

**Sub: Minutes of Air Quality Monitoring Committee (AQMC) meeting held under the Chairmanship of Sh. Shiv Dular Singh Dhillon, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar on 15/04/2019 at 11:00 AM at Meeting Hall, Zila Parishad Complex, Amritsar to review the progress of activities of Action Plan of Clean Air – Amritsar.**

The list of participants is attached as **Annexure-A**.

At the outset, the Assistant Environmental Engineer brought out that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi has passed orders on 15/03/2019 in O.A. No. 681 of 2018, wherein the National Green Tribunal has directed 06 states including Punjab to submit Action Plan for 09 non-attainment cities of Punjab namely Amritsar, Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Patiala, Dera Baba Nanak, Khanna, Mandi Gobindgarh, Naya Nangal and Derra Bassi by 30/04/2019 for bringing the standards of Air Quality within the prescribed norms, failing which states would be liable to pay Environment Compensation of Rs. 1.00 Crore each. Action Plan of the State, if found to be deficient will be liable to pay Rs. 25.00 Lacs each.

He further informed that 4th meeting of Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Committee (AQMC) held under the Chairmanship of Principal Secretary, Department of Science, Technology & Environment (STE), Govt. of Punjab on 25/03/2019 to review progress of Action Plans for Clean Air of 09 non-attainment cities, wherein it was decided that Punjab Pollution Control Board shall ensure to conduct meeting of Air Quality Monitoring Committee (AQMC) at District level once in a month with the concerned stakeholders responsible for the activities of Action Plan of Clean Air Amritsar.

Thereafter, the Chairman asked concerned stake holders to give the report regarding progress achieved in activities of Action Plan.

After getting approval from the Chairman, the Assistant Environmental Engineer asked point wise progress achieved during March, 2019 for the activities covered under **Action Plan for Control on Vehicular Emissions**. The concerned stake holders submitted action taken report for the month of March, 2019, which is as under:-

S. No.	Sub Activity	Responsible Department	Progress Achieved
CVE 1	Public awareness campaign for control of vehicular emissions	Department of Transport	The Secretary, RTA informed that the awareness campaigns are being performed regularly and same will be launched through FM radio also. The Chairman directed that the awareness campaigns in this regard to be started in educational institutes also.
		Traffic Police	The ACP (Traffic) informed that a team comprising of one officer of Inspector Rank and 04 constables is constituted for creating awareness in educational institutes. He further informed that 124 awareness camps were organized during last 03 months in this regard.
CVE 2	Remote sensor-based PUC system (Pollution Check Centres)	Department of Transport & PPCB	The Assistant Environmental Engineer informed that the matter is under consideration at Head Office level. The Environmental Engineer brought out into the kind notice of Chairman that PPCB officers are also checked PUC centers as per directions received from Head Office and action against violating PUCs are also recommended to Head Office. The Chairman directed PPCB to recommend action against violating PUC centers to the Secretary, RTA also.
CVE 3	Extensive drive against polluting vehicles	Traffic Police	The ACP (Traffic) informed that 115 challans regarding noise pollution of vehicles were issued during last 03 months.

