

Subject: Minutes of the meeting held under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner, Roopnagar on 31/01/2019 at 11:00AM at Committee Hall, Mini Secretariat Roopnagar regarding discussion of action points of the draft action plan for control air pollution of Nangaltown with the Stakeholder departments.

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

At the outset, the Environmental Engineer, PPCB informed that Nangal town has been declared as non attainment town as the ambient air quality is not conforming to the prescribed standards in respect of PM₁₀. It was further informed that the ambient air quality in respect of PM₁₀, SO₂ and NO_x was being monitored by the Board at Nangal area at two locations i.e. in the premises of M/s.Punjab Alkalies& Chemicals Ltd., Naya Nangal and M/s National Fertilizers Ltd., Naya Nangal with the help of High Volume Samplers (HVS), which are operated by the officials of PPCB on alternate days for 24 hours i.e. three times in a week. However, as per orders of CPCB the station installed at M/s National Fertilizers Ltd., Naya Nangal has been shifted to the premises of M/s Ambuja Cements Ltd., Roopnagar in the month of January, 2018. Since, the ambient air quality of the town in respect of PM₁₀ was not conforming to the prescribed standards, as such, the Central Pollution Control Board has declared Nangal town as non-attainment town. Accordingly, the CPCB asked the PPCB to prepare an action plan for control of air pollution in the said town by involving various stakeholder departments. In the meeting the participants were also made aware regarding the directions passed by the Hon'ble NGT in OA no. 681 of 2018 on 8.10.2018. It was brought out that the draft Action Plan has been prepared by the Directorate of Environment and Climate Change in consultation with Punjab Pollution Control Board. Now, it has been desired by the Directorate to convene a meeting of stake holder departments under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner to get their suggestions / additions / alterations to be made in the draft action plan.

The Environmental Engineer also informed that monitoring will be done by the Departments concerned, which are executing or responsible for particular activities. In addition, there will be three level of Air Quality Monitoring Committees (AQMC) to review and monitor the status:

- (i) AQMC at District Level under Deputy Commissioner
- (ii) AQMC at State level under Principal Secretary, Environment
- (iii) Steering Committee under Chief Secretary

Thereafter, the Deputy Commissioner, Roopnagar pointed out that all the air pollutants are not being monitored with the manual AAQM stations and urged the Environmental Engineer to expedite the installation of CAAQM station in Nangaltown to monitor all the parameters & to display the results at locations with heavy footfall for dissemination of air quality data in the public domain.

1. **Control of vehicular emissions** :

Subsequently, the major sources of air pollution such as vehicular emissions, road dust, burning of bio-mass & garbage, industrial emissions, construction and demolition activities and other sources were discussed in detail. The discussions held in the meeting are delineated as under:

- (a) The Chairperson stressed that education campaign shall be extensively carried out by Department of Transport and Traffic Police by way of conducting seminars in the Educational institutions and this activity should be carried out on regular basis since the children are the best tool to disseminate the information. It was informed by DSP of Punjab Police that there is a traffic education cell, which may also be roped into for conduct of this awareness campaign.
- (b) The DSP of the Punjab Police also informed that the department is regularly carrying out extensive drive against the polluting vehicles and violating pollution under Control (PUC) certificate. RTA was instructed to check the working of Pollution Under Control centers & their machinery, such that no false PUC certificate be issued by the operators of the PUC centers. It was also decided that RTA will carry out checking of vehicles by holding Nakas to check as to whether the vehicles are having valid PUC certificate or not and they will also issue challans to the violators and the vehicles found emitting visible emissions. He will also intimate the policy of the State Govt. for phasing out the diesel driven auto rickshaws and encouraging the use of e-rickshaws / CNG based rickshaws and use of public transport.
- (c) The SDM, Nangal shall launch extensive drive against the encroachment along the roads and take necessary action against the violators as per protocol so as to ensure free flow of traffic.
- (d) It was decided to induct DFSC, Roopnagar as member of the Air Quality Monitoring Committee (AQMC) at District level so that issue regarding adulterated fuel may be addressed. He will get checked the retail outlets for adulteration of fuels (petrol/ diesel) and submit weekly report to the DC office with a copy to EE, PPCB, in this regard.

