



BY SPEED POST

B-840(S) IPC-III/2021-22/ 1213

April 19, 2021

To,

**M/s Athani Sugars Ltd.,
Shahuwadi Unit
(Lease of Udaysingrao Gaikwad S.S.K. Ltd., Sonawade),
229, Sonawade, Shahuwadi,
Kolhapur, Maharashtra - 416210**

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

WHEREAS, Sugar 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 there under; and

WHEREAS, the Ministry of Environment & Forests, 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

WHEREAS, it is obligatory on the part of industries to install effluent treatment plants (ETPs) to comply with the effluent discharge standards as notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Rules framed there under and also to meet the consent conditions granted by State Pollution Control Board (SPCBs) / Pollution Control Committees (PCCs); and

WHEREAS, for strengthening the monitoring and compliance through self regulatory mechanism and inculcating the habit of self monitoring within the industries for complying with the prescribed standards, CPCB has mandated installation and operation of online continuous emission and effluent monitoring systems (OCEMS) by the 17 category & Ganga GPI industries on 'polluter pays principle'; and

WHEREAS, the sector specific requirement regarding installation of OCEMS for the 17 categories, including distilleries are already uploaded in the CPCB website and is available at <http://cpcb.nic.in/online-monitoring-clarification/>

WHEREAS, the inspection of the **M/s Athani Sugars Ltd., Shahuwadi Unit (Lease of Udaysingrao Gaikwad S.S.K. Ltd., Sonawade), 229, Sonawade, Shahuwadi, Kolhapur, Maharashtra - 416210** (hereafter referred as 'The Unit') was carried out on 17.02.2021 by the team of CPCB, as surprise inspections of about 50 randomly selected industries among 17 categories of highly polluting industries, as a special drive. Following major observations were made during the visit:

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1. The unit was operational at its full production capacity of 2500 TCD at the time of visit. As per the production record crushing activity started from 29.10.2020.
2. The unit was having valid Consent to Operate under Air and Water act and Authorization under HW rules valid till 31.07.2021.
3. The unit meets its fresh water requirements from river Kasari.
4. The unit had installed electromagnetic flow meter at the final treated effluent conveyance pipeline. However, it was informed that due to O&M issues, the flow meter was removed from the final treated effluent conveyance pipeline.
5. The ETP was operational at the time of visit, however the unit has not provided primary clarifier in the ETP and the tertiary treatment system (pressure sand filter) was found to be defunct and in dilapidated condition.
6. The unit has provided 01 no. of lined lagoon within their integrated sugar-distillery premises of reported capacity 4,000 m³ for storage of treated effluent of ETP during low demand period for irrigation. The provided storage capacity is found adequate for storage of treated effluent for 15 days.
7. The unit is generating Press mud, ETP sludge, Fly ash and bottom ash as waste. As informed, press mud is being utilized as a filler material for bio-composting at their integrated sugar & distillery premises. The unit has not provided designated storage shed for ETP sludge. APCD residue is disposed to farmers as a soil conditioner/disposed to brick manufactures. However, no agreement copy with any brick manufacturer is provided.
8. Except press mud, the unit is not maintaining disposal records of ETP sludge and fly ash.
9. The unit has made an **illegal bypass arrangement system** operated through sluice valve mechanism at the inlet distribution chamber of ETP and it is directly connected to the final treated effluent collection tank of ETP through underground pipeline.
10. During inspection it was observed that the unit was **bypassing the raw effluent** into final treated effluent collection tank of ETP and the inspecting team collected grab effluent sample from the bypass pipeline. The analysis results of this sample is tabulated below:

| pH | SS | TDS | Chlorides | Sulphate | BOD | COD | O&G |
|------|-----|------|-----------|----------|------|------|------|
| 4.72 | 404 | 4806 | 19 | 447 | 4644 | 7750 | 5.33 |

*All values are in mg/l except pH.

It is evident from the High values of BOD, COD, TDS and SS that the unit is using the untreated/raw effluent for irrigation.

11. The unit has provided **additional bypass arrangement** (T-junction arrangement) from the final treated effluent conveyance pipeline into cane plantation yard. However this bypass arrangement was not operational at the time of inspection.
12. The unit has provided complex network of flexible as well as fixed pipeline arrangement in the ETP without proper color coding, label and flow direction.
13. The unit is practicing illegal discharge of distillery effluent (reportedly floor washing from process area) into lined lagoon meant for storage of treated effluent of sugar industry. However, the discharge line from distillery process into lined lagoon was closed immediately

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14. The sludge drying beds were found completely empty and the civil structure was observed to be in dry condition. The industry didn't provide sludge disposal records.
15. The unit has not maintained ETP logbook to record the ETP operational parameters and has not provided separate energy meter for ETP.
16. The inspecting team has also collected the sample from outlet of secondary Clarifier and lab analysis report of the same is tabulated below:

| Parameters | pH | SS | TDS | Chlorides | Sulphate | BOD | COD | O&G |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----|------|-----------|----------|-----|-----|-----|
| Analysis result | 6.22 | 53 | 1036 | 31 | 134 | 13 | 147 | -- |
| Limit prescribed by MPCB | 5.5 - 9.0 | 100 | 2100 | 600 | 1000 | 100 | 250 | 10 |

*All values are in mg/l except pH.