CVE 4	Prevent parking of vehicles in non-designated areas	Municipal Corporation	The Assistant Environmental Engineer informed that the officials of Amritsar Smart City Ltd. informed that 03 no. parking sites at Kairon Market, Fish Market & Old Sabzi Mandi are to be upgraded under Smart City Project and Rs. 18.24 Crore has been sanctioned for Kairon Market Project, Rs. 38 Crore has been estimated for Fish Market Project while project of Old Sabzi Mandi is yet to be started. The Chairman directed that representatives of Amritsar Smart City to be called in next review meeting and officers of PPCB to get report regarding cost of projects. The officers of PPCB contacted officials of Amritsar Smart City Ltd. and they informed that the costs intimated earlier were correct.
CVE 5	Check fuel adulteration	Department of Food and Civil Supplies	The official of DFSC Amritsar informed that 5 no. Petrol Pumps were checked during the month of March 2019 and none of them was found violating. He further informed that in case of any violation found, action is recommended to concerned oil company against the violating retail outlet.
CVE 6	Widening of road and infrastructure for decongestion of road	Municipal Corporation	The officials of M.C. Amritsar informed that DPR for widening of outer circular road of 07 KM stretch has been prepared and tenders will be called after Lok Sabha Elections.
CVE 7	Introduce intelligent traffic systems	Municipal Corporation	The Assistant Environmental Engineer informed that the officials of Amritsar Smart City Ltd. informed that 03 no. intelligent traffic systems at Hussainpura Chowk, Sangam Cinema Chowk & Kachehri Chowk are to be introduced under Smart City Project and Rs. 75 Lakhs has been estimated for above said projects.
CVE 8	Install weigh in motion bridges at the borders of cities	NHAI	The officials of NHAI informed that weigh in motion bridges are already installed at 02 no. toll plazas situated at Nijjarpura, G.T. Road, Amritsar and Wariyam Nangal, Batala Road, Amritsar. The weigh in motion bridge is not installed at 3 <sup>rd</sup> Toll Plaza situated at Village- Chhidden, Attari Road, Amritsar due to non-availability of land.
		Municipal Corporation	The Chairman directed Municipal Corporation, Amritsar to submit proposal/plan, if any, regarding installation of weigh in motion bridges on the Municipal roads leading to Amritsar city.
		PWD (B&R)	The Chairman directed PWD (B&R), Amritsar to submit proposal/plan, if any, regarding installation of weigh in motion bridges on the PWD roads leading to Amritsar city.
CVE 9	Construction of expressways / bypass to avoid congestion	NHAI	The officials of NHAI informed that flyovers at Ram Tirath and Ghanupur Kale crossings have been made operational while finishing work is under progress and same will be completed by 30/04/2019.
CVE 10	Phasing out of vehicles more than 15 years old	Department of Transport	The Secretary, RTA informed that this is policy matter and action is to be taken at Govt. level.
CVE 11	Promotion of battery operated vehicles	Department of Transport	The AEE, PPCB read out that 2500 E-rickshaws are plying in the city and 100 new auto rickshaws with CNG kits are operational. The Chairman told to promote the E-rickshaws and CNG fuelled rickshaws.
CVE 12	Introduction of CNG based public transport	Department of Food and Civil Supplies	The officials of Department of Food and Civil Supplies informed that 03 no. CNG stations are already operational in Amritsar and 02 no. NOC applications for setting up of CNG stations are under process.
		GSPL	The officials of GSPL informed that 10 more CNG stations shall be made operational by the end of current financial year.

