



2026:KER:24854

WP(PIL) NOS. 2 & 7 OF 2026

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MR. SOUMEN SEN

&

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE SYAM KUMAR V.M.

THURSDAY, THE 19TH DAY OF MARCH 2026 / 28TH PHALGUNA, 1947

WP(PIL) NO. 2 OF 2026

PETITIONER/S:

M.M SANJEEV KUMAR
AGED 51 YEARS
KOTTATHAZHA VEEDU, MUNDAKKAL EAST, KOLLAM, PIN -
691001

BY ADVS.
SHRI.RADHAKRISHNAN R.
SMT.CHRISTIL SHAJI

RESPONDENT/S:

- 1 STATE OF KERALA
REPRESENTED BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, GOVERNMENT
SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695001
- 2 THE EXCISE COMMISSIONER,
EXCISE DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF KERALA,
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695001
- 3 KERALA STATE BEVERAGES (MANUFACTURING &
MARKETING) CORPORATION LTD. (BEVCO),
REPRESENTED BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR, BEVCO
BHAVAN, PALAYAM, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695001
- 4 MALABAR DISTILLERIES LTD (MDL) ,



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REPRESENTED THROUGH ITS CHAIRMAN & MANAGING
DIRECTOR, CHITTUR MENONPARA P.O PALAKKAD
DISTRICT, PIN - 678556

5 HOME SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF HOME, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, NORTH
BLOCK , NEW DELHI, PIN - 110001

BY ADVS.
SRI.NAVEEN.T., SC, KERALA STATE BEV.CO. M. AND M.
SRI.K.T.SHYAMKUMAR
SHRI.HARISH R. MENON

VINITHA B. -SR.GP

THIS WRIT PETITION (PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION)
HAVING COME UP FOR ADMISSION ON 19.03.2026, ALONG WITH
WP(PIL).7/2026, THE COURT ON THE SAME DAY DELIVERED THE
FOLLOWING:



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IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MR. SOUMEN SEN

&

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE SYAM KUMAR V.M.

THURSDAY, THE 19TH DAY OF MARCH 2026 / 28TH PHALGUNA, 1947

WP(PIL) NO. 7 OF 2026

PETITIONER/S:

CHINTHU KURIAN JOY
AGED 39 YEARS
S/O. KURIAN JOY, AMBALOOR HOUSE, INDHIRA NAGAR
DEVALOKAM.P.O., MUTTAMBALAM KOTTAYAM DISTRICT,
PIN - 686004

BY ADVS.
SRI.ANZAR BASHEER
SHRI.MURALIKRISHNAN NAIR K.S.
SHRI.JAYACHANDRAN R.
SRI.SAILAJ RAMACHANDRAN

RESPONDENT/S:

- 1 STATE OF KERALA
REPRESENTED BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN -
695001
- 2 THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY
TAXES DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF KERALA,
GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN -
695001



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- 3 THE EXCISE COMMISSONER
EXCISE DEPARTMENT, EXCISE HEADQUARTERS VIKAS
BHAVAN. P.O., THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695035

- 4 MANAGING DIRECTOR
KERALA STATE BEVERAGES CORPORATION BEVCO
TOWER, PALAYAM, VIKAS BHAVAN .P.O.,
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695033

- 5 MANAGING DIRECTOR
MALABAR DISTILLERIES LTD CHITTOOR ,MENON PARA P.O
PALAKKAD DISTRICT, PIN - 678556

BY ADVS.

SRI.NAVEEN.T., SC, KERALA STATE BEV.CO. M. AND M.
SRI.K.T.SHYAMKUMAR
SHRI.HARISH R. MENON

THIS WRIT PETITION (PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION)
HAVING COME UP FOR ADMISSION ON 19.03.2026, ALONG WITH
WP(PIL).2/2026, THE COURT ON THE SAME DAY DELIVERED THE
FOLLOWING:

**JUDGMENT****SOUMEN SEN, C.J.**

Heard Mr. Radhakrishnan R., learned counsel for the petitioner in W.P.(PIL) No. 2/2026, Mr. Anzar Basheer, learned counsel for the petitioner in W.P.(PIL) No. 7 of 2026, Mr. T. Naveen learned Standing Counsel for the Kerala State Beverages Corporation and Ms. Vinitha B., learned Senior Government Pleader.

2. In view of the fact that the contest announced by Respondent No. 4 in W.P. (PIL) No. 2 of 2026, who is also Respondent No. 5 in W.P. (PIL) No. 7 of 2026, has been withdrawn, nothing further remains to be decided in these Public Interest Litigations.

The Public Interest Litigations are accordingly dismissed.

Sd/-
SOUMEN SEN
CHIEF JUSTICE

Sd/-
SYAM KUMAR V.M.
JUDGE



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WP(PIL) NOS. 2 & 7 OF 2026

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APPENDIX OF WP(PIL) NO. 2 OF 2026

PETITIONER EXHIBITS

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Exhibit P1 | TRUE PRINTOUT OF THE SAME SELF-EXPLANATORY PUBLICATION, DATED 30-12-2025 |
| Exhibit P 2 | TRUE PRINTOUT OF THE SAME SELF-EXPLANATORY PUBLICATIONS OF VARIOUS MEDIA DATED 30-12-2025 |
| Exhibit 3 | TRUE PRINTOUT OF THE SELF EXPLANATORY NOTICE WITH COURIER RECEIPT |



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WP(PIL) NOS. 2 & 7 OF 2026

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APPENDIX OF WP(PIL) NO. 7 OF 2026

PETITIONER EXHIBITS

Exhibit P1	TRUE COPY OF THE PRESS RELEASE OF THE 5TH RESPONDENT WIDELY CIRCULATED IN VISUAL MEDIA IN THE NAME OF THIRD RESPONDENT
Exhibit P1A	TRUE ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF EXHIBIT P1
Exhibit P2	BREAKING NEWS ON THE BASIS OF EXHIBIT P1 SEEN ON MEDIA ONE CHANNEL
Exhibit P2A	TRUE ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF EXHIBIT P2
Exhibit P3	TRUE COPY OF THE OCCURRENCE REPORT REGISTERED BY EXCISE RANGE OFFICE KADUTHURUTHY AS 324/2025