

Proceedings of 14th Meeting of State Apex Committee held under the Chairpersonship of Chief Secretary, Punjab on 08.06.2021 at 10.30 am to review the progress of Environment Action Plans.

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The List of Participants attached

At the outset it was briefed that the 13th meeting of the Apex committee was held on 27.04.2021. No comments have been received from any Department. The minutes of the 13th Meeting were taken as confirmed.

Agenda No. 14.1 Comprehensive Action Plan for Control of Burning of Crop Residue in the State

Paddy Straw Management Plan- Crop Diversification

- (i) The ACS(D) informed that the Department of Agriculture is making all out efforts to motivate the farmers for diversifying from longer duration varieties of paddy to short duration varieties and to other crops such as maize, cotton, horticulture crops etc. and also for direct seeding of rice. This would result in reduction in generation of paddy straw and consumption of water. Further, the actual progress with respect to crop diversification will be made available by August, 2021 after sowing of various crops.

Paddy Straw Management Plan- In-situ Management

- (i) The Department of Agriculture informed that the Action Plan of Rs. 888 crores for providing 70000 additional machines for in-situ management of paddy straw has been submitted to Ministry of Agriculture, GoI in April, 2021. The project is likely to be sanctioned by 30.06.2021, the progress will be intimated subsequently.
- (ii) Further, the Department has developed a portal for inviting applications from Farmers & Custom Hiring Centers (CHCs) for providing machinery. Mapping of machines will be done through this portal only. 26,500 applications have already been received by the Department.
- (iii) The work on development of mobile app is likely to be completed by August, 2021 for making crop residue machinery available on rental basis on Uber/ Ola Model.
- (iv) The Department further informed that the Decomposer Technology developed by IARI/ PUSA and AFC has been experimented in 12 Districts of Punjab. The results were not found to be encouraging.

Paddy Straw Management Plan- Ex-situ Management

- (i) PEDDA informed that the Biomass Power Plant of 6 MW capacity was completed in August, 2019 but could not be made operational as PSPCL did not sign PPA. Further, the company has also stopped the construction of 4 MW Biomass Power Project for the same reason (not signing the PPA).
- (ii) Further, the Biomass Power Project of 10 MW capacity is likely to be

commissioned by 15.12.2021. The 2 no. Bio CNG Projects of 33.23 TPD and 2.25 TPD capacity are likely to be commissioned by December, 2021.

- (iii) The Committee desired that PEDDA may take up the matter with the project developer and try to mediate on the issue of power tariff between PSPCL and project developer.

Paddy Straw Management Plan- Other Measures

- (i) PPCB reported that android mobile application for end to end reporting and action taken for each fire incident is running successfully and the IOS based mobile application has also been developed.
- (ii) The Director, DRDP informed the Committee that instructions have been issued to all the BDPOs to coordinate with respective Deputy Commissioners to store the paddy straw in the vacant common village lands and to work out further mechanism for lifting and transferring the paddy straw. Committee desired that village wise details of the vacant land be provided by the DRDP to respective DCs under the intimation to Directorate of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) in 15 days.

Paddy Straw Management Plan- Awareness & Enforcement Measures

- (i) The Committee noted the progress.
- (ii) The Committee directed Department of Agriculture and PPCB to highlight the IEC activities in the National and State Media to make the people aware regarding the steps taken by the State for control of stubble burnings.

Agenda No. 14.2 Submission of District Environment Plans in compliance of NGT order dated 29.01.2021 in OA No. 360/2018

- (i) The Department of Environment reported the Committee that District Environment Plans of 11 Districts have been submitted to NGT Monitoring Committee and the District Environment Plans for the remaining Districts are to be submitted by 15.06.2021.

Agenda No. 14.3 In-situ remediation of drains and setting up of STPs in compliance of various NGT orders in OA No. 673/2018 & OA No. 593/2017

- (i) The Committee noted the progress of in-situ remediation of drains and timelines for setting up of STPs in compliance of various NGT orders and penalties imposed thereof.
- (ii) The Committee desired that the Principal Secretary, Department of Local Govt. should convene a meeting with Department of Water Supply & Sanitation, PUDA, GMADA, GLADA, PSIEC to take over the STPs being operated by these Departments / Agencies by 30.06.2021.
- (iii) The Committee further directed the Department of Local Govt. to expedite the

process for approval of DPRs and award of tender for setting up of STPs.

