

**Proceedings of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of NGT Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Justice Pritam Pal, Former Judge, Punjab & Haryana High Court to review progress of implementation of Action Plans for River Sutlej, Beas & Ghaggar on 24.04.2019 at 2.30 pm in Conference Room of PSCST, MGSIPA Complex, Chandigarh.**

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**Item No. 1 Leave of Absence**

1. The following Members of the Committee attended the Meeting

Members of the Committee	Sh. Subodh Agrawal
	Dr. Babu Ram
	Sh. Balbir Singh Seechewal

2. Sh. J.Chandra Babu, CPCB and Sh. NirajMathur, RPCB, members of NGT Monitoring Committee could not attend the meeting because of their pre-occupations.

3. The following Officers from various Departments attended the meeting.

Department of Science, Technology & Environment	Sh. Rakesh Kumar Verma, IAS, Principal Secretary, Sh. Saurabh Gupta, IFS, Additional Director Sh. Pardeep Garg, Joint Director Sh. Gurharminder Singh, SSO Ms. Manak Bola, JRF
Department of Local Government	Sh. Ajoy Sharma, IAS, Secretary, Sh. MukulSoni, Chief Engineer, Sh. K.P. Goyal, EIC/TA Sh. Jitin Vasudeva, EE
Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana	Sh. Sanyam Aggarwal, IAS, Additional Commissioner Sh. Ravinder Garg, SE(O&M)
Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar	Sh. Kishor Bansal, SE (O&M)
Punjab Pollution Control Board	Sh. S. S. Marwaha, Chairman Sh. Krunesh Garg, Member Secretary, Sh. Gulshan Rai, CEE
Department of Water Resources	Sh. Sanjiv Gupta, Chief Engineer, Sh. R.P. Singh, Superintending Engineer,
Department of Water Supply & Sanitation	Sh. Paramjit Singh, PCS, Additional Secretary, Sh. R.P. Gupta, SE,
Department of Housing & Urban Development	Sh. TarunAggarwal, DE (PH), GLADA Sh. BhagwanDass, DE (PH), GMADA
Department of Rural Development & Panchayats	Sh. Jaskaran Singh Gill, IAS, Director, Sh. Devinder Kumar, SE,

Department of Soil & Water Conservation	Sh. G.S. Dhillon, Soil Conservation Officer,
Department of Industries & Commerce	Sh. S.K. Sharma, XeN, PSIEC
Central Ground Water Board	Sh. M.L. Angurala, Scientist-D, Sh. Rakesh Rana, Scientist-D,
Department of Health & Family Welfare	Sh. Vijay Kumar Sharma, EE (PHSC)

**Item No. 2 Review of Monitoring of Water Quality of Rivers**

1. Member Secretary, PPCB presented the status of water quality of river Sutlej, Beas & Ghaggar.
2. It was informed that the Board has identified the following locations for installation of Real Time Water Quality Monitoring Stations:

River	Proposed Location
Sutlej	Ropar Headworks
	D/S Budha Nallah
	D/S East Bein
Beas	Harike Lake (Rajasthan feeder)
	Mukerian
	Tanda
Ghaggar	Harike Lake (Ferozepur Feeder)
	Bhankharpur Bridge
	D/S Patiala Nadi
	D/S Sagarpara Drain
	Sardulgarh

3. The Board is further interacting with various suppliers for finalizing the technical specifications for preparing the tender documents. The proposal includes operation and maintenance for 5 years.
4. The Committee noted the progress and directed that
  - (i) The quality of river water for the month under report should be compared with respect to historic values and whether the quality has improved or deteriorated over previous year/ previous month and the reasons for the same whether domestic sewage or industrial effluents or any other reason should also be stated.
  - (ii) It was also decided that the flow of the river shall also be taken into account while comparing the data of water quality of the rivers.

- (iii) PPCB to install the real time water quality monitoring stations expeditiously as real time continuous data will give useful information to monitor and respond to the challenges of water pollution in rivers in real time. It will also help analyze the causes of pollution of river water.

