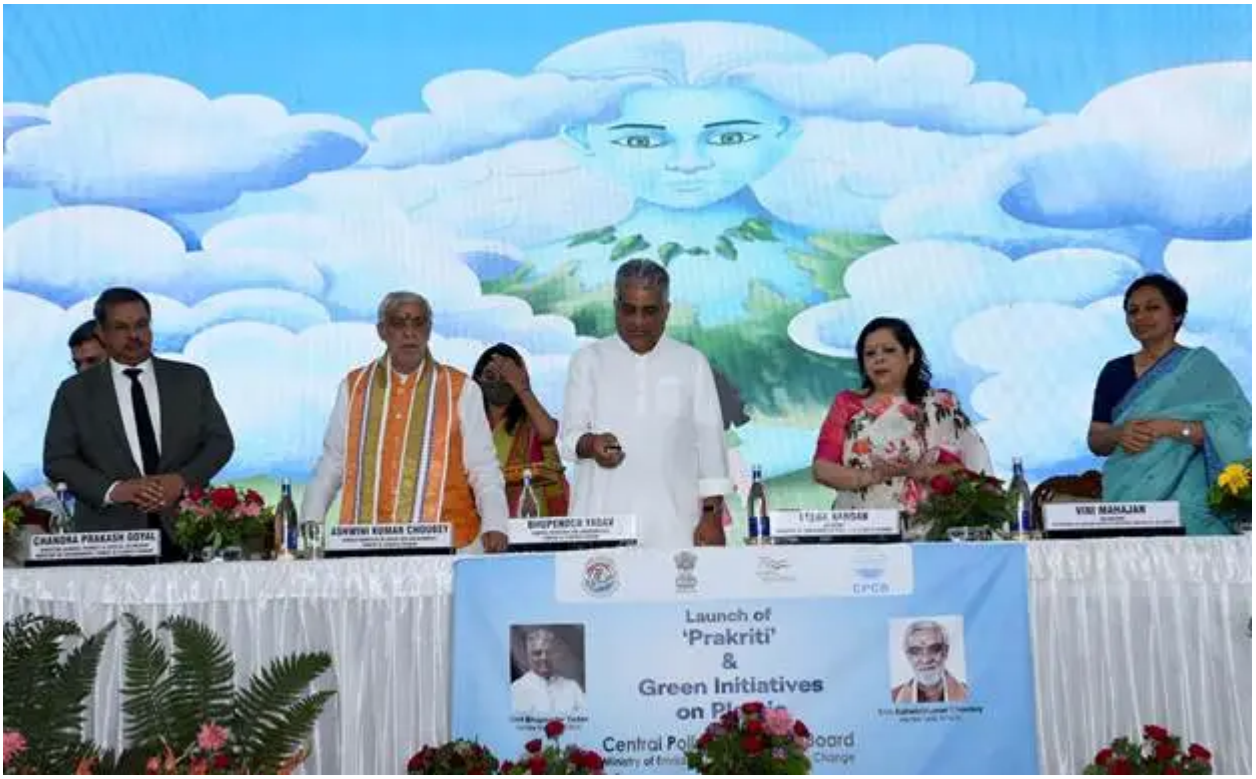
Union Environment Minister Launches Awareness Mascot ‘Prakriti’& Green Initiatives for Effective Plastic Waste Management

April 5, 2022



New Delhi : The Union Minister of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav today launched ‘Prakriti’, a mascotto spread greater awareness among masses about small changes that can be sustainably adopt in our lifestyle for a better environment, and various green initiatives taken by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change and Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to ensure effective Plastic Waste Management (PWM) in the country, in the presence of Minister of State, Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey and senior officials of the government.

To tackle the challenge of plastic pollution, the Prime Minister,Shri Narendra Modi announced India’s pledge to phase out Single Use Plastics (SUPs) by 2022. Taking the momentum forward and stressing on the need for active participation, the Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Changealso administered ‘Swachh Bharat

Bhupender Yadav urged everyone to join in the efforts to beat plastic pollution and work towards a better future. He appreciated the innovative solutions developed by start-ups entrepreneurs and students in India Plastic Challenge–Hackathon 2021 highlighting the immense talent and potential of India’s youth. Further, he informed about the recently released IPCC Working Group III contribution to the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report (AR6), which focuses on mitigation measures to keep the world aligned to the Plastic Waste Management goals and what we can do to remain on the roadmap set by the Paris Agreement. In conclusion, the Union Minister said that the India sends a message of hope and optimism that humanity can meet the challenges posed by climate change and will be a part of the solution to climate change. Earlier, in Nairobi, the Union Minister had appreciated the efforts of MoEFCC and CPCB in launching e-governance portals & apps intended to ease issues related to Plastic Waste Management (PWM).

