Government of Odisha Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department

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From

Sri Susanta Nanda, IFS

Director, Environment-Cum-

Special Secretary to Government

To

The Member Secretary,

State Pollution Control Board, Odisha

Bhubaneswar

Sub:

Minutes of 4th Air Quality Monitoring Committee (AQMC) Meeting held on 13.08.2021 on Virtual Mode in compliance to the direction of Hon'ble NGT in O.A. No. 681/2018.

Ref:-

Your letter No. 12330 dated 18.08.2021.

Sir,

In inviting a reference to the subject cited above, I am directed to enclose herewith the minutes of 4th Air Quality Monitoring Committee (AQMC) Meeting held on 13.08.2021 on Virtual Mode in compliance to the direction of Hon'ble NGT in O.A. No. 681/2018 for your information & necessary compliance.

Yours faithfully,

Director, Environment-Cu Special Secretary to Government

Proceedings of the 4th Air Quality Monitoring Committee (AQMC)

The 4th meeting of Air Quality Monitoring Committee (AQMC) was held on 13.08.2021 at 3.30 PM under the Chairpersonship of Additional Chief Secretary, FE & CC Department, Govt. of Odisha through virtual mode.

The list of participants present in the meeting is enclosed as Annexure-I.

Initiating the discussion, Additional Chief Secretary, FE & CC Department welcomed all the participants and briefed about the non-attainment cities of Odisha and National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) to the members present in the meeting. The Member Secretary, SPCB, Odisha was requested to proceed as per the Agenda. A Power Point Presentation was made by the Member Secretary on each Agenda Item and following decisions were taken accordingly.

1. Compliance to the 3rd meeting of the Air Quality Monitoring Committee (AQMC).

The Committee noted the compliance of 3rd meeting of the AQMC and the following decisions were taken in compliance to the 3rd AQMC meeting;

- (i) Regarding integration of portals of SPCB and H & UD Department it was decided that for the time being both the portals will operate independent of each other.
- (ii) Agriculture Department shall submit a detailed status report on stubble burning incidents to FE & CC Department with a copy to State Pollution Control Board, Odisha within seven days.
- (iii) SPCB, Odisha shall submit a status report of studies to be carried out by Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology (IMMT), Bhubaneswar on Air Quality for the cities of Bhubaneswar and Cuttack and the activities to be taken up regarding mitigation of air pollution and upgrading/using CAAQMS of IMMT. Signing of MoU for this purpose with the IMMT is approved in principle; however concurrence of the FE&CC Department may be obtained by the Board in this regard.
- (iv) SPCB, Odisha shall submit the study report conducted by them on "Rapid Study on Emission Inventory and Source Apportionment for Angul and Talcher" to all the members of the AQMC.
- (v) In compliance to the order of Hon'ble NGT, in the matter O.A No.681/2018, and 118/2020, the Committee noted the information on Stocks of the Noise Level Meter available, the protocols for monitoring and SoP for taking action against the defaulters. However, it was decided that the Home Department shall submit a detailed status report on noise monitoring they are carrying out in each district to the FE & CC Department with a copy to State Pollution Control Board, Odisha.

2. Compliance with the order of Hon'ble NGT in the matter O.A No.681/2018

The Committee noted the compliance of the Hon'ble NGT order as follows;

- i. For installation of CAAQMS in Bhubaneswar and Cuttack out of NCAP fund, tenders have been floated and technical evaluation is complete. However, financial Bid has not been opened since the CPCB has directed the Boards to hold placing orders till further direction is received from them.
- ii. Source apportionment studies for six cities are in different stages of completion. For Balasore city support from CPCB has been sought to prepare the source apportionment study. The Board was directed to take up the matter with CPCB and expedite the process.
- iii. Regarding Carry Capacity Study, it was observed that most of the Boards are doing the Carrying Capacity Study through Consultants. It was therefore decided that SPCB, Odisha may also engage a Consultant to complete the study.

