

**Proceedings of 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of Air Quality Monitoring Committee (AQMC) held under the Chairmanship of Principal Secretary, Science, Technology & Environment (STE), Govt of Punjab through Video Conferencing to review the progress of Action Plan for Clean Air and Control of Noise Pollution on 05.07.2021 at 3.00 PM.**

**The List of Participants attached**

**Agenda No. 11.1 Status of Ambient Air Quality**

- (i) Committee observed increase in the levels of PM<sub>10</sub> & AQI in May, 2021 in case of Ludhiana, Jalandhar, Amritsar & Patiala in comparison to the levels observed in May, 2020. CEE, PPCB informed that the levels in May, 2020 were found to be on the lower side due to lockdown in the State.
- (ii) Committee desired that PPCB will submit the comparison of PM<sub>10</sub> & AQI observed in May, for year 2019, 2020 & 2021. Further, it was desired that Department of Environment will write to respective Deputy Commissioners of above NACs to review the escalated values of PM<sub>10</sub> and AQI in District Level Meetings.

**Agenda No. 11.2 Compliance of NGT order dated 08.04.21 in O.A No. 681/2018**

- (i) Committee directed the Nodal Officers of various stakeholder Departments to ensure the compliance of above NGT orders. Further, they were informed that in case of failure to achieve the time targets, the responsibility squarely lies with the concerned stakeholder Department.

**Agenda No. 11.3 Review of Activities pertaining to Punjab Pollution Control Board**

- (i) The Committee noted the progress.
- (ii) 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 of pipeline in Ludhiana & Jalandhar and disparity in rates for supplying PNG to industries at Mandi Gobindgarh and Amritsar. Further, it was informed that the Gas Supplier (IRM Energy) in Mandi Gobindgarh has taken up the matter with M/s. GAIL India regarding pressure drop in the gas being supplied to the industrial units which is likely to be resolved by 31.07.2021.
- (iii) The Department of Industries informed that they have also taken up the matter with Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) for reallocating the works for laying of pipeline in Khanna, Ludhiana & Jalandhar and disparity in rates for supplying gas to industries at Mandi

Gobindgarh & Amritsar. The Committee directed Department of Industries to expedite the progress for resolving this issue with PNGRB.

- (iv) The Committee directed PPCB to complete the pending action against 26 non-complying industrial units by 31.07.2021.
- (v) PPCB informed that the list of industries located at residential areas along with their coordinates and carrying capacity & source apportionment studies is to be shared with Department of Town & Country Planning by 15.09.2021 for evolving a mechanism for shifting these industries to industrial areas in compliance of NGT order dated 21.08.2020 in O.A. No. 681/2018.
- (vi) Regarding installation of at least one Manual Air Quality Monitoring Station at every District Headquarters within 3 months in compliance of NGT order dated 0804.2021 in O.A. No. 681/2018, PPCB informed that out of 23 Districts, Manual Monitoring Stations have been installed in 5 Districts and work order for procurement of 3 Manual Monitoring Stations have already been placed for installation in 3 Districts. Further, the Manual Monitoring Stations for the remaining 15 Districts are likely to be procured by 31.10.2021.

The Committee directed PPCB to provide the complete details regarding the total requirement of manual monitoring stations and the timelines for their installation at every District Headquarter, to DECC within week time.

- (vii) PPCB informed that android based mobile application for receiving public complaints is ready for launch, in compliance of NGT order dated 21.08.2020 in O.A. No. 681/2018.
- (viii) PPCB informed that draft reports for carrying capacity and source apportionment studies have been received from IIT, Delhi and are under examination. These studies are likely to be completed by 31.07.2021.
- (ix) PPCB informed that the agency for Noise mapping of Amritsar & Ludhiana, identification of hot spots, mitigation plan, estimation of quantity and finalization of location for installation of Noise Level Meters and Noise Limiters, is likely to be hired by 15.07.2021 and the assignment to be completed by 31.10.2021. Further, it was informed that 20 No. Noise Level Meters are likely to be procured by 31.07.2021.

The Committee directed PPCB to expedite the progress for hiring of agency and submit the compliance report to CPCB with copy to DECC. Further, PPCB was asked to share the technical specification of NLMs with Department of Transport to facilitate the procurement at their end.

**Agenda No. 11.3      Annual Resources required by year 2025-26 for activities in Action Plans of Non-Attainment Cities (NACs)**

- (i) PPCB informed that the information to estimate City Specific Air Quality Target for reduction of PM<sub>10</sub> & PM<sub>2.5</sub> along with annual resources required till 2025 at District Level has been submitted to Department of Local Government for their approval before submission to CPCB.
- (ii) Department of Local Govt. reported that the said information is likely to be submitted to PPCB by 12.07.2021.

