

**Government of Punjab
Department of Science Technology and Environment
Directorate of Environment & Climate Change**

Through e-mail

To

- 1. The Administrative Secretary,**
Deptt. of Local Govt.,
State of Punjab
- 2. The Administrative Secretary,**
Deptt. of Rural Development & Panchayat,
State of Punjab
- 3. The Member Secretary**
Punjab Pollution Control Board
Head Office, Patiala
- 4. The Chief Executive Officer**
Punjab Bio Technology Incubator
SAS Nagar

Letter No. DECC/2024/851-854
Dated: 16/04/2024

Subject: Minutes of the 5th meeting of High-Powered Committee held on 27.03.2024 at 11:00 AM in the Room No. 725, 7th Floor, Punjab Civil Secretariat-2, Sector-9, Chandigarh regarding utilization of Environmental Compensation Funds, in compliance of NGT order dated 21.10.2022 in M.A. No. 74/2022 in O.A. No. 976/2019 titled as Gurinder Singh & Ors Vs Union of India & Ors.

Please find enclosed herewith the minutes of the 5th meeting of High-Powered Committee held on 27.03.2024 at 11:00 AM in the Room No. 725, 7th Floor, Punjab Civil Secretariat-2, Sector-9, Chandigarh for information and further necessary action please.

Encl: As above

Endst No. DECC/2024/855-856


Director (DECC)

Dated 16/04/2024

A copy of above is forwarded to the following:

1. OSD to Chief Secretary, Punjab for information of Chief Secretary, Punjab.
2. Secretary, Department of Science, Technology & Environment for information please.


Director (DECC)

Minutes of 5th meeting of High-Powered Committee held on 27.03.2024 at 11:00 AM in hybrid mode regarding utilization of Environmental Compensation Funds, in compliance of NGT order dated 21.10.2022 in M.A. No. 74/2022 in O.A. No. 976/2019 titled as Gurinder Singh & Ors Vs Union of India & Ors.

Following were present:

1. Sh. Rahul Tewari, IAS, Secretary, Science Technology & Environment (Convenor)
2. Dr. Manish Kumar, Director, DECC (Through VC)
3. T.S. Multani, SE (representative of Administrative Secretary, DRDP)
4. Dr. Puran Singh, Director, (representative of Administrative Secretary, Local Govt.)
5. Dr. Ajit Dua, Chief Executive Officer, PBTI
6. Sh. Pardeep Garg, Additional Director, DECC
7. Sh. Harinder Singh, Environmental Engineer, PPCB
8. Sh. Anil Kumar, ACFA, PPCB

At the outset, Additional Director, DECC apprised the Committee that in compliance of the decisions taken by High Powered Committee (HPC) in the 4th meeting held on 3.01.2023, Director, DECC has taken a meeting with PPCB on 27.02.2024, wherein, it was informed as under:

- (i) PPCB had sanctioned projects of Rs. 20.739 crores under the head of Environmental Compensation before the constitution of High-Powered Committee and released an total amount of Rs. 14.53 Cr. with following details:

| S. No. | Name of Department | Activity | Sanctioned Amount (In Rs.) | Amount released in Rs. and date of release |
|--------------|---|--|----------------------------|--|
| 1 | Punjab Municipal Infrastructure Development Company | For restoration of measures such as improving air quality by following proper processing of waste and legacy waste remediation | 20,68,88,003 | 14,48,21,602 (19.01.2023) |
| 2 | Punjab Pollution Control Board | For Kisaan Sanman Ceremony and for Madhuban theatre | 3,65,000 | 3,65,000 (28.10.2022 & 01.11.2022) |
| 3 | Punjab Pollution Control Board | For one day workshop on vermicomposting | 1,37,410 | 1,37,410 (13.09.2022) |
| Total | | | 20,73,90,413 | 14,53,24,012 |

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- (ii) Further, after the constitution of High-Powered Committee and approval given by said committee, for projects under the head of EC amounting to Rs. 23.51 Cr., PPCB has released Rs. 19.37 Cr. with following details:

| S. No. | Name of Department | Activity | Sanctioned Amount (In Rs.) | Amount released in Rs. and date of release |
|---------------|---------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1 | Local Government / PMIDC | Setting up of the mechanized MRF Centre at Jalandhar | 12,00,00,000 | 8,40,00,000 (10.03.2023) |
| 2 | Rural Development & Panchayats | Re-modeling and renovation of ponds in 26 villages of District Barnala & Solid Waste Management in 9 villages of District Barnala | 7,71,50,000 | 7,71,50,000 (26.07.2023) |
| 3 | Punjab Pollution Control Board | Setting up of Control room / dashboard at HQ, PPCB Patiala for monitoring of all CETPs and other online mechanism etc. | 2,00,00,000 | 2,00,00,000 |
| 4 | Punjab Bio Technology Incubator | Ungradation / strengthening of Environment Monitoring Laboratory at SAS Nagar | 1,80,00,000 | 1,26,00,000 (10.03.2023) |
| Total | | | 23,51,50,000 | 19,37,50,000 |

- (iii) Besides above, PPCB had released Rs. 50 Cr. to DLG (45.45 Cr.), DRDP (3.92 Cr.) & PPCB (0.63 Cr.) for carrying out the activities as per the action plan approved by CPCB, in compliance of NGT order in OA No. 916/2018.

The progress regarding the utilization of funds released as per approval of High Powered Committee was discussed and the stakeholder departments apprised the Committee that the works under the various projects are in progress with status as under:

| S. No. | Name of Project | Status |
|--------|---|--|
| 1 | Setting up of the mechanized MRF Centre at Jalandhar | DPR for setting up of the mechanized MRF Centre at Jalandhar has been approved on 03.01.2024. However, in the said matter, a CWP namely Amit Taneja Vs State of Punjab has been filed in the Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court. |
| 2 | Re-modeling and renovation of ponds in 26 villages of District Barnala & Solid Waste Management in 9 villages of District Barnala | Out of 26 projects of liquid waste management related to village pond rejuvenation, 3 are completed, 4 are near completion and 5 are in progress and remaining 14 will be started after harvesting of wheat crop. Further, out of 9 projects of solid waste management, 1 project completed, 2 are in progress and remaining 6 could not be started due to site dispute. |
| 3 | Setting up of Control room / dashboard at HQ, PPCB Patiala for monitoring of all CETPs and other online mechanism etc. | Letter of allotment issued to M/s Feedback Gurugram for establishing online pollution monitoring control room. The workplan has been approved. |
| 4 | Ungradation / strengthening of Environment Monitoring Laboratory at SAS Nagar | Out of 17 equipment's, the financial evaluation of 9 equipment's has been finalized and order will be placed after model code of conduct, technical evaluation of 3 equipment's is under process and retendering process for remaining 5 equipment's have been initiated. |

Further, representative of PPCB informed that as on 31.01.2024, the total funds available with PPCB under the head of environmental compensation are Rs.10.41 Cr.

After detailed deliberations, the Committee directed as under:

- (i) All the stakeholder departments to expedite the progress of ongoing works for their timely completion.
- (ii) The Department of Local Govt. and Department of Rural Development & Panchayat to submit their three-year action plans for the activities the funds of which have not been tied up under any other scheme.

Meeting ended with the vote of thanks to chair.

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