The Minister of State, Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey in his address said that the e-Governance portals of MoEFCC and CPCB such as the EPR portal and the mobile app for SUP grievance redressed launched today would go a long way in ensuring complete phase out of the single use plasticand realize the vision of our Prime Minister.He said that the success of any initiative lies in collective action and responsibility.He stated that a Jan Andolan is the need of the hour for phasing out Single Use Plastic with ‘SabkaSaath, SabkaVikas’ as underscored by thePrime Minister.

During the event, following green initiatives for plastic waste management were launched:

- National Dashboard on Elimination of Single Use Plastic and Plastic Waste Management (MoEFCC) to bring all stakeholders including Central Ministries/ Departments, State/UT Governments at one place and track the progress made for elimination of single use plastic (SUP) and effective management of plastic waste.
- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Portal for Plastic Packaging (CPCB) for improving accountability, traceability, transparency and facilitating ease of reporting compliance to EPR Obligations by Producers, Importers and Brand-owners
- Mobile App for Single Use Plastics Grievance Redressal (CPCB) to empower citizens to check sale/usage/manufacturing of SUP in their area and tackle the plastic menace.
- Monitoring module for SUP (CPCB), for local bodies, SPCBs/PCCs and CPCB, to inventorize details of SUP production/ sale & usage in commercial establishments at district level, and on-ground enforcement of ban on SUP.
- Industrial production of Graphene from Waste Plastic (G B Pant NIHE & NRDC) to promote more industries to come forward to up cycle plastic waste

Later, an exhibition on Plastic Waste Management showcasing SUP alternatives and technology solutions wasinaugurated along with a newly established Fitness Centre and Daycare Facility for children of CPCB employees. A visit toCPCB laboratories and interaction with the Scientists was also held. The event witnessed participation from across the domain of plastic waste management including international organizations, research institutes, industry associations, Plastic Manufacturer Associations, Cement Manufacturers Association, civil society, young inventors & entrepreneurs, senior officials from MoEFCC& other concerned ministries and departments, Board Members of CPCB and virtual participation from Chairmen and Member Secretaries of State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees and IROs.

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THE ECONOMIC TIMES | Industry
English Edition | 05 April, 2022, 08:23 PM IST | E-Paper

India generates 3.5 million tonnes plastic waste annually: Environment Minister

Synopsis
Speaking at the launch of mascot 'Prakriti' to spread awareness among masses about small changes that can be sustainably adopted in lifestyle for a better environment, Yadav urged everyone to join the efforts to beat plastic pollution and work towards a better future.

To tackle the challenge of plastic pollution, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced India's pledge to phase out single-use plastics by 2022.

India is generating 3.5 million tonnes of plastic waste annually, Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav said on Tuesday as he launched several green initiatives for plastic waste management.

Speaking at the launch of mascot 'Prakriti' to spread awareness among masses about small changes that can be sustainably adopted in lifestyle for a better environment, Yadav urged everyone to join the efforts to beat plastic pollution and work towards a better future.

"Plastic has become one of the most pressing environmental issues that we are facing today. India is generating about 3.5 million tonnes of plastic waste annually and the per capita plastic waste generation has almost doubled over the last five years. "Plastic pollution adversely affects our ecosystems and is also linked to air pollution," he said.

The minister also launched several initiatives like National Dashboard on Elimination of Single Use Plastic and Plastic Waste Management to bring all stakeholders, including central ministries, departments, states and Union Territories, at one place and track the progress made for elimination of single-use plastic (SUP) and effective management of such waste.

