



CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
(Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India)
Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar,
Delhi – 110032

Minutes of First Meeting of Central Monitoring Committee (CMC) held on 11.06.2019 in 'Kaveri Hall, MoEF&CC' to ensure compliance to Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) Order dated 08.04.2019 in Original Application No. 673/2018 in the matter of news item published in 'The Hindu' titled "More river stretches are now critically polluted: CPCB"

First meeting of the Central Monitoring Committee (CMC) constituted by Hon'ble NGT vide Order dated 08.04.2019 was held on 11.6.2019 at Kaveri Hall, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF & CC), Delhi under the Chairmanship of 'Secretary, Environment, Forest & Climate Change (EF&CC). No representative of NITI Aayog attended the meeting. List of officials attended the meeting is attached at **Annexure I**.

Chairman, Central Board (CCB) welcomed all Members of CMC and briefed about orders of Hon'ble NGT dated 08.04.2019, 19.12.2018 & 20.09.2018 in O.A. No. 673/2018 which include 351 identified river stretches requiring restoration, at least to be fit for bathing purposes within six months (thereafter time was extended till 31.03.2021 as per recommendation of CPCB). As per order, all concerned 28 States & 3 UTs are required to constitute River Rejuvenation Committee (RRC) comprising Director, Environment; Director, Urban Development; Director, Industries; and Member Secretary, State Pollution Control Board of concerned State. RRCs are required to prepare and monitor action plans under the supervision of Principal Secretary, Environment of State Govt./ UT Administration.

Main role of CMC is (i) preparation and enforcement of a National Plan to make rivers pollution free; (ii) co-ordinate with the RRCs of the States and oversee execution of the action plans; (iii) need for identification of experts in the field of utilization of treated wastewater; (iv) best practices and models for use of treated waste water and (v) to file first report by 31.07.2019.

Chairman, CPCB, elaborated on the focus areas for finalization of National Plan mainly covering municipal sewage management, industrial pollution control, waste management, E- flow & watershed management and utilisation of treated wastewater as these have direct bearing on river water quality. He stated that National Plan to make rivers free from pollution will be finalized in consultation with major stakeholders. It was also informed that CPCB has already approved action plans for polluted rivers stretches to achieve water quality at least fit for bathing purpose

Targets proposed for management of sewage, industrial effluent, waste and other aspects including availability of funds were also discussed with timelines up to 2024 (**Annexure-II**) and were agreed upon by CMC. Secretary, EF&CC emphasised the

need for industries to come forward and step up use of treated effluents to decrease pressure on fresh water consumption.

To a query of Secretary, EF&CC on the requirement of consultant or institution for preparation of National plan, CCB apprised the preparation of a draft National Plan has already been initiated by CPCB and that draft shall be communicated to all members of CMC for suggestions, comments and for providing feedback before its finalisation.

It was informed that CMC is also required to co-ordinate with RRCs of States and UTs and to oversee execution of approved action plans, identify experts in the field of utilization of treated wastewater and to consider best practices and models for presentation and sustainable conservation of waterbodies. Secretary, EF&CC asked CPCB to seek quarterly action taken reports from all RRCs and apprise Hon'ble NGT.

As regards issues relating to (i) gaps in compliance of Waste Management Rules 2016 (such as Solid Waste, Hazardous Waste, Bio-Medical Waste, Plastic Waste); (ii) air pollution in 102 Non-attainment cities, (iii) pollution in 100 polluted industrial clusters, and (iv) illegal and unscientific sand mining, Secretary (EF & CC) observed that information be updated regularly and that in case of sand-mining, information w.r.t existing policies or guidelines and the implementation status may be ascertained from respective State Govt. / UT Administration.

Sh. Rohit Kakkar, Deputy Advisor (CPHEEO), MoHUA representing Secretary (MoHUA) informed that in most developed countries and even in Malaysia, treated wastewater use is not more than 50 to 60% and expressed a view that septage management may be exempted as its contribution is only 2-3% of the total sewage generation. Also, depending on the availability of funds, various options for treatment & utilization of treated wastewater should be included in the National Plan such that fresh water consumption is reduced by 25% of the present consumption by the year 2024. As regards Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), recycling may be promoted.

Sh. Rohit Kakkar, Representative of MoHUA and Sh. Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, Director General, NMCG (Member) opined that presently most of the municipalities are utilising treated water for horticulture and flushing of roads or pavements and such water is also used by Thermal Power Plants for cooling purposes. Actions already taken and such available information also be compiled and included in the report of the Committee.

Upon deliberations following decisions were taken by the CMC: -

- (i) National plan for making rivers pollution free be circulated to all members of CMC to obtain suggestions/views on respective subject matters related to concerned/ NITI Aayog/ NMCG
- (ii) Information w.r.t. status of implementation of action plans be obtained from Chief Secretaries of all States/ UTs and status be conveyed to Hon'ble NGT as per the order
- (iii) CMC shall have its review meetings once in six months henceforth.

- (iv) CMC may request Hon'ble NGT for closure of OA No. 673 of 2018 as monitoring and follow-up action through Chief Secretary of the States/UT Administrations are incorporated in the directions issued in OA No. 606 of 2018. Also, the issue of polluted river stretches has been made an integral part of directions issued in OA No. 606 of 2018.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

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List of Participants

1. Sh. Chandra Kishore Mishra, Secretary, MoEF&CC (Chairman, CMC)
2. Sh. Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, Director General, NMCG (Member)
3. Sh. S. P. S. Parihar, Chairman, CPCB (Nodal Authority, CMC)
4. Sh. Jigmet Takpa, Joint Secretary, MoEF&CC
5. Sh. Rohit Kakkar, Deputy Advisor (CPHEEO), MoHUA (representative of MoH &UA)
6. Sh. A. Sudhakar, Scientist E, CPCB, Delhi
7. Sh. Lalit Bokolia, Additional Director, NRCD, MoEF&CC
8. Dr. R. M. Bhardwaj, Consultant, NMCG
9. Sh. Deepender Singh, Data Consultant, NMCG
10. Sh. Ishwer Singh, Advocate (Consultant), NMCG
11. Sh. J. C. Babu, Scientist E, CPCB, Delhi.

Proposed Targets for Making Rivers Pollution Free

TASK	PRESENT*	NGT (2021)	2022 (Proposed)	2024 (Proposed)
Sewage Management				
▪ Treatment Capacity	35 %	100%	75%	90 %
▪ Utilisation of Treated Wastewater	< 2 %	---	20 %	50 %
Industrial Effluent Management				
▪ Treatment Capacity	98 %	100%	100 %	100 %
▪ Utilisation of Treated Effluent	20 %	---	30 %	40 %
▪ Reduction of Fresh Water use	---	---	10 %	25 %
Solid Waste Management				
▪ Collection	80 %	100%	100 %	100 %
▪ Treatment	26 %	100%	75 %	100 %
E-Flow Management				
▪ Lean Flow	---	15-20%	15-20%	15-20%