



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

By Email / Speed Post

IPC-II/TPP/CP-11/76/2022/ 5387-5396

October 20, 2023

Minutes of the 3rd (joint) meeting of the two committees - the Committee for monitoring the implementation of provisions of the Ash Notification 31.12.2021 - Para E(3), and the Committee for identification of mines for backfilling of mine voids with ash or mixing of ash with overburden dump - Para B(5)(i), held on 06.10.2023 at 12.00 PM

Sir,

Minutes of the 3rd (joint) meeting of the two committees – the Committee for monitoring the implementation of provisions of the Ash Notification 31.12.2021 - Para E(3), and the Committee for identification of mines for backfilling of mine voids with ash or mixing of ash with overburden dump - Para B(5)(i), held under the chairmanship of Shri Tanmay Kumar, Chairman, CPCB on 06.10.2023 at 12.00 PM through video conference, are enclosed for information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

Nazimuddin
20/10/2023

[Nazimuddin]

Sc. F & DH-IPC-II

To,

Members of the Committees
(As per the lists enclosed)

Copy to:

Chairman of the Committees : for information.

Member Secretary, CPCB : for information.

Other participants of the meeting : for information.
(as per the list enclosed)

केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड
निर्गत... *Nazimuddin*
दिनांक... 20/10/2023

‘परिवेश भवन’ पर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली-110032

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**Members of the Committee for monitoring the implementation of provisions of the Notification
No. 5481(E) dated 31.12.2021 (Para E(3))**

1. Shri N. Subrahmanyam, Sc.-D (HSM Division),
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road,
Aliganj, **New Delhi - 110 003**
2. Shri Satish Kumar,
Director (Thermal),
Ministry of Power,
Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, **New Delhi**
3. Shri Anandji Prasad - Advisor (Project)
Ministry of Coal,
Room No. 303-B, Shastri Bhawan,
Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, **New Delhi – 110 001**
- 3 (a) Shri B. Veera Reddy - Director (Technical)
(Second representative of Ministry of Coal),
Coal India Limited,
Coal Bhawan, Premise No. 04 Mar,
Plot No. AF-III, Action Area-1A,
New Town, Rajarhat, **Kolkata – 700 156**
4. Shri P.N. Sharma, Chief Controller of Mines,
(Representative of Ministry of Mines),
Indian Bureau of Mines,
Indira Bhawan, Civil Lines,
Nagpur – 440 001, Maharashtra
5. Shri Paresh Kumar Goel - Director Transport),
Ministry of Road Transport & Highways,
Transport Bhawan, 1, Parliament Street,
New Delhi – 110 001
6. Shri Rama Kant Singh, Director,
(Representative of Department of Heavy Industry),
Ministry of Heavy Industries,
Room No. 172-D, Udyog Bhawan,
New Delhi-110011

Members of the Committee for identification of mines for backfilling of mine voids with ash or mixing of ash with overburden dump, as per the Notification No. 5481(E) dated 31.12.2021

1. Shri Munna Kumar Shah, Sc.-D (IA Division),
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road,
Aliganj, **New Delhi - 110 003**
2. Shri Satish Kumar,
Director (Thermal),
Ministry of Power,
Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, **New Delhi**
- 2 (a) Representative of Ministry of Power from Central Electricity Authority
- 2 (b) Representative of Ministry of Power from NTPC Ltd.
3. Shri Anandji Prasad - Advisor (Project)
Ministry of Coal,
Room No. 303-B, Shastri Bhawan,
Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, **New Delhi – 110 001**
- 3 (a) Shri B. Veera Reddy - Director (Technical)
(Second representative of Ministry of Coal),
Coal India Limited,
Coal Bhawan, Premise No. 04 Mar,
Plot No. AF-III, Action Area-1A,
New Town, Rajarhat, **Kolkata – 700 156**
4. Shri P.N. Sharma, Chief Controller of Mines,
(Common representative of Ministry of Mines and IBM),
Indian Bureau of Mines,
Indira Bhawan, Civil Lines,
Nagpur – 440 001, Maharashtra
5. Shri Mohammed Niyazi, Director - Mine Safety (S&T),
Director General of Mine Safety,
DGMS Head Office, Sardar Patel Nagar,
Dhanbad – 826 001, Jharkhand

Minutes of the 3rd(joint) meeting of the two committees– the Committee for monitoring the implementation of provisions of the Ash Notification 31.12.2021 - Para E(3), and the Committee for identification of mines for backfilling of mine voids with ash or mixing of ash with overburden dump - Para B(5)(i), held on 06.10.2023 at 12.00 PM

The 3rd (joint) meeting of the two committees - the Committee for monitoring the implementation of provisions of the Ash Notification 31.12.2021 - Para E(3), and the Committee for identification of mines for backfilling of mine voids with ash or mixing of ash with overburden dump - Para B(5)(i), was held on 06.10.2023 at 12.00 PM. The meeting was chaired by Chairman of the Committees / Chairman CPCB Shri Tanmay Kumar. The list of participants is attached. Committees' members from MoEF&CC, MoM, IBM, MoRTH, and DHI were not present in the meeting.

