

Speed Post/Email

CP/51/2024-IPC-I-HO-CPCB-HO 3312

July 30, 2024

**M/s. Virupaksha Organics Ltd,
Plot No. 100 (P2), Sy.No.223, Gadvanthi village,
Humnabad I.A, Humnabad, Bidar,
Karnataka**

**Sub.: Directions under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986-
regarding**

WHEREAS, the Pharmaceutical industries are identified as one of the 17 categories of highly polluting industries which have been discharging environmental pollutants directly or indirectly into the ambient air and water, having potential threat to cause adverse effect on the water and air 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 and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 was issued on February, 05, 2014 to all the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) / Pollution Control Committee (PCCs) to ensure installation of online emission monitoring system and online effluent monitoring system in pharmaceutical industries; and

WHEREAS, **Pharmaceutical unit, M/s. Virupaksha Organics Ltd, plot No. 100 (P2), Sy.No.223, Gadvanthi village, Humnabad I.A, Humnabad, Bidar, Karnataka** (herein after referred to as the Unit) was randomly selected for inspection based on the SMS alerts generated through the OCEMS installed at the unit; and

WHEREAS, the Unit was inspected by a team of official(s) from the CPCB Regional Directorate Bengaluru on May 09, 2024 to assess the adequacy of the existing pollution control measures and observed the following:

1. The Unit was not operational and boiler was shut down during the visit.
2. The Unit has not made proper system for collection and transportation of effluents as the Low Total Dissolved Solids (LTDS) effluent generated during process from reactors and floor washing is collected in drums along with High Total Dissolved Solids (HTDS) effluents effluent.
3. Segregation of High TDS and Low TDS effluent is not practiced by the Unit.
4. The combined LTDS and HTDS effluents is taken to 12 KLD single stage MEE and MEE condensate is directly feed into the cooling tower instead of sending to RO plant which is violation of the consent condition.
5. The MEE condensate was found to be having higher concentration than prescribed norms stipulated by MoEF&CC w.r.t. pH- 4.07 (<6.-8.5), BOD- 2953

mg/l (> 30mg/l), COD- 7615.4 mg/l (> 250 mg/l), Ammonical Nitrogen 519.9 mg/l (> 100 mg/l), TDS - 3601 mg/l (> 2100 mg/l).


6. Adequate treatment is not provided in ETP. The Unit was using untreated effluent for cooling tower in the name of ZLD.
7. Unit has only installed flow meter and PTZ camera as OCEMS devices as part of ZLD system.
8. The scrubbers provided at process vents are not operating properly so as to prevent odour nuisance.
9. No calibration certificates for online instruments / analysers were provided to the visiting team for assessing performance of the same.
10. The Unit is not complying with Hazardous Waste Rules, 2016 as hazardous waste i.e. used spent oil, spent solvents and empty solvent drums are found stored within the premises for more than 90 days.
11. Information /daily status on generation & disposal of hazardous wastes is not updated on the display board by the Unit as per the Hon'ble supreme court order in WP 657/1995.

WHEREAS, as per CPCB IT division report dated July 3, 2024, the OCEMS camera is connected but streaming is not live; and

WHEREAS, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and climate change, 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; and

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of powers vested under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, a notice is hereby served to the Unit (M/s. Virupaksha Organics Ltd, plot No. 100 (P2), Sy.No.223, Gadvanthi village, Humnabad I.A, Humnabad, Bidar, Karnataka) to show cause as to why the Unit should not be closed down as the Unit is not complying with respect to the above mentioned observations.

You are hereby given an opportunity to file your objections, if any, within 15 days from the receipt of this notice, failing which action as deemed fit under the provision of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 including imposition of environmental compensation will be taken by CPCB.


(Tanmay Kumar)
Chairman

Copy to:

1. The Chairman
Karnataka State Pollution Control Board
Parisara Bhawan, #49, 4th & 5th floors
Church Street, Bangalore – 560 001, Karnataka
2. The Regional Director
Regional Directorate (Bangalore)
Central Pollution Control Board
1st & 2nd Floors, Nisarga Bhavan
A-Block, Thimmaiah Main Road
7th D Cross, Shivanagar, Opp.
Pushpanjali Theatre, Bangalore –560010
3. The Additional Secretary (CP Division)
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
Prithvi Wing, 2nd Floor, Room No. 216
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj,
JorBagh Road, New Delhi – 110003
- ✓ 4. Divisional Head, IT, CPCB
5. Divisional Head, IPC VI, CPCB


(Bharat Kumar Sharma)
Member Secretary