**Item No. 3      Review of Monitoring of Functioning of Existing STPs in the catchment area**

1. Secretary, Local Government presented the progress w.r.t. functioning of existing STPs falling in the catchment area of river Sutlej, Beas & Ghaggar. Following points were made:

- (i) Existing STPs at Jamalpur and Bhattian were not be able to achieve the prescribed standards as the receiving sewage is mixed with industrial effluents of textile dyeing industries.
- (ii) The efforts are being made by the Department to improve the functioning of the remaining STPs
- (iii) Payment to the Contractors is being made regularly by PWSSB for the STPs being maintained by them even if the concerned MCs are not releasing funds to PWSSB in time.
- (iv) PPCB may consider taking composite samples instead of grab samples for monitoring the quality of treated sewage of STPs. Even their contract with Operators of STPs provides for composite sampling.
- (v) Regarding F.Coli, it was informed that measures are being taken to bring the same within norms by chlorination and other requisite measures.
- (vi) Online monitoring is being done at some STPs and online systems will be installed on other STPs also expeditiously.

2. Chairman, PPCB informed that

- (i) The Board carried out surprise surveillance of existing STPs wherein out of 76 STPs, 13 STPs were found to have their bypass system in operation.
- (ii) The STP operators are not maintaining any record of the Sludge, which is crucial for monitoring the performance of the STPs.
- (iii) Similarly there was no chemical, no technical and no non-technical staff at many STPs as brought out in the Agenda.
- (iv) Composite sampling will require more staff from the PPCB, which are already short staffed keeping in view multifarious duties.

3. The Committee deliberated on various issues and decided as under:

(i) O&M Manual

The Department of Local Government needs to take proactive steps to ensure that each STP is operating as per the design standards and take steps to meet the prescribed standards, if the same have become stringent than the design standards over period of time. The Department of Local Government must prepare a comprehensive manual for O&M of all STPs and towards ensuring compliance with the prescribed norms. A copy of the manual may be sent to the Department of Environment and PPCB to provide feedback and suggestions.

(ii) Action against the Contractors

Financial penalties must be imposed on Contractors maintaining STPs, which don't meet the standards and suitable provisions must be built in the contracts, if required. All O&M contracts must have in built mechanism for meeting the standards and levying of penalties in case of failure. The Department must submit a compliance report along with action taken against the contractors.

(iii) Fixing the Responsibility of the Supervisory staff

Supervisory Staff shall also be held responsible and accountable if there is no improvement in the functioning of the STPs. Their role and responsibilities shall be clearly documented and the same shall also be linked to their performance assessment.

(iv) Sealing of Bypass mechanism

It was decided that the Department will get all Bypass System sealed in presence of the Board officials. In case of emergency, the Department will break the seal and use the Bypass system and simultaneously inform the Board officials, who would inspect the site and seal the Bypass system again after the emergency is over. Proper record will be maintained by the Department of Local Government duly countersigned by the Board official visiting the site. Any unauthorized use of Bypass system will invite penalties.

(v) Monitoring of Sludge

Sludge is an important parameter for monitoring the performance of STP. The Board has evolved a proforma and the Department of Local Government will ensure that all ULBs provide the necessary information in the prescribed format to PPCB for analysis.

(vi) Composite samples

Composite sample would be taken by the Board for STPs in Ludhiana and Jalandhar for the time being keeping in view the shortage of Staff at present with the Board.

(vii) Hiring of the Staff

The Board shall expedite hiring of the requisite field staff after the election code of conduct is over. The Chairman assured that he has done internal preparations and would start the recruitment process immediately after the election code of conduct.

(viii) Measuring of Quantity and Quality of Treated Industrial Effluents being discharged into Municipal Sewer

The Department of Local Government and Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana which has given permission to the Industry to discharge specific quantities of treated effluent only in the municipal sewer, are entitled to measure both the amount and quality of treated industrial effluents being discharged into municipal sewer. In fact, it is obligatory on their part as they are responsible to ensure that waste water being carried through Municipal Sewer is treated and then discharged into Buddha Nallah.

(ix) Online Continuous Monitoring System

The online continuous monitoring system on STPs shall be made accessible to the members of the Monitoring Committee, PPCB and DECC to see the compliances.

(x) Environmental Compensation

If the STPs continue to default except on account of industrial effluents, which are to be taken care of by the Board, then the concerned ULBs will be liable to pay environmental compensation for polluting the rivers.

**Item No. 4 Review of Monitoring of Functioning of CETPs in the catchment area**

1. Member Secretary, PPCB informed that out of the 4 CETPs, the CETP for Jalandhar Leather Complex was not meeting the prescribed discharge standards. However, its performance has improved after constant supervision and guidance from the Board.

