

PARTICULARS OF ORGANIZATION, FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES

1.0 ORGANIZATION

The Punjab Pollution Control Board was constituted in the year 1975 after the enactment of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 to preserve the wholesomeness of water. Subsequently, with the enactment of other environmental laws the responsibility to implement the provisions of such laws was also entrusted to the Punjab Pollution Control Board in the State of Punjab.

The basic organization through which the policies and decisions are implemented is headed by the Chairman of the Board, whereas, the Administrative, Financial Planning and legal affairs are looked into by the Member Secretary under the advice of the Chairman. Besides the basic organization, the Board has set up a Hazardous Waste Management Cell, Bio-Medical Waste management Cell, Environment Protection Squad, Consent Management Cell and a General, Planning and Computerization Cell.

1.1 CONSTITUTION OF THE BOARD

The Punjab State Board for the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution was constituted under section 4 of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. The Board consists of :

- ⇒ A full time Chairman.
- ⇒ Such number of persons, not exceeding five, to be nominated by the State Government to represent that Government.
- ⇒ Such number of persons, not exceeding five, amongst the members of Local Authorities functioning within the State.
- ⇒ Such number of non-officials, not exceeding three, to be nominated by the State Government to represent the interest of agriculture, fishery or

industry or trade or any other interest which, in opinion of the State Government ought to be represented.

- ⇒ Two persons to represent the companies or corporations owned, controlled or managed by the State Government to be nominated by the State Government.
- ⇒ A full time Member Secretary, possessing qualifications, knowledge and experience of Scientific, Engineering or management aspects or pollution Control, to be appointed by the State Government.

1.2 MANAGEMENT

The policies and decisions made by the Board are implemented through the following cells constituted according to the functional requirements:

1.2.1 CONSENT MANAGEMENT CELL

The main functions of this cell are :

- To scrutinize applications for consent under the Water Act, 1974 and the Air Act, 1981 as received from the industrial units and local bodies in the State and to scrutinize applications for the authorization under the Hazardous Wastes [Management & Handling] Rules, 1989 as amended to date and the Bio-medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998.
- To scrutinize applications for No Objection Certificates from pollution angle to the new industrial units.
- To vet the designs of effluent treatment plants and air pollution control proposals received from the industries.
- To co-ordinate with other cells within the Board for laboratory back up and monitoring of treatment plant performance.
- To scrutinize the proposals received from the Regional Offices of the Board for launching prosecutions against the defaulting industrial units and the local bodies both under the Water Act, 1974 and Air Act, 1981 and other Rules framed under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

- To prepare cases for initiating legal action under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

1.2.2 ADMINISTRATIVE CELL

The main functions of this cell are :

- General administration
- Personnel management
- Notification and circulars etc.
- Procurement of stationery articles etc.

1.2.3 FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS CELL

The main functions of this cell are as under :

- Maintenance of accounts of water cess collected on behalf of the Government of India and remittance of water cess to the Government of India.
- Maintenance of accounts of share of water cess reimbursement received from the Government of India and income of the Board.
- Assessment of water cess.
- Preparation of salary and other bills of the staff and payment thereof.
- Payment of all kinds of material supply, construction and maintenance of the office and laboratory building etc.
- Preparation of the Budget of the Board.

1.2.4 LEGAL CELL

The activities of this cell are as under :

- To maintain records of all prosecutions approved by the Board and to watch the progress of these cases and to submit progress report of the prosecution to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India and Central Pollution Control Board, New Delhi.
- To assist the Regional Offices in conducting prosecution cases.
- To deal with the legal notices, High Court cases etc.
- To provide legal advice in administrative and financial matters.