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India generates 3.5 million tonnes plastic waste annually: Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav

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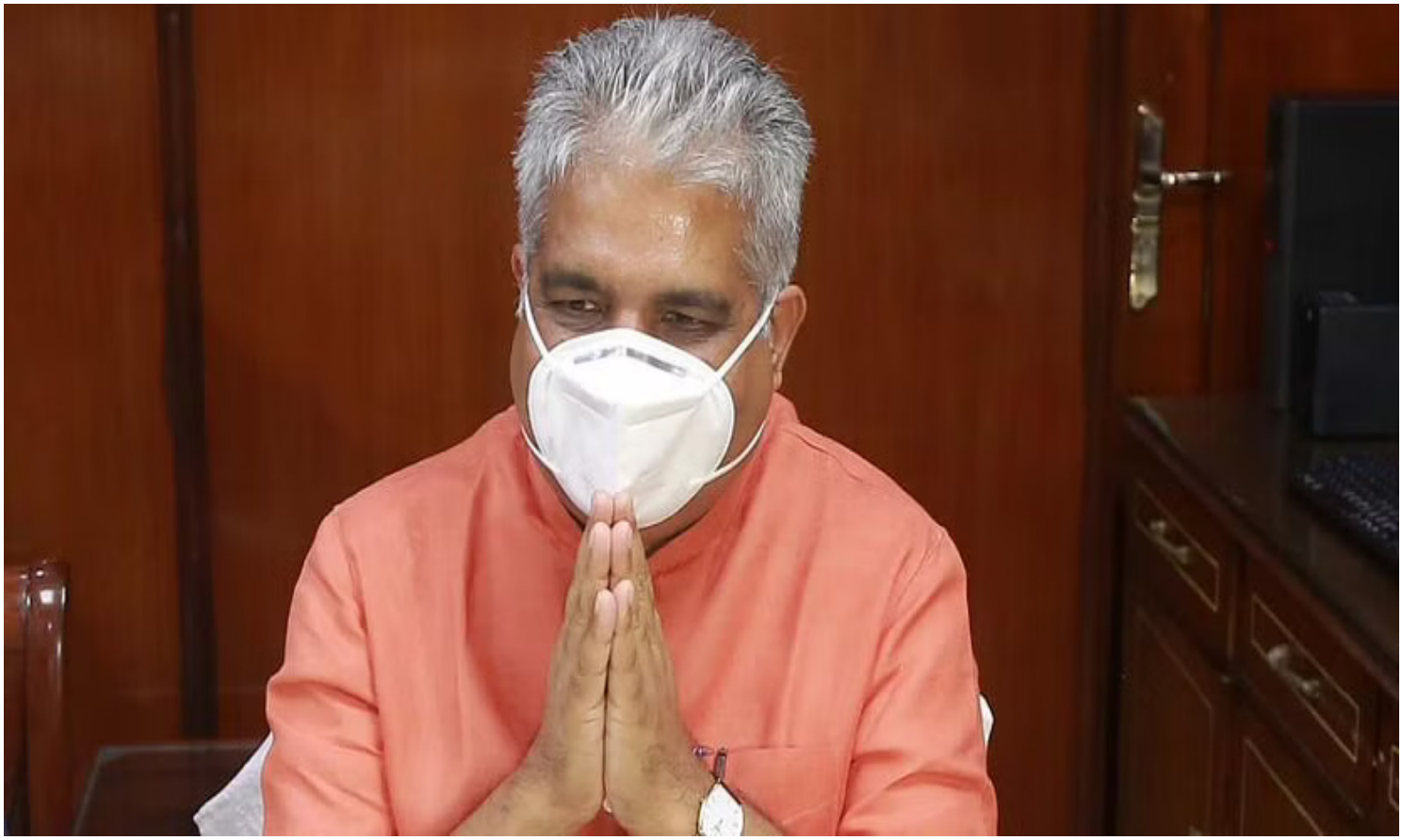

Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav (Photo | EPS)

By PTI

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IPCC report endorses India's position on climate finance: Environment Minister

Jacob Koshy

NEW DELHI APRIL 05, 2022 16:03 IST
UPDATED: APRIL 05, 2022 16:04 IST

Bhupender Yadav says India firmly believes that climate change is a global collective action problem that can be solved only through international cooperation and multilateralism

The Monday report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) endorses India's position on the need for scale, scope and speed in climate finance, Environment Minister, Bhupender Yadav said in a prepared statement on Tuesday.

Limiting global warming would require major transitions in the energy sector and would mean drastic reduction of fossil fuel use, widespread electrification, improved energy efficiency, and the use of alternative fuels, the authors of the study warned.

