

Vatavaran Bhawan, Patiala

No: 86 Dated: 23/2/16

Office order

As we are aware that Punjab Pollution Control Board is a regulatory body and is implementing the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and rules framed there under. The functions of the Board are to provide clean and better environment by way of maintaining the quality of air and water by getting provide the Air Pollution Control System from industries and Effluent Treatment Plant to treat the industrial and domestic effluent. It is also monitoring the surface water quality of rivers of the State under the National Water Quality Monitoring Programme and air quality under the National Air Quality Monitoring Programme,

Therefore, while exercising its duties, sometime the society does not accept the action taken by the Punjab Pollution Control Board and approaches the Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court or Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi. The Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court or Hon'ble National Green Tribunal pass suitable directions for Punjab Pollution Control Board to complete the activities in specific time period. Punjab Pollution Control Board makes its best efforts to comply with the directions of the apex courts but some time the public is not satisfied with the action taken by the Board and they file Contempt of Court Petition (COCP) in Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court or Hon'ble National Green Tribunal.

Thus, in these circumstances, it becomes much imperative that immediate action in a diligently manner must be taken to carry out each and every activity to comply with the directions. However, it has been observed that the officers of Punjab Pollution Control Board take such COCP lightly and do not make efforts to get present the case before Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court or Hon'ble National Green Tribunal properly and promptly and even the concerned advocates are not apprised about the action of the Board with regard to the case and such irregularity / inaction of the Board is taken seriously by the Hon'ble apex courts and sometime they pass the adverse orders for Punjab Pollution Control Board.

Further, the Regional Offices of the Board are under the control of Senior Environmental Engineer and Chief Environmental Engineer but very rarely these officers attend the courts personally and they leave the cases on the mercy of Regional Offices and ultimately the Board faces trouble in the form of adverse orders passed by the Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court or Hon'ble National Green Tribunal.

Keeping in view the above, it has been decided by the competent authority that in all COCP cases, the concerned Chief Environmental Engineer and Senior Environmental Engineer and any other officer whose service is essential in such cases must attend the Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court or Hon'ble National Green Tribunal to avoid any adverse action by the Hon'ble apex courts. The Advocates engaged by the Board must be apprised about the action of Punjab Pollution Control Board in all such cases 3 days before the date of hearing before Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court or Hon'ble National Green Tribunal.

These orders shall come into force with immediate effect.

(Dr. Babu Ram) **Member Secretary** 

Dated: 23/2/16

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A copy of the above is forwarded to the following for information and necessary action:

- 1. The Chief Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Bathinda (HQ at Patiala), Patiala, Ludhiana & Jalandhar.
- 2. The Chief Environmental Engineer (Head Quarter), Punjab Pollution Control Board, Patiala.
- 3. The Special Secretary (G & P), Punjab Pollution Control Board, Mohali.
- 4. The Senior Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Zonal Office, Patiala 1/2, Ludhiana 1/2, Jalandhar, Amritsar, Bathinda.
- 5. The Senior Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, (Head Quarter 1/2/3), Patiala.
- 6. The Senior Scientific Officer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Head Office, Patiala.
- 7. The Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, HWM /EPA(BMW)/Mega/Const/CSA, SEAC/SEIAA; Environmental Engineer(HQ-1/2/3), Regional Office, Amritsar, Hoshiarpur, Jalandhar/Faridkot/Sangrur/Bathinda/Patiala/Batala/Fatehgarh Sahib, Ludhiana-1/2/3/4 & SAS Nagar.
- 8. The Environmental Engineer (Computer), Punjab Pollution Control Board, Head Office, Patiala.
- 9. The Scientific Officer (Air), Punjab Pollution Control Board, Head Office, Patiala.
- 10. The Deputy Control (Finance & Account), Punjab Pollution Control Board, Head Office, Patiala.
- 11. The Administration Officer 1/2, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Head Office, Patiala.
- 12. The PA to Chairman/ PS to Member Secretary.

(Dr. Babu Ram)

Member Secretary

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