



ANDHRA PRADESH POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
Dr. YSR Paryavaran Bhavan, APIIC Colony Road,
Gurunanak Colony, Autonagar, Vijayawada- 520 007



Lr. No. 109/APP/PCB/Legal/NGT-PB/OA No.693 of 2023/2024

Dt. 3.01.2025

To
The Registrar General,
Hon'ble National Green Tribunal,
Faridkot House, Copernicus Marg,
New Delhi - 110 001.
Email: judicial-ngt@gov.in

Sir,

Sub:- APPCB – Legal –Suo motu case in O.A. No.693 of 2023(PB) in the Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi based on News Item appeared in the Deccan Herald 24.10.2023 entitled “Pollution Control Boards are weak link” – Progress report of Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board- Submitted - Reg.

- Ref:-**
1. Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, New Delhi Orders dt.23.11.2023 in O.A. No. 693 of 2023 (PB)
 2. Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, New Delhi Orders dt. 02.02.2024 in O.A. No. 693 of 2023 (PB)
 3. APPCB Lr. No. 109/APP/PCB/Legal/NGT-PB/OA No.693 of 2023/2024 -, dt. 23.02.2024.
 4. Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, New Delhi Orders dt.12.04.2024 in O.A. No. 693 of 2023 (PB)
 5. APPCB Lr. No. 109/APP/PCB/Legal/NGT-PB/OA No.693 of 2023/2024 -112 dt. 24.05.2024 to CPCB.
 6. APPCB Lr. No. 109/APP/PCB/Legal/NGT-PB/OA No.693 of 2023/2024 - 167 dt. 25.06.2024 to CPCB.
 7. Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, New Delhi Orders dt.11.09.2024 in O.A. No. 693 of 2023 (PB).
 8. CPCB Lr F.No. CM—13011/174/2023- LAW-HO, Dt. 23.09.2024

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With references to the above, it is to submit that the Original Application (OA) No. 693 of 2023(PB) has been registered in suo motu exercise of power by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Principal Bench (PB), New Delhi on the basis of the News Item titled “Pollution control boards are the weak link” appearing in the Deccan Herald dt. 24.10.2023.

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The Hon'ble NGT in its latest order dt. 11.09.2024 directed to file progress by way of an affidavit by providing an advance copy to the Counsel for the CPCB at least one week before the next date of hearing. The CPCB in the ref. 8th cited also requested the SPCBs / PCCs to send progress report.

In compliance with the above order, please find herewith attached the Affidavit of the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board for kind information and consideration.

Encl: As above.

Yours faithfully,


31/1/25
Member Secretary
3-K25-

1. Copy submitted to the Member Secretary CPCB, Parvesh Bhavan, East Arjun Nagar, New Delhi - 110032 for favour of information. (email: pcp.cpcb@gov.in).
2. Copy submitted to the Spl. Chief Secretary to Govt., Govt of A.P. A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi. EFS&T Department

2149

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, NEW
DELHI

IN

O.A. NO. 693 OF 2023

IN THE MATTER OF :

O.A. No. 693/2023 (PB) News Item titled "Pollution Control Boards are the weak link" appearing in Deccan Herald dated 24.10.2023.

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Dt. 3 .01.2025

Place: Vijayawada.

FILED BY:



MEMBER SECRETARY

ANDHRA PRADESH POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

MEMBER SECRETARY
A.P. Pollution Control Board
VIJAYAWADA-520 007.



BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, NEW
DELHI

IN

O.A. NO. 693 OF 2023

IN THE MATTER OF :

O.A No. 693/2023 (PB) News Item titled "Pollution Control Boards are the weak link" appearing in Deccan Herald dated 24.10.2023.

**AFFIDAVIT FILED BY THE MEMBER SECRETARY, ANDHRA
PRADESH POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD AS PER THE HON'BLE
NGT, NEW DELHI ORDER DT. 11.09.2024 IN O.A. NO. 693 OF 2023(PB)**

I, S. Sri Saravanan, Son of Shri A. Shanmugam, aged about 51 years, R/o Vijayawada, NTR District, presently at Vijayawada, do hereby affirm on oath and state as under: -

1. I am holding the office of the Member Secretary of Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board. The present affidavit is filed in pursuance to the order dated 11.09.2024 of this Hon'ble Tribunal and the contents of the present affidavit are based on the records as maintained by the Pollution Control board.
2. The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Principal Bench (PB), New Delhi registered an Original Application (OA) No.693 of 2023 (PB) in Suo-Motu on the basis of the News Item titled "Pollution Control Boards are the weak link" appearing in Deccan Herald dated 24.10.2023.
3. The Hon'ble Tribunal heard the matter on 12.04.2024 and directed the Member secretaries of State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) to file an affidavit before the Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) within a period of six weeks from 12.04.2024. Subsequently, the Member Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPCB) filed an affidavit before the Member Secretary, CPCB on 24.05.2024. Accordingly, a meeting was conducted by the CPCB on 14.06.2024 with the Member Secretaries and officials of SPCBs under the Chairmanship of Member Secretary, CPCB and the same was attended by the APPCB




MEMBER SECRETARY
A.P. Pollution Control Board
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Officials. The CPCB requested to resubmit affidavit by SPCBs for consolidating the information for the preparation of counter affidavit. The APPCB submitted the Resubmission of Affidavit to the CPCB on 25.06.2024. The APPCB further submitted additional information to the CPCB, New Delhi on 24.07.2024.