"India firmly believes that climate change is a global collective action problem that can be solved only through international cooperation and multilateralism. India will continue to be the voice of ambition as well as champion of equity on behalf of developing countries,"

Mr. Yadav said at an event organised by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) on minimising plastic pollution.

The IPCC report focused on mitigation, or what could be done to reduce emissions to keep the globe on track to ensure that temperature didn't exceed over 2 C—and strive to keep it below 1.5 C—by the end of the century.

Close to 80% of the total carbon budget for ensuring temperature didn't exceed 1.5C and 66% of the carbon budget for preventing an overshoot over 2C had been used up. Half the global population, the vast majority of the developing world, was responsible for only 14% of global emissions, Mr. Yadav noted.

A key question

The report had acknowledged that with a shrinking carbon budget, accessing a fair share of the remaining carbon budget for developing countries was a key question, he stated.

"India believes that the utilisation of resources must be made on mindful and deliberate utilisation and not mindless and destructive consumption," he added.

From 2010-2019, the average annual global greenhouse gas emissions were at their highest levels in human history but the rate of growth had slowed. Without immediate and deep emission reductions across all sectors, limiting global warming to 1.5°C was beyond reach.

Since 2010, there have been sustained decreases of up to 85% in the costs of solar and wind energy and batteries. Policies and laws in several countries have enhanced energy efficiency, reduced the rates of deforestation and accelerated the deployment of renewable energy, the IPCC authors underlined in their report.

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TNN / Updated: Apr 6, 2022, 07:58 IST

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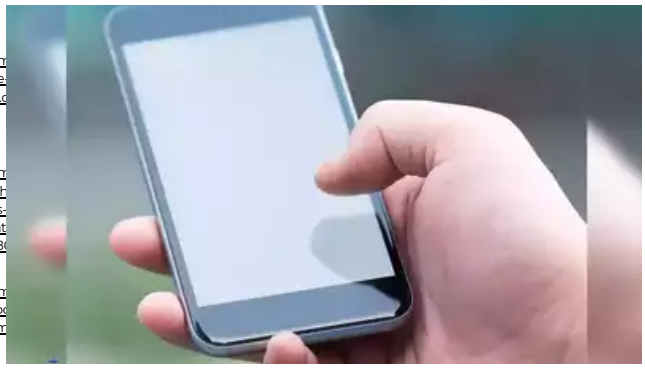

Representative image

NEW DELHI: Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) on Tuesday launched an app for people to report manufacturing, stocking, or distribution of single-use plastic.

Union environment minister Bhupendra Yadav launched the green app —'single-use plastic' (SUP) — to raise complaints regarding banned items and also those, which will be banned from July 1.

These bans are being implemented under the new Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rule-2021, which seeks a pan-India ban on single-use plastic at the manufacturing and supply levels. The rules, however, had already banned single-use plastic below thickness of 75 microns since September 2021.

The items to be banned are earbuds with plastic sticks, plastic sticks for balloons, plastic flags, candy sticks, ice-cream sticks, polystyrene (thermocol) for decoration, plastic-made plates, cups, glasses, cutleries, straw, wrapping or

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packing films around sweet boxes, invitation cards, and cigarette packets, plastic, or PVC banners less than 100 microns. The new rules will also ban plastic bags below 120 microns from December 31, 2022.

“Landfills are overflowing in cities and water is being contaminated, plastic has become one of the most pressing environmental issues that we are facing today. India is generating about 3.5 million tonnes of plastic waste annually and the per capita plastic waste generation has almost doubled over the last five years. Plastic Pollution adversely affects our ecosystems and is also linked to air pollution,” said Yadav.

“I had myself seen an animal eating plastic in Sariska, which shows the extent to which this menace has spread. On seashores, plastic is harming marine wildlife. We will have to monitor it to curb it effectively,” the minister stated at an event held by CPCB.

Minister of state, environment, Ashwini Kumar Choubey stated that the e-Governance portals of the ministry of environment, forest and climate change (MoEFCC) and CPCB such as the EPR portal and the mobile app for SUP grievance redressed launched would go a long way in ensuring complete phase-out of the single-use plastic

Apart from the app, a dashboard was launched to bring all stakeholders including, central and state ministries at one place and track the elimination of SUP. The minister also unveiled a portal for plastic packaging by CPCB for ease of reporting compliance to the new rules by the producers, importers and owners.