3. Compliance with the order of Hon'ble NGT in the matter O.A No.249/2020

Hon'ble NGT in the matter of 249/2020 in its order dated 01.12.2020 have directed to install Air Quality Monitoring System in all the District Headquarters by utilising Consent and EC fund. In this regard presently Board is monitoring Air Quality in all the 30 District Headquarters since February, 2020 at a frequency of once in a month. ACS advised that SPCB should take steps for installation of manual monitoring station in each District Headquarter, preferably in district HQ ULB. Steps for employees training and maintenance of the Air Quality Monitoring Stations may also be taken up.

4. Compliance with the order of Hon'ble NGT in the matter O.A No.283/2020

Hon'ble NGT in the matter O.A. No.283/2020 has directed all the Municipal Authorities where the Air Quality is non-compliant to take up sprinkling on the road with the treated water of STP. H & U.D. Department has already instructed to all the Municipal Corporations, Municipalities and non-attainment cities to sprinkling water on the road before sweeping vide their letter No.568 dated 11.01.2021. The Committee desired that the H & UD Department may submit detailed activity report on it to the FE & CC Department with a copy to State Pollution Control Board, Odisha.

5. Financial Progress of NCAP

The Committee recorded the expenditure status of funds for different activities under NCAP. With reference to the approved "Five-Year Financial Plan for Clean Air Programme in Non-Attainment Cities", it was decided by the Committee that action plans will be finalised from the proposals contained in it. Initially, it will be done for first year action plan proposal and accordingly the proposed fund will be utilised. A detailed plan may be prepared by the Board in consultation with the ULBs.

6. Partnership with Institute of Repute (IoR)

Three institutes have been identified by the CPCB for knowledge sharing under National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) viz. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT),

Bhubaneswar, National Institute of Technology (NIT), Rourkela and Utkal University, Bhubaneswar. Tripartite Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) have been signed among SPCB, ULBs and IoRs. The MoU defines the role of ULBs and IoRs under NCAP. It was decided in the Committee that Terms of Reference (TOR) and activities with IoRs shall be finalised and accordingly actions shall be taken towards studies, monitoring of action plan and mitigation of air pollution in non-attainment cities. ACS observed that the committee should be apprised of the progress of activities with the IoRs as per the MOUs and timeline should be set up by SPCB for different activities as per the MOU

7. Partnership with International Agencies

Regarding the triangular cooperation project by GIZ involving India, Germany and Mexico, ACS observed that SPCB should apprise the Committee about interventions, action points identified for study or replication in the state based on these triangular cooperation project. Similarly, the on-going Pilot Project on GeoAI platform for Brick Kilns by UNDP was appraised to the Committee. ACS appreciated the initiative and advised to include Ganjam and Balasore District to this Pilot Project as most of the Brick Kilns of the State are operating in these Districts as informed by MS, SPCB

8. Ekamra Kshetra Low Emission Zone (LEZ) Study

The Committee was intimated, regarding the LEZ study initiated by SPCB, Odisha under the triangular cooperation project by GIZ involving India, Germany and Mexico. ACS appreciated the concept and advised that the Project proposal on LEZ should be prepared in consultation with Commissioner, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) at the earliest.

9. Public outreach Programs for promoting clean air objectives.

The Committee was appraised regarding empanelment of Advertising and Public Relation firms/ Agencies to carry out the public awareness and outreach programme activities under NCAP. The Committee desired that the empanelment shall be done as per the guidelines of Government of Odisha.

At the end of the meeting, the Committee proposed that in the forthcoming Air Quality Monitoring Committee (AQMC) meeting all the concerned Departments of NCAP will also make presentation regarding the steps they have taken towards Air Quality Improvement. The presentation shall highlight the general policy decisions, actions taken and timeline for completion of the activities.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

(Dr. Mona Sharma)

Additional Chief Secretary to Government Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department