

Chapter - 1

Particulars of the Organization, Functions and Duties

Constitution of CPCB:

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has been constituted under section (3) of the Water Act, 1974. CPCB earlier known as “Central Board for the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution” (CBPCWP) was having solitary mandate to restore wholesomeness and pristine nature and water quality. In 1981, the Board was made responsible to implement the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 with an objective to maintain and preserve ambient air quality. Since, issues relating to prevention and control of pollution are linked with overall maintenance of environmental quality, CPCB has been further mandated to perform, execute and co-ordinate relevant provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Rules framed there under. Thus, CPCB got an overall mandate for Environmental Planning and its management.

The important acts and rules notified for implementation are mentioned below;

1. The Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
2. The Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Cess, Act, 1977
3. The Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981
4. The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986
5. The Bio -Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998
6. Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) (Amendment) Rules, 2011.
7. The Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000
8. The Noise Pollution (Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000
9. The Batteries (Management and Handling) Rules, 2001
10. Environmental Impact Assessment, 2006
11. The Hazardous Waste (Management, Handling and Trans-boundary Movement) Rules 2008
12. Nation at Green Tribunal, 2010
13. National Ganga River Basin Authority, 2009.

Functions & Duties of CPCB and related Outcomes:

The main functions of CPCB are prescribed under Section (16) of the Water and Air Acts. The functions and significant outcomes are illustrated below;

- a) **Advise the Central Government on any matter concerning prevention and control of water and air pollution:** The inputs provided by CPCB based on Scientific data to the Central Government has yielded many important regulations and policy programmes. A few such contributions are listed below for illustration;

- (i) Embargo on permitting industrial development/ expansion in critically polluted areas identified based on Comprehensive Pollution Index (CEPI).
 - (ii) Environmentally sound technology technologies for hazardous and other categories of waste brought out under Environment Protection Rules.
 - (iii) Co-processing of hazardous wastes in cement kiln and also utilizing wastes from Distilleries.
 - (iv) Developing base standards for industry-specific industries for notification by the Government under EPA.
 - (v) Utilization of Water and Air Quality data for formulation of action plans for Rivers, lakes, cities/ towns, etc.
 - (vi) Cleaner technologies for pollution minimization and cleaner fuel/ raw materials for industries.
- b) Plan and execute nation-wide pollution control programmes:** CPCB with SPCBs has been executing nationwide programmes relating to abatement of pollution and a few on-going programmes are listed below;
- (i) Water, Air and Noise Monitoring
 - (ii) Inter-state Water Quality Monitoring
 - (iii) Pollution Control in 17 categories of highly polluting industries and industries discharging waste water into rivers and lakes.
 - (iv) Action Plans for critically polluted industrial clusters; and
 - (v) Other centrally sponsored schemes of MoEF
- c) Co-ordinate the activities of State Boards and Pollution Control Committees:** CPCB is regularly interact with SPCBs/ PCCs for exchange of information and also for evolving strategies for abatement of pollution. The important matters being coordinated in recent past includes; uniformity in issuance of consents/ authorizations, on-line monitoring, Actions plans for critically polluted industrial clusters, management of common waste management facilities, etc.
- d) Provide technical assistance and guidance to the State Boards and PCCs:** CPCB is providing technical guidance to SPCB on various matter and some of the technical support include the followings;
- (i) Standards with regard to industries and other sources
 - (ii) Analytical Quality checks for laboratories
 - (iii) Water, Air and Noise Monitoring
 - (iv) Setting up of continuous source and ambient environment monitoring (Water, Air, Noise)
 - (v) Setting up common waste management facilities, etc.
- e) Carryout and sponsor investigation and research related to pollution control:** There have been innumerable field-based scientific investigations carried out by CPCB which have helped SPCBs and other agencies to mitigate

pollution problems. R & D programmes carried out/ and being under cost are highlighted as under;

Salt-less preservations of hides for tanneries

- (i) In-situ bio-remediation of sewage treatment
 - (ii) Elimination of pathogenic bacteria by use for bacteriophages.
 - (iii) Co-processing of hazardous/ high calorific waste in cement kiln
 - (iv) Development of cleaner process technologies for industrial pollution control
 - (v) Industry-specific treatment options for compliance to the prescribed norms.
 - (vi) On-line and continuous monitoring devices and their application in monitoring
 - (vii) Environmental information system on GIS/GPS Platform for environmental management
- f) Plan and organize training programmes:**CPCB is organizing training programmes for SPCBs and other target groups on regular basis.
- g) Organize mass awareness programmes:**Currently, under National programme on Doordarshan under the caption "ParyavaranDarshan",several episodes on various topics have been telecasted at all Kendra's covering regional languages. There are many such programmes like organizing competition for students, NGOs, etc.
- h) Collect, compile and publish technical and statistical data relating to water and air pollution:**
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- i) Prepare manuals, codes and guidelines relating to treatment and disposal of wastes:**
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- j) Disseminate information in respect of matters relating to water and air pollution :**CPCB has broughtout> 500 technical documents which have been widely used. The latest publications are also placed on website of CPCB.
- k) Lay down, modify, water and air quality standards:**One of the outstanding contributions of CPCB is development of "standards" which is vital for SPCBs to apply and also at national level to see their compliance. CPCB has evolved standards for more than 100 categories of industries as well as including other sources. The process of development of standards is a scientific process and follows a comprehensive transparent process. All standard evolved by CPCB are notified by MoEF under EPA.
- l) Perform such other functions as and when prescribed by the Government of India- Exercising powers delegated under Section 5 of EPA and Implementation of EPA rules:**

m) CPCB has been delegated power under Section 5 of EPA to ensure compliance of industrial standards and as well as with regards to other standards notified under EP rules.