


By Speed Post

F.NO. B-23012/1/IPC-III / 

September 26, 2018

To,

**M/s Hindustan Newsprint Ltd.,**  
Newsprint Nagar P.O., Vellor,  
Distt-Kottayam, Kerala-686616

**DIRECTION UNDER SECTION 5 OF THE ENVIRONMENT (PROTECTION) ACT, 1986**

**WHEREAS**, the Central Government has notified the standards for discharge of environmental pollutants from various categories of industries under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the rules framed there under; and

**WHEREAS**, the Ministry of Environment, Forest, & Climate Change, Govt. of India, vide notification S.O.157(E) of 27.02.1996 has delegated powers vested under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986) to the Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), to issue direction to any industry, Municipal Corporation, Municipal Council, Cantonment Board, to any local or other Authority for the violation of emission and effluent standards notified under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 and other standards and norms; and

**WHEREAS**, M/s Hindustan Newsprint Ltd, Distt-Kottayam, Kerala (*hereinafter referred as 'the Unit'*) was inspected by the CPCB on Feb 08, 2017 and found non-compliance w.r.t TSS discharge norms. Based on observation of inspecting team CPCB issued direction under section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 on 14.06.2017; and

**WHEREAS**, the Unit replied vide letter dated 25.07.2017, which was examined; and

**WHEREAS**, CPCB re-inspected the unit on August 23, 2017 for compliance verification and found non-compliance with discharge norms; and

**WHEREAS**, CPCB issued following direction vide letter dt 31.10.2017 under section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for compliance to the unit and submission of action plan (pert chart) to CPCB & KSPCB within 45 days:

1. The Unit, considering the reduced presently available capacity of lagoon & need for required de-sludging, shall operate at a restricted production/discharge not exceeding 50% of the consented discharge with immediate effect till Feb, 2018.
2. The Unit, during this period, shall complete required de-sludging of ETP System-clarifier and lagoon area and create proposed "buffer-zone" to facilitate sedimentation of suspended solids etc. to achieve the complete compliance of notified/consented effluent discharge standards under full load capacity.
3. The Unit shall and connect the flow meter at the final effluent discharge to CPCB server for 24x7 data transmission within 30 days.
4. The Unit shall seek permission from CPCB for restoration of the production capacity.

**WHEREAS**, the Unit replied to said direction dt 31.10.2017 vide letters dt 08.12.2017 and 17.02.2018, which was examined; and

**WHEREAS**, CPCB inspected the unit on 26.03.2018 for compliance verification of CPCB direction and following observations were made:

1. The unit was in operation. The integrated consent to operate (Water & Air Act) is valid up to 30.06.2018.

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2. Total wastewater flow was observed 22794m<sup>3</sup>/day (Clarifiers II outlet flow from 24-03-2018 to 25-03-2018) as per logbook, which is slightly more than half of consented discharge 38384 m<sup>3</sup>/day. However, actual discharge could not be ascertained as there are no flow meter installed at the final discharge point.
3. As per the production data, the daily, monthly and yearly productions estimate was 318.72 Tons, 4664.07 Tons & 65291.09 Tons respectively. The annual production estimate is nearly half of the consented production of 120000 TPA.
4. On the day of inspection, one of the primary clarifier (Clarifier-I for high strength effluent) was out of service due to broken scraper blade/sludge rake. Hence, the high strength effluent stream was being diverted to clarifier-II at the time of inspection.
5. The Unit has completed de-sludging (for 105 hours) for small area of lagoon and another work order for de-sludging for 62.5 days has been placed on 29.03.2018 and as per units representative, complete de-sludging of the lagoon and cooling ponds have to carry out as a continuous process.
6. Samples were collected during inspection from the final outlet & analysis result showed pH-6.7 (norms-7-8.5), BOD-198 (norms-30 mg/l), COD-500 (norms-350 mg/l), TSS-170 (norms-50 mg/l), O&G-0.3 mg/l (norms-10 mg/l) showing non-compliance with the prescribed discharge norms.
7. On the day of inspection, the OCEMS reading for COD, BOD & TSS were 52.8, 5.8, & 43.1, respectively, indicating large variation between manual lab data and OCEMS data.
8. The construction of *parshall flume* for flow measurement is under progress. As reported, work was disturbed due to the non-availability of special steel bars for the civil construction.
9. In the process of sludge storage pit preparation, old plastic inert dumps have resurfaced.

**WHEREAS**, CPCB issued show cause notice for closure vide letter dt 10.05.2018 under section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act,1986 to the unit; and

**WHEREAS**, the Unit replied to said direction vide letters dt 07.06.2018 and following observations were made:

1. The Unit has restricted the production and discharge almost 50 % of consented capacity.
2. The Unit has not completed the second stage de-sludging and expected to be completed by 31.07.2018.
3. The present attempt is temporary and have plans for rigorous methodologies such as *dredging* for which unit is in consultation with Kerala state inland navigation corporation (KSINC). The agencies are inclined to take up work after monsoon season and shall execute complete de-sludging of aeration lagoon before 31.12.2018.

