

# PARIBESH SAMACHAR

News Letter Vol. XXVIII No. 2 & 3

January-June, 2021

*From the Desk of Chairman ....*

**Sri Suresh Chandra Mahapatra, IAS**  
Chief Secretary, Odisha



Tel : 0674-2534300  
: 0674-2536700  
Fax : 0674-2536660  
E-mail : [csori@nic.in](mailto:csori@nic.in)



## MESSAGE


I am glad to know that State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) is bringing out its Newsletter PARIBESH SAMACHAR for January-June, 2021 embodying Board's activities for wider dissemination and sensitization.

The Board has been mandated under relevant Acts to collect and disseminate information relating to pollution. The Board takes recourse to all means to accomplish this objective of disclosure of information in public domain. There have been judicial interventions of Hon'ble Supreme Court and Hon'ble NGT.

Transparency and flow of information are in integral part of compliance enforcement. Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) had conducted a study on the level of transparency maintained by SPCBs / PCCs on their websites and Annual Reports aimed at identifying the strengths and weakness of SPCBs in sharing information in public domain. The study critically evaluated the information shared by SPCBs in last five years using certain indicators and expressed in terms of Transparency Index. It is heartening to see that State Pollution Control Board, Odisha has been ranked as No. 1 among all the 31 SPCBs of the country topping the list.

I congratulate all the officers and employees of the Board on achieving such a feat. This also endorses that the Board is on track in pursuit of 5 -T Charter of the Government wherein transparency is a key parameter to judge the performance of Govt. officials.

I wish, the Board scales new mile stones in serving its mandate.

  
(S.C. Mahapatra)



**STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, ODISHA**  
PARIBESH BHAWAN, A/118, NILAKANTHA NAGAR,  
UNIT-VIII, BHUBANESWAR - 751012

## *From the Desk of Member Secretary ...*



Ever Since the declaration on 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 "COVID-19: a Pandemic" by World Health Organization, sending out a doomsday for entire mankind, the World has been witnessing unprecedented enforced and voluntary restrictions in all walks of life that include the anthropogenic, industrial, economic and all developmental activities. Despite wreaking havoc in terms huge tally and toll, the pandemic has given a realization that

without undo human interference into Nature, the disturbed ecosystem and its Bio-diversity can rejuvenate back to its pristine beauty and purity ensuring peaceful existence of all living organisms including human being.

However, as the effect of pandemic is on decline, the eventual resumption of human activities are sure to disturb the welcome trend witnessed recently. It is necessary, therefore, to scientifically harness the available natural resources on a sustainable scale, so that the revival process of natural ecosystem continues unabated.

The State Pollution Control Board, as a regulatory body, has been setting benchmarks in the country on functioning for prevention and control of pollution in the state keeping the developmental process on track.

I wish, the publication of newsletter "**Paribesh Samachar**" by the Board and its mission in this direction all success.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Murugesan', written on a white background.

Dr. K. Murugesan, IFS

## ACTIVITIES OF THE BOARD

### Board Meeting

123<sup>rd</sup> Board Meeting of the State Pollution Control Board, Odisha was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2021 under the chairmanship of Sri Suresh Chandra Mahapatra, IAS, Chairman, State Pollution Control Board and the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Odisha. The following important decisions were taken in the Board meeting.

- ★ The Board confirmed the proceedings of the 122<sup>nd</sup> special Board meeting held on 10.12.2020.
- ★ The Board approved the draft Annual Report for the Financial Year 2019-20.
- ★ The Board approved revision of Budget for the financial year 2020-21 and Budget Estimate for the financial year 2021-22.
- ★ The Board decided to carry out a study on Mercury Emission on Thermal Power Plants.

### Celebration of the World Environment Day, 2021

**World Environment Day** was observed on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2021 through Board's 12 Regional Offices. The theme of the World Environment Day for the year 2021 was **"Ecosystem Restoration"**. Due to the current pandemic COVID-19 situation the regular celebration activities like debate/quiz/rally/seminar/painting and essay competition etc. among students of different schools and colleges could not be organized. However, awareness meetings involving different organizations through video conferencing and plantation programme were done in different industries as well as inside office premises of Regional Offices maintaining COVID-19 protocol.

