

**Proceedings of the 9th State Level Air Quality Monitoring Committee
(AQMC) Meeting held on Dt. 07.02.2025 at 4:00 PM**

The 9th meeting of State Level Air Quality Monitoring Committee (AQMC) was held on 07.02.2025 at 4:00 PM under the chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary, FE&CC Department, Govt. of Odisha in the Conference Hall of Home Department, Lokseva Bhawan. The list of participants present in the meeting is enclosed as **Annexure-I**.

Initiating the discussion, Dr. K. Murugesan, Member Secretary, SPCB, Odisha welcomed all the members of the AQMC meeting, all the Chairpersons of District Level Monitoring Committees (DLMCs) of the non-attainment cities, the officials of respective Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) to the 9th State level AQMC meeting. He briefed about the agenda of the meeting and deliberated on the points like launching of State Clean Air Programme (SCAP), and Financial and physical progress of NCAP and convergence funds. A presentation was made by Dr. N. R. Sahoo, Chief Environmental Engineer, on the agenda items and the following decisions were taken.

1. Compliance with proceedings of 8th AQMC meeting

The Committee noted the compliance.

Physical and financial progresses of all cities were reviewed. It was noted that out of the total funding of Rs. 74.60 Cr provided by MoEF&CC, Government of India, Rs. 71.20 Cr (i.e., 95%) has been utilized so far. The committee noted that minimum 75% utilisation is essential for continuance funding and all the cities except Kalinga Nagar have achieved utilisation of more than 75%. The ACS, FE&CC Dept. expressed concern that Kalinga Nagar (Vyasaganar Municipality) has utilised only 47% of the funds received by them.

It was decided by the ACS that Collector and District Magistrate, Jajpur shall take up the matter of low fund utilisation with Vyasaganar Municipality. Vyasaganar Municipality shall utilise the remaining funding at the earliest and submit the utilisation certificates (UC) in PRANA portal.

2. Air quality status of non-attainment cities

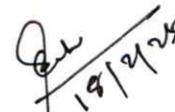
The ACS, FE&CC Dept. pointed out that improvement in air quality is of utmost significance and directed the cities shall take all possible corrective actions through NCAP fund and all other funds available through convergence. It was noted that despite the good work by Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC), the air quality of Bhubaneswar does not show any significant improvement. In this regard, the Transport Commissioner explained that, Bhubaneswar is a growing city and every year the city adds about 3.0 lakh vehicles on its roads. After detailed discussion, it was recommended by the committee to

take up more of the mitigation work. It was intimated that the BMC has prepared a comprehensive plan for air quality mitigation and solid waste management, and may need more funds for its implementation. It was suggested by the ACS that, to meet the requirement for additional funds, the CSR funds of the public sector may be sourced. The committee suggested that the SPCB may take appropriate initiatives for sourcing the CSR funds.

3. Launching of State Clean Air Programme (SCAP)

The committee deliberated on the proposal of the SPCB for a State Clean Air Programme (SCAP) in the cities where the air quality is at stress, but they are not included in the NCAP list. After detailed deliberation, the committee recommended to include Berhampur and Puri in the proposed list of ten cities proposed by the SPCB. It was therefore suggested that the SCAP concept documents may be revised accordingly for provision of adequate State budget. The proposal shall be sent to the FE&CC Dept. for Govt. approval and may be unveiled on an appropriate date.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.


19/2/25

(Shri Satyabrata Sahu)

**Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Forest, Environment & Climate Change Dept.**

Officers Participated in the 9th Air Quality Monitoring Committee (AQMC)

1. Shri Satyabrata Sahu, IAS, Addl. Chief Secretary, FE &CC Dept., Odisha
2. Dr. K. Murugesan, IFS, Member Secretary, SPCB, Odisha.
3. Sri Premkumar Jha, IFS, Director of Environment cum Special Secretary, FE &CC Dept. Odisha.
4. Sri Amitabh Thakur, Transport Commissioner-cum-Chairman, State Transport Authority
5. Sri Binaya Kumar Dash, Additional Secretary, Department of Housing & Urban Development
6. Sri Prabhu Prasad Choudhury, Additional Director of Industries
7. Sri Pratap Pritimaya, Additional District Magistrate, Angul
8. Sri Rajesh Prabhakar Patil, IAS, Commissioner, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation, Odisha.
9. Smt. Pallavi Nayak, OAS-SB Joint Commissioner, Rourkela Municipal Corporation, Odisha
10. Sri Biswaranjan Nayak, OAS (SAG), CDO-cum-EO, Zilla Parishad, Balasore
11. Smt. Nirlipta Mohanty, OAS-GR-A(SB). Executive Officer, Balasore Municipality, Balasore
12. Sri Simanchala Mishra, Municipal Engineer, Balasore Municipality, Balasore
13. Dr. Anup Kumar Mallick, Regional Officer, SPCB, RO, Rourkela
14. Dr. Nihar Ranjan Sahoo, Chief Env. Engineer, SPCB, Odisha
15. Er. Dillip Kumar Dash, Senior Environmental Engineer, SPCB, Odisha

