

July 22, 2011

Dear Chief Minister Oommen Chandy,

A great city like Kochi has developed fast but has dug into the drain of the ugly traffic system. Its roads are narrow. Its vehicular traffic leaves little space for safe pedestrian journey or passenger walkways. Fatal accidents are a common spectacle and casualties on the road are a daily disaster. A solution for this problem is urgently necessary. But the State Government whichever the party in power has neglected providing for the people the fundamental alternative solution examined and approved by experts is welcome. If the present Government is sensitive and responsible to the people who tax and toll they collect either they have to be dismissed for neglect or misfeasance or given mandatory directions to execute an alternative plan which is sound and feasible financially according to examination by experts in the field—Vadhyar claims his plan is a sound one and can be executed without financial liabilities for the Government. Therefore I recommend this team of Yashoraminfra Developers Pvt Ltd, to be taken up by the State Government without delay.

In one of my earlier judgments (George Tharakan Vs Kochappi Narayanan And Others. 1971 KLT 541) I have observed as follows:

The various factors that produce accidents in an overcrowded city with narrow streets like Cochin must register in the motorist's mind.The scene is in a notoriously crowded city Cochin. The streets are narrow, the road corrugated and punctuated by pits and pot-holes with invalid vehicles lying in long slumber unattended. Shops and dwelling houses close to the road margin throw out people on to the road there being no sidewalks. Straying animals, in their sluggish course, clog the way unconcerned by possible danger. Schools dot the city and children flow into the streets like monsoon rushes in undefined channels and care-free abandon. Most of these factors make driving without hurting others difficult unless a higher degree of care is brought into play by the man at the wheel and he reckons with children and adults showing up by surprise.

The situation has not so far improved even after a lapse of four decades. The solution is launch projects like Metro Rail Project and projects like "Sky City".

The Managing Director of Yashoram Infra Developers Pvt Ltd, Ernakulam has brought to my notice their Sky City project, the construction of a fly over across the backwater of the Chilavannur. The project will ease the traffic congestion to a certain level in the city, especially in Vyttila Junction. The project which do not require any land acquisition is eco-friendly. There is no financial implications on the part of the State.

In this era of globalization, it is essential that such projects which will help the people to move freely and quickly be encouraged.

Dear Oommen Chandy, I am a layman though once a judge thirty years ago. You take the responsibility for approving the plan after getting it examined by your expertise. Subject to this I recommend the Vadhyar project with speed and care.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

V.R. KRISHNA IYER

To

Shri. Oommen Chandy
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala
Government of Kerala
Secretariat
Trivandrum