

## **Minutes of the 4th Meeting of PAAC-EPC held on October 16, 2017 at CPCB, Delhi**

The 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of PAAC-EPC was held on October 16, 2017 at CPCB for appraising projects submitted under EPC funds. The meeting was chaired by Chairman, Central Board. List of participants is enclosed at Annexure- I.

Four proposals were presented before the committee for consideration. The observations and decisions of committee are summarized below:

- (i) **Study on “Health impact assessment of firecrackers bursting during Dusshera & Diwali” by Maulana Azad Medical College (MAMC):** The project proposal submitted by Dr. M. K. Daga, Professor Director, MAMC was appraised to the Committee. It was informed that the study has been taken up in pursuance to the directions of the Hon’ble Supreme Court of India, regarding submission of report on health impacts of firecrackers bursting during Dusshera & Diwali by December 31, 2017 by a committee headed by Chairman, CPCB. The Committee discussed the matter with health expert Dr. M. K. Daga, COEM, MAMC, and decided to engage MAMC to carry out necessary study. The scope as per proposal submitted by Dr. Daga included questionnaire surveys, clinical sampling (Spirometer testing and urine samples for random subjects) and data analysis during pre and post Diwali time to assess the impact of firecracker bursting at cost of Rs. 7.05 lakh plus taxes. The cost essentially involves hiring of manpower, procurement of a spirometer, sample analysis, etc.

The committee approved study at the cost of Rs. 7.05 lakhs plus taxes as applicable.

- (ii) **Inspections in Delhi for assessing preparedness for maintaining air quality:** The Committee was apprised that CPCB had deputed 40 teams to visit various areas of Delhi starting September 01, 2017 for ground feedback on air polluting activities and status of implementation of GRAP in Delhi in view of upcoming winters. It is proposed that travel expenses & monitoring allowance may be covered from EPC funds.

The committee approved utilization of EPC funds for reimbursement towards local travels and monitoring allowance as per applicable rules and submission of actual bills.

- (iii) **Ambient Air Quality Monitoring in Meerut and Faridabad by M/s Shriram Institute of Industrial Research:** Air Lab-1 apprised the Committee that ambient air quality monitoring in Meerut (03) and Faridabad (01) has been outsourced to M/s Shriram Institute of Industrial Research for two months, in view of the delay in setting up of regular CAAQM stations and upcoming winters.

It was informed that the cost of monitoring as per notified rates would be Rs.47 lakhs for two months i.e. October & November. It is expected that regular CAAQMS would start functioning from December 2017. The Committee approved expenses of Rs 47 lakhs towards ambient air quality monitoring in Meerut (3 locations) and Faridabad (one location) for October & November 2017.

- (iv) **Project on “Development of Emission Factors for authorized firecrackers” by Amity University:** The revised proposal on development of emission factors for authorised firecrackers was presented. However, the Committee opined that more clarity on methodology and cost breakup with justification may be requested from project proponents.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

**List of participants:**

1. Shri S.P Singh Parihar, Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board.
2. Shri A. Sudhakar, Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board.
3. Mr. Prashant K. Banerjee, Deputy Executive Director, Tech Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers
4. Sunil Kumar Singh, Director Department of Heavy Industries, Udyog Bhawan.
5. Mukul Pande, Biofuel Cell, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas
6. D.K. Singh, SEE, Delhi Pollution Control Committee.
7. Shri Sohan Lal, RO, Rajasthan Pollution Control Board
8. S.S. Singh, AEE, Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board (Noida).

**List of Proponents:**

1. Dr S.K. Goyal, Senior Principal Scientist, NEERI, Delhi.
2. Sunil Gulia, Scientist, NEERI, Delhi.
3. Dr A.L Aggarwal, Emeritus Professor, Amity University.
4. Dr. Tanu Jindal, Head ENv. Dept Amity University.

**CPCB Officials:**

1. Dr. Prashant Gargava, Head, AQM
2. Dr D. Shah, Head Air Lab.
3. Mrs. Meetu Puri, SSA, AQM