

By Speed Post

F.NO. B-23012/1/IPC-III / 170

April 18, 2019

To,

M/s Hindustan Newsprint Ltd.,
Newsprint Nagar P.O., Vellore,
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 found non-compliance with discharge norms; and

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.
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 has constituted a three-member Committee vide office order dated 03.10.2017 having representative(s) from CPCB & 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

Direction under section 5 of the E(P)A, 1986 to M/s Hindustan Newsprint Ltd., Kerala.

recommended for revocation of closure direction with production @50% of the consented capacity till December, 2018 with certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, CPCB issued revocation direction vide letter dated 26.09.2018 under section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to the unit 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.
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.

ANDWHEREAS, The Unit replied vide letter dt.10.10.2018, 20.10.2018, 19.12.2018, & submitted status of direction; and

WHEREAS, the Unit vide its letter dated 01.01.2019 & 15.01.2019 informed CPCB that they have closed their manufacturing operation on 01.01.2019 and completed 60 % of de-sludging activity and further requested to extend the date of completion of de-sludging work upto 28.02.2019. The Unit requested for permission to resume its operation @ 50% installed capacity; and

WHEREAS, the matter was placed before the revocation committee in its meeting held on 14.02.2019. The committee observing non-compliance with respect to submission of actual performance audit report till 31.12.2018 & complete de-sludging, recommended that the unit shall remain closed till complete de-sludging of lagoons and then approach CPCB for issuance of modified direction; and

WHEREAS, CPCB informed the unit vide letter dt. 22.02.2019 regarding the said recommendation of 3-member committee; and

WHEREAS, CPCB inspected the unit on 05.03.2019 for the required assessment. Based on the observations of the inspection team, the unit was asked vide our letter dt. 26.03.2019 to submit their action plan towards completion of the remaining 5% desludging work and action plan for the safe & scientific disposal of the sludge collected in temporary earthen pits before the onset of monsoon without causing environmental pollution in the vicinity; and

WHEREAS, The Unit replied vide letter dt 26.03.2019 to CPCB and submitted their views and action plan to CPCB with a request for allowing the operation at 100% installed capacity; and


WHEREAS, the matter was placed before the revocation committee in its meeting held on 04.04.2019. The committee recommended that the unit may be allowed to

resume its manufacturing operation at consented capacity of Kerala SPCB 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, it is hereby directed that **M/s Hindustan Newsprint Ltd., Kottayam, Kerala is permitted to resume its manufacturing operation** at the consented production capacity granted by Kerala SPCB subject to the following conditions:

1. The Unit shall submit performance audit report of ETP by same institute which conducted ETP adequacy report to CPCB, within 60 days of commencement of operations.
2. Before commencement of operations, the unit shall obtain valid Consents under the Water Act, 1974 and Air Act, 1981 and Authorization under Hazardous & other Wastes Rules, 2016 from Kerala SPCB and industry shall not operate under any circumstances without valid consent orders.
3. The Unit shall ensure safe and scientific disposal of the sludge stored in the temporary earthen pits before the onset of monsoon without causing environmental pollution in the vicinity.
4. Kerala SPCB shall ensure that before issuing Authorisation the unit has made sufficient measures for the management of sludge under prevailing laws.

In case of default in compliance with the above conditions, 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.


(S.P. SINGH PARIHAR)
CHAIRMAN

Copy to:

1. **The Member Secretary,**
Kerala State Pollution Control Board,
Plamoodu Junction, Pattam Palace
P.O. Thiruvananthapuram-695004 : To ensure compliance of the above said direction pl.
2. **The Advisor (CP Division),**
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate
Change, IndraParyavaranBhavan, JorBagh
Road, New Delhi - 110 003 : For information pl.
3. **The Regional Directorate,**
Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB),
1st & 2nd Floors, NisargaBhavan, A-
block, Thimmaiah Main Road, 7thD
Cross, Shivanagar, Opp. Pushpanjali theatre,
Bengaluru-560010 : For information pl.
- ✓ 4. The Divisional Head, IT Division, CPCB, Delhi : To upload direction at CPCB website pl.
5. The Divisional Head, IPC-III, CPCB, Delhi : For record purpose


(A SUDHAKAR)
MEMBER SECRETARY