

ALTERNATE PLAN

# Kochouseph gives ₹5.5-cr to bolster Mullaperiyar

DC CORRESPONDENT  
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When the state is clamouring for a new dam at Mullaperiyar, the managing director of V-Guard Industries and philanthropist, Mr Kochouseph Chittilappilly, has come out

with an idea of strengthening the existing dam through technology intervention. The ₹55-crore plan, if implemented, will save the lives of 35 lakh people residing in four districts downstream, he says. Mr Kochouseph, who hogged media lights with

the donation of one of his kidneys, said here on Tuesday that his ₹55-crore plan would replace the plan for building a new dam spending ₹800-1,000 crore that would take years together for completion. He said he was also concerned about the environmental

impact of building a new dam and hence thought of strengthening the existing one. "My plan will take 8-9 months for completion. The money for it can be collected from the people of the state. I am handing over my contribution of ₹5.5 crore for the purpose," he said,

handing over a cheque to Mr M Ramachandran and Mr Satyanarayanan of Deloitte and Varma and Varma, respectively. He said this would work as a disaster management plan as well. As per the plan, grouted nail anchors (passive tension

anchors) fitted downstream will take care of earthquake forces. "Further, nail anchors are recommended on the side rock/hills. Nailing can be given at a spacing of two and a half meter with an anchoring depth of minimum 6 meter to hard rock," it says.

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