Representatives of CPCB made a presentation before the Committee about the progress on implementation of the ash notification since 2nd (joint) meetings of the Committees held on 18.02.2023, as below:

1. **Authorization of Auditors:** List of certified auditors for compliance audit of ash utilization by TPPs issued on 06.03.2023 and 17.07.2023.
2. **Guidelines for technical specifications, O&M, and annual certification of ash ponds/dykes:** Guidelines prepared and uploaded on CPCB and CEA websites on 30.06.2023.
3. **Status of Ash Portal:**
 - a. All 180 **Integrated Power Plants (IPPs)** registered on the Ash Portal by March 2023, completed data of past months since 01.04.2022 by June 2023, and are regularly uploading ash data on a monthly basis. CPCB has provided access to the Ash Portal to SPCBs for effective enforcement and monitoring of compliance of the Ash Notification and also to MoEF&CC, MoP and CPCB RDs for viewing the data.
 - b. So far, 116 **Captive Power Plants (CPPs)** have registered over the Ash Portal and these plants are also uploading their data on a monthly basis. CPCB vide letter dated 02.08.2023 and direction under section 18(1)(b) dated 13.09.2023 has directed concerned SPCBs to ensure registration and regular uploading of ash data by CPPs on the Ash Portal.
 - c. CPCB has also directed SPCBs to review and ensure regular uploading of ash data on the Ash Portal by all coal and lignite-based thermal power plants (IPPs and CPPs) in the State.
 - d. NTPC IT team is currently providing technical services to CPCB for Ash Portal. Action for inviting tenders for O&M of the Fly Ash Portal within CPCB is in process. NTPC-IT team has prepared the report formats feature for the Ash Portal, and is ready to present these to CEA and CPCB before incorporation. CEA has also suggested by emails dated 10.08.2023, 25.08.2023, and 27.09.2023 to develop some features as per the discussions of the meetings convened in MoP.
 - e. Status of Ash Utilization as per the Ash Portal:

Description	FY 2022-23
Total No. of TPPs	240
Installed Capacity (MW)	2,19,449.08
Coal Consumed (LMT)	8,561.34
Total Ash Generation (LMT)	3,067.12
Total Ash Utilisation (LMT)	2,907.3
Percentage Ash Utilisation (%)	94.79

Note: One thermal power plant has inadvertently entered incorrect data of ash generation on the Ash Portal which has been corrected in the above summary. The plant has been instructed to rectify the error.

- f. Some thermal power plants have reported the quantity of ash employed in ash dyke raising as utilization (on Ash Portal as well as in annual reports), which is incorrect reporting as ash dyke raising is not covered under the prescribed avenues of ash utilization under Para A(2) (i) to (x) of the Ash Notification dated 31.12.2021. The above figure of ash utilisation also includes 9.04 LMT of ash in ash dyke raising.

(representatives of NTPC informed that their plants have rectified this issue on the Ash Portal)

4. Identification and allocation of abandoned coal mines for disposal of ash by thermal power plants:

- a. Four meetings of the Central Level Working Group (CLWG), Ministry of Coal for allotment of coal mine pits have been held. Out of 21 mine of CIL, 19 have been allocated, 01 is being used as a water reservoir by the local community, and 01 not allocated as coal reserve has not been exhausted.

(MoC informed that Krishnashila OC mine has been allocated in advance which will be available in the coming years after exhausting the coal resources)

- b. Ministry of Coal has informed that CLWG will perform allocation of abandoned coal mines only, not the non-coal (major mineral) mines as these mines are outside the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Coal.
- c. CEA has obtained coordinates of nearby abandoned coal mines from TPPs.