**Action taken report for Control on Road Dust** for the month of March, 2019, which

is as under:-

S. No.	Sub Activity	Responsible Department	Progress Achieved
CRD 1	Maintain potholes free roads for free-flow of traffic	Municipal Corporation	The Municipal Corporation, Amritsar informed that 04 Kms of Road length has been identified and process of work allotment has been completed. The work will be completed within 03 months after General Lok Sabha Elections-2019.
CRD 2	Water sprinkling	Municipal Corporation	The Assistant Environmental Engineer brought out that the Municipal Corporation, Amritsar proposes to procure 02 no. water sprinklers with estimated cost of Rs 20 lacs. The Municipal Corporation, Amritsar informed that 02 no. water sprinklers shall be procured within 02 months after General Elections-2019. The Chairman suggested Municipal Corporation, Authorities to utilize treated water of STPs for water sprinkling purpose.
CRD 3	Mechanical Sweeping	Municipal Corporation	The Assistant Environmental Engineer brought out that the Municipal Corporation, Amritsar proposes to procure 04 no. mechanical sweeping machines with estimated cost of Rs 2.8 Crores. The Joint Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Amritsar informed that 02 no. mechanical sweeping machines are already working. He also informed about roads which are cleaned through these machines. The Chairman directed Municipal Corporation that Heritage Street should always be kept in a clean condition.
CRD 4	Creation of green buffers along the traffic corridors	Municipal Corporation	The MC, Amritsar informed that there is a proposal of plantation of around 3,000 plants, the 1000 plants have already been planted and remaining 2000 plants shall be planted on Circular Road by 31/07/2019.
		PUDA	The SDE, Amritsar Development Authority, informed that there is a proposal of plantation of 825 trees and 443 shrubs at Urban Estate, Old Jail, Ajnala Road, Amritsar and same will be started by August, 2019 after completion of development work.
CRD 5	Water fountains at major traffic intersections	Municipal Corporation	The MC, Amritsar informed that there is a proposal of installation of Water Fountain at Hathi Gate, Lohgarh Gate, Parshuram Chowk and Lahori Gate.
CRD 6	Greening of open areas community places, schools and housing societies	Municipal Corporation	The MC, Amritsar informed that there is a proposal of plantation of trees on identified 139 Acres of open area under Govt. of India funded AMRUT scheme. The DPR has been completed and funds from Govt. of India are yet to be received.
CRD 7	Blacktopping / laying of Interlocking Tiles of metalled road including pavement of road shoulders	Municipal Corporation	The Municipal Corporation, Amritsar informed that 28 KMS of road length has been identified for blacktopping and tendering process will be initiated after General Elections-2019.
		PWD	The SDO, PWD informed that blacktopping work on Boparai Baj Singh Khurmanian Road shall be completed within 10 days. The officers of PPCB contacted concerned officers of PWD as per directions of Chairman and they informed that blacktopping work on remaining roads i.e. Amritsar Chogawan Ranian Road, Mudhal to Verka Canal, Meerankot to Shri Guru Dass International Airport and Jagdev Kalan-Loharka Road shall be completed by 30/06/2019.
		PSIEC	The AE, PSIEC informed that there is a proposal of blacktopping of 07 Kms road length in New Focal Point, Mehta Road, Amritsar. He further informed that Govt. of India has given approval and funds from Govt. of India are expected to come after General Elections-2019. The target date for completion of work is 31/03/2020 subject to the funds received from Govt. of India.

		PUDA	The SDE, Amritsar Development Authority, informed that development work at Urban Estate Old Jail, Ajnala Road, Amritsar is under progress and same shall be completed by 31/08/2019. He further informed that tenders will be called for project at Manawala after General Elections-2019.
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**Action taken report for Control on Burning of Garbage and Biomass** for the month of March, 2019, which is as under:-

S. No.	Sub Activity	Responsible Department	Progress Achieved
CBGB 1	Control on open burning of bio-mass in City	Municipal Corporation	The Joint Commissioner, MC, Amritsar informed that there is a proposal to construct 25 nos. compost pits out of which 09 compost pits have been constructed and remaining 16 compost pits shall be constructed within 06 months period.
CBGB 2	Control on burning of municipal solid wastes	Municipal Corporation	The Joint Commissioner, MC, Amritsar informed that 27 no. challans were issued for MSW burning incidents during the month of March 2019.
CBGB 3	Control on burning of agriculture waste and crop residue	District Administration, Department of Agriculture, Police, PSPCL, Revenue Department & PPCB	The Assistant Environmental Engineer brought out into the kind notice of Chairman that teams for controlling stubble burning incidents are constituted during crop harvesting season every year. The official of Agriculture Department informed about the physical progress report of machinery provided to farmers as well as detail of camps organized at District Level, Block Level and Village Level to control the stubble burning. The Chairman directed officers of PPCB to get the detailed report from Agriculture Department and same be placed on record.

**Action Plan for Control on Industrial Emissions** for the month of March, 2019, which is as under:-

S. No.	Sub Activity	Responsible Department	Progress Achieved
CIE 1	Conversion to CNG/PNG from pet coke / coal	PPCB / GSPL	The AEE, PPCB brought out that total 209 no. Air polluting industries exist within 05 Kms periphery of MC limits of Amritsar and there is a planning to convert 37 no. industries situated in Old Focal point and New Focal Point into PNG in a phased manner subject to the signing of agreement with industrial consumers. The EE, PPCB brought out into the kind notice of Chairman that a meeting of industrialists of New Focal Point and Old Focal Point has been organized with GSPL on 04/04/2019 in this regard and price factor is a major constraint for conversion to PNG from pet coke / coal. The Officials of GSPL informed that PNG is about 2.5 to 3 times costlier than pet coke and due to this reason the industrialists are not willing to use PNG. The Chairman suggested GSPL authorities to supply the PNG at affordable rates by keeping in mind scope of bulk consumption of PNG in the industries. He also suggested there are some other factors like transportation, loading and unloading cost are also involved with usage of pet coke as a fuel since PNG will be available 24x7.
CIE 2	Conversion of natural draft brick kilns to induced draft	PPCB	The AEE, PPCB brought into the kind notice of Chairman that 38 no. brick kilns exist within 05 Km periphery of MC limits, out of which 11 no. Brick Kilns have adapted induced draft technology, 10 no. brick kilns have been closed permanently and remaining 17 no. brick kilns are yet to be adapted induced draft technology.