2. The matter regarding CETP for electroplating industries located at Ludhiana had also come up for discussion. It was apprehended that industries may not be handing over the entire effluents for treatment or the tankers transporting effluent might be disposing it off at some places instead of taking it to CETP.
3. The Committee after discussion on the matter decided as follows:
  - (i) It was decided that monitoring of all tankers, which bring untreated industrial effluent to CETP from various locations shall be done effectively so that there is no possibility of untreated effluents being discharged without bringing it to CETP. This can be done by developing suitable mobile application and GPS.
  - (ii) The leather CETP should be monitored effectively and environmental compensation levied for exceeding the prescribed standards.

**Item No. 5      Review of monitoring of functioning of ETPs installed by industries**

1. The Committee noted the inspections carried out by the Board. It was noted that the Board has not reported the inspections carried out by Senior Environmental Engineers, Chief Environmental Engineers and Chairman as directed earlier. The toxicity and risk of the inspected units discharging untreated effluents directly or indirectly through municipal sewer in Buddha Nallah or other drains or rivers has also not been given.
2. Following issues came up for discussion regarding monitoring of functioning of ETPs installed by industries
  - (i) As per CPCB's direction, Real time Continuous Monitoring Systems have been installed in 17 categories of highly polluting industries.
  - (ii) As per Action Plan prepared by the State Government in compliance with the directions of NGT, all water polluting industries discharging more than 40 KLD have been directed to install Continuous Online Monitoring Systems.
  - (iii) The Board has however not laid down any mechanism for monitoring the data and system and taking action on the basis of reports from the Continuous monitoring system.
  - (iv) Since the STP at Jamalpur is completely dysfunctional due to mixing of industrial discharge, there is need to focus on ETPs of Industries in the catchment of Jamalpur STP.
  - (v) Similarly there is direct discharge into Buddha Nallah at Amrit Kanda and the industries connected to this line need special attention.

3. The Committee accordingly directed the following:

(i) Effective Use of Continuous Monitoring System

The Board shall set up a dedicated team to monitor the data of continuous monitoring system and detect any non-compliance and take action. The data should be carefully analysed to detect any attempts to compromise the system. A report shall be submitted by the Board in this regard, which will be reviewed in the next meeting. The online system interface may also be made available to the members of monitoring committee and the DECC so that they can also see the compliances online.

(ii) Risk based inspections

The Board will pay special attention to monitoring of industries in the catchment of Jamalpur Industry and connected to Since the STP at Jamalpur is completely dysfunctional due to mixing of industrial discharge, the Board should carry out special monitoring of ETPs of Industries in the catchment of Jamalpur STP.

(iii) Inspections by Senior Officers of the Board and Independent Inspections

Reiterating the directions given by the Monitoring Committee in 1<sup>st</sup> meeting held on 20.03.19, the Chairman was directed to personally inspect some of the high risk industries, apart from ensuring that other Senior Officers also visit certain percentage of ETPs inspected Regional Officers (Environmental Engineer). This is required as the local officers, at times, may not be in a position to carry out their duties in a free and fair manner due to various local factors.

(iv) Third Party analysis

The samples of at least 10% of ETPs to be got collected and analysed from third party by Department of Environment.

**Item No. 6 Review of progress of Setting up of New / Up-gradation/ Rehabilitation of STPs**

The Committee was informed that progress of Setting up of New / Up-gradation and Rehabilitation of STPs was being reviewed at the level of Chief Secretary and progress of same will be presented in the next meeting.

**Item No. 7 Review of Progress of Setting up of new/ upgrading of CETPs in catchment area**

1. Member Secretary, PPCB apprised the Committee that CETP of 15 MLD at Bhadurke Road and 40 MLD capacity at Focal Point will be commissioned by 30.06.19 & 31.10.19, respectively. However, progress of 50 MLD STP at Tajpur

Road was found to be slow. PSSTE also expressed apprehension that the CETPs are unlikely to be operational in the timelines shown by PPCB.

2. Secretary, Local Government expressed apprehension that the design parameters of CETPs are not in order and CETPs will not be effectively
3. The Committee noted the current status of CETPs and after due deliberations, directed as under:
  - (i) PPCB to closely supervise the time schedule given by the SPVs for timely commissioning of CETP. The Board shall impose environmental compensation after the due date.
  - (ii) The Board shall also put in place a legally binding mechanism for successful operation of these CETPs.
  - (iii) The Board shall also analyze the design parameters of the CETPs to ensure that they would be able to treat the industrial effluents of the respective industrial clusters.
  - (iv) The conveyance systems for carrying the industrial effluents to CETPs shall also be ensured.