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4. The installation/commissioning/linking of flow meter is expected to be completed by 30.06.2018 and delay was due to the abnormal heavy pre-monsoon rains during April-May and water logging at work site.

**AND, WHEREAS,** CPCB issued closure direction vide letter dt 04.07.2018 under section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act,1986 to the unit for compliance of the following:

1. The Unit shall immediately close down all its manufacturing operations till de-sludging of lagoons area and create proposed "buffer Zone" as per the direction dated 31.10.2017 so as to comply with the norms prescribed under the E(P)Rules,1986.
2. The Unit shall install & connect the flow meter at the final effluent discharge channel to CPCB server within 15 days.
3. The Unit shall report to CPCB regarding closure of manufacturing operations in compliance of the direction immediately on receipt of this direction.
4. The Unit shall seek permission from CPCB before resumption of the manufacturing operation.

**AND WHEREAS,** the unit replied vide letter dated 18.07.2018, 08.08.2018 & 10.08.2018 and informed to have closed down all the manufacturing operation w.e.f 16.07.2018, submitted applied copy of integrated 'consent to operate', "affidavit" for compliance with directions, ETP adequacy assessment report of CPPRI, Saharanpur and requested for revocation of closure direction; and

**WHEREAS,** CPCB inspected the unit on 29.08.2018 for compliance verification of closure direction; and

**WHEREAS,** CPCB constituted a three-member Committee vide office order dated 03.10.2017 having representative(s) from CPCB and MoEF&CC for examination and recommendation for revocation of closure direction issued by CPCB; and

**WHEREAS,** the Committee in its meeting held on 14.09.2018 reviewed the compliance made by the unit, inspection report of CPCB conducted on 29.08.2018 & verified the supporting documents in line with the agreed criteria and recommended for revocation of closure direction with production @50% of the consented capacity till December, 2018 with certain conditions; and

**NOW, THEREFORE,** in view of the above and in exercise of the powers delegated to the Chairman, CPCB under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the aforesaid closure direction issued to **M/s Hindustan Newsprint Ltd.,** Distt-Kottayam, Kerala vide letter dated 04.07.2018 **is hereby revoked** subject to the following conditions:

1. The Unit shall restrict its production to 50% of the production capacity consented by the Kerala State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) till December 31, 2018 so that the effluent generated can be treated to meet the prescribed discharge norms.

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2. The Unit shall submit performance audit report of ETP from expert Govt. Institute till December, 2018 to CPCB.
3. The Unit shall submit analysis report of the treated effluent from ETP through EPA recognised laboratory within 15 days from the date of resumption of operation.
4. Before commencement of operations, the unit shall obtain valid Consent to Operate under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Authorization under Hazardous and Other Wastes Rules, 2016 from respective SPCB and industry shall not operate under any circumstances without valid consent orders.
5. The Unit shall seek permission from CPCB for restoration of the production capacity at consented capacity.

In case of default in compliance with the above directions, CPCB will be constrained to initiate appropriate actions against the Unit, without giving any further notice, in accordance with provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

**(ARUN KUMAR MEHTA)**  
**CHAIRMAN**

Copy to:

1. **The Member Secretary,**  
Kerala State Pollution Control Board,  
Plamoodu Junction, Pattam Palace  
P.O. Thiruvananthapuram-695004  
: **With a request to restrict the production capacity as per the condition of the said revocation direction and submit ATR to CPCB within 30 days.**
2. **The Regional Director,**  
Regional Directorate (South),  
Central Pollution Control Board,  
1<sup>st</sup>& 2<sup>nd</sup> Floors, Nisaraga Bhavan,  
A-Block, Thimmaiah Main Road,  
7<sup>th</sup> D cross Shivnagar, Opp. Pushpanjali  
Theatre, Bengaluru-560010  
: For information pl.
3. **The Advisor (CP Division)**  
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change,  
Indra Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road,  
New Delhi-110003  
: For information pl.
4. **The Managing Director,**  
Kerala State Electricity Board Ltd.,  
Vydyuthi Bhavanam, Pattom,  
Thiruvananthapuram-695004, Kerala  
: **To connect the electric power supply of the unit in compliance of said direction issued under section 5 of E(P)Act, 1986.**
5. **The District Collector,**  
District - Kottayam - 686 002, Kerala  
: For information pl.
6. **The DH-IT, CPCB, Delhi**  
: To upload the direction at CPCB website
7. **The DH-IPC-III, CPCB, Delhi**

  
**(PRASHANT GARGAVA)**  
**MEMBER SECRETARY**