

Proceedings of the 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of River Rejuvenation Committee (RRC) held under the Chairmanship of Principal Secretary, Department of Science, Technology & Environment to review the progress of Action Plans on Clean Rivers on 03.12.2019 at 10.30 AM in Conference Room of PSCST, MGSIPA Complex, Chandigarh

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**Agenda No. 8.1 Leave of Absence**

1. The following Officers from various Departments attended the meeting:

Department of Science, Technology & Environment	Sh. Pardeep Garg, Joint Director Sh. Gurharminder Singh, SSO Sh. Parveen Kumar, Technical Officer Sh. Gagandeep Singh, Technical Officer
Punjab State Council for Science & Technology	Sh. Pritpal Singh, Senior Engineer
Punjab Pollution Control Board	Sh. Gulshan Rai, CEE
Department of Local Government	Sh. Gurpreet Singh Walia, SE (HQ) Sh. Vikas Kumar, Xen, PWSBB Sh. Harvinder Singh, CE, PWSSB Sh. Ravinder Garg, SE, MCL Sh. Rajinder Singh, SE, MCL Sh. Ekjot Singh, SDO, MCL
Department of Water Resources	Sh. J.S. Bhinder, EE Sh. Harjot Singh Walia, EE Sh. Varun Garg, SDO Er. Rajesh Kumar Saini, AE, Sh. Narendra Kumar, JE,
Department of Rural Development & Panchayats	Sh. Devidner Kumar, SE

Department of Soil & Water Conservation	Sh. Dharinder Mahay, SCO
Department of Housing & Urban Development	Er. Davinder Singh, SE (HQ), GMADA Sh. Gurpreet Singh, SDE, PDA Sh. Pankaj Garg, JE, PDA
Department of Water Supply & Sanitation	Sh. Rajinder Singh, CE
Punjab Energy Development Agency	Sh. Davinder Singh, Joint Director
Department of Health & Family Welfare	Dr. Manav Singh, Medical Officer
Military Engineering Services	Col. Virinder Singh Jeji, ACE, Pathankot Zone Sh. Arbind Kumar, GE (East) Jalandhar Sh. Major Akshay Imandar, GE (West), Jal Sh. Ajit A Gadre, AE (HM), Jal Sh. M M Naval, AE (HM), Jal

**Agenda No. 8.2 Confirmation of the proceedings of the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 10.09.2019**

Proceedings of the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 10.09.2019 were confirmed.

**Agenda No. 8.3 Submission of Monthly Progress Reports**

- (i). Committee noted the non submission of MPRs of MCs by PWSSB. As already directed in 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of RRCs held on 09.08.19 and 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of NGT Monitoring Committee held on 30.12.19, PWSSB was again directed to ensure the submission of MPRs of MCs by due date from next month, failing which fine would be imposed.
- (ii). Committee noted that Deptt. of Health & Family Welfare has not been able make any headway for carrying out the epidemiological studies with involvement of PGIMER to establish co-relation with the disease caused due to water pollution in the catchment areas of rivers. The matter is being discussed and pending since the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of NGT Monitoring Committee held on 24.04.19. There is also an uncertainty about availability of funds with the department for this kind of assignment. The matter may be discussed with PGI to arrive at the scope of work and expenditure involved in such surveys.

**Agenda No. 8.4 Review of monitoring of Water Quality of Rivers**

**1. Status of water quality of polluted stretches**

The status of the river water quality monitored by PPCB for the month of October on the polluted stretches of the rivers was reviewed. The committee noted that there is no improvement water quality of polluted stretches of River Sutlej and Ghagger as compared to previous months. Committee directed PPCB to strengthen its water division for effective monitoring & enforcement mechanism to bring improvement in water quality of rivers.

**2. Progress w.r.t other matters pertaining to water quality**

- (i). The committee noted the progress.
- (ii). PPCB informed that draft order for RTWQMS has been sent to expert committee for vetting and same would be placed shortly. Committee directed PPCB to invite the selected vendor for a presentation about use and benefits of RTWQMS.
- (iii). Committee directed PSCST to expedite the development of low cost sensors, setting up of integrated dashboard and development of MIS for EPMS.

**Agenda No. 8.5 Review of monitoring of functioning of STPs in the catchment area**

**1. Status of monitoring of STPs**

The Committee noted the progress.

**2. Reasons for non compliance of STPs**

- (i). The department wise non-compliance of each STP was reviewed. All the departments were directed to take necessary action with utmost priority to bring non compliant STPs within the norms and timelines for same be sent Department of Environment within a week.
- (ii). Committee noted with serious concern the significant variations found in parallel samples of 4 STPs of MCL got tested from Thapar Lab viz a viz PCCB as decided in the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of NGT Monitoring Committee. After deliberating the matter in detail and hearing the submissions of PPCB & MCL, Committee felt that there is need to get the audit of PPCB laboratory done from an Expert Agency such as NEERI to bring the requisite improvement in the infrastructure and testing protocols being followed. Committee directed to carry out the joint sampling of STPs of Ludhiana by PCCB, MCL and Thapar during the month of December. The committee

directed that one sealed sample of each STP be also sent to PBTI and in case of any variations in results, the result of PBTI would be prevail over others this regard.

