



SPEED POST

F. No. AQM/AP/2019-20/

dated: 13.05.2021

To,

Principal Secretary, Environment
Govt. of Maharashtra
Environment Department
Maharashtra Mantralaya
Mumbai – 400032

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; and

WHEREAS, based on the data for the period 2015–2019, 124 cities failed to meet the prescribed standards are identified as non-attainment cities; and

WHEREAS, in pursuant to Hon'ble National Green Tribunal order, 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 aimed at bringing the standards of air quality within the prescribed norms; and

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; and

WHEREAS, city action plans for 18 non-attainment/ Million plus cities of Maharashtra were already approved for implementation on 16-04-2019, 25-06-2019, 09-10-2019 and 11-03-2021; and

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WHEREAS, city action plan of Thane received on 27-09-2019 and 06-03-2020 was not approved by the committee and accordingly direction was issued to Principal Secretary, Environment on 23-01-2020 and 27-01-2021 respectively; and

WHEREAS, the second revised action plan of Thane city of Maharashtra was submitted to CPCB on 05-04-2021; and

WHEREAS, the three member committee examined the action plan of Thane city on 19-04-2021 and recommendations of committee are placed at Annexure-I and Annexure-II; and

WHEREAS, in view of recommendations of the three member committee, Competent Authority has approved the city action plan of aforesaid city in state of Maharashtra 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 plans, 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

ANNEXURE-I

- **State:** Maharashtra
- **City:** Thane
- **Revised Plan received on date:** 05-04-2021

Key Component	Action plan dated 27-09-2019		Revised action Plan Dated 06-03-2020	Second revised action plan dated 05-04-2021
	Observations	Remarks	Comments	Comments
Air Quality Monitoring Network	Existing and expansion plan proposed	CAAQMS not as per Guidelines (see attached)	Included	-
Source Identification	Vehicles, Road Dust, Industries, Construction Activities, Open Burning, Domestic Fuel	-	-	-
Source Apportionment (SA) and Emission Inventory (EI)	EI & SA not quantified	Carryout EI & SA estimates	Study proposed	Study proposed (Time target for completion of study may be provided)
Action Points	Addresses all major sources	The detail comments are at Annexure I(b).	Included	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In Point No. 3-(iv), 7-SCS-2 & 7-SCS-3, provide Responsible Agencies, Time Target, Implementation Period & Financial Resources.• In Point No. 1-(ix) provide Time Target, Implementation Period & Financial Resources.• In mining activities it may be ensured that the adequate measures may be taken for pollution control.
Long-term Strategy	Long-term actions proposed	-	-	-
Timeframe	Timelines proposed for various actions (up to five years)	The detail comments are at Annexure I(b).	Timelines proposed for various actions (up to four years)	-
Executing Agencies	Identified for some actions	Identify executing agencies in Vehicle Emission Point No. 11, 15 &	Identify executing agencies in Vehicle Emission Point No. 11 & 17	Identify executing agencies in Point No. 9-SCS-2

		17, Biomass Burning Point No. 4, DG Sets Point No. 8(ii)		
Public Awareness and Complaint Redressal Mechanism	Specific plans and public complaints redressal mechanism outlined	-	-	-
Budget Support	Budget estimates given	-	-	Provide financial resources for each component
Overall Recommendation	Recommended with minor revisions (See comments on Second Revised action plan).			

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.