

Remarkable contribution of CPCB in Environment Protection in recent years

- CPCB is not only functioning as main arm of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change but, it has worked as technical arm of India's Green Court, the National Green Tribunal (NGT).
- CPCB reports filed in NGT have been based on field surveys and followed by analysis of samples so collected.
- CPCB is handling various Pan - India matters which are as under:
 - Air quality in 124 non-attainment cities,
 - Restoration of water quality in 351 polluted river stretches,
 - Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index and action plans for 100 industrial clusters, and
 - Expanding scope of individual matters to assessing national scenario as situation and actions to be taken for restitution are similar. Some of such matters relates to Plastic waste, rejuvenating water bodies, coastal pollution, District environment plans, SPCB Audit, sector- specific action plans for industries and others.
- **CPCB laid down procedures of calculating Environment Compensation** on significant issues, carrying capacity and Source apportionment studies, determining number of stone crushers and brick kilns to be permitted based on carrying capacity assessment, nationwide collaboration and designing remedial action plans for solid, plastic, electronic, bio-medical and hazardous wastes.
- CPCB has **framed Environmental Compensation regime for improper Plastic Waste Management**, and the MoEF&CC has brought out a guideline document “Uniform Framework for Extended Producers Responsibility” under the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 and amendment thereof. The document has given details of online registration and record keeping of producers, recyclers and manufacturers and deliberated on various models of Extend Producers Responsibility (EPR), such as; Fee based model, PRO based model and Plastic Credit Model, and audited certification based funding mechanisms.
- The CPCB prepared **SOP for dealing with the legacy waste.**
- With intervention of the Principal Bench of NGT, several action plans were devised and revised. It is expected that the weight of dumped legacy wastes could be reduced by 40% after proper stabilisation and bio-remediation and the reduced weight will be processed through bio-mining. Bio-mining method has been proposed by the CPCB for the effective disposal of legacy wastes. Bio-mining is the process of using microorganisms to extract metals of economic interest from rock ores or mine waste.
- The Hon’ble NGT in an order dated 24.05.2019 in the matter of O.A. No. 348/2017, Shailesh Singh Vs. Al-Dua Food Processing Pvt. Ltd., issued directions to the CPCB, stating that ZLD needs to be considered with respect to the use of effluents in the industrial processes not in terms of its disposal on land or farm. CPCB brought **“Guidelines for Utilisation of Treated Effluent in Irrigation”**, which states “ZLD

implies that the industries are not discharging any effluent, either on the land or in the water body or at any other place i.e. recycling the same in the process entirely without releasing any effluent.”

- Taking the grave situation of COVID-19 into account and to further augment availability of oxygen for medical purposes in the country, the Central Govt. had asked CPCB, to identify the industries having spare nitrogen plants and explore the feasibility of converting of existing Nitrogen plants to produce oxygen. **CPCB with the help of SPCBs have identified such potential industries, wherein existing Nitrogen generation plants may be spared for production of oxygen.** Consultation have been held with potential industrial units and experts.
- **CPCB, Delhi has organized the 33rd Analytical Quality Control (AQC) exercise** for trace metal parameters for Environmental Laboratories of Central and SPCBs/PCCs, and EPA Recognized Private Labs. The exercise aims a continuous monitor of the accuracy and reliability of the analytical data generated by these laboratories, to help to improve the infrastructure of laboratories and the quality of data on 07.01.2021.
- CPCB has been consistently reviewing air quality and meteorological scenario in Delhi and National Capital Region (NCR). **CPCB has deployed 50 teams for field inspections in Delhi –NCR, with special emphasis on hotspots, since 15th October 2020,** to assess the ground level scenario and ensure enforcement of mitigation measures for control of air pollution in Delhi-NCR. These teams have been visiting pollution hotspots and other areas in Delhi NCR region and reporting the violations of various guidelines/norms by posting these on the SAMEER App. CPCB urges public to provide feedback on polluting activities through SAMEER App which can be downloaded from Google Play and App store for android and IOS respectively.
- The Hon’ble NGT relies on scientific approach, factual reports and technical inputs from local authorities and the CPCB. The process involved getting consolidated status report through CPCB. Factual field reports were sought by constituting Joint Committees which involved sample collections and scientific interpretations. The directions passed in individual matters have been towards restoration of environment and executing waste management infrastructure projects. Execution of projects reflects governance attitude and commitments of the Departments.
- CPCB done assessment by finding out ambient air quality and carrying capacity on the basis of which NGT directed brick kilns, which emit particulate matters, to adopt the environment friendly zig-zag technology.
- **CPCB monitors water quality of River Yamuna and drains discharging into the River.** Recently, CPCB observed froth formation and increase in ammonia levels in river Yamuna because of discharge of untreated sewage, non-operation of existing Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs), improper functioning of Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs) installed by the industries and Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) located on the banks of river Yamuna in 2020.
- CPCB has also suggested to categorise **Thermal power plants** in accordance of which MoEF&CC issued a notification.

Few titles pertain to CPCB may please be referred in the Enviro Annotations (<https://www.enviroannotations.com/#h.pwgv4x68rswp>):

- i) CPCB's role in dealing Green issues for Green Court and the Nation
- ii) Good News on Medical Oxygen Supply
(Industries producing Medical Oxygen by Converting Nitrogen Plants)
- iii) 145 Laboratories participate in Analytical Quality Control Programme initiated by CPCB
- iv) Joint action to curb Ammoniacal Nitrogen in River Yamuna
- v) CPCB asks SPCBs/DPCC to be vigilant as AQI envisaged to worsen
(Public may raise complaint through SAMEER App)
- vi) CPCB asks Delhi & States concerned for effective Sewage Treatment to counter high Ammonia concentration
- vii) CPCB cautions industries and projects about fraud inspectors
- viii) Central Pollution Control Board celebrates its 46th Foundation Day; pledges for more science-based environment management
- ix) CPCB asks Delhi & States concerned for effective Sewage Treatment to counter high Ammonia concentration