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IPCC report in line with India's view, says govt; repeats need for finance to fight climate change

Terming it a now or never scenario, the IPCC called for drastic measures to avoid 1.5 degrees Celsius rise in temperature that could lead to catastrophic events.

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India Today Web Desk
New Delhi April 5, 2022 UPDATED: April 5, 2022 18:01 IST

Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav. (File Pic)

India on Tuesday said that the latest report by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) scientifically makes developed countries responsible for consuming the carbon budget and supports "the necessity of public finance for developing countries to fight climate change.

Minister of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav said that the Working Group-III's (WG3) contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) underlines the need for deep and urgent global emissions reduction and justifies India’s emphasis on equity at all scales in climate action and sustainable development.

"We welcome it," said the minister, adding that the report fully supports India’s view on the necessity of public finance for developing countries and the need for scale, scope, and speed in Climate Finance. The report highlighted the need for deep and urgent global emissions reduction, mentioning that four-fifths of the total carbon budget for 1.5 degree Celsius temperature increase and two-thirds of the total carbon budget for 2 degree Celsius warming has already been consumed.

Terming it a now or never scenario, the IPCC called for drastic measures to avoid 1.5 degrees Celsius rise in temperature that could lead to catastrophic events the world over. The latest report called for cutting down emissions, which in 2019 were about 12 per cent higher than they were in 2010 and 54% higher than in 1990, said Skea.

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The report highlighted the need for deep and urgent global emissions reduction. (File Pic)

The rate of growth has slowed from 2.1% per year in the early part of this century to 1.3% per year between 2010 and 2019, the report's authors said. But they voiced "high confidence" that unless countries step up their efforts to cut greenhouse gas emissions, the planet will on average be 2.4 degrees Celsius to 3.5 degrees Celsius warmer by the end of the century.

While the MoEFC India firmly believes that climate change is a global collective action problem that can be solved only through international cooperation and multilateralism, it did not say anything about ways to curb emissions in the country. The report identified China and India as the two biggest carbon emitters in Asia, both developing at a fast pace.

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"India has taken tremendous actions under Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to address the threat of global climate change by taking several initiatives including, inter-alia, setting up of International Solar Alliance, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, ‘One Sun, One World, One Grid’ and Infrastructure for Resilient Island States, raising the domestic renewable energy target to 500 GW by 2030, putting in place an ambitious National Hydrogen Mission and continuing efforts to decouple its emissions from economic growth," The Ministry said in a statement.

It added that the government will continue to be the voice of ambition as well as the champion of equity on behalf of developing countries

Business Standard

India generates 3.5 mn tonnes plastic waste annually: Environment minister

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Press Trust of India | New Delhi April 05, 2022 Last Updated at 20:26 IST

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made plates, cups, glasses, cutleries, straw, wrapping or packing films around sweet boxes, invitation cards, and cigarette packets, plastic, or PVC banners less than 100 microns. The new rules will also ban plastic bags below 120 microns from December 31, 2022.

“Landfills are overflowing in cities and water is being contaminated, plastic has become one of the most pressing environmental issues that we are facing today. India is generating about 3.5 million tonnes of plastic waste annually and the per capita plastic waste generation has almost doubled over the last five years. Plastic Pollution adversely affects our ecosystems and is also linked to air pollution,” said Yadav.

“I had myself seen an animal eating plastic in Sariska, which shows the extent to which this menace has spread. On seashores, plastic is harming marine wildlife. We will have to monitor it to curb it effectively,” the minister stated at an event held by CPCB.

Minister of state, environment, Ashwini Kumar Choubey stated that the e-Governance portals of the ministry of environment, forest and climate change (MoEFCC) and CPCB such as the EPR portal and the mobile app for SUP grievance redressed launched would go a long way in ensuring complete phase-out of the single-use plastic

Apart from the app, a dashboard was launched to bring all stakeholders including, central and state ministries at one place and track the elimination of SUP. The minister also unveiled a portal for plastic packaging by CPCB for ease of reporting compliance to the new rules by the producers, importers and owners.