**Item No. 8 Review of Progress of Setting up of ETPs for dairy and other misc. waste**

The Committee noted the progress. It was informed by MC, Ludhiana that Haibowal Biogas Plant set up PEDAs has been closed. It was decided that Department of Environment may hold separate meeting with PEDAs in this regard.

**Item No. 9 Reconciliation of Waste Water & Industrial Effluents for city of Ludhiana**

The matter was discussed in detail. Principal Secretary, Department of Environment informed that Terms of Reference for joint monitoring to ascertain the quantity and quality of wastewater by PPCB & MC Ludhiana are being finalized. The same will be discussed in the next meeting.

**Item No. 10 Review of progress of release of Fresh Water in Budha Nallah & Holy Bein**

Chief Engineer (Drainage), Department of Water Resources informed that Rs. 6 Crore has been tied up for execution of Holy Bein project under 550th Prakash Utsav Celebrations of Guru Nanak Dev Ji for release of 350 cusecs of water into Holy Bein. Regarding release of 200 cusec of water into Buddha Nallah through Nilon Drain, the project will be prepared within one month and will be executed within 6 months after financial closure of the project estimated to be Rs. 10-15 crores.

The Committee directed the Department of Water Resources to submit a Roadmap to Department of Environment for implementation of both the projects.

**Item No. 11 Review of Re-use of Treated Waste Water for Irrigation and other purposes**

The Committee noted the progress. The various options for reuse of treated wastewater were discussed in detail. It was also informed to the Committee that a separate Action Plan on Reuse of treated wastewater is being prepared by Department of Environment as per directions of NGT.

**Item No.12 Review of action taken to prevent dumping of Solid Waste into Budha Nallah**

MC Ludhiana presented the progress. The Committee directed MC Ludhiana to initially undertake 500 meter stretch of Buddha Nallah to prevent dumping of solid waste by taking various measures such as installation of CCTV Cameras, manual monitoring with the involvement of social welfare organizations and hiring of manpower. The Committee further directed that offenders be challenged regularly.

**Item No.13 Review of Progress for Setting up of Treatment Facilities in Village**

The Committee noted the progress. The Committee was informed that appropriate technology for treatment of rural sullage will be finalized by the Committee constituted under Chairman, PPCB.

**Item No.14 Review of Shifting of Small / Medium scale scattered dyeing units**

It was discussed that the scattered units either plan for separate CETP or achieve ZLD.

**Item No.15 Review of Progress of installation of OCMS & CCTVs for STPs & Industries**

The Committee noted the progress.

**Item No.16 Review of the progress regarding organization of Health Check-up Camps**

The Chairman, Monitoring Committee directed Department of Health and Family Welfare to carry out epidemiological studies to study the effect of water borne diseases on human health in the catchment areas of rivers.

**Item No.17 Review of Public Awareness Programs regarding cleaning of the rivers**

The Committee noted the progress presented by MC, Ludhiana and directed other departments to also organize the capacity building and awareness activities.

**Item No.18 Direct discharge from Various Outlets into Drains**

The Committee was informed that subject matter will be discussed in meeting of Chief Secretary to be held on 29.04.2019 and progress in this regard be presented in the next meeting of Monitoring Committee.

**Any Other Item**

1. The Chairman appreciated that all the regulatory and development agencies are now fully sensitized to the problem of pollution in our water bodies including rivers.
2. The Chairman, however, cautioned the Departments that the situation on ground has to improve. He specifically mentioned that during his visit to some of the industries in Panchkula and Chandigarh, he found the pollution control measures in those industries not being functional. He made it clear that disciplinary action will be recommended against the Officers/ officials found negligent in their duties.
3. Mr. Subodh Agrawal, Senior Member of the Committee observed that we should follow 80:20 approach where our efforts shall be focused on activities and interventions, which will lead to 80% outcomes. He emphasised that focus on 5 STPs and 3 CETPs in Ludhiana can take care of major challenge of cleaning Buddha Nallah as well as Sutlej river.
4. The Chairman decide that the meeting of the Committee shall be held on every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month.
5. The Chairman also decided that the Monitoring Committee will visit Ludhiana on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019 for assessment of ground situation and meeting with various stakeholders.