

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

**Original Application No. 70 of 2020 (SZ)**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

Tribunal on its own motion- SUO MOTU Based on  
The News item in the New Indian Express, Chennai  
Edition dated 16.05.2020, "Ammonia leak from Madras  
Fertilizers Limited worries residents in Chennai's Manali"

... Applicant(s)

Versus

Union of India  
Rep. by its Secretary  
Ministry of Environment and Forests and  
Climate Change, New Delhi and Others

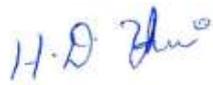
... Respondents(s)

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**Place: Chennai  
Date : 23.08.2021**



  
**DEPONENT**  
**H.D. VARALAXMI, M.Tech**  
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CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
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**Compliance Status Report of the Joint Committee**  
*(As per Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone, Chennai*  
*Order dated 11.06.2021 in OA no. 70/2020)*

**1. Background**

The Honourable National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone, Chennai, in the matter of OA No. 70 of 2020 directed on 11.06.2021 as;

*“...The joint committee and the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board are directed to submit a further compliance report and action taken report respectively to this Tribunal on or before 08.07.2021 by e-filing...”*

Due to COVID 19 pandemic situation, joint committee requested one-month time for filing the compliance report. Thereafter, the case got reposted to 25.08.2021.

In compliance to the Hon'ble Tribunal order, a joint committee meeting followed by inspection carried out on 13.08.2021. The compliance status of the following points suggested in the joint committee report were discussed;

**2. AAQ Survey & Source Emission Monitoring;**

In the matter of OA no. 256/2020, Hon'ble NGT (SZ), Chennai directed six industries in Manali area to verify the compliance of AAQ as well as source emission, in which M/s MFL is one of the industry, where monitoring was carried out during 29.03.2021 to 31.03.2021. The analysis result shows that source emission of utility boiler and AAQ are meeting the prescribed standards.

- The measured PM, NO<sub>2</sub> & SO<sub>2</sub> emission measured from utility boiler stack are 36.4 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>, 14 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>, & 293 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> respectively.
- In Ambient Air Quality monitoring eight sampling locations were identified to assess the GLC of point source emission of Gaseous and Particulate matter. The sampling locations are NNE Side of the Plant, NW Side of the Plant, WSW Side of the Plant, ENE Side of the Plant, SE Side of the Plant, SSW Side of the Plant, Near Main Gate (Road Side) and Beside Road Towards Moolakadai (Road Side).

- Sulphur Dioxide as SO<sub>2</sub>: Ambient Air Quality measurement values of SO<sub>2</sub> are ranging from 8.7 to 12.1µg/m<sup>3</sup>. Highest value of 12.1µg/m<sup>3</sup> is obtained, which is within the NAAQM standards.

Nitrogen Dioxide as NO<sub>2</sub>: Ambient Air Quality values of NO<sub>2</sub> are ranging from 11.9 to 17.7µg/m<sup>3</sup>. Highest value of 17.7µg/m<sup>3</sup> is obtained, which is within the NAAQM standards.

- Particulate Matter (PM10): Ambient Air Quality values of PM10 are ranging from 56.9 to 87.3µg/m<sup>3</sup>. Highest value of 87.3µg/m<sup>3</sup> is obtained and however the values are within the NAAQM standards.

Particulate Matter (PM2.5): Ambient Air Quality values of PM2.5 are ranging from 28.5 to 44.4µg/m<sup>3</sup>. Highest value of 44.4µg/m<sup>3</sup> is obtained, which is within the NAAQM standards.

Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>): Ambient Air Quality values of NH<sub>3</sub> are ranging from 21.4 to 33.5µg/m<sup>3</sup>. Highest value of 33.5µg/m<sup>3</sup> is obtained, which is within the NAAQM standards.

### 3. *Compliance Status of the directions issued by TNPCB;*

- a. The unit shall provide RO plant for the entire quantity of trade effluent generated from Cooling Tower as Cooling Water Blow down (4800KLD), Boiler Blow down (30KLD) and DM plant regeneration (300KLD) as reported which is one of the CEPI long term action plan. (Target: January 2021)*

**Yet to comply:** Installation work of RO system under progress. The industry is having three RO system for treatment of secondary treated sewage procured from Kodungaiyur STP. At present, the industry is partially procuring TTRO water from Kodungaiyur STP, so one RO system (line A) is in standby, this line A is presently used to treat above said wastewater generated from the industry until commencement of new dedicated RO system. The industry committed to comply by December 2021.

