



SPEED POST

AQM/AP/2019-20/

October 09, 2019

Special Secretary, Environment
Department of Forest, Environment & Climate Change
Government of Jharkhand
Secretariat, Nepal House, Doranda
Ranchi, Jharkhand – 834001

Sub.: Directions under Section 31A of The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 regarding preparation of action plans for non-attainment cities as per Hon'ble NGT order dated 08-10-2018-reg.

WHEREAS, under Section 16 (2) (b) (d) (g) and (j) of The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, mandates Central Pollution Control Board (hereinafter referred as CPCB) to execute nation-wide programme, provide technical assistance and guidance to the State Boards for prevention, control or abatement of air pollution; collect, compile and publish technical and statistical data relating to air pollution control and abatement of air pollution and perform such other functions as may be prescribed;

WHEREAS, air pollution particularly PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} has emerged as a major health concern in most of the cities & towns, with air quality reaching to alarming levels;

WHEREAS, based on the data for the period 2011–2015 and WHO report 2014/2018, 102 cities failed to meet the prescribed standards are identified as non-attainment cities;

WHEREAS, seven regional workshops were organized to sensitize SPCBs and Stakeholders to develop city specific action plan for control of air pollution in these non-attainment cities;

WHEREAS, in pursuant to Hon'ble National Green Tribunal order dated 08-10-2018, all the States and Union Territories with non-attainment cities were required to constitute Air Quality Monitoring Committee (AQMC), and AQMCs to prepare appropriate action plans within two months aimed at bringing the standards of air quality within the prescribed norms within six months from date of finalization of the action plans;

WHEREAS, as per order of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, a three member committee shall examine the Action Plans and on the recommendations of the said Committee, the Chairman, CPCB shall approve the same by 31.01.2019;

Contd....

WHEREAS, the plans received till January 23, 2019, was examined by three member committee on 24-25 January, 2019, and compliance report submitted to Hon'ble NGT on February 15, 2019;

WHEREAS, the city action plan of Dhanbad received on 26-04-2019, was not approved by the committee and accordingly direction was issued to Special Secretary, Environment on 16-05-2019;

WHEREAS, the revised city action plan of Dhanbad received on 27-06-2019, was not approved by the committee and accordingly D.O. letter was send to Chairman, Jharkhand Pollution Control Board on 02-09-2019;



WHEREAS, the second revised city action plan for Dhanbad was submitted to CPCB on 27-09-2019;

WHEREAS, the three member committee examined the city plan of Dhanbad on October 01, 2019 and recommendations of committee is placed at Annexure-I and Annexure-II;

WHEREAS, based on the recommendations of the three member committee, Chairman, CPCB has approved the city plan for Dhanbad along with the recommendations enclosed at Annexure-I, for ground implementation with immediate effect;

Now, therefore, in exercise of powers under Section 31 A of The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, you are directed to implement the city action plan and submit progress report of the same to CPCB on quarterly basis;

Receipt of this direction shall be acknowledged immediately and action taken shall be communicated to CPCB within 07 days.


11/12/19
(S. P. S. Parihar)
Chairman


Annexure – I

- State: Jharkhand
- City: Dhanbad (Second Revised)
- Plan received on date: 27-09-2019

Key Component	Action plan dated 26-04-2019		Revised action plan dated 27-06-2019	Second Revised action plan dated 27-09-2019
	Observations	Remarks	Comments	Comments
Air Quality Monitoring Network	The plan is not properly prepared. It is general in nature and lacks specificity.	Plan needs to be re-done and submitted as per the format addressing key components.	CAAQMS not as per Guidelines (see attached)	Included
Source Identification			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major sources identified except Thermal Power Plants 	Included
Source Apportionment (SA) and Emission Inventory (EI) Action Points			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare action plan for Domestic Fuel, non-recovery Coke ovens and other coal processing along with Thermal Power Plants • City plan is very generic in nature, it should be specific for all air polluting activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actions to deal with domestic fuel emissions need to be incorporated. Included Included
Long-term Strategy Timeframe			Included	-
Executing Agencies			Included	-
Public Awareness and Complaint Redressal Mechanism			Included	-
Budget Support			Provided	-
Comments for improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In continuous long term activities, installation of respective required facilities should be done within 6 months, along with continuous monitoring. • In vehicle point no. 7, ban of old commercial vehicles of other categories along with buses also need to be given. • In C&D points instead of writing complied/partial complied, write as continuous activities. • Point of "Shifting of polluting industries" is not continuous activity it may have definite time target. • Instead of writing "Ban on polluting industries" it may be "Closure of Polluting industries". • Action suggested in the plan for BCCl/Coal washeries will be regularly monitored by SPCB and necessary actions as per the law will be initiated in case of violation. 			
Overall Recommendation	Recommended with revisions (See comments on revised plan including comments for improvement).			

ANNEXURE II

General observations made by three member committee for further improvements in the plans:

1. Emission Inventory , Source Apportionment and Carrying Capacity Assessment: Vehicular Pollution, Industrial Emissions, Population Density, Construction Activities

The AQMCs should duly address the above issues so that the cities remain air quality compliant in future and some activities, if required, are restricted in future planning. It is expected the knowledge from EI, SA and carrying capacity assessment will upgrade the action plans.

2. Interim Emission Reduction Targets

The plans should include auditable and verifiable interim emission reduction targets. This will ensure continuous and timely implementation of actions.

3. Challenges in Implementation: Role of Central Agencies

Some actions proposed in the plans (e.g. supply of CNG or PNG) will require coordination and commitment from Central agencies. It is desirable that such actions are discussed with concerned agencies for effective implementation.

4. Consideration to Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP)

The GRAP is an important contingency plan in NCR. The SPCBs may give due consideration to the GRAP and develop a suitable plan relevant to the emissions in the city and likelihood of their impact on air quality.

5. District Level Monitoring Committee

Besides AQMC, a monitoring committee headed by the Municipal Commissioner or District Magistrate comprising senior officers from concerned departments may be considered to review the progress and ensure smooth implementation of the plan.