



## Central Pollution Control Board

(Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India)

Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar,

Delhi – 110032

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**Sub: Minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Task Team held on 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 through Video Conferencing for ensuring compliance to Hon'ble NGT order dated 6.12.2019 in OA No 673/2018 in the matter of News Item Published in 'THE HINDU' Titled "More river stretches are now critically polluted: CPCB".**

Fourteenth meeting of the Task Team was held on 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 through Video Conferencing (VC) with the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttarakhand to review and approve, RRC approved & revised action plans for rejuvenation of identified polluted river stretches (PRS) under Priority III & IV categories. The list of participants is enclosed at **Annexure I**.

Dr. Prashant Gargava, Member Secretary, CPCB & Chairman, Task Team welcomed all the members of Task Team and the officials of three States participated in VC Meeting. He suggested that the action plans have already been reviewed three or four times and States may only present the changes made in the revised action plans as per the suggestions made by the task team. Thereafter, Sh. A. Sudhakar, DH, WQM-I added that States must also show the progress made in rejuvenation of identified polluted river stretches as it has been two years already passed since the first NGT order (dated 20.9.2018) came in the matter of O. A. No 673/2018.

Shri J. C. Babu, Scientist 'E', WQM-I briefed about the latest Hon'ble NGT order dated 29.6.2020 passed in OA No. 673 of 2018 and apprised members of Task Team that CPCB Task Team had approved action plans of 61 out of 61 Polluted River Stretches (PRS) in respect of P-I and P-II categories pertaining to 18 States and 02 UTs. Further, subsequent to Hon'ble NGT order dated 06.12.2019, till date, CPCB Task Team have already approved 103 out of 115 action plans of P-III and P-IV category PRS in respect of 24 States and 01 UT. Remaining 12 action plans in respect of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttarakhand are to be reviewed in this meeting.

Thereafter, Sh. J. C. Babu requested the States to make a brief presentation on the proposed action plans for rejuvenation of identified PRS (pertaining to P-III or P-IV) covering details on salient features of polluted river stretch, sources of pollution, detailed gap analysis w.r.t sewage, industrial & waste management, proposed action plans based on detailed gap analysis & as per Hon'ble NGT orders passed in O. A. No. 673/2018, definite timelines, achievable targets, budget estimates and responsible agencies, mechanism for implementation of approved action plans as well as PERT Chart.

Upon detailed deliberations by the Task Team committee members, the recommendations of the task team on the action plans proposed based on the PowerPoint presentation made by the respective State are detailed below.

S No	Name of State	Observations/ suggestions of Task Team	Recommendations of the Task Team
1	Chhattisgarh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Separate action plans to be submitted for all identified polluted river stretches including River wise salient features covering major towns, tributaries, number of drains contributing to pollution, major industrial estates, sources of pollution in river stretches.</li> <li>• Flow of Rivers provided for the year 2017-18, updated information be included.</li> <li>• Action plan need to be revised based on the detailed gap analysis (i.e., generation, existing infrastructure, gaps in management) considering projected population for next 15 years for sewage management, waste management such as MSW, HZW, BMW, C&amp;D and E-waste in catchment area also be considered.</li> <li>• Present status of bio-mining of existing dumpsites (river wise) to be included.</li> <li>• Latest water quality data of Rivers (for physico-chemical, biological and Fecal Coliform, Total Coliform and Fecal Streptococci) and drains (General, Biological and Heavy metals) also be included.</li> <li>• Action plans also be prepared covering aspects such as Flood Plain Zone Protection, Development of Biodiversity Parks, Utilization of Treated Sewage and other aspects as per Hon'ble NGT directions in O. A. No. 673/2018.</li> <li>• Implementing agencies be specified for all action points.</li> <li>• Timeline suggested for completion of action plans be revised in line with timelines given as per Hon'ble NGT directions in O. A. No. 673/2018.</li> </ul>	<p><i>State needed to provide specific actions instead of general actions for all river stretches. Stat may revise Action Plans in respect of P-III and P-IV polluted river stretches. Hence, not recommended.</i></p>
2	Uttarakhand	<p>Action plan of Ganga river was reviewed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action plan need to be revised based on the detailed gap analysis considering projected</li> </ul>	<p><i>Recommended subject to conditions</i></p>