CIE 3	Action against non-complying industrial units	PPCB	The AEE, PPCB informed that inspections of the industries is a continuous process of the Board, 33 no. air polluting industries were inspected during March-2019 and One no. unit was found non-complying and action has been initiated.
CIE 4	Shifting of industries from non-designated areas to industrial areas	Municipal Town Planner	The AEE, PPCB brought into the kind notice of Chairman that 30 no. air polluting industries exist in non-designated area and same are required to be shifted by competent authority.

**Action Plan for Control on Construction and Demolition Activities** for the month of March, 2019, which is as under:-

S. No.	Sub Activity	Responsible Department	Progress Achieved
CCDA 1	Enforcement of Construction & Demolition Rules	Municipal Corporation	The Joint Commissioner, MC, Amritsar that 03 sites at Bhagtanwala, Chabhal Road and Ranjit Avenue have been identified for the disposal of construction and demolition waste, however these sites are yet to be notified by passing resolution through house. The Chief Sanitary Inspector, MC, Amritsar informed that 04 no. challans have been issued in the violation of C&D Rules, 2016.
CCDA 2	Control measures for fugitive emissions	PWD (B&R), Municipal Corporation, Improvement Trust & PWSSB	The AEE, PPCB informed that control measures are to be taken for fugitive emissions by the agencies involved in construction activities. The Chairman directed PPCB to submit report regarding suggestive measures to all the administrative secretaries of respective departments engaged in construction activities, so that conditions regarding adaptation of suggestive measures could be imposed while allotting tenders.
CCDA 3	Ensure carriage of construction material in closed/covered vessels	PWD (B&R), Municipal Corporation, Improvement Trust & PWSSB	The AEE, PPCB informed that the departments which are engaged in construction activities should ensure carriage of construction material in closed/covered vessels.

**Action Plan for Control on Other Sources** for the month of March, 2019, which is as under:-

S. No.	Sub Activity	Responsible Department	Progress Achieved
COS 1	Dissemination of Air Quality Index	PPCB	The AEE, PPCB informed that one no. Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station (CAAQMS) is operational at Atta Mandi, Near Golden Temple, Amritsar and there is a requirement of 03 more CAAQMS on the basis of population of Amritsar city. The EE, PPCB brought into the kind notice of Chairman that air quality index (AQI) of Amritsar city normally falls in moderate category. He further informed that average value of AQI of Amritsar city during 2017 and 2018 was observed as 132 and 117 respectively.
COS 2	Establish an Air Quality Management Division at SPCB HQ	PPCB	The AEE, PPCB informed that this is policy matter and relates to Head Office.
COS 3	Setup helpline in each city / town as well as SPCB HQ Policy	PPCB	The AEE, PPCB informed that this is policy matter and relates to Head Office. The Chairman asked about the helpline to be setup at the city level.
COS 4	To provide uninterrupted power supply to commercial establishment within Walled City to avoid use of DG sets & reducing PM2.5/SO2 emission	PSPCL / SGPC	The AEE, PPCB informed that 66 KVA Grid Station at Golden Temple, Amritsar has been established, necessary infrastructure has been provided for the commissioning of same, however, the latest status in this regard could not be presented before Chairman due to absence of PSPCL officials. The Chairman took serious view of absence of PSPCL officials.