5. Identification and allocation of abandoned non-coal mines for disposal of ash by thermal power plants:

- a. Ministry of Mines vide DO letter dated 12.05.2023 has furnished the list of 207 non-coal mines comprising 82 earlier identified, 56 surrendered to State Govts., 57 partially surrendered to State Govts. and 12 working mines available for backfilling with fly ash.
- b. Ministry of Mines has instructed Regional Controllers of Mines to facilitate TPPs in identification of leases, signing MoU, taking State Govt. on board. Regional Controllers of Mines have also been instructed to identify more feasible mines.
- c. In pursuance with the DO letter dated 08.06.2023 of MoEF&CC, CEA has circulated the list of available 195 non-coal mines for ash disposal to TPPs to enable them to approach concerned mine owners and State Govts. CEA has compiled requests received from TPPs for allocation of non-coal mines also.

6. **Actions taken on the decisions taken in 4th meeting of Ash Mission chaired by Secretary-EF&CC:**

- a. **Decision:** Third-party audit for verification of implementation of action plans of TPPs, industries, stone crushers and coal mines in Singrauli and Sonbhadra region.

Action Taken: Implementation of action plans is verified on a quarterly basis by the Oversight Committees empowered by NGT. Last verification was carried out in June 2023, and the next is due in October 2023. Updated status of implementation of action plans obtained from the stakeholders, and comments of the Oversight Committee on the reported status compiled for presenting in the meeting of Ash Mission scheduled on 19.10.2023.

- b. **Decision:** Implementation of decisions made during 1st, 2nd and 3rd meetings of Ash Mission in respect of pending actions shall be undertaken.

Action Taken: Updated status of action taken on decisions of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd meetings of Ash Mission obtained from the stakeholders and compiled for presenting in the meeting of Ash Mission scheduled on 19.10.2023.

After deliberations on the above points, the following decisions were taken:

1. CPCB shall convene a workshop with authorised auditors and provide a uniform format for compliance audit reports (**CPCB**)
2. CPCB shall take action to ensure that SPCBs issue notices to all CPPs in their States to ensure immediate registration on the Ash Portal (**CPCB**)
3. NTPC, CEA, and CPCB shall convene a meeting to incorporate modification in the Ash Portal as proposed by CEA and CPCB. The Ash Portal shall be improved by adding GIS features to map abandoned mines available for ash disposal within 300 kms radius of thermal power plants requesting for allocation of mines (**NTPC, CEA, CPCB**)
4. CPCB shall analyse ash utilisation and storage status of thermal power plants located around the million-plus cities/non-attainment cities (NACs) and critically polluted areas (CPAs) and take appropriate action in respect of non-compliant plants (**CPCB**)
5. MoC shall provide the list of coal mines or mine pits within coal mines likely to be available for ash disposal in the near future i.e. 5 years (**MoC**).
6. On receipt of request from a thermal power plant for disposal of ash with overburden in operational mines as per the Ash Notification, the concerned mine owner will carry out a feasibility study, as per the circular of DGMS (**MoC**)
7. District Level Working Groups under SPCBs will also allocate non-coal (major mineral) mines to power plants, in addition to the non-coal (minor mineral) mines (**SPCBs, CPCB**)
8. CPCB, IBM, and DGMS shall discuss the process for allocation of non-coal mines to interested thermal power plants (**CPCB, IBM, DGMS**)

The meeting ended with a vote of thank to the chair.

List of participants of the 3rd (joint) meeting of the two committees– the Committee for monitoring the implementation of provisions of the Ash Notification 31.12.2021 - Para E(3), and the Committee for identification of mines for backfilling of mine voids with ash or mixing of ash with overburden dump - Para B(5)(i)

A. Central Pollution Control Board

1. Shri Tanmay Kumar, IAS, Chairman (Chairman of the Committees)
2. Shri Nazimuddin, Sc. 'F' & DH-IPC-II
3. Shri Gaurav Gehlot, Sc. 'C', IPC-II
4. Shri Durga Nand Jha, SRF, IPC-II

B. Ministry of Power

1. Director (CDD), Central Electricity Authority (Representative of Ministry of Power in the Committee under Para B(5)(i))
2. Shri A. K. Samaiyar, ED (SSEA), NTPC Ltd. (Representative of Ministry of Power in the Committee under Para B(5)(i))
3. Shri S. K. Takhele, CGM (SSEA), NTPC Ltd.

C. Ministry of Coal

1. Shri Anandji Prasad - Advisor (Project), Ministry of Coal (Member of the Committees)
2. General Manager, Coal India Limited
3. Representative of Central Mine Planning and Design Institute

D. Director General of Mine Safety

1. Shri Mohammed Niyazi, Director - Mine Safety (S&T), DGMS (Member of the Committee under Para B(5)(i))