### Activity of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)

#### Coastal Water (Paradeep to Dhamara) Monitoring and Analysis

★ Coastal water monitoring has been done by the ICZM Cell of SPCB on quarterly/seasonal basis for the assigned coastal stretch of about 80 km from Paradeep to Dhamara. Out of seventy three (73) selected sampling locations for the entire monitoring area, 32 are along Mahanadi transect, 17 in Dhamara transect and 24 in Gahirmatha-Bhitarkanika transect. Sampling was made from both on-shore and few off-shore sampling points with the help of monitoring vessel **MV Sagar Utkal**. A total of 1426 water samples and 64 sediment samples have been collected and analyzed during the reporting period.



★ Parameters analyzed for the water samples include pH, Conductivity, Total Suspended Solid, Total Dissolved solid, Turbidity, Fluoride, Dissolved Oxygen, Biochemical Oxygen Demand, Alkalinity, Salinity, Nitrite, Nitrate, Ammonia, Silicate, Ortho-phosphate, Total Organic Carbon (TOC), Total Inorganic Carbon (TIC), Heavy metals (V, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn, As, Mo, Pb, Cd, Hg), Poly Aromatic Hydrocarbon (PAH), Pesticides, Total Coliform, Fecal Coliform, Chlorophyll-a, Chlorophyll-b, Chlorophyll-c, Total Chlorophyll, Phaeophytin pigment, Carotenoid, Phytoplankton and Zooplankton.

★ Parameters that are analyzed for the sediment samples include pH, TOC, TIC, heavy metals, composition of sediment (sand, silt and clay), Macro Benthos and Meio Benthos.

★ ICZM Cell participated in the environmental awareness programme conducted on 14.03.2021 on "Analysis of Sea Water Quality at Golden Beach, Puri" in connection with Blue Flag Beach.



## Monitoring of Coastal Water under National Water Quality Monitoring Programme (NWMP)

Coastal water monitoring under NWMP has been commenced during January 2021 by ICZM Cell for 91 locations covering 6 coastal districts viz. Ganjam, Puri, Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapara, Bhadrak & Balasore along 480 km coastal stretch of Odisha. The assessment of the suitability of coastal water quality for different uses of the coastal segment has been proposed based on the "Water Quality Standards for Coastal Waters Marine Outfalls" (G.S.R. 7(E) dated 22.10.1998 and subsequent amendment vide G.S.R. No. 682 (E) dated 05.10.1999). Parameters those have been analyzed for the water samples include pH, Dissolved Oxygen, Biochemical Oxygen Demand, Colour, Odour, Floating matter, Suspended Solids, Turbidity, Oil & Grease, Fecal Coliform and Metal (Mercury, Lead, Cadmium, Iron, Manganese). In total 200 samples were collected and analyzed during the reporting period from 3 coastal districts like Jagatsinghpur (100 samples), Bhadrak (30 samples) and Kendrapara (70 samples) respectively.

### Public Hearing

The Board conducted 16 public hearings for major industrial / mining / expansion projects during January- June, 2021.

### Real Time Data Acquisition System (RTDAS)

The Board has implemented GPRS based real time data acquisition system with Y-Cable for online stack, ambient air quality and waste water monitoring network round the clock for highly polluting large scale industries and mines in order to keep the regulator and industries alert. So far online monitoring and data acquisition systems have been installed in 157 industries and 24 mines in the State.

### Consent Committee Meeting

The following Consent Committee Meetings were conducted by the Board at Head Office, Bhubaneswar to discuss consent to establish of various projects and disposed 53 cases during the reporting period.

Consent Committee Meeting	
Date	No. of cases discussed & disposed
08.01.2021	08
02.02.2021	03
25.02.2021	11
25.03.2021	13
27.04.2021	08
31.06.2021	10
Total	53

### Internal Consent Committee Meeting

Internal Consent Committee met on the following dates and discussed the consent to establish cases as follows:

Internal Consent Committee Meeting	
Date	No. of cases discussed & disposed
13.01.2021	05
09.03.2021	03
15.04.2021	07
Total	15

## Consent to Establish

During the above period "Consent to Establish" has been granted to 656 industries, hotels, mineral stack yards, mineral processing units, railway sidings, stone crushers, brick kilns and DG Sets (as stand-by) etc. and one unit has been refused for its establishment due to certain non compliance.

