.45	14.88	4.31	0.53
4	Goods	2	1.10	0.13	1.10	0.13
	Total	50	382.43	\$ 45.00	84.12	\$ 9.92

Status of the Overall Procurement under Component 2 after the 8th EC

S. No.	Contract Type	No.	Value (INR Cr.)	Value (Million USD @ 85 INR/\$)	Expenditure (INR Cr.)	Expenditure (Million USD @ 85 INR/\$)
1	Year 1 Goods	501	6.85	0.81	6.33	0.75
2	Year 1 - Works Packages	126	18.6	2.18	1.08	0.12
3	Year 2 Vehicle	21	4.08	0.48	0.77	0.09
	Total	648	29.53	\$ 3.47	8.18	\$ 0.96

Decision taken

The Committee noted the overall contract value of INR 411.96 Crores against which the expenditure of INR 92.3 Crores has been incurred so far.

Agenda 05 : Ongoing / Upcoming Procurements

The status of ongoing and upcoming procurements was briefed to the Committee and the Committee noted the progress of various consulting and non-consulting services which are in progress after receiving the no-objection from the Bank.

Status of the upcoming Procurement under Component 1 & 3

Sl No.	Upcoming Contract	Estimate in INR Cr	Current Status	Expected date for floating the	Award of contract
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				tender	
Component 1					
1	LED Wall in all ULBs	15 Cr	Preparation of Specification and Estimate	May 2026 (After MCC)	August 2026
Component 3					
2	Bio CNG	93.45 Cr Capex:23.00 Cr Opex: 70.45 Cr	Bid Document and implementation of plan under Bank Review	March 2026 (Before MCC)	May 2026
3	FS & ESIA for Ayyankuzhi and Kannur Sites + Bid Document Preparation for Ambalamedu Site	3.5 Cr	Awaiting Technical and Financial Proposal	January 2026	March 2026

Status of Ongoing and Upcoming Procurements under Component 2
Planned for Award by June 2026

Sl No	Ongoing/Upcoming Contract (to be tendered)	Number of Packages Tendered	Estimate in INR Cr	Award of contract
Component 2				
1	Year 1 - Works Packages	30	4.79	by June 2026
2	Year 2 Vehicles	16	4.52	by June 2026
3	Business Development Plans	93	10.00	by June 2026

The committee reviewed the procurement status of the procurement of waste collection vehicles under KSWMP. SPMU informed the committee that, as part of collection and transportation planning and the gap assessment there is a requirement of 331 Bio waste collection vehicles and 15 Non-bio waste collection vehicles in Kochi ULB and 194 bio waste collection vehicles and 40 non bio waste collection vehicles for Palakkad cluster ULBs. Upon submission of the proposal the World Bank raised significant concerns regarding the feasibility of managing such a large

fleet, citing high O&M costs, driver wages, and environmental safeguard compliance for parking and cleaning. Consequently, the Bank suggested transitioning to a service contract model rather than direct procurement. In response, the SPMU is revising the proposal to adopt a phased approach, reducing initial vehicle numbers based on current ULB capacity. The committee also noted the concern regarding management of the O&M expenses considering the challenges of waste availability and Userfee collection in the Palakkad Cluster. Secretary LSGD pointed out that Suchitwa Mission has already conducted an assessment regarding the requirement of vehicles based on the feasible area of waste availability and user fee collection.

Decision Taken

The Committee noted the procurements of various consulting, non-consulting services, works and goods engaged under KSWMP after the 8th Empowered Committee. In the matter of vehicle purchase, Suchitwa Mission shall finalize and confirm the requirement of vehicles in the ULBs Palakkad cluster based on assessment they have conducted.

Agenda 06 : Proposal for second restructuring of the Kerala Solid Waste Management Project (KSWMP)

The Empowered Committee observed that the proposal, especially the financial aspects involved, warrants detailed examination at the level of the Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala.

Decision Taken

The Committee authorised Project Director, KSWMP to submit a detailed restructuring proposal of KSWMP to Government in consultation with the World Bank forthwith for necessary consideration and further decision.