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50 online consents issued for air & water to industries

Apr 6, 2022, 03.46 AM IST

Indore: Regional pollution control board has issued 50 online consents for air and water to industries so far under Vivid se Vishawas scheme, a voluntary scheme to regularise pending consents of industries. Most industries that have applied for the online consents under the scheme are small scale units that have failed to regularise the renewals on time or did not take consents post starting production in their units.

The last date to apply under the scheme has been extended to April 30 as against March 31, 2022, according to Central Pollution Control Board.

“We have issued 50 online consents so far to industries clearing pending non-compliance. If industries apply under this scheme, then there will not be any legal action on them for non-compliance,” Madhya Pradesh pollution control board (Indore) regional officer RK Gupta said. To increase compliance in industries, mostly small-scale units, the board has allowed industries to self-attest the production period in their industry and apply for the consent by paying a fee until March 31, 2022.

Close to 30 industries of Indore were slapped with a seizure notice by the district administration for not treating industrial waste water and releasing it directly into water bodies. The Association of Industries Madhya Pradesh (AIMP) has also urged their members to regularise air and water consents and create infrastructure for treating industrial effluents. Industry participants said the online approvals under the Air and Water Act will aid in expediting the process of approvals by making the procedure friendly for industries.

Three more cities under Orissa HC scanner for river pollution

While issuing notices, the division bench of Chief Justice S Muralidhar and Justice RK Pattanaik directed the secretaries to remain present online on the next date of hearing on April 8.

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Orissa High Court. (File photo)

By Express News Service

CUTTACK: The Orissa High Court has directed presence of secretaries of the municipal corporations of Bhubaneswar, Rourkela and Sambalpur over discharge of untreated sewage and polluting effluents into the rivers within their jurisdiction.

While issuing notices, the division bench of Chief Justice S Muralidhar and Justice RK Pattanaik directed the secretaries to remain present online on the next date of hearing on April 8.The bench said, “The secretaries of the three corporations shall

inform the court of the steps taken for installation of sewage treatment plants and complying with the norms specified by the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) regarding discharge of effluents into the rivers within their respective jurisdictions."

'The Orissa Water Supply and Sewerage Board (OWSSB) will inform the court on the next date the current status of completion of the 16 MLD sewage treatment plant at Matagajapur in Cuttack. A representative of the OWSSB shall remain present on the next date in the court,' the bench directed.The court was hearing a PIL on pollution of Kathajodi river due to unchecked discharge of untreated sewage from Cuttack city at Khan Nagar, when the situation of other major civic bodies was brought to its notice.

State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) member secretary Kailasam Murugesan on Monday filed an affidavit indicating the deteriorating water quality in the downstream of major urban local bodies such as Cuttack, Bhubaneswar and Rourkela due to discharge of partially treated or untreated domestic waste water into river bodies.

The affidavit said there are 129 stations of the SPCB that are monitoring the water quality of 11 major river systems of the State - Mahanadi, Brahmani, Baitarani, Rushikulya, Nagavali, Subarnarekha, Budhabalanga, Vansadhara, Kolab, Indravati and Bahuda. According to the affidavit the National Green Tribunal (NGT), Principal Bench, New Delhi had passed an order concerning the remedial action for 351 polluted river stretches in India.

DETAILS - Delhi's 14-point Summer Action Plan to tackle air pollution menace

Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai held a joint meeting with environment, DPCC, DDA, MCDs, Fire, DUSIB, revenue and all concerned departments to draw an in-depth plan to mitigate air pollution in the national capital. Subsequently, a 14-point action plan has been drawn for speedy implementation so that millions can breathe easy.

Mirror Now Bureau Updated Apr 5, 2022 | 11:06 AM IST

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KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Next meeting scheduled for April 11; all departments instructed to present their Summer Action Plans under a week.
- 31% of pollution in Delhi due to internal state activities.

By Alok Singh

New Delhi: To tackle the menace of air pollution throughout the year, the Delhi Government has planned to introduce a Summer Action Plan on the lines of its Winter Action Plan. On Monday, Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai held a joint meeting with environment, DPCC, DDA, MCDs, Fire, DUSIB, revenue and all concerned departments and asked

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The Environment Minister informed that both long-term and immediate solutions will be implemented from April to September under this Summer Action Plan. The next meeting of the departments has been scheduled for April 11.