4. The Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi heard the matter on 29.07.2024 and the matter was listed on 11.09.2024. The CPCB tabulated the information based on the affidavits submitted by SPCBs/PCCs. The Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi heard the matter on 11.09.2024 and issued the following order:

"5. Though from that order it appears that the direction of the Hon'ble the Supreme Court is to all the States to fill up the vacancies of PCBs/PCCs by 30.04.2025 but since Counsel for GNCTD has submitted that the said direction applies to the States falling within NCR, therefore, we hereby direct that the State/UT not covered by the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 27.08.2024 will also fill up the posts lying vacant in the SPCBs/PCCs latest by 30.04.2025. All the possible efforts will also be made within this period to provide adequate infrastructure in the laboratories of the PCBs/PCCs and to make them fully functional.

6. We also take note of the fact that in some of the States/UTs the adequate number of laboratories do not exist, therefore, expeditious steps will be taken to cure it.

7. Let the progress report indicating the compliance of this order be filed by all the States/UTs by way of an affidavit by providing an advance copy to the Counsel for the CPCB at least one week before the next date of hearing.

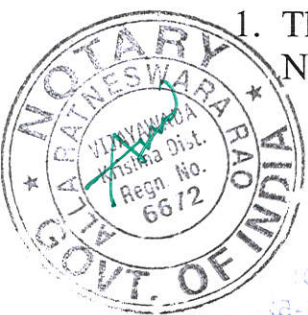
8. List on 09.01.2025."

Copy of the Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi order is enclosed for kind perusal (Annexure-I). In compliance with the above, the following item-wise information, is submitted:

A. FILLING UP OF VACANCIES:

Recruitment Phase-I:

1. The Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission (APPSC) issued Notification No.15/2023, dt.26/12/2023 for filling up of 21 Assistant



[Signature]
MEMBER SECRETARY
A.P. Pollution Control Board
WAWADA-520 007.

Environmental Engineer (AEE) posts in the APPCB. The APPSC announced schedule for conducting the written tests for the above posts to be held on 25.03.2025, i.e., Paper-I (General Studies & Mental Ability) on 25.03.2025 from 9:30 AM to 12:00 Noon and Paper-II (Common Subject Paper) on 25.03.2025 from 2:30 PM to 5:00 PM.

2. The APPSC issued Notification No.02/2024, dt.09/02/2024 for filling up of 18 Analyst Gr.II posts in the APPCB. The APPSC announced schedule for conducting the written tests for the above posts to be held on 25.03.2025 and 26.03.2025 i.e., Paper-I (General Studies & Mental Ability) on 25.03.2025 from 9:30 AM to 12:00 Noon and Paper-II (Concerned Subject) on 26.03.2025 from 9:30 AM to 12:00 Noon.
3. After due procedure, the process of recruitment will be completed and it is expected that the issue of posting orders will be completed by end of April 2025 and men will be in place by 30.04.2025. Examination Calendar issued by APPSC is enclosed for kind perusal(Annexure-II).

Recruitment Phase-II:

1. The Government of Andhra Pradesh in EFS&T Department was addressed vide letter dt.11/12/2024 to accord approval for filling up of 84 entry level posts through direct recruitment (AEEs-40; Analysts Gr.II-18 and Ministerial posts-26 posts) through APPSC. It is expected that the permission will be accorded by 31.01.2025.
2. After receipt of the above approval, the due process of recruitment will start through APPSC and it is expected to complete the whole process of filling up of the above 84 vacancies by 30.06.2025.

STATEMENT SHOWING VACANCIES IN ENTRY LEVEL POSTS IN APPCB (TO BE FILLED ON PRIORITY BASIS)

S. No.	Name of the post	No. of vacancies
1.	Asst. Environmental Engineers (AEEs)	40
2.	Analyst Gr.II	18
3.	Multi Tasking Clerk (General) (Previously Steno-cum-Typist)	6




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4.	Junior Office Assistants (Originally changed nomenclature of the posts of Junior Asst- cum-Typist (4), Jr. Asst. (5) & Typist (10) now mentioned as such in terms of G.O.Ms. No.26, Gen Admn. (Ser.B) Dept., dt: 12.03.2024)	19
5.	Multi Tasking Clerk (Stores, Tenders & Procurement) (Previously Stores- cum-Purchase Assistant)	1
	TOTAL:	84

Copy of the proposal dt. 11.12.2024 submitted to the EFS & T Department, GoAP is enclosed for kind perusal (Annexure-III).

B. Adequate infrastructure of Laboratories/ Adequate number of Laboratories:

APPCB is having 4 Zonal Laboratories viz., at Vijayawada, Visakhapatnam, Kurnool and Tirupati and one Regional Laboratory at Kakinada operational in the state, to enable the Board to perform its functions including the analysis of samples of water and air under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

As per the Pollution Control Acts, Rules, Notifications issued by MoEF & CC, the Board Laboratories have to be notified by the State Government under Schedule I of E(P) Act. The status of notification of APPCB laboratories is detailed below:

S. No.	Description	Progress report
I	<i>Details of Laboratories with w.r.t. Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974</i>	
	Have all laboratories (5 nos.) has been notified in the Official Gazette.	Proposals were placed in the 15 th Board meeting held on 30.12.2024 for Notification of Laboratories in the Official Gazette of Government of AP, which have been accepted and agreed in principle by the Board.

MEMBER SECRETARY
A.P. Pollution Control Board
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		The proposals are being sent to the Government for approval and the process will be completed by 31.01.2025.
II	<i>Details of Laboratories with w.r.t. Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981</i>	
	Have all laboratories (5 nos.) has been notified in the Official Gazette.	Proposals were placed in the 15 th Board meeting held on 30.12.2024 for Notification of Laboratories in the Official Gazette of Government of AP, which have been accepted and agreed in principle by the Board. The proposals are being sent to the Government for approval and the process will be completed by 31.01.2025.

Copy of the agenda item placed in the in the 15th Board meeting of the APPCB is enclosed kind perusal (Annexure-IV).