17. The OCEMS was operational at the time of visit however the data was not being transferred to CPCB/MPCB server.

WHEREAS, the observations as listed above substantiate that the unit is a serious defaulter. The unit has been seriously violating the norms laid down for control of pollution w.r.t. consent to operate condition & environmental standard laid down as per E(P) Act, 1986 and thus poses serious threat to the environment & ground water quality; and

WHEREAS, as per the sub rule (5) of the Rule 4 of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, it is not expedient to provide opportunity to file objection against the proposed direction in view of the likelihood of a grave injury to the environment and CPCB considers that the act of the unit, as described in above paragraphs, causes grave injury to the environment.

NOW THEREFORE, in view of the above, and exercising the powers delegated to the Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, M/s Athani Sugars Ltd., Shahuwadi Unit (Lease of Udaysingrao Galkwad S.S.K. Ltd., Sonawade), 229, Sonawade, Shahuwadi, Kolhapur, Maharashtra - 416210 is hereby directed to "close down all its manufacturing operations and not to restart manufacturing" till it complies with the following directions:

- (i) The unit should immediately discontinue discharge of effluent not conforming to the notified standards to the ground/irrigation.
- (ii) The unit shall immediately stop by-passing of untreated wastewater from inlet and dismantle all the available bypass arrangements.
- (iii) The unit should install the flow meter at the water abstraction point /rising main of river Kasari and maintain a logbook of the same.
- (iv) The unit should expedite repair/replacement of the flow meter at the final treated effluent channel of ETP and ensure its connectivity with CPCB & MPCB Server.
- (v) The unit should carry out adequacy assessment report of its ETP through reputed Government institutes such as IIT/NEERI/VTI & accordingly augment the ETP provided so as to achieve the prescribed discharge standards.

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- (vi) The unit should maintain proper logbook of Fly Ash and Press mud generated.
- (vii) The unit should provide separate energy meter at ETP and also maintain the proper record of operation and maintenance of ETP w.r.t. energy & chemical consumed.
- (viii) The unit should immediately remove/dismantle all the flexible pipeline arrangement in the ETP and replace it with fixed pipelines.
- (ix) The unit should ensure proper O & M of the ETP to achieve optimum performance and continuous compliance of prescribed norms.
- (x) The unit should install OCEM emission analyser for monitoring of PM parameter at the captive co-gen boiler and ensure its connectivity with CPCB & MPCB Server.
- (xi) Unit shall ensure periodic calibration of the analyzers as per Standard Operating Procedure/recommendations of the supplier and submit the calibration results
- (xii) The unit should stop & dismantle illegal discharge arrangement of distillery effluent (reportedly floor washing from process area) into lined lagoon meant for storage of treated effluent of sugar industry.
- (xiii) The unit shall prepare and submit a comprehensive irrigation management plan for utilization of treated effluent from ETP in accordance with the notified treated irrigation protocol for Sugar industries and ensure compliance of treated effluent loading rate for irrigation.
- (xiv) The unit shall report to CPCB regarding closure of manufacturing operations in compliance of the direction immediately on receipt of this direction.
- (xv) The unit shall seek permission from CPCB before resumption of the manufacturing operations.

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


(Shiv Das Meena)
CHAIRMAN

Copy to:

- 1) The Member Secretary,
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board
2nd, 3rd & 4th Floor,
Opp. Cine Planet, Near Sion Circle,
Sion (E), Mumbai- 400022 : For ensuring compliance of directions please.
- 2) The Regional Director,
Regional Directorate
Central Pollution Control Board,
ROW House No. 1, Sanjivani Nisarg
Balewadi Pune - 411045 : For follow up and ensuring compliance of the direction.
- 3) The District Magistrate,
Collectorate office, Dist- Kolhapur,
Maharashtra - 416001 : For information and n/a please

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- 4) The Superintendent Engineer,
Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution,
Dist- Kolhapur, Maharashtra - 416001 : With a direction to disconnect the
power supply to the industrial unit
please.
- 5) The In-charge, (CP Division),
Ministry of Environment, Forests & CC,
Prithvi Block, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jorbagh Road, New Delhi – 110 003 : For information, pl.
- ✓ 6) The Div. Head, IT Division, CPCB Delhi : To upload direction at CPCB
Website, pl.
- 7) The Div. Head, IPC-VI, Division, CPCB Delhi : For information, pl.
- 8) The Div. Head, IPC-III Division, CPCB Delhi : For records purpose.


(Prashant Gargava)
MEMBER SECRETARY