

### Minutes of 19<sup>th</sup> meeting of Project Appraisal & Approval Committee (PAAC-EPC)

The 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the PAAC-EPC Committee, chaired by Chairman, CPCB, was held on July 31, 2020 via Video Conferencing. List of participants is placed at Annexure - I.

02. Chairman, CPCB welcomed the members and informed the committee that the project on smog tower was approved and awarded to IIT Bombay (IITB) in the 17<sup>th</sup> PAAC-EPC meeting held on January 28, 2020 and it was further considered and approved in the 18<sup>th</sup> PAAC-EPC committee meeting held on April 22, 2020 that a tripartite MoU can be signed with Tata Projects Limited (TPL) and IITB, with IITB giving its advice to CPCB on inclusion of TPL along with the reasons for involving TPL.

03. It was brought to the notice of the Committee that IITB vide email dated 08.06.2020, submitted the justification for involving Tata Projects Limited as a partner in this project, wherein it is stated that IITB has been associated with Tata Centre set-up in the campus of IITB. The Centre is headed by a Professor of IITB and IITB faculty are associated with several academic and R&D projects sponsored by the centre, specifically with the development of low cost air cleaner technologies for indoor premises intended for rural applications. The proposal "Pilot Study for Assessment of Reducing Particulate Air Pollution in Urban Areas by using Air Cleaning System (sometimes called as Smog Tower)" involves execution of the project on ground for which experts with constructional experience of handling large scale projects and also for interfacing with the LLC of University of Minnesota are required. Therefore Tata Projects Limited, a reputed construction company, was approached by IITB for help through the well established academic links with Tata Institutions. It is further stated by IITB that TPL has been involved in evolution of the project and will be potentially able to meet the timelines and therefore suggested to make TPL as a Partner in the project. Copy of the mail received from IITB is annexed to the minutes.

04. Several discussions were held with CPCB, IIT Bombay and TPL to finalise the terms and conditions of the MoU, however two issues were outstanding, namely overall coordination and supervision of the project and verification of works and bills of TPL. Subsequently, the matter came up before the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 21.07.2020 and the court directed that MoU be finalised within one week and drawings be provided. A series of meetings were convened by MoEF&CC and CPCB with IITB and other agencies to discuss the matter. During discussions, IITB informed that they would not be able to supervise work of TPL and do not have expertise to certify tower design drawings. As a result, the MoU could not be executed. The same was informed to Hon'ble Supreme Court on 29.07.2020, however, the court directed that its order be complied with immediately and matter was posted on 30.7.2020 by the Hon'ble Court.

05. In view of the above and considering the urgency of the matter, it became necessary to engage a project management consultant for overall coordination and supervision of the project and also to verify the bills and work of TPL. Therefore, it was decided by MoEF&CC and CPCB to approach NBCC (India) Ltd., a Central Public Sector Enterprise having vast experience in project implementation, for the role of Project Management Consultant (PMC) for this project. NBCC in-principle agreed to associate with the project, however, they expressed that they may have to hire experts to review design and drawings.

06. NBCC shared a draft MoU with CPCB on 30.07.2020. NBCC has proposed agency charges at 8% of the project cost plus applicable GST.



07. MS, CPCB informed the committee about the roles and responsibilities of NBCC that have been envisaged for the project. These include overall coordination with CPCB, IITB & TPL, receiving funds from CPCB and disbursement to TPL after due verification/certification as per milestones, verification of works carried out by Tata Projects Ltd including safety checks and quality assurance, reviewing and certifying design and drawings of the civil structure of the smog tower, verification of bills, ensuring the partners adhere to project timelines, among others. With regard to development and optimization of design, the same will be done by IITB using Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) model.

08. There were some clarifications and queries raised by the committee members regarding the agency charges payable to NBCC for PMC like payment of agency charges on royalty component of University of Minnesota, impact on schedule of installation of smog tower, and the type of agreement with NBCC.

09. Representative of NBCC clarified that the 8% agency charges is inclusive of the cost of hiring consultants/experts for reviewing and certifying designs and drawings of the civil structure of the tower, wherever NBCC may not have expertise and that 8% agency charges have been charged in recent projects like redevelopment of East Kidwai Nagar and Nauroji Nagar. CPCB clarified that the agency charges would be calculated for only the TPL component of the budget, excluding the royalty payable to University of Minnesota. CPCB also informed to the Committee that appointing a PMC agency will help in maintaining quality of execution and keeping the project timelines. It will also facilitate coordination among various agencies. It was further clarified that this proposal of appointing NBCC as PMC would be treated as a part of the same project with a separate bilateral MoU between CPCB and NBCC and the PMC charges would be added to the sanctioned project cost of Rs. 18.52 crore, already approved by PAAC-EPC.

10. In view of the above and taking into account the overall interest of the project, PAAC-EPC committee approved NBCC as the Project Management Consultant in the smog tower project with agency charges of 8% plus applicable GST in addition to the already sanctioned cost of the project.

11. Chairman, CPCB suggested that the PAAC-EPC be convened once every two months to review the progress of existing projects awarded under EPC funds.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

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**List of Participants:**

1. Sh. Shiv Das Meena, Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board
2. Dr. Prashant Gargava, Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board
3. Sh. Arun Mishra, Member Secretary, DPCC
4. Sh. Sundeep, Director, MoEF&CC
5. Sh. Manoj Shrivastav, Deputy Secretary, MoEF&CC (IFD)
6. Dr. JBV Reddy, Scientist 'E', DST
7. Shri V K Soni, Scientist 'E', IMD
8. Sh. Prashant Banerjee, Executive Director, SIAM
9. Sh. Rashid Hasan, Advisor, SIAM
10. Sh. Sandeep Garg, SIAM
11. Sh. Sushil T Williams, Deputy Secretary, MoPNG
12. Sh. Ashutosh Pandey, UPPCB
13. Sh. Pradeep Sharma, UPPCB
14. Representative of DHI

**List of Invitees:**

1. Sh. Rajendra Chaudhari, Director (Commercial), NBCC Ltd.
2. Sh. Pradeep Sharma, GM, NBCC Ltd.

**List of CPCB Officials:**

1. Sh. P. K. Gupta, Addl. Director and Head, AQM Division
2. Sh. Ankush Tewani, Sc. D, AQM Division
3. Sh. Gautam Kumar Sharma, Sc. B, AQM Division