DEPONENT

MEMBER SECRETARY
A.P. Pollution Control Board
VIJAYAWADA-520 007.

VERIFICATION

I, the above-named Deponent, do hereby solemnly affirm and verify that the contents of this affidavit are true to the best of my knowledge and belief and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

Verified on this the 3rd day of January 2025 at Vijayawada.



Am
23/01/2025
Alla Ratneswara Rao
B.Com., LL.B
ADVOCATE - NOTARY
Appointed by Central Govt
VIJAYAWADA, Krishna Dt. A.P.



DEPONENT

MEMBER SECRETARY
A.P. Pollution Control Board
VIJAYAWADA-520 007.

Item No. 13

Court No. 1

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**

Original Application No. 693/2023

News Item titled "Pollution Control Boards are the weak link" appearing in Deccan Herald dated 24.10.2023

Date of hearing: 11.09.2024

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRAKASH SHRIVASTAVA, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDHIR AGARWAL, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. A. SENTHIL VEL, EXPERT MEMBER**

Respondents: Mr. Amit Singh Chauhan, Adv. for CPCB (Through VC)
Ms. Srishti Govil & Mr. Divyanshu Agrawal, Advs. for MoEF & CC (Through VC)
Mr. Bhanwar Pal Singh Jadon & Ms. Hrishika Rawat, Advs. for the State of UP
Ms. Madhumita Bhattacharjee, Adv. for the State of West Bengal
Mr. Rahul Khurana, Adv. for the State of Haryana & HSPCB
Mr. Shubham Bhalla & Ms. Ragini Sharma, Advs. for R - 30 (Through VC)
Mr. Kaushal Gautam, AAG for the State of Uttarakhand (Through VC)
Ms. Jyoti Mendiratta, Adv. for Govt. of NCT of Delhi (Through VC)
Mr. Gigi. C. George, Adv. for Andaman & Nicobar Islands
Mr. Jogy Scaria, Adv. for KSPCB
Mr. Nishe Rajen Shonker, Adv. for the State of Kerala
Mr. Arunav Patnaik & Ms. Anju Rani, Advs. for the State of Odisha (Through VC)
Mr. A.V. Nair, Adv. for Gujarat PCB (Through VC)
Mr. Ghansham Singh, Member Secretary, J&K PCC (Through VC)
Mr. Vaibhav Srivastava, Adv. for HPSPCB (Through VC)
Mr. Apoorv Kurup & Ms. Aanchal, Advs. for UT of Lakshadweep (Through VC)

ORDER

1. In this original application, the Tribunal is considering the issue of filling up of the vacant posts in the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) and Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and also creation of adequate infrastructure therein.
2. The reports by various States and Union Territories (UTs) have been filed and the vacancy position has been tabulated by the CPCB in its report dated 05.09.2024 as under:

"Table 2a: Status of Posts in State Pollution Control Boards

S. No.	SPCBs	Posts		Duration of Vacancy (Months)	Reasons for not filling vacancy	Timeline for filling the vacant posts (Months)
		Sanction	Vacancy			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	291	204	121	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bifurcation of State Due to delay in govt. permissions. Model code of conduct 	6*
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	27	0	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
3.	Assam	265	31	1 to 120	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No eligible candidate in the feeder cadre for promotional posts New recruit did not join 	4 to 60
4.	Bihar	127	30	2 to 270	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of service regulations by State Govt. 	10 to 12
5	Chhattisgarh	328	204	< 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No eligible candidate in the feeder cadre for Promotion posts Approval of State Govt. 	12*
6	Goa	140	13	15 to 40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No eligible candidate in the feeder cadre for Promotion posts Due to court proceedings Due to administrative reasons 	4
7	Gujarat	430	260	Not provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most of the officer superannuated in last 3 years. 233 posts were abolished during 2017. Delay in recruitment due to model code of conduct. 	5 to 17
8.	Haryana	450	273	2 to 243	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No eligible candidate in the feeder cadre for Promotion posts No application received for deputation 	2 to 8
9.	Himachal Pradesh	375	149	2 to 100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No eligible candidate in the feeder cadre for Promotion posts Due to Court proceedings. Closure of HPSSC Sudden demise of employee. Creation of new posts 	1 to 18

S. No.	SPCBs	Posts		Duration of Vacancy (Months)	Reasons for not filling vacancy	Timeline for filling the vacant posts (Months)
		Sanction	Vacancy			
10	Jharkhand	271	198	Not provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment and Service Rules are in the process of preparation. 	12
11	Karnataka	723	437	Not provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No eligible candidate in the feeder cadre for Promotion posts Model code of conduct 	6
12	Kerala	434	25	1 to 36	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No eligible candidate in the feeder cadre for Promotion posts Appointment by Kerala PSC Leaving prior to retirement 	3 to 12
13	Madhya Pradesh	1228	783	Not provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to Court proceedings. 	18
14	Maharashtra	839	366	6 to 120	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staffing pattern not sanctioned by Govt. Govt. allowed to fill only 80% vacancy. Driver, Peon, Chowkidar posts were filled through Outsourcing 	6 to 9
15	Manipur	119	75	1 to 120	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No eligible candidate in the feeder cadre for Promotion posts Concurrence from State Cabinet 	Not provided
16	Meghalaya	152	71	3 to 42	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No eligible candidate in the feeder cadre for Promotion posts Approval of Reservation Roaster Due to Court proceedings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 months for 54 posts. No time line for remaining posts.
17	Mizoram	14	4	24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of Govt. 	6*
18	Nagaland	17	0	Not applicable		
19	Odisha	463	273	Not provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Model code of conduct Due to Court proceedings. 	6
20	Punjab	652	309	1 to 423	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No eligible candidate in the feeder cadre for Promotion posts Due to Court proceedings. Model code of conduct. For some period, Chairman post was vacant PPCB is considering restructuring of some 	12