1.2.5 SCIENTIFIC CELL

Under this cell, the Board has a modern Central Laboratory at Patiala and Zonal Laboratories at Ludhiana and Jalandhar. The main functions of this cell are to analyze the water, trade effluent, sewage, stack emissions and ambient air samples as collected by the Regional Offices. This cell is responsible for preparation of specifications of scientific instruments and equipments required by the Board's laboratory. This cell is also assisting the Technical Cell to evolve standards to be prescribed by the Board under the provisions of various Acts. The Board has taken up various projects for the monitoring of rivers i.e Sutlej, Beas, Ravi and Ghaggar; soils irrigated by industrial effluents ; sewage, groundwater in certain towns ; and ambient air quality in industrial towns. In addition to this, staff of this cell also visit places for surprise checks and other important purposes and is also maintaining and operating a mobile laboratory for on the spot sampling and analysis.

1.2.6 HAZARDOUS WASTES MANAGEMENT CELL

The main functions of this cell are:

- To scrutinize applications for authorizations under the HWM Rules received from the industrial units in the State.
- To co-ordinate with other cells within the Board for laboratory back up and monitoring of hazardous wastes storage facilities provided by the industries to store hazardous wastes within their premises.
- To scrutinize the proposals received for the development of common Hazardous Wastes Disposal Site.
- To prepare and monitor the inventory of hazardous wastes generating units in the State of Punjab.

1.2.7 GENERAL PLANNING & COMPUTER CELL

This cell performs the following functions :

- Monitoring of planned schemes
- Monitoring of 17 categories of highly polluting industries

- Fixation and monitoring of Board's targets
- Conducting monthly officers meetings of the Board
- Chairman and Member Secretaries conferences
- Correspondence with industrial Associations
- Correspondence with the Government of Punjab, MoEF, Government of India, and other organizations
- Meeting of Empowered Committee/High Level Co-ordination Committee / Udyog Sahayak etc.
- Monitoring of Sutlej Action Plan
- Replies to Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha/Vidhan Sabha Questions/CAG paras etc.
- Activities and Status Report of the Board
- Annual Report of the Board
- Cleaner Technologies
- Municipal Solid Wastes [Management & Handling] Rules, 2000
- Recycled Plastics Rules
- Preparation of advertisements for awareness programmes
- Preparation of effluent/emission standards
- Preparation of sitting guidelines for various types of industries
- Preparation of policy for implementation of environmental laws
- Issuing notifications and Office Orders of various decisions of the Board
- Noise Pollution control Rules
- Library

1.2.8 COMPUTER CELL

- Implementation of Management Information System in the Board which includes four modules namely Consent Information Management System (CIMS), Human Resource Management Information System (HRMIS), Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) and Cess Assessment & Collection Information Management System (CACIS).

- Maintenance and updation of the web site of the Board.
- Information Technology Implementation in the Board as per Govt. policy.
- Maintenance of Local Area Network (LAN) and Wide Area Network (WAN).
- Maintenance of Computer hard wares peripherals as well as soft wares.

1.2.9 CONSTRUCTION CELL

This cell is responsible for the construction & maintenance of the buildings of the Board.

1.3 OBJECTIVES OF THE BOARD

The main objective of the Board is to prevent, control or abate Water and Air, pollution, maintain and restore the wholesomeness of water and the quality of air.

In conformity with the objective, the Board is vested with the authority to oversee, within the State of Punjab, the implementation of following laws and rules relating to pollution control:

- 1 Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 as amended in 1988.
- 2 Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977.
- 3 Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 as amended in 1987.
- 4 Environment [Protection] Act, 1986
- 5 Hazardous wastes [Management & Handling] rules, 1989 as amended todate.
- 6 Manufacturing, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals as amended in 2000.
- 7 Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991.
- 8 Bio-Medical wastes [Handling & Management] Rules, 1998.
- 9 Recycled Plastic [Manufacture & Usage] Rules, 1999.
- 10 Municipal Solid Wastes [Management & Handling] Rules , 2000
- 11 Batteries [Management & Handling] Rules, 2001.

- 12 Manufacturing, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Micro-organisms, genetically engineered organisms or Cells Rules, 1989.
- 13 Environmental Audit Notifications, 1993.
- 14 Environment Impact Assessment Notification dated 27/1/1994 and Notification dated 10/4/1997 for conducting public hearing prior to the issue of No Objection Certificate [consent to establish].
- 15 Chemical Accidents [Emergency Planning, Preparedness & Response] Rules, 1996.
- 16 Notification dated 14/9/1999 on Fly-ash Utilization under EPA, 1996.
- 17 The Noise Pollution (Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000.
- 18 Ozone Depleting Substances (Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000.
- 19 Directives of Hon'ble Supreme Court and High Court.

FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD

Pollution Control-Regulatory Functions

- To inspect industrial plants and manufacturing process, sewage or trade effluents, works and plants for the treatment of sewage and trade effluent or any control equipment, to review plans, specifications or other data relating to plants set up for effluent treatment or air pollution control devices, in connection with the issue consents for installation and operation of industrial plant and to give, such directions to such persons as it may consider necessary to take steps for the prevention and control or abatement of water or air pollution.
- To ensure that hazardous wastes generated by the industry are stored and disposed off without any detrimental effect to the environment.

Pollution Assessment

To assess the quality of water of rivers, streams, wells & ambient air in the State & to plan a comprehensive programme for the prevention, control & abatement of pollution.

Laying down standards for effluent and emissions

To lay down, modify effluent standards for the sewage and trade effluents and for the quality of receiving waters resulting from the discharge of effluents and for the emissions of air pollutants into the atmosphere from industrial plants and automobiles.

Research & Development including setting up of demonstration plants.

To encourage, conduct and participate in investigations and research relating to problems of water & air pollution and prevention, control or abatement thereof and to evolve economical and reliable methods of treatment of sewage and trade effluents, with regard to peculiar conditions of soils, climate and water resources of different regions.

To evolve method of utilization of sewage & trade effluents on land for agricultural purposes.

Environment Awareness Programme

To collect and disseminate information relating to water and air pollution and prevention, control or abatement thereof.

To collaborate with Central Board in organizing the training of persons engaged or to be engaged in program relating to prevention, control or abatement of water and air pollution and to organize mass education programs relating thereto.

Advisory Role

To advise the State Government on any matter concerning the prevention control or abatement of water and air pollution.

Establishment of Laboratories

To establish or recognize laboratories for analyzing of sample of sewage or trade effluent & air emission into the atmosphere.

DUTIES OF THE BOARD

In order to perform its functions under the above Acts, the Board carries out the following main activities:

- It carries out the monitoring of the Water quality of all the four rivers of the State viz. Sutlej, Beas, Ravi & Ghaggar through 37 monitoring stations.
- It monitors the groundwater quality in the major industrial towns of Ludhiana, Jalandhar, Amritsar, Nangal etc.
- It carries out the monitoring of the quality of ambient air of Ludhiana, Jalandhar, Amritsar, Patiala, Mandi Gobindgarh & Nangal through 22 permanent air monitoring stations.
- The Board advises, guides, encourages, persuades & helps the industry in putting up effluent treatment plants and air pollution control devices to control pollution and in taking other measures to prevent or reduce pollution.
- The Board issues NOCs to the new units on submission of a proper scheme for pollution control and issues consent under Water & Air Acts, after the unit takes adequate pollution control measures. It also issues authorizations to Hazardous Waste generating units on their making proper arrangement for storage of such wastes. The Board performs its regulatory function through consent mechanism. The Board issues consents ranging from one year to five years in the case of highly polluting industries and for 15 years, for green category industries.
- The Board launches prosecutions against the units which do not take steps to control pollution inspite of repeated requests & warnings. It also orders closure of units when all other methods fail under the provisions of the Water Act, 1974 and the Air Act, 1981 etc.
- The Board makes available cost effective technologies & sets up model as demonstration plants for control of pollution in small scale units such as cupola furnaces, rice shellers and induction furnaces etc. with the help of Punjab State Council for Science & Technology, Chandigarh.

- It monitors the noise level in the cities generated due to industrial, domestic and other public activities. These studies help the Board in assessing the pollution in the state.
- It monitors the effects on soil due to the discharge of liquid effluents on to land.
- It keeps checks on the disposal of hazardous waste, bio-medical waste and Municipal Solid waste under the provisions of the Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1989 as amended to date, Bio-Medical Waste (Management & handling) Rules and Municipal Solid Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, respectively.