Environment Minister Shri Gopal Rai said, "Pollution has always posed to be a major challenge in Delhi's environmental conservation. After the formation of the Aam Aadmi Party's government in Delhi under the leadership of CM Arvind Kejriwal, it has taken a great deal of measures to reduce the effect of pollution in the state. As a result of all those measures, a continuous decrease has been recorded in Delhi's pollution levels."

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The pollution levels in Delhi have been studied and surveyed by several agencies like CSE, TERI, and others, and it has been reported that the sources of the pollution in Delhi include 31 per cent contribution from internal state activities, which is Delhi's own pollution, and 69 per cent is attributed to the surrounding sources of pollution around Delhi-NCR, which has a significant impact on the people living in the state.

Rai added, "The Kejriwal Government has worked towards reducing the pollution in Delhi through both permanent and emergency solutions

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has been satisfactory. In 2018, the number of 'good' days was 53, which increased to 72 in 2021. The number of 'moderate' days was 106 in 2018, which climbed to 125 in 2021. In the 'poor' category, 2018 saw 114 days, which reduced to 82 in 2021. This means that the good and moderate days are increasing and the number of days with poor air quality is consistently decreasing. The days categorised as 'very poor' have also reduced from 72 in 2018 to 61 in 2021. These figures depict that the efforts being made by the Kejriwal Government to tackle pollution in Delhi are proving to be effective."

The Environment Minister added, "During winters, the pollution levels rise across Delhi. A graph depicting the status of pollution levels through the year shows a decrease from January to March, and then an increase from September onwards through December. To control the pollution levels from October 2021 onwards, we formulated the Winter Action Plan last year. Under this, we laid down emergency measures which would be taken to reduce vehicular pollution, dust pollution, spike in pollution during Diwali, or that from stubble burning. The Delhi Government has been working in line with this Winter Action Plan since then. Now that summers have arrived, we discussed the situation with various experts and concerned departments and came to a conclusion that for our Winter Action Plan to be effective, a constructive Summer Action Plan is also required."

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He continued, "Taking this conclusion into consideration, we held a joint meeting with the Environment Department, DPCC, DDA, MCDs, Fire Department, DUSIB, Revenue Department, DSIIDC, Irrigation and Flood Department, and Delhi Cantonment Board – all the various concerned departments. In this meeting, we decided that in line with the Winter Action Plan, our government will create a Summer Action Plan for the months April to September. Under this, we will work towards controlling the pollution in Delhi for these 6 months on both emergency level as well as permanent levels. For this, all concerned departments have been issued directions to submit their Summer Action Plan points for consideration within the week to the Government. On 11th April, a follow-up meeting has been called, in which based on suggestions from these departments, we will declare the final Summer Action Plan of the Kejriwal Government. Post this, the Delhi Government will focus on this plan and work towards its implementation over the summer months."

During the meeting, there were 14 points which were noted, on the basis of which the various concerned departments have been directed to formulate their action plan suggestions. These include:

1. Open burning
2. Road dust pollution
3. Industrial pollution
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These 14 points have been concluded as the base of our Summer Action Plan in today's meeting agenda. All departments have been issued directions to prepare their detailed action plan ideas by 11th April, after which the final Summer Action Plan will be formulated.

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Gopal Rai urges Centre to form joint plan to tackle air pollution in Delhi-NCR

Citing a report by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), he said that 31 per cent of the air pollution in Delhi comes from local sources and the rest is from outside.

Written by **PTI** April 5, 2022 5:28:45 pm

Citing a report by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), he said that 31 per cent of the air pollution in Delhi comes from local sources and the rest is from outside.

Delhi minister Gopal Rai on Tuesday wrote to Union Environment minister Bhupender Yadav, urging him to immediately call a meeting of the environment ministers of NCR states and experts to form a joint plan to fight air pollution.

Rai, the environment minister of Delhi, said the number of good and moderate air quality days in the city has increased and poor air quality days reduced in the last four years on account of the anti-air pollution steps taken by the Arvind Kejriwal government.

Citing a report by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), he said that 31 per cent of the air pollution in Delhi comes from local sources and the rest is from outside.

“It is clear that all NCR states will have to work together to reduce air pollution in Delhi,” Rai said.

“I had on November 7, November 11 and December 3 urged you to call a meeting of NCR states. Once again, I request you to immediately convene a meeting of environment ministers of NCR states and experts to form a joint plan to reduce air pollution,” he said.