S. No.	SPCBs	Posts		Duration of Vacancy (Months)	Reasons for not filling vacancy	Timeline for filling the vacant posts (Months)
		Sanction	Vacancy			
					posts	
21	Rajasthan	808	488		Not provided	
22	Sikkim	11	11	34 to 60	• Recruitment process is kept on hold as Admin. Dept. unable to allocate fund.	12 for promotional posts
23	Tamil Nadu	1118	493	12 to 36	• No eligible candidate in the feeder cadre with service qualification • Approval of Govt. for revision of Service Regulation	12 to 24
24	Telangana	230	104	2 to 120	• No eligible candidate in the feeder cadre for Promotion posts • Approval of Govt. for upgradation of 42 non-technical posts.	12
25	Tripura	28	4	48	• Change in recruitment policy • Model Code of Conduct	15
26	Uttarakhand	130	79	Not provided	• Approval of Govt. for new service regulations	18
27	Uttar Pradesh	732	339	6 to 348	• No eligible candidate in the feeder cadre for Promotion posts • Govt. Approval for Recruitment Rules for Group B post. • No appointment in Class 4, as per UP Govt. except Junior Technical posts	Not Provided
28	West Bengal	308	128	5 to 300	• No eligible candidate in the feeder cadre for Promotion posts • Some posts are Initiated for surrender	12 to 18
Sub-Total (A)		10710	5351			

Note: * After approval of the Govt.

Table 2b: Status of Posts in Pollution Control Committees

S. No.	PCCs	Posts		Duration of Vacancy (Months)	Reason for not filling	Timeline for filling the Vacant Posts (Months)
		Sanction	Vacancy			
1.	A&N	9	3	45	• Post abolished due to not filling up within 5 years as per DoPT.	Advt. in a Month

S. No.	PCCs	Posts		Duration of Vacancy (Months)	Reason for not filling	Timeline for filling the Vacant Posts (Months)
		Sanction	Vacancy			
2.	Chandigarh	9	1	172	• Technical issues in Recruitment Rules	6
3.	DNH&DD	12	10	60	• Post abolished due to not filling up within 5 years as per DoPT	24
4.	Delhi	344	153	1 to 108	Not provided	2 to 17
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	445	139	72 to 324	• Recruitment Rules not finalized. • Restructuring of Organization set-up	24
6.	Ladakh	16	11	39	• Recruitment Rules to be notified. • Bifurcation of State in to UTs	Not provided
7.	Lakshadweep	5	0	Not applicable	Not Applicable	Not applicable
8.	Puducherry	12	3	4 to 161	• No exclusive admin. Posts, relies on Dept. of S&T support. • Model code of Conduct. • Initiated for appointment of consultants	4
Sub-Total (B)		852	320			
Total (A+B)		11562	5671			

3. The above chart shows that a large number of posts are lying vacant in various SPCB/PCCs for long which is affecting their function and consequential lapses in monitoring.

4. Learned Counsel for the GNCTD has pointed out that the issue of filling up of vacant posts in the States of Rajasthan, Punjab, NCT of Dehi, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana falling in the National Capital Region (NCR) is under consideration before Hon'ble the Supreme Court in Writ Petition(s) (Civil) No(s). 13029/1985, wherein the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 27.08.2024 has fixed the outer time limit for filling in all the vacancies by

30.04.2025. The order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 27.08.2024 in Writ Petition(s) (Civil) No(s). 13029/1985 is as under:

"We have perused the compliance reported by the States of Rajasthan, Punjab, NCT of Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana which are States falling in the National Capital Region.

These States were called upon to file compliance affidavits regarding filling in the vacant posts in the respective State Pollution Control Boards. A substantial number of posts are vacant in relation to these five States. Initially, we were inclined to grant an outer limit till 31st March, 2025, to fill in all the vacant posts. However, Ms. Aparajita Singh, learned Senior Advocate appointed as Amicus Curiae, is right when she pointed out that very soon the issue of stubble burning and pollution will arise. She invited our attention to the provisions of the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021 (for short, "the 2021 Act"). The object of establishing the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas (for short, "the Commission") under Section 3 of the 2021 Act is for better coordination, research, identification and resolution of problems surrounding the air quality index and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

Our attention is also invited by the learned Amicus Curiae to Section 11 of the 2021 Act which provides for constitution of Sub Committees including a Sub-Committee on Safeguarding and Enforcement. The constitution of the Sub-Committee on Safeguarding and Enforcement has been laid down in sub-Section (3) of Section 11 of the 2021 Act.

Today, the situation is that due to a large number of vacant posts in the State Pollution Control Boards, the said Boards have become ineffective for all purposes. Now, the question is what steps the Commission proposes to take. The issue is of a very urgent nature as the State Pollution Control Boards, who have more than sufficient powers to take steps for controlling pollution, are virtually defunct. We, therefore, direct the Chairperson of the Commission to remain present through video conference on the next date and explain to us what steps the Commission proposes to take. Our attention is also invited to clause (c) of sub-Section (6) of Section 12 of the 2021 Act. The Chairperson of the Commission will have to address the Court on this aspect also.

We make it clear that all States have to endeavour to fill in the important posts urgently. Under no circumstances, we are going to grant them time for filling in all the vacancies beyond 30th April, 2025.

The States of Rajasthan, Punjab, NCT of Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana will address the issue of filling in substantial vacancies in the State Pollution Control Boards on urgent basis and the outer limit therefor. These States will endeavour to fill in the vacant posts, which are required to be filled in by directing

recruitment, within a period of two months from today. However, a specific statement shall be made by these States on the next date.

