



SPEED POST

AQM/AP/2019-20/

26/06/2020

Additional Chief Secretary, Environment
Govt. of West Bengal
Pranisampad Bhavan, 5th Floor
LB -2, Sector -III, Salt Lake,
Bidhannagar, Kolkata – 700106

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;

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WHEREAS, 20 additional non-attainment cities has been identified based on data for the period 2014-2018;

WHEREAS, Hon'ble National Green Tribunal order dated 06-08-2019, directed concerned SPCBs to prepare city action plans for 20 newly added Non-attainment cities and submit to CPCB within two months;

WHEREAS, city action plan for Kolkata city of West Bengal was already approved for implementation on 12-02-2019;

WHEREAS, the city action plan for six newly added non-attainment cities of West Bengal were submitted to CPCB on 28-01-2020;

WHEREAS, the three member committee examined the city plans of Asansol, Barrackpore, Durgapur, Haldia, Howrah and Raniganj cities on March 04, 2020 and recommendations of committee are placed at Annexure-I and Annexure-II;

WHEREAS, financial layout of actions is a key component of city action plan and has not been worked out by AQMC;

WHEREAS, in view of recommendations of the three member committee, Competent Authority has approved the city action plans for aforesaid cities in State of West Bengal 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, submit financial layout of each action within 30 days 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.


(Shiv Das Meena)
Chairman



- State: West Bengal
- City: Asansol
- Plan received on date: 28-01-2020

Key Component	Action plan dated 06-11-2019		Comments on Revised Plan
	Observations	Remarks	
Air Quality Monitoring Network	Existing and expansion plan proposed but not adequate	CAAQMS not as per Guidelines (see attached)	Included
Source Identification	Industries, Road Dust, Vehicles, Open Burning, Construction Activities, Domestic Fuel, Mining Area	-	-
Source Apportionment (SA) and Emission Inventory (EI)	EI & SA not quantified (SA study proposed)	Carryout EI & SA estimates	-
Action Points	Addresses all major sources	City plan is generic in nature, it should be specific for all air polluting activities & sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The statement “Water reduction measure and NOx control plan is unavailable in public domain” is not relevant. Industries should comply with all notified regulations for Thermal Power Plants. • NOx control plan should be provided • Dust suppression system mentioned in Point no. 17.3, should be used in hauling roads
Long-term Strategy	Long-term actions proposed	-	-
Timeframe	Timelines proposed for various actions (up to three years)	Point no. 5.3.2 is a short term action which may not be more than 6 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term actions restricted to 6 months (e.g. 1.1, 4.3.4, 4.3.5, 4.3.7, 4.3.8, 5.3.1, 5.3.3, 5.3.4, 17.10, 17.11, 17.12) • Provide time targets in point no. 5.7.1, 5.7.2, 5.7.3
Executing Agencies	Identified	-	-
Public Awareness and Complaint Redressal Mechanism	Specific plans and public complaints redressal mechanism outlined	-	-
Budget Support	Not given	Broad estimates be made for financial layout	Budget provided only for air quality monitoring and assessment and provide budget for all other activities/actions
Overall Recommendation	Recommended with minor revisions (See Remarks).		

- State: West Bengal
- City: Barackpore
- Plan received on date: 28-01-2020

Key Component	Action plan dated 06-11-2019		Comments on Revised Plan
	Observations	Remarks	
Air Quality Monitoring Network	Existing and expansion plan proposed but not adequate	CAAQMS not as per Guidelines (see attached)	Included
Source Identification	Industries, Road Dust, Vehicles, Open Burning, Construction Activities, Domestic Fuel	-	-
Source Apportionment (SA) and Emission Inventory (EI)	EI & SA not quantified (SA study proposed)	Carryout EI & SA estimates	-
Action Points	Addresses all major sources	City plan is generic in nature, it should be specific for all air polluting activities & sources	Included
Long-term Strategy	Long-term actions proposed	-	-
Timeframe	Timelines proposed for various actions (up to three years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time target is missing in action point no. 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 4.8 and 7.7. • Point no. 5.3.2 is a short term action which should not be more than 6 months 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term actions restricted to 6 months (e.g. 5.3.1, 5.3.3, 5.3.4, 5.4.1 & 5.5.1) • Provide time targets in point no. 5.2.3, 5.7.10
Executing Agencies	Identified	-	Identify executing agencies in Point no. 5.7.10
Public Awareness and Complaint Redressal Mechanism	Specific plans and public complaints redressal mechanism outlined	-	-
Budget Support	Not given	Broad estimates be made for financial layout	Budget provided only for air quality monitoring and assessment and provide budget for all other activities/actions
Overall Recommendation	Recommended with minor revisions (See Remarks).		

- State: West Bengal
- City: Durgapur
- Plan received on date: 28-01-2020

Key Component	Action plan dated 06-11-2019		Comments on Revised Plan
	Observations	Remarks	
Air Quality Monitoring Network	Existing and expansion plan proposed but not adequate	CAAQMS not as per Guidelines (see attached)	Included
Source Identification	Industries, Road Dust, Vehicles, Open Burning, Domestic Fuel, Thermal Power Plants	Major sources identified except Construction Activities	-
Source Apportionment (SA) and Emission Inventory (EI)	EI & SA not quantified (SA study proposed)	Carryout EI & SA estimates	-
Action Points	Addresses all major sources except Construction Activities & Thermal Power Plants	Prepare action plan for Construction Activities & Thermal Power Plants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The statement "No information on compliance or plan to meet NOx or water norms is available on public domain" is not relevant. Industries should comply with all notified regulations for Thermal Power Plants. • NOx control plan should be provided
Long-term Strategy	Long-term actions proposed	-	-
Timeframe	Timelines proposed for various actions (up to three years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time target is missing in action point no. 1.6, 1.7, 1.8, 2.9, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 4.9, 5.10.1, 6.6, 7.7, 10.7, 15.1. • Point no. 5.3.2 is a short term action which should not be more than 6 months 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term actions restricted to 6 months (e.g. 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7 & 5.3.1)
Executing Agencies	Identified	-	-
Public Awareness and Complaint Redressal Mechanism	Specific plans and public complaints redressal mechanism outlined	-	-
Budget Support	Not given	Broad estimates be made for financial layout	Budget provided only for air quality monitoring and assessment and provide budget for all other activities/actions
Overall Recommendation	Recommended with revisions (See Remarks).		