## Consent to Operate

The Board has granted "Consent to Operate" to 1948 industries, mines, hotels, hospitals, housing complexes, country liquor processing units, mineral stack yards, mineral processing units, railway sidings, stone crushers, brick kilns, DG Sets (as stand by) and mineral based industries etc. during the reporting period. Board has issued Show Cause Notices to 193 units and direction / direction of closure to 15 units. Consent to Operate of 10 units have been refused due to violation of certain provisions of the Rules.

## Implementation of the Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016

- ★ Authorization has been granted to 112 hazardous waste generating units under the Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Trans-boundary Movement) Rules, 2016 for collection, storage, treatment and disposal of hazardous wastes during January-June, 2021.
- ★ The Board has authorised 17 Actual Users inside Odisha & 11 Actual Users outside Odisha during the reporting period for the utilization of hazardous wastes such as Used oil, Waste oil, Aluminium Dross, Used Anode Butt, Zinc Skimming/ Zinc Dross/ Zinc Ash, Contaminated Barrels/ Containers / Drums containing hazardous wastes/ Chemicals / Oil and Lubricants.

## Implementation of the Batteries Management and Handling Rules, 2001

During this period 205 units have filed returns (half yearly returns) with the Board on smooth management and handling of batteries (lead-acid) under the provisions of the Batteries Management and Handling Rules, 2001.

## Implementation of the Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016

The Board has granted authorization to 381 health care facilities, issued show cause notices to 06 units and refused authorization of 01 unit due to violation of the aforesaid rules during the said period.

## Implementation of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016

During the reporting period 09 plastic products manufacturing units have been registered with the Board.

## Implementation of Electronic Waste (Management) Rules, 2016

Authorization has been granted to 03 E-Waste collection-cum-dismantling centres during the reporting period.

## Legal Matters

The Board has filed/counter filed 56 cases in various Courts during January-June, 2021 and 37 cases have been disposed during the reporting period.

Sl.No	Name of the Court	No. of Cases	
		Filed/Counter filed	Disposed
<b>A</b>	<b>Lower Court (SDJM)</b>		
1.	The Water (PCP) Act	Nil	Nil
2.	The Air (PCP) Act	Nil	Nil
3.	The Environment (Protection) Act	Nil	Nil
<b>B</b>	<b>High Court</b>		
1.	PIL	20	11
2.	Writ	09	01
<b>C</b>	<b>Supreme Court</b>		
1.	PIL	Nil	Nil
2.	Writ	Nil	Nil
<b>D</b>	<b>Other Court</b>		
1.	Civil Suit	Nil	Nil
2.	Consumer Dispute Cases	Nil	Nil
3.	Lokpal Cases	Nil	Nil
<b>E.</b>	<b>N.H.R.C. / O.H.R.C.</b>	06 (NHRC-Nil+OHRC-06)	03 (NHRC-Nil+OHRC-03)
1.	Cases U/S-133 of CrPC	Nil	Nil
2.	Cases before the State Appellate Authority	02	06
3.	Cases before the National Green Tribunal	19	16
	<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>37</b>

