



Central Pollution Control Board

(Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India)

Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar,

Delhi – 110032

Minutes of 13th meeting of the Task Team held on 10th July, 2020 through Video Conferencing for ensuring compliance to Hon'ble NGT Order dated 6.12.2019 in OA.No. 673/2018 in the matter of News Item Published in 'THE HINDU' Titled "More river stretches are now critically polluted: CPCB".

Thirteenth meeting of the Task Team was held on 10th July, 2020 through Video Conferencing (VC) with the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) to carryout scrutiny of River Rejuvenation Committee (RRC) approved revised action plans for rejuvenation of identified polluted river stretches (PRS) under Priority III & IV categories by the respective State. Action plans received from five States viz. Jharkhand, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan and West Bengal were discussed. The States Viz., Chhattisgarh and Uttarakhand sought additional time for submission of RRC revised actions plans. The list of participants is enclosed at **Annexure-I**.

Dr. Prashant Gargava, Member Secretary, CPCB & Chairman, Task Team welcomed all the members of Task Team and the officials from 5 states participating in VC Meeting. Thereafter, he requested Sh. A. Sudhakar, DH, WQM-I to brief about the latest Hon'ble NGT order dated 29.6.2020 passed in OA No. 673 of 2018.

Thereafter, Shri J.C.Babu, Scientist 'E', WQM-I apprised the members of Task Team that Task Team had approved action plans of 61 out of 61 Polluted River Stretches (PRS) pertaining to P-I and P-II categories in 18 States and 02 UTs. Further, in pursuance to Hon'ble NGT order dated 06.12.2019, till date, CPCB Task Team have approved 91 out of 115 action plans of P-III and P-IV category PRS in respect of 17 States and 01 UT. Remaining 24 action plans pertaining to 7 States are under review. Till 09.07.2020, 20 RRC approved revised action plans (P-III and P-IV category) have been received from 5 States viz., Jharkhand, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan and West Bengal, which will be considered in the present meeting.

Thereafter, Sh. J. C. Babu requested the States to make brief presentation on proposed action plans for rejuvenation of identified PRS (pertaining to P-III or P-IV) covering details on the polluted river stretch, sources of pollution, detailed gap analysis, proposed action plans, definite timelines, achievable targets, budget estimates and responsible agencies, mechanism for implementation of approved action plans as well as PERT Chart.

Upon detailed deliberations by the Task Team committee members, the recommendations of the task team on the action plans proposed based on the power point presentation made by the respective State are detailed below: -

S.No	Name of the State	Observations/ suggestions of Task Team	Recommendations of the Task Team
1	Jharkhand	<p>Action plan of Subarnarekha river was reviewed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate action plans to be submitted for all polluted river stretches. • Latest water quality polluted river, all drains contributing to the pollution in polluted river stretches for relevant parameters to be included • Impact of mining activity in the catchment of polluted rives stretches also be included for arriving at suitable action points for mining activities. • Inventory of all the drains outfall into polluted river stretches also be included. Also, water quality of all drains for general parameters and heavy metals also be analyzed and included in the action plan. • Action plan need to be revised based on the detailed gap analysis considering projected population for next 15 years for sewage management, industrial effluent management in catchment area. • Action plans also be prepared covering the detailed gap analysis w.r.t waste management such as municipal solid waste, hazardous waste, bio-medical waste, e-waste, C & D waste apart from interception & diversion of sewage/industrial effluent from drains to upcoming STPs or STPs existing if any, in-situ remediation of drains as interim measure, utilization of treated sewage, faecal sludge management, E-Flow, Flood Plain Zone protection, water shed management, rain water harvesting, greenery, utilization of treated sewage in 	<p>State need to revise Action Plans in light of the observations of the CPCB task team as well as aspects as per NGT Orders. Hence, not recommended at this stage.</p>

		<p>line with the timelines for STPs and other aspects as per Hon'ble NGT directions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action-plan wise exact timelines, implementing agency, budget estimates, PERT Chart to be included for completion of all action point in line with the Hon'ble NGT order. • State also should take necessary remedial measures for rejuvenation of polluted river stretches with the concurrence of RRC constituted by State Government apart from taking approval of CPCB Task Team. • In the absence of conventional treatment facilities, as interim measure, interventions such as phytoremediation or bio-remediation of drains also be included as a part of the action plans. 	
2	Nagaland	<p>Action plan of Chhate river was reviewed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identified the root cause of river pollution and gap analysis may be indicated. • Action plans proposed mainly for grey water management and septage management. • Latest water quality of the polluted river stretch, ground water quality in the catchment and all the drains carrying sewage also be identified and analyzed for its quality mainly for general and biological parameters such FC, FSC etc., • Existing domestic septic tanks should be connected with soak pits. Provision for faecal sludge management also be included as a part of action plan. • Bio-mining of existing municipal solid waste dumpsites also be included as a part of the action plans. • Water shed management aspects for maintaining e-flows to be included in the action plan. • Timelines to be revised in line with the Hon'ble NGT order. 	Approved conditions with