Agenda No. 14.4 Monitoring of Existing STPs

- (i) The Committee took serious note that 27 STPs had failed only due to non-compliance of F.Coli parameter. It was further noted that 11 STPs which are based on latest technologies i.e. SBR & MBBR had also failed.
- (ii) The Committee desired that Principal Secretary, Local Government should look into the matter closely to make these STPs compliant.

Agenda No. 14.5 Setting up of 2 New CETPs for Textile Dyeing Units at Ludhiana

- (i) The Committee noted the progress.
- (ii) The Principal Secretary, Department of Local Govt. ensured that the 300 meter pipeline of CETP, which has been damaged during laying of pipeline for 225 MLD STP, will be repaired by the Department.
- (iii) The Committee desired that PSPCL should expedite the release of balance electricity connection to operationalize the 40 MLD & 50 MLD CETP. The issue of power load for the 50 MLD plant should be taken up jointly by the Chairman PPCB and MD, PSPCL in time so that there is no delay in the operation of 50 MLD plant when construction is completed.
- (iv) Committee also desired that PPCB should ensure the operationalisation of CETPs of 40 MLD & 50 MLD capacity by 30.06.21.

Agenda No. 14.6 Monitoring of Existing CETPs

- (i) The Committee noted the progress.
- (ii) Regarding 15 MLD CETP, the Committee desired that PPCB may examine the discharge standards laid down by MoEF/CPCB, GoI viz-a-viz standards laid down by PPCB for CETPs for state.

Agenda No. 14.7 Monitoring of Existing ETPs

- (i) The Committee noted the progress.

Agenda No. 14.8 Management of Dairy Waste in Ludhiana & Jalandhar

- (i) The Committee noted the progress.
- (ii) The Commissioner, MC, Jalandhar informed the Committee that the DNIT for setting of 2.25 MLD ETP for Jamsher Dairy Complex has been approved and the tender in this regard is to be floated by 30.06.2021. The Committee desired that the process should be expedited.

Agenda No. 14.9 Rejuvenation of Ponds in compliance of NGT order dated 10.05.19 & 18.11.20 in O.A. No. 325/2015

- (i) The Director, Department of Rural Development & Panchayats informed that the work has been completed in 545 ponds and is under progress in 638 ponds.
- (ii) The MS, PPCB informed the Committee that the Board being State Nodal Agency for rejuvenation of ponds, has circulated the template provided by Ministry of Jal Shakti, GoI to all the stakeholder Departments for providing the requisite information.
- (iii) The Committee directed all the stakeholder Departments to provide the requisite information to PPCB for onwards submission to Ministry of Jal Shakti.

Agenda No. 14.10 Reuse of Treated Wastewater of STPs in compliance of NGT order dated 21.05.20 in OA No. 593/2017

- (i) The Department of Soil and Water Conservation informed that the work for providing irrigation schemes of 3 STPs (37.5 MLD) have been completed. Further, the work for providing irrigation schemes for 5 STPs (73 MLD) is under progress and is likely to be completed by 31.12.21.
- (ii) The Department of Local Government informed that 75 KL of treated wastewater is being used daily for water sprinkling of about 200 km road length to control the dust emissions.
- (iii) The Committee directed PPCB to initiate the action to re-use the treated wastewater of STPs in industries as per the targets given in the Action Plan.

Agenda No. 14.11 Release of 200 cusecs of Water from Sirhind Canal into Budha Nallah

- (i) The Principal Secretary, Department of Water Resources informed the Committee that the work is likely to be completed by 30.06.21.

Agenda No. 14.12 Approval of Restoration Plan by CPCB against penalty of Rs. 50 crore in compliance of NGT Order dated 14.11.2018 in O.A. No. 916/2018.