**Agenda No. 11.4      Review of Activities pertaining to the Department of Local Government.**

- (i) The Committee noted the progress.
- (ii) The Department requested PPCB to provide the list of cities with "Poor" Air Quality Index to ensure sprinkling of water before sweeping of roads using STP water in compliance of NGT order dated 03.12.2020 in O.A. No. 383/2020. PPCB informed that they have provided the AQI data of 6 NACs to the Department vide letter dated 04.05.2021.
- (iii) The DECC informed that they are submitting the Quarterly Progress Reports for using the treated wastewater of STPs for sprinkling of roads. The Committee directed the Department of Local Govt. to provide the details of quantity of treated wastewater of STPs used for road sprinkling along with the length of the road to DECC within week time.
- (iv) The Department informed that the mechanical sweeping machines for Ludhiana, Mandi Gobindgarh, Khanna & Naya Nangal are likely to be procured by 31.10.2021.
- (v) The Department informed that the work of converting 25 kms kacha road to pakka road in Mandi Gobindgarh is likely to be completed by 30.11.2021. Further, the work of pavement of road side using interlocking tiles in Amritsar (28 kms) is likely to be completed by 30.10.2021.
- (vi) The Department reported that DPR for developing multi story parking in Khanna & Jalandhar is under preparation and the work is likely to be awarded by 30.11.2021. The work of developing multi story parking in Ludhiana is likely to be awarded by 30.09.2021. Further, the DPR for creating parking for trucks/ commercial vehicles in Khanna is under preparation.
- (vii) The Department reported that widening of roads at Jalandhar (7 kms), Amritsar (7 kms) and Dera Bassi (2 kms) is likely to be completed by 31.10.2021.

**Agenda No. 11.5      Performance Evaluation Framework of Million Plus Cities for FY 2020-21 under 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission (FC-XV) Grant to State Finance/Local Government Department for implementation of Air Quality Measures**

- (i) The Committee directed Department of Local Govt. to submit the details of proposals submitted to MoEF&CC against the release of first installment of Rs. 26 crores for Ludhiana and Rs. 19 crores for Amritsar to DECC within week time.
- (ii) The Committee directed Department of Local Govt. to submit the Utilization Certificate of NCAP funds received from PPCB regarding procurement of Mechanical Sweeping Machines for Ludhiana & Amritsar by 15.07.2021.
- (iii) Further, PPCB was directed to submit the details of 3rd & 4th installment of NCAP funds to DECC within week time.

**Agenda No. 11.6:      Review of Activities pertaining to PWD.**

- (i) The Department informed that the work of recarpeting of 2.1 km of road at Jalandhar is likely to be completed by 31.05.2022.
- (ii) Further, the work for pavement of road site using interlocking tiles at Khanna (1.15 km) is likely to be completed by 31.10.2021.

**Agenda No.11.7      Review of Activities pertaining to PUDA.**

- (i) The Department informed that the work for converting 9.5 km kacha road to pakka road is likely to be completed by 31.12.2021.
- (ii) Further, it was informed that the work of pavement of roadside using interlocking tiles at Amritsar is likely to be completed by 31.12.2021.

**Agenda No11.8      Review of Activities pertaining to the Department of Transport.**

- (i) The Committee directed PPCB to check few Remote Sensor based Pollution Check Centers linked with Vahan 4.0 before next meeting of the Committee.
- (ii) The Department informed that the approval of E-vehicle policy is pending at the Govt. level. The Committee desired that this issue is to be flagged in the coming meeting of State Apex Committee.
- (iii) The Committee directed the Department to inform the cost economics of the autos/ taxis switched to CNG in the next meeting of the Committee.
- (iv) The Committee directed the Department to obtain the specifications of noise level meters from PPCB and facilitate the procurement.

**Agenda No. 11.9: Review of Progress Activities pertaining to Department of Town & Country Planning.**

- (i) The progress regarding shifting of industries from non-designated area to industrial area has already been discussed in Agenda item No. 11.3.

**Agenda No.11.10: Review of Activities pertaining to DIC.**

- (i) The progress for creation of infrastructure for CNG pipeline has already been discussed in Agenda item No. 11.3.

The Committee directed the Nodal Officer of all the stakeholder Departments to submit their Action Taken Reports of the decision of the meeting to DECC within 15 days.

The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

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List of Participants

i.	Department of Environment	Sh. Saurabh Gupta, Director Sh. Pardeep Garg, Additional Director Sh. Abhishek Chauhan, SO
ii.	Punjab Pollution Control Board	Dr. S.S. Marwaha, Chairman Sh. G.S Majithia, CEE
iii.	Department of Local Government	Sh. Ashwani Chaudhary, CE, HQ Sh. Gurpreet Singh Walia, SE, HQ
iv.	Department of Housing & Urban Development	Sh. Jasjot Singh, Xen
v.	Department of PWD (B&R)	Sh. Suvrinder Singh, Xen
vi.	Department of Industries and Commerce	Sh. Ankur Goyal, Asst. Director
vii.	Department of Transport	Sh. Manjit Singh, DSTC
viii.	Additional Director General Police (Traffic)	Sh. Manmeet Singh, SP Traffic
ix.	Department of Town & Country Planning	Sh. Sarbjeet Singh, DTP
x.	Department of Food and Civil Supplies	Dr. Sona Thind, Joint Director