3	Punjab	<p>Action plan of Holy Bein river was reviewed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water quality of the polluted river stretches also be analyzed and reported for Faecal coliform and Faecal Streptococci (FSC) apart from general parameters, biological and other parameters. • Specify funding agency for each action point as part of the action plan. • Water supply in Punjab to be reviewed to reduce fresh water consumption in the State at par with the national limits. • Few existing STPs in the catchment are not complying with prescribed discharge standards, action plan for upgradation of such STPs also be included. • Exact timelines to be included for completion of all action points in line with the Hon'ble NGT order. • Action plan for Municipal Solid Waste Management E-Flow, Septage management, E-flow, Flood Plain Zone Protection and its management, Rain water harvesting, Greenery also be included as a part of the action plans. 	Approved conditions with
4	Rajasthan	<p>Action plan of Banas River was reviewed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate action plan to be submitted for each polluted river stretch. • Water quality of the polluted river stretches for general parameters, biological parameter including Faecal coliform and Faecal Streptococci (FSC). • Water quality of drains contributing to pollution also be analysed for general parameters and heavy metals. • Ground water in the catchment area of polluted river stretches also be included. • Details on utilization of treated wastewater also be included in consultation with RSPCB. 	Approved conditions with

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other action plans for rejuvenation of polluted river stretches also be included as per Hon'ble NGT directions. • Time targeted action plan for installation of CETPs be included 	
5	West Bengal	<p>Action plan of Churni River was reviewed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water quality of the polluted river stretches for Faecal Streptococci (FSC) whereas water quality of all drains to be analyzed for general parameters, heavy metals and Faecal coliform as well as Faecal Streptococci (FSC) and included in the report. • Water quality of ground water in the catchment for relevant parameters to be included. • Bio-mining of existing dumpsites in the catchment of polluted river stretches need to be elaborated. • I & D of sewage from the identified drains to the nearby existing STPs or proposed STPs to be mentioned clearly in the report. • Watershed management, flood plain protection, ground water recharge, greenery, rain water harvesting apart from measures for discharge of stored water from U/s of dams to be included as a part of proposal for e-flow maintenance in all the polluted river stretches. • Specific funding agency for each action point to be included. • Short-term measures for drains such as phytoremediation/bio-remediation/nano bubbles treatment/aeration treatment and other options feasibility to be examined and adopted to improve water quality of polluted rivers depending on the local conditions. • Timelines to be revised as per Hon'ble NGT orders for all the proposed action plans and PERT chart also be included. 	Approved conditions with

Sh. Brijesh Sikka, Senior Consultant, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) requested all the States to submit monthly progress reports by mid of every month for the previous month as per the circulated format to NMCG & CPCB. He also requested the State to start implementing the action plans as proposed and approved by the RRC/CPCB Task Team as applicable to ensure compliance to Hon'ble NGT directions within the given timeline to avoid legal complications.

Sh. Rohit Kakkar, Deputy Advisor (CPHEEO), Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoH &UA) informed to the States that the ministry have issued advisory on 'Off-site & On-site Sewage Management' and same may be adopted by the States.

CPCB Task Team also suggested that

- (i) The action plans which have been approved subject to conditions, concerned States are required to revise all the action plans of P-III and P-IV category polluted river stretches in light of the recommendations of the CPCB Task Team as mentioned in the Table and also covering aspects as per Hon'ble NGT Orders passed in O. A. No 673/2018, within a month. Thereafter, RRC approved revised action plans also be submitted to CPCB and also ensure uploading of such RRC approved action plans in SPCB website or State Government Website in public domain.
- (ii) The action plans which have not been recommended by the CPCB Task Team, in such a case, the State is required to take action for revising action plans in light of the recommendations of the CPCB Task Team as given in the above table and also covering aspects as per Hon'ble NGT Orders passed in O. A. No 673/2018. Thereafter, RRC approved revised action plans be submitted to CPCB on or before 31.07.2020 for considering in next task team meeting tentatively scheduled in first week of August 2020.
- (iii) Also, every State/UT in the first instance must ensure that at least one polluted river stretch in each category is restored so as to meet all water quality standards up to bathing level. This may serve as a model for restoring the remaining stretches for ensuring compliance to the Hon'ble NGT directions dated 29.06.2020 passed in OA No. 673 of 2018 and arrange to provide the compliance status in this regard to MoJS and CPCB. Also, states which require additional time beyond the timelines specified by Hon'ble NGT, such States/UTs have to file a reply affidavit before Hon'ble NGT seeking additional time for ensuring compliance to Hon'ble NGT directions.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

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List of Participants

1. Dr. Prashant Gargava, Member Secretary, CPCB & Chairman, Task Team
2. Sh. A. Sudhakar, Scientist 'E', CPCB (Member, Task Team)
3. Sh. Rohit Kakkar , Deputy Advisor (CPHEEO), MoH & UA (Member, Task Team)
4. Sh. Brijesh Sikka, Senior Consultant, NMCG (Representative of MoJS/NMCG)
5. Sh. Y. P. Singh, Scientist 'E', CP Division, MoEF & CC (Representative of MoEF & CC)
6. Sh. J. Chandra Babu, Scientist 'E', WQM-I Division, CPCB (Member Convener)
7. Dr. Deepali Agarwal, RA, WQM-I Division, CPCB

Officials of States: -

1. Jharkhand
2. Nagaland
3. Punjab
4. Rajasthan
5. West Bengal