



**SPEED POST**

File No: EQ-11099/9/2021-AQM-HO-CPCB-HO

07.01.2022

To,

Principal Secretary  
Government of Tamil Nadu  
Department of Environment and Forests  
Secretariat, Chennai  
Tamil Nadu – 600009

**Sub.: Directions under Section 31A of The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 regarding implementation of action plans-reg.**

WHEREAS, Sections 16 (2) (b) (d) (g) and (j) of The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, mandates Central Pollution Control Board (hereinafter referred to 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 PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> 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 plan for Thoothukudi city of Tamilnadu was already approved for implementation on 16-05-2019; and

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WHEREAS, under XV- Finance Commission (2020-21) funds were sanctioned to 42 million plus cities for air quality improvement; and

WHEREAS, out of 42 million plus cities 8 cities (Rajkot, Faridabad, Jamshedpur, Ranchi, Vasai-Virar, Jabalpur, Chennai and Meerut) which are not non-attainment were also requested to prepare city action plan; and

WHEREAS, the city action plan for Trichy city of Tamilnadu which was submitted to CPCB on 02-01-2020 was not approved by the Committee and accordingly direction was issued to Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Environment, on 26-06-2020; and

WHEREAS, the city action plans for Chennai, Madurai and Trichy (revised) cities of Tamilnadu were submitted to CPCB on 22-03-2021; and

WHEREAS, the three member Committee examined the city plans of Chennai, Madurai and Trichy cities on 22-03-2021 and approved the plan with some conditions & recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the revised city action plans for Chennai, Madurai and Trichy incorporating all recommendations of three member Committee was submitted to CPCB on 15-12-2021; and

WHEREAS, in view of the above, Competent Authority has approved the city action plans for aforesaid cities in state of Tamilnadu along with the recommendations enclosed at Annexure-I and Annexure-II, 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.

  
(Tanmay Kumar)  
Chairman



- State: Tamilnadu
- City: Trichy
- Revised plan received on date: 15-12-2021

Key Component	Action plan dated 02-01-2020		Comments on Revised Plan dated 22-03-2021	Comments on Revised Plan dated 15-12-2021
	Observations	Remarks		
Air Quality Monitoring Network	The plan is not properly prepared. It is generic in nature and lacks specificity & proposed actions.	Plan needs to be re-done and submitted as per the format addressing key components.	Adequate	-
Source Identification			Vehicles, Open Burning, Road Dust, Industries, Construction Activities	-
Source Apportionment (SA) and Emission Inventory (EI)			EI & SA quantified (SA study proposed)	-
Action Points			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide expansion plan of CNG stations</li> <li>• Provide expansion plan for e-vehicles</li> <li>• Provide locations and expansion plan for multilayer parking</li> <li>• Identify traffic congestion points in the city along with the plan for decongestion.</li> <li>• Provide planning for expressway/ bypass/underpass and flyovers in the city</li> <li>• Identify the locations of proposed water fountains at major intersection/ circle</li> <li>• Banning of the old vehicles may be decided at state level.</li> <li>• Brick kilns within the 50 km of city limits may be considered</li> </ul>	Adequate
Long-term Strategy		Included	-	
Timeframe		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timelines proposed for various actions (up to 2 year years)</li> </ul>	Adequate	

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Time line for some of the actions may revised as “Short &amp; Regular activity” (e.g. construction activity point no. 2, 3, 4, Biomass and garbage burning point no. 1, 2, 3, 4 &amp; 5 etc.)</li> </ul>	
Executing Agencies			Included	-
Public Awareness and Complaint Redressal Mechanism			Included	-
Budget Support			Provide financial resources for each component	Provided
<b>Overall Recommendation</b>	<b>Recommended</b>			



- **State:** Tamilnadu
- **City:** Madurai
- **Plan received on date:** 15-12-2021

Key Component	Comments on action Plan dated 22-03-2021		Comments on Revised Plan dated 15-12-2021
	Observations	Remarks	
Air Quality Monitoring Network	Existing and expansion plan proposed	-	-
Source Identification	Industries, Vehicles, Road Dust, Construction Activities, Open Burning	-	-
Source Apportionment (SA) and Emission Inventory (EI)	EI & SA not quantified (SA study proposed)	Carryout EI & SA estimates	SA/EI and CC study proposed
Action Points	Addressed all major sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify air polluting industries which affect the city air quality</li> <li>• Provide the locations of proposed water fountains at major intersection/ circle</li> <li>• Identify traffic congestion points/corridors in the city along with the plan for decongestion</li> <li>• Provide planning for expressway/ bypass/underpass and flyovers in the city</li> <li>• Provide identified locations for handle C&amp;D waste</li> <li>• Provide expansion plan for e-vehicles</li> <li>• Provide expansion plan of CNG stations</li> </ul>	<p>Adequate</p> <p>Following actions may also be included in the plan:  <b>C&amp;D</b>  1. Control measures for fugitive emission from material handling-conveying and screening operations.</p> <p><b>Vehicle</b>  1. Prepare plan for widening of road and improvement of infrastructure for decongestion of road.</p> <p><b>Industries</b>  1. Permanent closure of old TPP or move towards cleaner natural gas</p>
Long-term Strategy	Long term actions proposed	-	-
Timeframe	Timelines proposed for	-	-

	various actions (up to 4 year years)		
Executing Agencies	Identified	-	-
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	Provided
<b>Overall Recommendation</b>	<b>Recommended with minor revisions (See Comments on Revised Plan dated 15-12-2021)</b>		

- State: Tamilnadu
- City: Chennai
- Plan received on date: 15-12-2021

Key Component	Comments on action Plan dated 22-03-2021		Comments on Revised Plan dated 15-12-2021
	Observations	Remarks	
Air Quality Monitoring Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Existing monitoring network not provided.</li> <li>• Expansion plan proposed but not adequate</li> </ul>	Manual Monitoring stations not as per Guidelines (see attached)	Adequate
Source Identification	Industries, Vehicles, Road Dust, Construction Activities, Open Burning	-	-
Source Apportionment (SA) and Emission Inventory (EI)	EI & SA not quantified (SA study proposed)	Carryout EI & SA estimates	SA/EI and CC study proposed
Action Points	Addressed all major sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide expansion plan of CNG stations</li> <li>• Provide expansion plan for e-vehicles</li> <li>• Provide locations and expansion plan for multilayer parking</li> <li>• Identify traffic congestion points in the city along with the plan for decongestion.</li> <li>• Provide planning for expressway/ bypass/underpass and flyovers in the city</li> <li>• Identify the locations of proposed water fountains at major intersection/ circle</li> </ul>	<p>Adequate</p> <p>On page no. 104, Graded Response Action plan to be prepared for Chennai instead of Madurai.</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Banning of the old vehicles may be decided at state level.</li> <li>• Brick kilns within the 50 km of city limits may be considered</li> <li>• Typo error may be corrected</li> </ul>	
Long-term Strategy	Long term actions proposed	-	-
Timeframe	Timelines proposed for various actions (up to 10 year years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timelines proposed for various actions (up to 2 year years)</li> <li>• Time line for some of the actions may revised as "Short &amp; Regular activity" (e.g. construction activity point no. 2, 3, 4, Biomass and garbage burning point no. 1, 2, 3, 4 &amp; 5 etc.)</li> </ul>	Adequate
Executing Agencies	Identified	-	-
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	Provided
<b>Overall Recommendation</b>	<b>Recommended with minor revisions (See Comments on Revised Plan dated 15-12-2021)</b>		



**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.