- (i) MS, PPCB informed that the matter for approval of Restoration Plan has been taken up with CPCB. The CPCB has asked PPCB to provide additional data which is being submitted within week's time.

Agenda No. 14.13 Compliance of Rule-22 of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016

- (i) The Committee noted the progress of various activities under SWM Rules, 2016 in compliance of various for NGT Orders and penalties imposed thereof.
- (ii) The Committee directed Department of Local Government to expedite the process for setting up of sanitary landfill sites and waste to energy facilities.

Agenda No. 14.14 Issuance of amendment in Orders of State Level Special Task Force (State Apex Committee) and District Environment Committee to monitor the progress of

elimination of Single Use Plastic & Implementation of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016

- (i) The Department of Environment informed the Committee that the amended order has been issued on 18.05.21, as desired in the last Apex Committee meeting.
- (ii) Regarding preparing the Action Plan for management of Plastic Waste, the comments of Department of Local Government has been received and the comments of Department of Rural Development & Panchayats are awaited.
- (iii) The Committee directed Director, DRDP to submit the comments on the Action Plan within week's time to Department of Environment.

Agenda No. 14.15 Setting up of Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations, carrying out Source Apportionment Studies and Setting up of Public Grievance Redressal Portal etc. in Compliance of NGT order dated 21.08.20 in O.A. No. 681/2018

- (i) PPCB reported that work order for procurement of Manual Monitoring Stations have already been placed and the work order for procuring 10 No. CAAQMS is likely to be placed by 31.07.21 and installation to be completed by 31.12.21.
- (ii) Further, the process for carrying capacity and source apportionment studies of 7 non-attainment cities is likely to be completed by 31.07.21.
- (iii) The android based mobile application for receiving public complaints has been developed.
- (iv) The Agency for Noise Mapping of Amritsar & Ludhiana is to be hired by 30.06.21 and mapping to be completed by 30.09.21.
- (v) The 20 No. Noise Level Meter to be procured by 31.07.21.

Agenda No. 14.16 Air Pollution Control in Major Industrial Towns

- (i) The Committee noted the progress.
- (ii) The MS, PPCB informed that the progress for converting industries from coal to CNG /PNG was found to be slow due to lack of infrastructure for laying pipeline in Ludhiana & Jalandhar and disparity in rates for supplying PNG to industries at Mandi Gobindgarh and Ludhiana.
- (iii) The Committee desired that the Department of Industries in coordination with PPCB should take up the matter with Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board, Govt. of India to address the above said issues.

Meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the Chair.

List of Participants

Department of Science Technology & Environment	Sh. Anurag Verma, IAS, Principal Secretary Sh. Saurabh Gupta, IFS, Director Sh. Pardeep Garg, Additional Director
Department of Agriculture	Sh. Anirudh Tiwari, IAS, ACS(D)
Department of Local Government	Sh. Ajoy Sinha, IAS, Principal Secretary Sh. Ajoy Sharma, IAS, Secretary
Department of Water Supply & Sanitation	Smt. Jaspreet Talwar, IAS, Principal Secretary
Department of Water Resources	Sh. Saravjit Singh, IAS, Principal Secretary
Department of Rural Development & Panchayats	Sh. Manpreet Singh, IAS, Director
Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana	Sh. Pardeep Kumar Sabharwal, IAS, Commissioner
Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar	Sh. Karnesh Sharma, IAS, Commissioner
Punjab Energy Development Agency	Sh. M.P. Singh, Director
Department of Industries & Commerce	Sh. Alok Shekhar, IAS, Principal Secretary
Punjab Pollution Control Board	Dr. S. S. Marwaha, Chairman Sh. Krunesh Garg, Member Secretary
Department of Soil and Water Conservation	Sh. Gurpreet Aulakh, DSCO
Punjab State Power Corporation Limited	Sh. Parmajit Singh, Director (Generation)
Department of Housing & Urban Development	Sh. Saravjit Singh, IAS, Principal Secretary
PMIDC	Sh. Ajoy Sharma, Chief Executive Officer