2. **Control of Road Dust** :

1. The Executive Officer, M.C. shall immediately start the work regarding repairing of roads in Nangal. The Executive Officer, M.C. shall identify spots along the traffic corridors for plantation of green buffers and carry out plantation with the help of DFO, Roopnagar.
2. The Executive Officer, M.C. shall identify locations for installation of water fountains at major traffic intersections and shall start the work regarding installation of the same and shall submit a report in this regard within one month.
3. The Chairperson showed concern regarding the congestion of traffic in the town, to which Executive Officer informed that a flyover is being constructed which will ease out the problem of traffic congestion after its completion by August, 2020. Further Assistant Engineer, PWD B& R also informed that there is a proposal for construction of 2no. bypass roads to remove the traffic congestion in the town.
4. SDM Nangal was asked to look into the matter and find a specific place for parking of vehicles.

5. Executive Officer, Nangal was asked to hire a 3rd party to give suggestions for road surface improvements and they may also co-ordinate with IIT Roopnagar for the same.
6. Executive officer also informed that they are in process of purchasing of 2 no. mechanical sweeping machines for cleaning of roads. The Chairperson had asked to expedite the process of the purchase of the same and intimate the timelines in this regard to Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board within 15 days.

3. Control on Burning of Garbage and Bio-mass:

- (a) The chairperson emphasized that Municipal Council shall keep track of movement of garbage collected by rag-pickers to the dump site so as to avoid the littering of Municipal Solid Waste mid-way. The Punjab Pollution Control Board shall also involve in the drive for checking open burning of bio-mass/municipal solid waste in the city along with concerned department.
- (b) Executive officer, MC Nangal had informed that they have made 15-20 honeycombs for decomposition of bio-degradable waste. Recently, they have also made 9 tons of manure, which will be sold out in the market. Further, the Chairperson pointed out that there is very minimal number of incidents of paddy burning had happened this year in the district Roopnagar.
- (c) The chairperson stressed to launch awareness campaign regarding the ill-effects of stubble burning and directed the Agriculture Department to promote the practice of in-situ incorporation of agriculture residue in fields, in the villages.

4. Control on Industrial Emission :

The action plan for control on Industrial Emission was discussed in detail, and Punjab Pollution Control Board was directed to monitor the air polluting industries located in Nangal town on regular basis.

5. Control on Construction and Demolition Activities:

The Chairperson directed the Executive Officer, M.C., Nangal to identify the location for dumping of C & D Waste. Executive officer had informed that they have identified 2 no. Construction and Demolition waste sites for the disposal of Construction & Demolition waste. Deputy Commissioner directed the Executive Officer, M.C., Nangal to expedite the process in this regard and send the action taken report in the matter to Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board within 15 days

At the end, all the stake holder departments were agreed with the sources of air pollution considered in the draft action plan and the timelines mentioned therein. Accordingly, it was decided to approve the action plan with above amendments / suggestions.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

**Deputy Commissioner
Roopnagar**

Annexure-A

The list of participants, who attended the meeting held under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner, Roopnagar on 31/01/2019 at 11:00 AM at Committee Hall, Mini Secretariat, Roopnagar regarding discussion of action plan for controlling air pollution of Nangal town:-

- 1) Sh. Harbans Singh, PCS, SDM, Nangal.
- 2) Sh. Raj Kapoor, DSP, CID, Roopnagar.
- 3) Dr. KR Banga, Chief Agricultural Officer, Roopnagar.
- 4) Sh. Surinder Singh Matharu, Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, RO, SAS Nagar.
- 5) Sh. Manjinder Singh, Executive Officer, Municipal Council, Nangal.
- 6) Sh. Rahul Kaushal, Executive Engineer, PWSSB, Roopnagar division.
- 7) Smt. Harpreet Kaur, DTP, Roopnagar.
- 8) Sh. Harsimran Singh, AEE, PPCB, RO, SAS Nagar.
- 9) Sh. Nalim Yadav, DDFO, Roopnagar.
- 10) Dr. Nidhi, DFWO, Civil Surgeon Office, Roopnagar.
- 11) Sh. Tarun Gupta, SDE, PWSSB, Roopnagar.
- 12) Sh. Neeraj Thakur, Functional Manager, DIC, SAS Nagar.
- 13) Sh. Gurwinder Singh, AE, PWD B&R, Roopnagar.
- 14) Sh. Navjot Singh, SDO, Irrigation, Roopnagar.
- 15) Sh. Karamvir Singh, Planning Engineer, Solakhian Toll Plaza.
- 16) Sh. Jagdish Singh, Junior Asst., RTA, SAS Nagar