It will be open for the Chairperson of the Commission to file an affidavit indicating the steps which the Commission proposes to take in terms of the provisions of the 2021 Act.

List on 2nd September, 2024."

5. Though from that order it appears that the direction of Hon'ble the Supreme Court is to all the States to fill up the vacancies of PCBs/PCCs by 30.04.2025 but since Counsel for GNCTD has submitted that the said direction applies to the States falling within NCR, therefore, we hereby direct that the State/UT not covered by the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 27.08.2024 will also fill up the posts lying vacant in the SPCBs/PCCs latest by 30.04.2025. All the possible efforts will also be made within this period to provide adequate infrastructure in the laboratories of the PCBs/PCCs and to make them fully functional.

6. We also take note of the fact that in some of the States/UTs the adequate number of laboratories do not exist, therefore, expeditious steps will be taken to cure it.

7. Let the progress report indicating the compliance of this order be filed by all the States/UTs by way of an affidavit by providing an advance copy to the Counsel for the CPCB at least one week before the next date of hearing.

8. List on 09.01.2025.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Sudhir Agarwal, JM

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

September 11, 2024
Original Application No. 693/2023
dv..

ANDHRA PRADESH PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION::VIJAYAWADA

SCHEDULE OF WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS (COMPUTER BASED TESTS) FOR THE POSTS OF ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN IN DR. NTR UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES (NOTIFICATION NO. 48/MII/2024), ASSISTANT ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER IN A.P POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (NOTIFICATION NO.15/2023), ANALYST GRADE-II IN A.P. POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (NOTIFICATION NO. 02/2024) AND DEPUTY EDUCATIONAL OFFICER IN A.P. EDUCATIONAL SERVICE (NOTIFICATION NO.14/2023), SCHEDULED TO BE HELD FROM 24.03.2025 TO 27.03.2025 (EXCEPT 24.03.2025 AN).

WEB NOTE

It is hereby informed that the Written Examinations (Computer Based Tests) for the following four (04) Notifications (Notification Nos. 48/MII/2024, 15/2023, 02/2024 and 14/2023) are scheduled to be held from 24.03.2025 to 27.03.2025 (Except 24.03.2025 AN) and the detailed Time Table is as hereunder:

Sl. No	Notification No./ Name of the Recruitment	Date of Examination and Timings	
		General Studies & Mental Ability (Paper - I)	Subject Paper
01	48/MII/2024 Assistant Librarian in Dr. NTR University of Health Sciences	25.03.2025 FN (09.30 AM to 12.00 Noon)	24.03.2025 FN (Paper-II) Library Science (09.30 AM to 12.00 Noon)
02	15/2023 Assistant Environmental Engineer in A.P Pollution Control Board	25.03.2025 FN (09.30 AM to 12.00 Noon)	25.03.2025 AN (Paper-II) Common Subject Paper (02.30 PM to 05.00 PM)
03	02/2024 Analyst Grade-II in A.P. Pollution Control Board	25.03.2025 FN (09.30 AM to 12.00 Noon)	26.03.2025 FN (Paper-II) Concerned Subject (09.30 AM to 12.00 Noon)
04	14/2023 Deputy Educational Officer in A.P. Educational Service	26.03.2025 AN (02.30 PM to 05.00 PM)	27.03.2025 FN (Paper-II) Education-I (09.30 AM to 12.00 Noon)
			27.03.2025 AN (Paper-III) Education-II (02.30 PM to 05.00 PM)

It is further informed that the **General Studies & Mental Ability (GS & MA) Paper**, scheduled to be held on 25.03.2025 FN are **common for Notifications mentioned in Serial No. 1, 2 & 3** and in respect of common Candidates for these three batches (Notifications), the marks secured in GS & MA Paper will be considered for respective posts to which the Candidates are eligible.

Place: Vijayawada,
Date: 02.12.2024.

Sd/- J.Pradeep Kumar, I.R.S.M.E.,
Secretary.

Pradeep Kumar

File No.APPCB-17021/1/2019-ACCT SEC-APPCB



ANDHRA PRADESH POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
Paryavaran Bhavan, APIIC Colony Road, Autonagar,
Vijayawada - 520 007

Lr.No.45/APPCB/HO/Estt./E-2/2015-Dt: 11/12/2024

To
The Special Chief Secretary to Government,
EFS & T Department,
A.P. Secretariat,
AMARAVATI.

Sir,

Sub:APPCB – Establishment –Filling-up of vacant posts by direct recruitment in
APPCB- Submission of proposals - Permission requested - Reg.

Ref: 1. T.O.Lr.No.45/APPCB/HO/Estt/E-2/2015-217, dt: 19.05.2022
2. Hon'ble NGT Order dt: 24.10.2023 in O.A.No.693/2023
3. Rajya Sabha Starred Diary No.1169.

It is submitted that the APPCB is having its Head Office at Vijayawada and has Four Zonal Offices located at Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada, Kurnool and Tirupati and 13 Regional Offices in each of erstwhile districts. The AP Pollution Control Board was initially established under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. Subsequently, the following Rules were issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the APPCB has a mandate to implement these rules and regulations.

1. Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification
2. Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006
3. The Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016
4. The Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Micro-Organisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells Rules, 1989
5. The Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemical Rules, 1989
6. The Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016
7. The Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016
8. The Batteries (Management and Handling) Rules, 2001
9. The E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016
- 10.The Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016
- 11.The Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules, 2016

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12.The Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000

While so, after the bifurcation of the State, the sanctioned staff position allotted to Andhra Pradesh is given below along with the staff working as on today in Statement - A.