Agenda 07 : Plan for execution of remaining scope for all consultancy packages including a plan of Contract Management of all underperforming packages

The Empowered Committee examined the proposed approach for

downsizing and rationalisation of consultancy engagements, in view of the reduced scope of the project and the balance implementation period up to 30 June 2027.

Decision Taken:

1. The Empowered Committee accorded approval for the execution plan for the remaining scope of all consultancy packages under KSWMP, aligned with the revised project scope and the balance implementation period up to 30 June 2027, including adoption of a categorisation framework based on criticality, performance, and relevance to the residual project scope. The Committee further approved undertaking appropriate measures such as retention of critical implementation support, rationalisation of staffing under time-based contracts, and selective descoping, restructuring, or closure of contracts, wherever continuation is not justified.
2. The Committee authorised the Project Director, KSWMP, to undertake necessary technical negotiations and implement required contractual amendments, including descoping, rationalisation, restructuring, or closure of consultancy contracts, in accordance with applicable contractual provisions and the procurement and financing guidelines of the World Bank and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, with due adherence to contract management and performance monitoring requirements.

Agenda 08: Purchase of land from BPCL near Ambalamedu in Ernakulam District for establishing Scientific Landfill Facility (SLF) under KSWMP

The Committee noted the decision of rejecting the proposal for land swapping/de-leasing of 25 acres by BPCL.

Decision Taken:

The Committee observed that the matter is under the consideration of the Government and is awaiting the decision of BPCL Board for the purchase of land from BPCL. KSWMP may proceed further based on the direction from the Government.

Agenda 09: Purchase of land from Malabar Cements Limited (MCL) at Panakkad in Malappuram District for Construction and Demolition Waste Management Plant / other waste management facilities under KSWMP.

The Committee noted the approval of the Board of Directors of Malabar Cements Ltd for the sale of land at Panakkad, Malappuram District, to KSWMP for establishing a Construction & Demolition (C&D) Waste Management Plant and decided to proceed with setting up of the Plant.

Decision Taken:

Suchitwa Mission may assess the quantity of C&D Waste generated from each cluster and should assess the capacity of the Plant for treating the waste generated and also the land required for setting up such a Plant and the details shall be submitted to KSWMP for initiating procedures for procuring the land under intimation to Government.

Agenda 10: Identification and proposed acquisition of land at Ayyankuzhi, Ernakulam for establishment of Regional Scientific Landfill (SLF)

The Committee observed the necessity of commencing the land acquisition process for the Ayyankuzhi land and if made available, the adjoining HOCL land for development of landfill and any other waste management facilities and decided to expedite the procedures with regard to acquisition of land.

Decision Taken:

The Committee decided to hold a discussion in this regard with HOCL at Government level and KSWMP to proceed further based on the direction from the Government.

Additional Agenda-1

Additional Agenda : Orientation Programme to MLAs as part of Malinya Muktham Navakeralam – Release of payment

The Committee observed the necessity of conducting an Orientation Training Programme to the Members of Legislative Assembly as part of

Malinya Muktham Navakeralam on the basis of direction from Government as part of proactive measures to address waste management challenges through various campaigns, establishing appropriate facilities and framing suitable policies being taken up by Government. It was informed that an amount of Rs.9,72,070/- (inclusive of GST) was incurred in connection with the conduct of the training programme and the supply of delegate kits to 170 officials as detailed hereunder:

Sl No	Description of items	Name of vendor	No of participants	Unit rate	Amount in Rs
1	Delegate Kit Gift hamper Bag, Pamphlet, Diary, Craft	M/s.Kerala Arts and Craft Village, Kovalam, Thiruvananthapuram	170 nos	₹ 5,718.06	₹ 9,72,070

Decision taken:

The Committee authorised Project Director, KSWMP to release the payment of Rs.9,72,070/- (Rupees Nine lakh seventy two thousand and seventy only) to M/s.Kerala Arts and Craft Village, Kovalam, Thiruvananthapuram.

ANUPAMA T V I A S
SECRETARY