



**Central Pollution Control Board**  
(Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India)  
Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar,  
**Delhi – 110032**

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**1<sup>st</sup> meeting of Expert Committee for ensuring compliance to Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi order dated 10.5.2019 in M.A. No 26/2019 in O.A. No. 325/2015 in the matter of Lt. Col. Sarvadaman Singh Oberoi Vs UOI & Ors**

First meeting of the Expert Committee constituted by CPCB vide office order dated 28.08.2019 was held on 16.09.2019 under the Chairmanship of 'Member Secretary, CPCB' in CPCB Delhi. Concerned officials or members of the Expert Committee nominated by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS) and Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) did not attend first meeting of this Expert Committee. List of participants attended the meeting is attached at **Annexure-I**. During the meeting, copies of Indicative Guidelines for Restoration of Water Bodies and draft checklist for review of action plans for restoration of water bodies were circulated to the members present in the meeting

Dr. Prashant Gargava, Member Secretary, CPCB welcomed all the members and requested WQM-I Division to make a brief presentation about Hon'ble NGT order dated 10.5.2019 in O. A. No 325/2015 and initiatives taken by CPCB for ensuring compliance. Sh. J. C. Babu, AD, WQM-I apprised the Committee about Hon'ble NGT orders, actions initiated and actions proposed in compliance to Hon'ble NGT order dated 10.5.2019.

Sh. J. C. Babu also presented salient features of 'Indicative Guidelines for Restoration of Water Bodies' prepared & circulated already by CPCB to all States/UTs to facilitate preparation of action plans for restoration of water bodies in compliance to Hon'ble NGT order in the afore-said matter apart from key features of action plans submitted by 6 States/UTs Viz., Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Meghalaya, Tamil Nadu and Tripura.

Sh. A. Sudhakar informed the Committee that action plans for restoration of polluted river stretches are covered in O. A. No 673/2018 in the matter of News item published in 'THE

HINDU' titled "More river stretches are now critically polluted: CPCB" wherein all States and Union Territories were directed to prepare and submit action plans for bringing all the polluted river stretches fit for bathing purposes (i.e. BOD < 3 mg/L and FC < 500 MPN/100 ml). He also informed that in compliance to Hon'ble NGT order dated 10.05.2019, CPCB has prepared and circulated indicative guidelines for restoration of water bodies to all the States and UTs.

Prof. A. K. Gosain and Prof. C. R. Babu were of the view that the indicative guidelines for restoration of water bodies should be separate for stagnant water bodies like Lakes and Ponds. Prof. C. R. Babu emphasized that the guidelines should be viable, practical as well as implementable by all the concerned States/UTs. He also suggested that important definitions to be included at the end of the indicative guidelines prepared by CPCB.

Prof. A. K. Gosain suggested that in order to understand historical features of catchment area of water bodies and to facilitate in finalizing action plans for restoration of water bodies, satellite imageries issued once in 10 years by State Remote Sensing Departments also be referred to integrate data relating to water bodies which require restoration.

Prof. C. R. Babu suggested to refer (i) Parliamentary Standing Committee report titled 'Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies'; (ii) guidelines for National Lake Conservation Plan issued in May 2008, and (iii) National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystem (NPCA) issued by MoEF&CC in November, 2016.

Upon deliberations following recommendations/suggestion were made by the Expert Committee: -

- (i) Indicative guidelines for restoration of water bodies shall be revised for stagnant water bodies only.
- (ii) Applicability of the guidelines shall be indicated in clear terms.
- (iii) Checklist shall be prepared and included as a part of indicative guidelines to facilitate States/ UTs for preparation of action plans for restoration of stagnant water bodies.
- (iv) Procedure for prioritization of all water bodies on the basis of level of degradation shall be defined.

- (v) Revised guidelines (after deleting the aspects relating to rejuvenation of polluted river stretches) shall be circulated to all the members of Expert Committee for providing comments/ views/ suggestions, within a week.
- (vi) Comments on draft check-list circulated by CPCB during the meeting for scrutiny of action plans proposed by States/UTs will be obtained from the Expert Committee members in a week from the date of issuance of the minutes.
- (vii) Hon'ble NGT shall also be apprised on the issues and CPCB may seek additional time of minimum 6 months by the States/UTs for preparation & submission of action plans for reviewing by CPCB.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

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**List of Participants**

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| 1. Dr. Prashant Gargava, Member Secretary, CPCB                             | - Chairman        |
| 2. Representative of MoEF&CC  | - Absent          |
| 3. Representative of MoJS   | - Absent          |
| 4. Representative of MoHUA<br>(Sh. V. K. Chourasia, Joint Director, CPHEEO) | - Absent          |
| 5. Prof. A. K. Gosain, IIT, Delhi   | - Member          |
| 6. Prof. C. R. Babu, Emeritus Professor, Delhi University                   | - Member          |
| 7. Ms. Divya Sinha, AD, UPC Division, CPCB                                  | - Member          |
| 8. Sh. A. Sudhakar, Scientist E, CPCB                                       | - Member Convener |
| 9. Sh. J. C. Babu, Scientist E, WQM-I, CPCB                                 |                   |
| 10. Dr. Deepali Agarwal, RA, WQM-I, CPCB                                    |                   |
| 11. Ms. Deepty Goyal, SRF, WQM-I, CPCB                                      |                   |