- (iii). During the deliberations, many departments pointed out that PPCB should take composite samples if legal action is to be taken and one sample shall be given to the concerned agency also for analysis from reputed laboratory.
- (iv). The matter w.r.t to high BOD and presence of oil and grease at inlet of 17 MLD SBR STP at Zirakpur was discussed in detail. PPCB was directed to identify the sources of pollution and take necessary action as per the recommendation of committee constituted for purpose as decided in 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of RRC held 09.08.19.

### **3. Action taken by PPCB against non-compliant STPs**

The Committee noted the progress. PPCB was directed to expedite the action against pending cases and instead of seeking bank guarantees, EC as per the formula provided in NGT order dated 17.07.2019 in Sobha Singh Case be imposed.

### **4. Action taken by Agencies against the Operator/ Contractors of non-compliant STPs**

The Committee noted the progress and directed all the agencies to ensure that concerned Operator/ Contractors shall be penalized for lack of performance in case of failure to treat the waste water as per the contract.

### **5. Operation & Maintenance Manual of STPs**

Committee decided to review the manual in a separate meeting.

### **6. Progress of Installation of OCEMS/ CCTV**

The Committee noted the progress. All the agencies were directed to ensure the installation of OCEMS/ CCTV as per the timelines given in the Action Plans, failing which EC would be imposed.

## **Agenda No. 8.6 Review of monitoring of functioning of CETPs in the catchment area**

### **1. Status of monitoring of CETPs**

The Committee expressed concern regarding continued failure of CETP for leather complex.

### **2. Action taken by PPCB against non-compliant CETP**



The Committee noted that no penalty has been imposed on CETP Leather Complex for the month of August, September & October, 2109. PPCB was directed to recover the EC already imposed.

**Agenda No. 8.7      Review of monitoring of functioning of ETPs in the catchment area**

**1. Status of monitoring of ETPs**

The Committee noted the progress.

**2. Action taken by PPCB against non compliant ETPs**

The Committee noted the progress and asked PPCB to prepare guidelines for filing of non compliant ETPs without penalties. The Committee also directed Deptt. of Environment to conduct the regulatory audit of 102 cases of non compliant ETPs and 6 cases of sealing/disconnections.

**3. Installation of OCEMS in existing ETPs having discharge of > 50 KLD**

The Committee noted the progress and directed PPSB to take action against 18 defaulting units & recover the EC already imposed.

**Agenda No. 8.8      Setting up of New/ Up gradation/ Rehabilitation of STPs**

1. The progress for setting up of New/ up-gradation of STPs was found to be slow.
2. PWSSB informed that out of the 22 towns, where funds are yet to be tied up, the discharge of 6 towns is not reaching the rivers. Department of Local Government was directed to mobilize funds for the STPs, where funds are yet to be tied up and expedite setting of STPs, for which funding has already been tied up.
3. The committee directed that the present status for each STP be prepared and same would be reviewed in the next meeting.

**Agenda No. 8.9      Review of Progress for setting up of New CETPs**

1. The Committee noted the progress.
2. PPCB informed NGT vide ex parte order dated 20.11.19 has stayed the execution of EC imposed by PPCB on SPVs for breaching the timelines for setting up 15 MLD and 40 MLD CETPs at Ludhiana.
3. Committee felt that case has not been properly defended by PCCB and directed PPCB to file a review petition in NGT at the earliest against the ex-parte order.
4. PPCB was also directed to review the progress of setting up CETPs on day to day



basis and inform if any, intervention required at Govt. Level to expedite the setting up of CETPs.

**Agenda No. 8.10 Progress of Setting up of ETPs/Biogas Plants at Tajpur, Haibowal & Jamsher Dairy Complex**

The committee noted the progress.

**Agenda No. 8.11 Review of progress for setting up of treatment facilities in villages**

The Committee noted the progress.

**Agenda No. 8.12 Reuse of treated wastewater of STPs for irrigation**

1. DSWC informed that feasibility study for reuse of treated wastewater of STPs of Ludhiana City for irrigation has been conducted. It was further informed that that treated water of Balloke-II (105 MLD/SBR) is fit for irrigation as per water quality. The farmers are not willing to use treated water of other STPs due to black/ brown color and foul order.
2. Funds for projects approved to NABARD for utilizing the treated wastewater of 25 STPs is still awaited.

**Agenda No. 8.13 Review of progress w.r.t. release of 200 cusec of water from Sirhind Canal to Buda Nallah & 150 cusec of water from Mukerian Hydal Channel to Holy Bein**

The Committee noted the progress.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.