## Environmental Monitoring

- ★ The State Pollution Control Board, Odisha monitored ambient air quality at 36 stations in 17 important towns and industrial areas of Angul, Talcher, Rourkela, Rayagada, Bhubaneswar, Berhampur, Puri, Cuttack, Sambalpur, Jharsuguda, Keonjhar, Balasore, Kalinga Nagar (Jajpur), Paradeep, Bonaigarh, Konark and Rajgangpur under National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP)/ State Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme (SAMP). Ambient air quality has been assessed in respect of 08 parameters like PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub>, O<sub>3</sub>, Pb & Ni.
  - ★ Central Laboratory and Regional Offices have analyzed 8666 nos. of samples under NAMP and SAMP during the period January to June, 2021.
  - ★ The Board has conducted 1007 ambient air quality monitoring during the reporting period.
  - ★ Samples of 511 stack emissions have been collected and analyzed.
- ★ The Board is regularly monitoring the river water quality at 129 stations on 11 major river systems of the State. Water quality has been assessed in respect of 32 water quality parameters under National Water Quality Monitoring Programme (NWMP). Besides, water quality of Taladanda canal, Puri canal, six religious ponds in Bhubaneswar and Puri town like Bindusagar, Narendra, Markanda, Indradyumna, Swetaganga, Parbatisagar, one pond in Jeypore town, lakes such as Chilika, Anshupa, Tampara and coastal water quality at Puri, Gopalpur & Paradeep and creek water at Atharabanki has also been monitored.
- ★ Monitoring of ground water quality at 91 stations of 30 districts has also been conducted in respect of all 32 water quality parameters.
- ★ Bio-monitoring at 25 locations of 08 major rivers has been monitored to assess the biological health of river water.
- ★ Surface water quality of 5 stations on Atharabanki creek and ground water quality at 3 stations in the

peripherals of Phosphatic Fertiliser Units and water samples from 07 test wells as well as samples from 05 wastewater discharging points of the fertilizer producing units at Paradeep have been monitored to assess fluoride contamination in the area.

- ★ Water quality of Ganda Nallah and Kharasrota river has also been monitored at seven stations to assess the impacts of waste water discharge from the Industrial Units in Kalinganagar area to the Nallah.
- ★ Water quality of Damasala river at nine stations in Sukinda Chromite Mines area has been monitored to assess the hexavalent chromium content in river water.
- ★ The Board has collected and analyzed 2735 water samples including samples collected under National Water Quality Monitoring Programme (NWMP), State Water Quality Monitoring Programme (SWMP) and other water samples during the reporting period.
- ★ A total of 1500 industrial water samples have been collected and analyzed during the period of January-June, 2021.
- ★ The Board has analyzed 30 solid waste samples for regulatory purpose.
- ★ NABL Accreditation has been accorded to Central Laboratory of the Board for a period of two years from 01.02.2021 to 31.01.2023 under Chemical and Biological testing (25 Chemical parameters, 2 Biological parameters, 8 heavy metal parameters and 9 pesticide residue parameters) for Surface water / Ground water / Waste water and 7 parameters for Ambient air.

## RTI & Public Complaints

The Board has disposed 213 applications providing information under the Right to Information Act, 2005 and addressed 159 public complaints during January - June, 2021.

## Awareness Programmes

- ★ Third Air Quality Monitoring Committee (AQMC) meeting was conducted through virtual mode under the Chairpersonship of Additional Chief Secretary, Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department, Govt. of Odisha on 20.01.2021 under National Clean Air Programme (NCAP).
- ★ First meeting of Community of Practice (CoP) for improvement of air quality was conducted through virtual mode during 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2021 under triangular cooperation project by GIZ in National Clean Air Programme involving India, Germany & Mexico.

## Human Resource Development & Training

- ★ Due to the current pandemic COVID-19 situation the Board officials were imparted online training on various sectors like “CEMS and CEQMS – Technology Section, its installation, Data handling and its Audit Methodology”, “Analysis of Pesticides & other Organic Chemicals in Environmental Samples”, “Sophisticated Instruments for Analysis of Toxic Heavy Metals in Environmental Samples and GC/GC-MS Operation”, “Control of Air Pollution, Source Apportionment Studies and preparation of Emission Inventory” etc. conducted / organised by different organisations / institutes for updating knowledge in relevant fields during the reporting period.
- ★ Training on “Ambient Air Quality Monitoring and Impact of Air Pollutants on Environment” was provided to 61 B.Sc. (Hons) Nursing Students of AIIMS Bhubaneswar.
- ★ Five students from different educational institutions were guided for conducting their internship work.



## PRINTED MATTER

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If undelivered please return ....  
**STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, ODISHA**  
Paribesh Bhawan, A/118, Nilakantha Nagar, Unit –VIII,  
Bhubaneswar – 751 012

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