

By Speed Post

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October 31, 2017

To

M/s Hindustan Newsprint Ltd.,
Newsprint Nagar P.O, Velloor,
Distt-Kottayam, Kerala-686 616

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 & 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 other standards and norms; and

WHEREAS, M/s Hindustan Newsprint Ltd., Distt-Kottayam, Kerala (*hereinafter referred as 'the Unit'*) was inspected by the officials of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) on May 12, 2016 to verify the online monitoring system and following observation were made:

1. The Unit has valid consent under Water & Air Acts upto 30.06.2018.
2. The total wastewater generation is about 24000 KLD.
3. The Unit has installed ETP comprising of primary clarifier, cooling ponds and aeration lagoon. The effluent overflow from the lagoon is being discharged into Muvathupuzha River.
4. Aeration lagoon was used as a holding pond and surface aerators were not operated regularly.
5. The side walls / stone lining of the cooling pond aeration lagoon are damaged looking like a single pond.
6. Then Unit has not provided sludge removal facility.
7. The Unit has provided MEE and Soda Recovery Plant for treatment of black liquor.
8. The Unit has installed flow meter after clarifiers but not at the final discharge.
9. The final treated effluent characteristic was TSS-181 mg/l (*as against the norms of 50 mg/l*), COD-256 (*as against the norms of 350 mg/l*) and BOD - 56.7 mg/l (*as against the norms of 30 mg/l*) indicating non-compliance with the effluent discharge norms and ETP is inadequate to meet the prescribed effluent discharge norms.
10. The Unit has installed UV 500 online analyser at the final outlet however, option of auto-calibrated hardware is not provided.
11. The online effluent analyser measurement showed TSS-44.3 mg/l; COD- 155.4 mg/l and BOD - 25.2 mg/l. The percentage difference of online data & manual analytical data showed TSS-76%, COD- 39% & BOD- 56%.

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AND WHEREAS, CPCB, based on the above observations, that the Unit was discharging partially treated effluent, issued show cause notice for closure under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 on 01.07.2016; and

WHEREAS, the Unit replied vide their letter dated 01.08.2016, which was examined; and

WHEREAS, CPCB officials inspected the Unit on February 08, 2017 for compliance verification; and

AND WHEREAS, based on the observations and recommendations of the inspection dated 08.02.2017, CPCB issued direction under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 on 14.06.2017 to comply with the following:

1. The Unit shall submit time bound action plan for upgradation & augmentation of existing ETP, including establishment of proper secondary biological treatment system, within 30 days, so as to comply with the prescribed effluent discharge norms as per the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 or as prescribed by KSPCB, whichever are stricter.
2. The Unit shall dismantle cooling ponds and lagoons after the augmentation and upgradation of ETP as mentioned above.
3. The Unit shall install flow meter at the final discharge point not at the clarifiers and shall connect it to CPCB server for 24x7 real-time data transmission within 30 days.
4. The Unit shall rectify the incorrect details of the devices provided in the CPCB server w.r.t flow within 30 days.
5. The calibration of the OCEMS instrument shall be periodically done and manual result should be compared with real-time online data.
6. The Unit shall properly channelize the low strength effluent from paper machine to ETP within 15 days.
7. The Unit shall rectify the black liquor leakages from the gland cooling at Recovery Plant immediately.

AND WHEREAS, the Unit replied vide their letter dated 25.07.2017 stating the following:

1. The Unit is already referred for strategic disinvestment/outright sale by Government of India and related formalities are underway. Final decision is expected in a few months' time. Presently the company is passing through severe financial crisis and paucity of running capital.
2. Due to lack of financial support, the entire system could not be replaced with updated technology and hence requested to continue with the existing system.
3. Remedial measures shall be taken up on priority basis just after this monsoon season under the permissible scope.

AND WHEREAS, CPCB officials re-inspected the Unit on August 23, 2017 for compliance verification and made the following observations:

1. The Unit was operational during the visit.
2. The final treated effluent showed pH-6.7 (7-8.5), BOD-11 mg/l (as against the norms of 30 mg/l), COD-132 mg/l (norms-350 norms); TSS-107 mg/l (norms-50 mg/l), indicating non-compliance w.r.t the prescribed effluent discharge norm.

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3. It is reported that due to paucity of funds desludging of the cooling ponds/aeration system are not being done and the efficiency of settling has come down resulting in the increase of suspended solids beyond 50 mg/l.
4. The calibration of OCEMS was done once in six months by the Unit. Last calibration done on 05.07.2017.
5. The low strength effluent is now properly channelized to ETP system and black liquor leakages at soda recovery plant from gland cooling has been rectified.
6. The Unit has informed that a proposal for achieving the total compliance of prescribed effluent standard is prepared.

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

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 **following directions are issued for compliance to M/s Hindustan Newsprint Ltd.**, Kottayam, Kerala and action plan (pert chart) shall be submitted to CPCB and 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 28, 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 install 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.

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.


(S.P. SINGH PARIHAR)
CHAIRMAN

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Copy to:

1. **The Chairman,**
Kerala State Pollution Control Board,
Plamoodu Junction, Pattam Palace P.O.,
Thiruvananthapuram-695004 : [With a request to ensure compliance of the direction and restrict the consented discharge limit as per the above direction]
2. **The Director (CP Division)**
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Prithvi Wing, 2nd Floor, Room No. 216,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj,
Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi - 110003 : For kind information
3. **The Regional Director,**
Regional Directorate (South)
Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)
1st & 2nd Floors, Nisarga Bhavan,
A-Block, Thimmaiah Main Road, 7th D Cross,
Shivanagar, Opp.Pushpanjali Theatre,
Bengaluru -560 010 : [To ensure compliance of the direction within time frame]
4. **Chief Managing Director,**
Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd.,
75-C, Park Street,
Kolkata-700 016 : [With a request to ensure compliance of the direction within time frame]
5. **Divisional Head, IT Division, CPCB, Delhi** : For uploading the direction at CPCB website



(A. SUDHAKAR)

MEMBER SECRETARY