A. STATEMENT SHOWING THE SANCTIONED POSTS OF APPCB

S.No	Name of the post	Cadre Strength	Present working strength
1.	Joint Chief Environmental Engineer	6	3
2.	Senior Environmental Engineer	10 + 1=11	11
3.	Senior Environmental Scientist	3	3
4.	Environmental Engineer	26 + 1+1 =28	28
5.	Assistant Environmental Engineer	64	3
6.	Senior Accountant	1	1
7.	Junior Scientific Officer	11	11
8.	Assistant Manager/ SH	4	4
9.	Accountant	3	1
10.	Superintendent	6	1
11.	Analyst Grade I	18	3
12.	Analyst Grade II	36	0
13.	Stenographer Cum Typist	6	0
14.	Senior Assistant	20	2
15.	Junior Assistant Cum Typist	5	1
16.	Junior Assistant	7	2
17.	Typist	10	0
18.	Stores Cum Purchase Assistant	1	0
19.	Record Assistant	1	0
20.	Drivers	10	0
21.	Fieldman	2	0
22.	Office Subordinate	26	6
23.	Watchman	6	0
	Single Posts:		
24.	Chief Environmental Engineer	1	0
25.	Joint Chief Environmental Scientist	1	0
26.	Senior Administrative Manager	1	1
27.	Public Relation Officer	1	0
28.	Chief Accounts Officer	1	1
29.	Special Category Stenographer	1	1
30.	Attender-cum-Driver	1	0
	TOTAL:	292	83

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Thus, as against 292 posts, there are only 83 employees working now on regular basis and the vacancies existing as on today is given below (in Statement -B):

B. STATEMENT SHOWING THE PRESENT VACANCIES IN APPCB

S.No	Name of the post (category)	Vacancy
1.	Joint Chief Environmental Engineer	3
2.	Senior Environmental Engineer	0
3.	Senior Environmental Scientist	0
4.	Environmental Engineer	0
5.	Assistant Environmental Engineer	61
6.	Senior Accountant	0
7.	Junior Scientific Officer	0
8.	Assistant Manager/ SH	0
9.	Accountant	2
10.	Superintendent	5
11.	Analyst Grade I	15
12.	Analyst Grade II	36
13.	Stenographer Cum Typist	6
14.	Senior Assistant	18
15.	Junior Assistant Cum Typist	4
16.	Junior Assistant	5
17.	Typist	10
18.	Stores Cum Purchase Assistant	1
19.	Record Assistant	1
20.	Drivers	10
21.	Fieldman	2
22.	Office Subordinate	20
23.	Watchman	6
	Single Posts	
24.	Chief Environmental Engineer	1
25.	Joint Chief Environmental Scientist	1
26.	Senior Administrative Manager	0
27.	Public Relation Officer	1
28.	Chief Accounts Officer	0
29.	Special Category Stenographer	0
30.	Attender-cum-Driver	1
	TOTAL	209

Against these vacancies the Govt., of A.P has permitted to recruit the following posts vide G.O.Ms.No.96, Finance (HR.I-PLG.&Policy) Dept., dt.16.08.2023.

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Sl. No	Name of the Post	Sanctioned posts	Working strength	Already permitted	Remarks
1	Assistant Environmental Engineer	64	3	21	Notification issued for filling up of 21 posts vide notification No. 15 / 2023, dt. 26-12-2023 through APPSC & under process.
2	Analyst Gr.II	36	0	18	Notification issued for filling up of 18 posts vide Notification No. 02 / 2024, dt. 9-02-2024 through APPSC & under process.
	Total	100	3	39	

After repeated persuasion, the APPSC has announced the examination dates in the month of March 2025 for filling up the above vacancies. Even after filling-up the above posts still the following vacancies remain un-filled (**Statement - C**):

C. STATEMENT SHOWING THE VACANCIES AFTER RECRUITMENT OF THE 21 AEEs AND 18 ANALYSTS-GR.II THROUGH APPSC.

S.No	Name of the post (category)	Vacancy
1.	Joint Chief Environmental Engineer	3
2.	Senior Environmental Engineer	0
3.	Senior Environmental Scientist	0
4.	Environmental Engineer	0
5.	Assistant Environmental Engineer	40
6.	Senior Accountant	0
7.	Junior Scientific Officer	0
8.	Assistant Manager/ SH	0
9.	Accountant	2
10.	Superintendent	5
11.	Analyst Grade I	15
12.	Analyst Grade II	18
13.	Stenographer Cum Typist	6
14.	Senior Assistant	18
15.	Junior Assistant Cum Typist	4
16.	Junior Assistant	5
17.	Typist	10
18.	Stores Cum Purchase Assistant	1
19.	Record Assistant	1
20.	Drivers	10

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21.	Fieldman	2
22.	Office Subordinate	20
23.	Watchman	6
	Single Posts	
24.	Chief Environmental Engineer	1
25.	Joint Chief Environmental Scientist	1
26.	Senior Administrative Manager	0
27.	Public Relation Officer	1
28.	Chief Accounts Officer	0
29.	Special Category Stenographer	0
30.	Attender-cum-Driver	1
	TOTAL	170

The work of APPCB has increased manifold due to the promulgation of new rules under Environmental Protection Act and other directions of Tribunals and Courts. The social awareness among the public and activists has been adding to new work load to the Head Office and field offices. Some of the typical works to be attended by the PCB are given below:

- As per the NGT Orders, the industries are to be inspected every 3 months based on the classification into RED Hazardous and highly polluting industries. The orange category industries are to be inspected once in 6 months.
- Continuous monitoring of Common facilities-TSDFs CETPs, CBMWTFs, Marine Disposal industries.
- To meet the EoDB norms as per the Service Level Agreement (SLA) the disposal with stipulated time is 7/15/21 days for Red, Orange, Green category industries.
- Calculation, imposition and monitoring of the environmental compensation against the defaulting industries as per the CPCB guidelines.
- Initiation of Credible Action for violation of Environmental Clearance under E (P) Act,1986.
- Monitoring of compliance for the Environmental Clearances issued by the SEIAA as per the G.O. Ms No.18 of 2019.
- The number of cases Cases in High Court, NGT, Lokayukta, NHRC, APHRC, are increasing day by day.
- Many of the new category facilities viz Marriage Halls, Hotels, Motels, Goshalas, Petrol Outlets, Poultry farms, Rail sidings, Railway Stations are brought under Consent Management and regular consolidated reports are to be submitted to the Hon'ble NGT.
- Joint inspection with committees constituted by Hon'ble NGT with other stake holder departments such as Mines and Geology Department, Fisheries Department, Revenue Department, CPCB, MoEF&CC etc., has increased.
- In view of the formation of new districts, new Regional offices and New Zonal Offices are required to be established for co-ordination at District level and quick approvals for establishment and operation of industries to meet the

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EoDB norms.

- Inspection of industries for verification of CFE application
- Inspection of industries for verification of CFO application
- Inspection of industries for complaint verification
- Inspection of hospitals under BMW rules
- Inspection of municipalities (ULBS) for solid and liquid waste management
- Attending committee meetings at District/State/Joint committees
- Attending Court cases
- Attending Complaints/ Collector meetings
- Monthly Data Compilation for State /Central Governments
- Preparation of inventories for Red, Orange, Green category of industries
- Inventory of Hazardous Waste
- Inventory of E -Waste
- Inventory of Plastic waste
- Inventory of Bio-Medical waste
- Preparation and compilation of annul reports
- Scrutiny of Form -V
- Scrutiny of compliance reports
- Inspection of Hospitals under BMW rules
- Inspection of Municipalities (ULBs) for solid and liquid waste management
- Attending district level meetings
- Convening of Environmental Public Hearings
- Preparation of Technical inputs for various meetings by DLCC
- Grievance redressal
- District Environmental Plan
- District level Bio-Medical Meetings
- DDRRC Meetings
- Zilla Parishad Meetings
- Hon'ble High Court / NGT Orders follow -up
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Meetings at State Level
- Green belt development review meetings
- Implementation of Public Liability Insurance Act,1991

Thus, the workload has increased by leaps and bounds and the skeletal staff is not able to cope up with the heavy workload. Therefore,there is an immediate need of filling-up of all vacant technical posts in the Board immediately.

However, with a view to fill-up the most important vacancies, we have assessed to immediate need to fill-up the vacancies as given below in Statement - D:

D. STATEMENT SHOWING VACANCIES IN ENTRY LEVEL POSTS IN APPCB

(TO BE FILLED ON PRIORITY BASIS)

S.No.	Name of the post	No. of vacancies

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1.	Asst. Environmental Engineers (AEEs)	40
2.	Analyst Gr.II	18
3.	Multi Tasking Clerk (General) (Previously Steno-cum-Typist)	6
4.	Junior Office Assistants (Originally changed nomenclature of the posts of Junior Asst-cum-Typist (4), Jr. Asst. (5) & Typist (10) now mentioned as such in terms of G.O.Ms. No.26, Gen Admn. (Ser.B) Dept., dt: 12.03.2024)	19
5.	Multi Tasking Clerk (Stores, Tenders & Procurement) (Previously Stores- cum-Purchase Assistant)	1
TOTAL :		84

In this context, it is submitted that the Hon'ble NGT vide its order dt: 24.10.2023 in O.A.No.693/2023 directed that all the States to fill up the vacancies of PCBs/PCCs by 30.04.2025.

In view of the above, the proposal for filling-up of the entry level posts is submitted for favourable consideration. It is pertinent to mention that there will be no financial burden on the Government as the Board is meeting from its internal resources.

For the reasons mentioned above, it is requested to permit the Board to fill-up vacancies through direct recruitment through APPSC at the earliest.

Yours faithfully,

S Sri Saravanan
MEMBER SECRETARY

AGENDA ITEM xx FOR THE 15th BOARD MEETING

Agenda Item:	APPCB – Central Laboratory – Notification of APPCB Laboratories as State Water Laboratory & State Air Laboratory and Notification for sampling & analysis charges of environmental samples as per CPCB gazette – Reg.
Ref:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi Suo-Motu Case O.A. No. 693 of 2023 (PB) based on news items appeared in the Deccan Herald dated 24.10.2023 titled as "Pollution Control Boards are the Weak Link". 2. Affidavit submitted by APPCB to CPCB, New Delhi dated 25.06.2024. 3. CPCB Gazette Notification, dated 23.02.2022 issued by MoEF & CC towards sampling & analysis charges of environmental samples.

** ** *

INTRODUCTION

As per the Pollution Control Acts, Rules, Notifications issued by MoEF & CC, one of the functions of State Board under section 17(2) is to establish or recognise a laboratory or laboratories to enable the Board to perform its functions under this section efficiently, including the analysis of samples of water and air under the Water (Prevention & Control) of Pollution Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention & Control) of Pollution Act, 1981 respectively. The Board Laboratories have to be notified by the State Government under **Schedule-I** of E(P) Act.

CPCB vide reference 3rd cited, issued notification for sampling and analysis charges of environmental samples. The Board shall adopt the analysis charges prescribed by MoEF & CC after obtaining notification from the state government under **Schedule-II** of E(P) Act.

APPCB has established 4 Zonal Laboratories viz. at Vijayawada, Visakhapatnam, Kurnool and Tirupati and 1 Regional Laboratory at Kakinada.

The Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi registered a Suo-Motu Case O.A. No. 693 of 2023 (PB) based on news items appeared in the Deccan Herald 24.10.2023 titled as "Pollution Control Boards are the Weak Link", wherein directions were issued to SPCBs seeking information on the functioning of PCBs and other related issues for submitting an affidavit to Hon'ble NGT.

The Hon'ble NGT, in its order dated 12.04.2024 remarked at Para No. 09 that

"We also find that proper facility and infrastructure is lacking in the SPCBs and PCCs laboratories. Out of 190 laboratories, only 14 laboratories are recognized as Environmental Lab under EPA. Further, merely having NABL Certification in 48 laboratories has no meaning unless they form a part of Environment Laboratory. The report however does not disclose notification of laboratories under section 17(2) and Section 52 of the Water Act and Section 17(2) and section 28 of the Air Act. We are of the view that Table 7 disclosing laboratory infrastructure for analyzing environmental parameters be reviewed by CPCB with PCBs to strengthen laboratories for monitoring prescribed parameters notified in Schedule I under EP rules and specified while granting CTOs"

Brief description of the Agenda item:

Notification of APPCB Laboratories as State Water Laboratory & State Air Laboratory and Notification for sampling & analysis charges of environmental samples as per CPCB gazette:

APPCB, in this regard, furnished an affidavit in respect of notification of laboratories under Section 17(2) and section 52 of Water Act and under section 17(2) and section 28 of Air Act, with a commitment to obtain notification of laboratories within a time line of 3 months. The laboratories have also to be recognised under EP Act following notification of laboratories by the State Government.

The State Government, by notification in official gazette, specify the Board Laboratories as State Water Laboratory and State Air Laboratory, to carry out the functions entrusted to the laboratories under Water & Air Act.

The Legal provisions for Notification of Laboratories in the official gazette under various Acts and Sections of Water & Air under **Schedule – I** are detailed below:

State Water Laboratory:

Under Section 17 (2)

Under Section 17(2), the Board (State) may establish or recognize a laboratory or laboratories to enable the Board to perform its functions under this Section efficiently, including the analysis of samples of water from any stream or well or of samples of sewage or trade effluents.

Under Section 52 (2)

Under Section 52-2 (b) the State Government after consultation with the State Board make rules prescribing the procedure for the submission to the said laboratory of samples of Water or of sewage or trade effluent for analysis or tests, the form of the laboratories report thereon and the fees payable in respect of such report.

State Air Laboratory:

Under Section 17 (2)

Under Section 17(2) of The Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, a State Board may establish or recognize a laboratory or laboratories to enable the Board to perform its functions under this Section efficiently.

Under Section 28 (2)

Under Section 28-2 (b) the State Government after consultation with the State Board make rules prescribing the procedure for the submission to the said laboratory of samples of Air or emission for analysis or tests, the form of the laboratories report thereon and the fees payable in respect of such report.

I. Details of APPCB Laboratories to be notified by the State Government under Schedule – I of E(P) Act.

S. No.	Place	Address
1	Visakhapatnam	Zonal Laboratory – Visakhapatnam A.P. Pollution Control Board, Zonal Office, Madhavadhara, VUDA Layout, Beside RTO Office, Visakhapatnam – 530 018.

2	Vijayawada	Zonal Laboratory – Vijayawada A.P. Pollution Control Board, Zonal Office, Plot No. 41, Gurunanak Road, Sri Kanakadurga Officer's Colony, Vijayawada – 520 008.
3	Kurnool	Zonal Laboratory – Kurnool A.P. Pollution Control Board, Zonal Office, Paryavaran Bhavan, Road No.1, Labour Colony, V.R. Colony, Kurnool – 518 003.
4	Tirupati	Zonal Laboratory – Tirupati A.P. Pollution Control Board, Zonal Office-Tirupati, Paryavaran Bhavan, 3rd Floor, N.T. Road, Tirupati – 517502.
5	Kakinada	Regional Laboratory – Kakinada A.P. Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Kakinada, Plot No.2 IDA, Ramanayyapeta, Kakinada – 533005.

II) Notification by the State Government for sampling & analysis charges of environmental samples prescribed by MoEF & CC under Schedule – II of E(P) Act.

Based on the CPCB notification issued by MoEF & CC, Govt. of India in exercise of the powers conferred under sub-section (3) of Section 16 and subsection (2) of Section 17 read with sub-section (4) of Section 4 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 (Act 6 of 1974) along with rule 28 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Rules, 1975, and under sub-section (3) of Section 16 of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 (Act 14 of 1981), the fee prescribed for sampling and analysis charges for Environmental Samples is being adopted by the Board (State) Laboratories and to be notified by the State Government as per **Schedule – II of E(P) Act**,

The fee payable to the Board Laboratories in respect of each report of analysis of various analytical parameters and sampling charges for the water, wastewater, soil, hazardous waste, air / fugitive emissions, source emission, noise monitoring, auto exhaust monitoring and ambient air quality monitoring shall be as per Schedule II. The fee prescribed under Schedule II will be subject to revision. The GST will be charged extra as applicable. The latest notification of CPCB under **Schedule - II** of sampling and analysis charges for environmental samples issued on 23.02.2022 is herewith attached as **Annexure - I**.

As per the Hon'ble NGT directions in O. A. No. 693 of 2023, proposals are herewith submitted for notification of Board Laboratories i.e., Zonal Laboratories (4nos) at Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada, Kurnool & Tirupati and One (1) Regional Laboratory at Kakinada as State Water Laboratories and State Air Laboratories, for carrying out analysis of parameters mentioned in Schedule – I of E (P) Rules, 1986 and specified while granting CTOs along with notification of analysis charges under Schedule – II of E(P) Act, for placing in the Board meeting for approval.

S Sri Saravanan

MEMBER SECRETARY