



केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड
CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय भारत सरकार
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE GOVT OF INDIA

EMAIL & SPEED POST

IPC-II/TPP/CP-14/4/2024/

February 7, 2024

To,

The Chief Engineer,
M/s Mettur Thermal Power Station - II,
Tamil Nadu Gen. and Dist. Corp. Limited,
Pottaneri Nalla Goundampatti, Mettur Taluk,
Salem - 636 406, Tamil Nadu

Sub: Directions under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to M/s Mettur Thermal Power Station - II, Tamil Nadu Gen. and Dist. Corp. Limited (TANGEDCO), Mettur, Dist. Salem, Tamil Nadu - reg.

WHEREAS, Thermal Power Plants are identified as one of the 17 categories of highly polluting industries in the country and have been discharging environmental pollutants directly or indirectly into ambient air and water, having potential threat to cause adverse effect on air and water quality; and

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 thereunder; and

WHEREAS, there is need to promote self-regulation and self-promotion within the industries for complying with the prescribed standards and this can be achieved by the methods like installing online effluent and emission monitoring devices; and

WHEREAS, a direction under section 18(1)(b) of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 was issued on February 05, 2014 to all the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) / Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) for installation of Online Continuous Emission & Effluent Monitoring Systems (OCEMS) w.r.t. PM, SO₂, NO_x, pH, TSS, BOD, COD, Flow parameters in 17 categories of highly polluting industries including Thermal Power Plants; and

WHEREAS, directions under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, were issued on July 21, 2015 to M/s Mettur Thermal Power Station, Tamil Nadu Gen. and Dist. Corp. Limited (TANGEDCO), Mettur, Dist. Salem, Tamil Nadu for installation of Online Continuous Emission & Effluent Monitoring Systems (OCEMS) for emission parameters PM, SO₂, NO_x, and effluent parameters pH, TSS, Flow, and submission of the status of installation and data connectivity; and

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WHEREAS, M/s Mettur Thermal Power Station - II, TANGEDCO, Tamil Nadu has been inspected by a team of CPCB RD Chennai during November 16-17, 2023 under the environmental surveillance of 17 categories of high pollution potential industries and common facilities based on OCEMS data, in order to verify environmental compliance and the status of OCEMS. The salient observations based on the inspection carried out by CPCB inspecting team are as below:

1. Consents under the Air Act, 1981 and the Water Act, 1974 issued to M/s Mettur TPS-II have **expired on 31.03.2022**. Authorization under HOWM Rules, 2016 has been **expired on 25.06.2023**. The plant has applied for renewal of the Consents.
2. OCEMS has been installed for emission parameters PM, SO₂ and NO_x, and effluent parameters pH, TSS, Temp. and Flow, and connected with TNPCB server. However, **OCEMS for emission parameters has not been connected with the CPCB server, and OCEMS data for effluent parameters is connected to CPCB server but data has not been transmitted to CPCB server since 01.04.2023**. Further, **PM analyser has been reported to be under repair for last one year**.
3. The emission concentration of PM, NO_x and SO₂ pollutants as per manual monitoring (samples analysed through TNPCB's Zonal Laboratory, Salem) were recorded as PM: 45 mg/Nm³ (Std. 50 mg/Nm³), NO_x: 58 mg/Nm³ (Std. 450 mg/Nm³), and SO₂: 75 mg/Nm³ (Std. 200 mg/Nm³). **The analysis results of emission concentration of pollutants appear to be incorrect in case of NO_x and SO₂ concentration** in view of absence of the secondary NO_x control measures and Flue gas desulphurisation (FGD). Further, being a 'Category B' plant, the time limit for SO₂ emission compliance is 31.12 2025.
4. During inspection, it was observed that the dry fly ash evacuating / pneumatic conveying system was not working properly, causing **significant fugitive emissions in the area**. The spillages and heap of fly ash around ESP and near the silo area was also observed.
5. The treated effluent samples collected from STP and ETP outlets, were found complying with the prescribed standards. However, during inspection, the **ETP was found in non-operational like condition**. One of the Central Monitoring Basin tank was covered with algal growth and the condition of the ETP showed that **ETP is not operated regularly**. Further, the **flow meters** provided at different units **were also found non-operational and reported under repair**.
6. **Ash utilization during FY 2022-23** was reported to be **71.45% against minimum annual target of 80% / 100%** utilization in a three-years compliance cycle (which indicates environmental compensation will likely be imposed at the end of the first three-year compliance cycle as per Para C (1) of the Ash Notification, 2021).

WHEREAS, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, vide Notifications No. S. O. 157 (E) of 27.02.1996 and S. O. 730 (E) dated 10.07.2002, has delegated the powers vested under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986) to the Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, to issue directions to any industry or





any local body or any other authority for violations of the standards and rules notified under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 and amendment thereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, in view of the above and in exercise of the powers vested under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, following directions are hereby issued to M/s Mettur Thermal Power Station - II, TANGEDCO, Tamil Nadu:

1. The Plant shall obtain renewal of the Consents under the Air Act, 1981 and the Water Act, 1974 and Authorization under HW Rules, 2016 at the earliest.
2. The Plant shall take immediate action to rectify the shortcomings in OCEMS for emission and effluent parameters, and establish online connectivity and ensure uninterrupted transmission of OCEMS data for emission and effluent parameters to CPCB and SPCB servers on regular basis.
3. The Plant shall take immediate action to improve and control fugitive emissions around the APCD/ESP area.
4. The Plant shall take immediate action and ensure regular operation of ETP and repair the faulty flow meters.
5. The Plant shall ensure compliance with the prescribed emission and effluent standards and submit emission and effluent analysis reports for all prescribed parameters through EPA recognised lab.
6. The Plant shall take appropriate action to ensure compliance with the Ash Notification, 2021.

M/s Mettur Thermal Power Station-II, TANGEDCO, Tamil Nadu shall ensure compliance of the above directions and submit compliance report within 30 days from the date of issue of the directions. In case of failure, the Board will be constrained to initiate action as deemed necessary and appropriate in the circumstances under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.


(Tanmay Kumar)
Chairman


Copy to:

1. The Chairman,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board
76, Mount Salai, Guindy,
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2. The Director (CP Division),
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj,
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3. The Regional Director,
Central Pollution Control Board,
2nd Floor, 77-A, South Avenue Road,
Ambattur Industrial Estate,
Chennai – 600 058, Tamil Nadu
4. The District Collector,
Room No: 101, First Floor, Collectorate,
Salem – 636 001, Tamil Nadu
5. The Divisional Head - IT, CPCB

(Bharat Kumar Sharma)

Member Secretary