COS 5	Conversion of Free Community kitchen of Golden Temple to hi-tech kitchen with cleaner fuel	SGPC / GSPL	The AEE, PPCB informed about the laying of 780 meter pipeline up to receiving end of Langer Hall, he also informed that a distribution gas station is yet to be installed at the Langer Hall. The officials of GSPL informed that agreement for supply of PNG to the Langer Hall shall be signed with SGPC during current month.
COS 6	Coverage of LPG/PNG for domestic and commercial cooking Enforcement	GSPL	The Officials of GSPL informed that they have planned to cover the Amritsar city in a phased manner. However, during 2019-20, it is expected to cover following areas of Amritsar city:- a) Fatehpur Rajputan village b) Nawapind c) Cantonment Board of Amritsar d) Ranjit Avenue e) Green Avenue f) Some part of Majitha Road The Chairman expressed satisfaction over the progress made by GSPL.
COS 7	Monitoring of DG sets and action against violations	PPCB / MC	The AEE, PPCB informed that 14 no. industrial units have been inspected during March-2019 and 03 D.G. Sets found violating the norms and action against them is under process. The AEE, PPCB asked Municipal Corporation, Amritsar regarding inspections made during March, 2019 with respect to D.G. Sets installed at residential / commercial areas. The Joint Commissioner, Amritsar asked to provide copy of orders / notification regarding delegation of power for inspection and taking action against violating D.G. Sets installed at residential / commercial areas.
COS 8	Smooth traffic flow at Bhagtanwala Grain Market	District Mandi Officer / Traffic Police / DFSC	The AEE, PPCB brought out into the kind notice of Chairman that this activity was included by previous Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar during meeting held on 19/01/2019 to ensure smooth traffic flow at Bhagtanwala Grain Market. The Chairman directed ACP (Traffic) and DFSC to monitor traffic flow at Bhagtanwala Grain Market as the wheat procurement season is approaching.
COS 9	Green belt provision at Bhagtanwala Dump Site	Municipal Corporation	The AEE, PPCB informed about the inadequate plantation at the peripheral boundary of the MSW dumping site at Bhagtanwala. The officials of MC informed that 02 no. tubewells have been sanctioned and green belt will be provided around.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

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## Annexure-A

The list of participants, who attended the meeting held under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar on 15/04/2019 at 11:00 AM at Meeting Hall, Zila Parishad Complex, Amritsar to review the progress of activities of Action Plan of Clean Air – Amritsar:-

1. Sh. Nitish Singla, PCS, Joint Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Amritsar
2. Sh. Darbara Singh, Secretary, R.T.A., Amritsar
3. Sh. Harpal Singh, Environmental Engineer, PPCB, Regional Office, Amritsar
4. Sh. Gurmail Singh, ACP (Traffic), Amritsar
5. Sh. Sher Jung Singh, DPRO, Amritsar
6. Sh. Sandeep Singh, Executive Engineer (Civil), Municipal Corporation, Amritsar
7. Sh. Kamal Jit Singh Viridi, AEE, PPCB, Regional Office, Amritsar
8. Sh. Sukhdev Singh, AEE, PPCB, Regional Office, Amritsar
9. Sh. Charanjit Singh, SDE, Amritsar Development Authority, Amritsar
10. Sh. Lovekesh Chhabra, SDE, PWD (B&R), Central Works (Division No. 2), Amritsar
11. Sh. Pardeep Jain, SDE, PWSSB, Amritsar
12. Sh. Bharat, SDO, PWD, Amritsar
13. Sh. Arashdeep Singh, AFSO, DFSC, Amritsar
14. Sh. Tajinder Singh, S.M.S. (PP), Department of Agriculture, Amritsar
15. Sh. Jatinder Pal Singh, Chief Sanitary Inspector, Municipal Corporation, Amritsar
16. Sh. Kamaljit, AE, PSIEC, Amritsar
17. Sh. Gurbhinder Singh Gill, Senior Engineer, GSPL, Amritsar
18. Sh. Rakesh Bhatia, Secretary, Market Committee, Amritsar
19. Sh. A.P. Singh, T.L., NHAI, Amritsar
20. Sh. Abhijeet Singh, AHE, NHAI, Amritsar
21. Sh. Ajay Joshi, AHE, NHAI, Amritsar
22. Sh. Manjit Singh, S.A., Punjab Mandi Board, Amritsar