- State: West Bengal
- City: Haldia
- Plan received on date: 28-01-2020

Key Component	Action plan dated 06-11-2019		Comments on Revised Plan
	Observations	Remarks	
Air Quality Monitoring Network	Existing and expansion plan proposed.	-	-
Source Identification	Industries, Road Dust, Vehicles, Open Burning, Construction Activities, Domestic Fuel, Thermal Power Plant	-	-
Source Apportionment (SA) and Emission Inventory (EI)	EI & SA not quantified (SA study proposed)	Carryout EI & SA estimates	-
Action Points	Addresses all major sources except Thermal Power Plants	Prepare action plan for Thermal Power Plants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The statement "No information is available in the public domain on PM levels, water reduction measure, and NOx control." is not relevant. Industries should comply with all notified regulations for Thermal Power Plants. • NOx control plan should be provided • Dust suppression system mentioned in Point no. 17.3, should be used in hauling roads
Long-term Strategy	Long-term actions proposed	-	-
Timeframe	Timelines proposed for various actions (up to three years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time target is missing in action point no. 1.6, 1.7, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 5.6, & 7.7 • Point no. 5.3.2 is a short term action which should not be more than 6 months 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term actions restricted to 6 months (e.g. 1.1, 1.2, 4.4.1, and 5.3.1)
Executing Agencies	Identified	-	-
Public Awareness and Complaint Redressal Mechanism	Specific plans and public complaints redressal mechanism outlined	-	-
Budget Support	Not given	Broad estimates be made for financial layout	Budget provided only for air quality monitoring and assessment and provide budget for all other activities/actions
Overall Recommendation	Recommended with revisions (See Remarks).		

- State: West Bengal
- City: Howrah
- Plan received on date: 28-01-2020

Key Component	Action plan dated 06-11-2019		Comments on Revised Plan
	Observations	Remarks	
Air Quality Monitoring Network	Existing and expansion plan proposed	-	Included
Source Identification	Industries, Road Dust, Vehicles, Open Burning, Construction Activities, Domestic Fuel, Thermal Power Plant	-	-
Source Apportionment (SA) and Emission Inventory (EI)	EI & SA not quantified (SA study proposed)	Carryout EI & SA estimates	-
Action Points	Addresses all major sources except Thermal Power Plants	Prepare action plan for Thermal Power Plants	Included
Long-term Strategy	Long-term actions proposed	-	-
Timeframe	Timelines proposed for various actions (up to three years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time target is missing in action point no. 1.6, 1.7, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 5.4.1, 5.4.2, 5.4.3, 5.5, & 7.7 • Point no. 5.1.1, 5.2.8.2 & 5.5.3 is a short term action which should not be more than 6 months 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term actions restricted to 6 months (e.g. 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 5.2.5, and 5.3.1) • Provide time targets in point no. 5.8.6 and 5.8.7,
Executing Agencies	Identified	Identify executing agencies in Point no. 5.2.5	Identify executing agencies in Point no. 5.7.10
Public Awareness and Complaint Redressal Mechanism	Specific plans and public complaints redressal mechanism outlined	-	-
Budget Support	Not given	Broad estimates be made for financial layout	Budget provided only for air quality monitoring and assessment and provide budget for all other activities/actions
Overall Recommendation	Recommended with revisions (See Remarks).		

- State: West Bengal
- City: Raniganj
- Plan received on date: 28-01-2020

Key Component	Action plan dated 06-11-2019		Comments on Revised Plan
	Observations	Remarks	
Air Quality Monitoring Network	Existing and expansion plan proposed but not adequate	CAAQMS not as per Guidelines (see attached)	Included
Source Identification	Industries, Road Dust, Vehicles, Open Burning, Construction Activities, Domestic Fuel, Mining Area, Thermal Power Plant	-	-
Source Apportionment (SA) and Emission Inventory (EI)	EI & SA not quantified (SA study proposed)	Carryout EI & SA estimates	-
Action Points	Addresses all major sources except Thermal Power Plants	Prepare action plan for Thermal Power Plants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The statement "No information on compliance or plan to meet NOx or water norms is available on public domain" is not relevant. Industries should comply with all notified regulations for Thermal Power Plants. • NOx control plan should be provided • Dust suppression system mentioned in Point no. 17.3, should be used in hauling roads
Long-term Strategy	Long-term actions proposed	-	-
Timeframe	Timelines proposed for various actions (up to three years)	Time target is missing in action point no. 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6 & 7.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term actions restricted to 6 months (e.g. 1.1, 4.4.1, and 5.3.1)
Executing Agencies	Identified	-	Identify executing agencies in Point no. 5.5
Public Awareness and Complaint Redressal Mechanism	Specific plans and public complaints redressal mechanism outlined	-	-
Budget Support	Not given	Broad estimates be made for financial layout	Budget provided only for air quality monitoring and assessment and provide budget for all other activities/actions
Overall Recommendation	Recommended with revisions (See Remarks).		

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.