		<p>population for next 15 years for sewage management, waste management in catchment area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water quality data w.r.t Fecal Coliform and Fecal Streptococci also be included in the action plans</li> <li>• Water quality data of previous years i.e. 2018 &amp; 19 be included in the action plan</li> <li>• Performance assessment of the existing 3 STPs in the catchment area be indicated.</li> <li>• Ground water quality data be checked, revised and included in the action plan. Also, indicate actions taken wherever Ground water found to be exceeding the Drinking Water Specification IS 10500:2012</li> <li>• Action plans be proposed covering detailed gap analysis w.r.t sewage, industrial effluent, waste management apart from removal of encroachments in flood plain zone, rain water harvesting, Biodiversity parks development, good irrigation practices, I&amp;D of drains carrying sewage, in-situ remediation of drains and other aspects as per Hon'ble NGT directions</li> </ul>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Jharkhand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The State submitted the revised action plans and attended the VC. But, in the absence of concerned officer, could not make presentation.</li> <li>• The action plans were already circulated to all Task Team members for review.</li> </ul>	<i>Task team members to provide comments/suggestions on the action plans already circulated, within a week time for communicating to Jharkhand State</i>

CPCB Task Team also suggested that

1. The action plans which have been approved subject to conditions, concerned States are required to revise all the action plans of P-III and P-IV category polluted river stretches in light of the recommendations of the CPCB Task Team as mentioned in the Table and also covering aspects as per Hon'ble NGT Orders passed in O. A. No 673/2018, at the earliest. Thereafter, RRC approved revised action plans also be submitted to CPCB and also ensure uploading of such RRC approved action plans in SPCB website or State Government Website in public domain.

2. The action plans which have not been recommended by the CPCB Task Team, in such a case, the State is required to take action for revising action plans in light of the recommendations of the CPCB Task Team as given in the above table and also covering aspects as per Hon'ble NGT Orders passed in O. A. No 673/2018. Thereafter, RRC approved revised action plans be submitted to CPCB by 30.9.2020, for considering in next task team meeting tentatively scheduled in first week of October, 2020.
3. Also, every State/UT in the first instance must ensure that at least one polluted river stretch in each category is restored so as to meet all water quality standards up to bathing level. This may serve as a model for restoring the remaining stretches for ensuring compliance to the Hon'ble NGT directions dated 29.06.2020 passed in OA No. 673 of 2018 and arrange to provide the compliance status in this regard to NMCG/MoJS and CPCB. Also, states which require additional time beyond the timelines specified by Hon'ble NGT, such States/UTs have to file a reply affidavit before Hon'ble NGT seeking additional time for ensuring compliance to Hon'ble NGT directions.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

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**List of Participants**

1. Dr. Prashant Gargava, Member Secretary, CPCB & Chairman, Task Team
2. Sh. Sundeep, Scientist 'F', MoEF&CC (Representative of MoEF & CC)
3. Sh. A. Sudhakar, Scientist 'E', CPCB (Member, Task Team)
4. Sh. Rohit Kakkar, Deputy Advisor (CPHEEO), MoHUA (Member, Task Team)
5. Sh. B. Vinod Babu, Scientist 'E', CPCB (Member, Task Team)
6. Sh. Brijesh Sikka, Senior Consultant, NMCG (Representative of MoJS/NMCG)
7. Sh. J. Chandra Babu, Scientist 'E', CPCB (Member Convener)
8. Ms. Deepty Goyal, SRF, CPCB

**Officials of States –**

1. Chhattisgarh
2. Jharkhand
3. Uttarakhand