- b. The unit shall connect all EMFMs provided to Care Air Centre, TNPCB and CPCB (Target: January 2021)

**Yet to Comply.** The industry committed to comply by December 2021.

- c. The unit shall replace the furnace oil usage with LNG for the two utility boilers of capacities 55 T/ Hr each to reduce the emissions. (Target: June 2021)

**Yet to Comply.** The industry committed to comply by February 2021.

- d. The unit shall restore the CAAOMS station with the sensor parameters such as PM10, PM2.5, SOx, NOx, CO, NH<sub>3</sub>& O<sub>3</sub> as the one station near North gate is in operation and connected to CAC, Chennai and another station near ETP is in partial operation. The remaining stations were not in operation since, 2016 due to Vardha Cyclone. (Target: March 2021)

**Complied,** but yet to establish online connectivity to TNPCB/ CPCB server. The industry committed to complete connectivity by August 2021.

4. *The following recommendations are suggested by the committee for not complying with AAQ Standards and exceeding the discharge norms of source emission from utility boiler*

- i) On-line monitoring at critical emission points shall be installed to provide information about the effect of malfunctions in the process and consequently the process conditions can be corrected.

**Partially Complied.** Installation of CEMS analyzer in 110 ATA PCB common stack is completed. In Boiler 1 & 2 common stack yet to complete. The industry committed to complete by August 2021.

- ii) Proper fuel to air combustion ratio should be maintained to keep down the NOx generation in the boiler.

**Complied.**

- iii) All liquid wastes (water in the gutter) should be properly treated and recycled into the process, so that stripping of ammonia from the process water can be minimized.

**Complied.**

- iv) The unit has provided collection tank for process water spillage/ seepage and informed, the collected water is taken back for treatment. But during inspection, it is observed that the spillage water is collected through the storm water drain, so the unit shall provide separate drains for spillage & storm water.

**Yet to comply.** The unit is not collected the spillage/seepage flowing through storm water drain, though the unit has provided collection tank. The unit is disposing the spillage/seepage on land for open percolation. The unit is yet to provide pipeline for conveying the same for treatment and recycling.

- v) The unit must take continuous effort on monitoring the plant and carrying out periodical inspection of the valves, gaskets, and pipelines of the ammonia and urea plant to avoid ammonia leakages in the plant.

**Complied.**

- vi) **The unit shall revamp the plant equipment and re-design the process to abate the pollution problem.**

**Yet to comply.**

- vii) **As the unit's NPK fertilizer manufacturing buildings and utilities including pipelines are in dilapidated condition and requires complete revamping.**

**Yet to comply.**

- viii) **The unit shall obtain authorization under the provisions of Hazardous & Other Wastes (Management, & Trans boundary Movement) Rules 2016.**

**Yet to Comply.** The industry has re-submitted application to TNPCB on 07.07.2021.

- ix) **It was informed that validity of HW Authorization expired on 23.11.2014, since then the spent catalyst generated is stored in the unit premises. The unit shall take necessary action for disposal of spent catalyst.**

The unit started disposing to HW to authorised recycler and status of quantity waste generated, disposed & stored are given below

Category	Opening balance April 2021	Disposed till March 2021	Opening balance April 2021	Generation from April to June 2021	Disposed till June 2021	Balance as on June 2021
Used/ Waste oil						
a) Lubricating oil	20	Nil	40.26	Nil		40.26
b) Residue containing oil	3.0		3.0		3.0	Nil
Spent Catalyst	166.77	61.60	105.17	Nil	Nil	105.17
PVC Empty chemical drums	350	Nil	769	231	Nil	1000

- x) *The hazardous waste facility should be provided with leak/spill management systems to avoid any accidents that may occur due to spillage.*

**Complied.**

- xi) *The spacing between the containers can be increased as per the provision given by CPCB.*

**Complied.**

- xii) *Additional shed can be constructed to store the hazardous waste containers and spent catalyst accumulated in the hazardous waste shed so that storage of these wastes in open space can be avoided.*

**Complied.**

- xiii) *The waste containers must also be named along with the characteristics of the hazardous waste stored so that the safety protocols can be followed accordingly during transportation and handling of the waste.*

**Complied.**

5. *TNPCB to impose the environmental compensation of Rs 37,35,000/- calculated by the committee for 83 days (till 17.11.2020) and thereon, each day Rs 45,000/- until fully compliance of emission norms/ closure direction.*

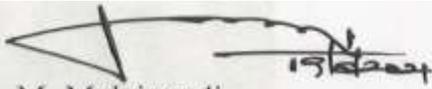
TNPCB shall be directed to impose the above stated environmental compensation on M/s MFL, Manali.

Out of 17 suggestions given in the committee report, 9 works has been complied, 3 works is under progress and remaining 5 works are at initial stage. It is informed by the industry that due to COVID-19 situation delay in the work progress.

In view of the above, it is prayed by the joint committee that TNPCB shall periodically review the industry to the comply the recommendations at the earliest and the industry shall be directed to remit the compensation.



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**Photographs**



RO Plant Erection Work Progress



CAAQMS Station



HW Storage in Closed Shed