

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
WESTERN ZONE BENCH, PUNE
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 80/2024 WZ**

IN THE MATTER OF:-

Scheduled Tribe Association & Ors. ... Applicants

Versus

Goa State Pollution Control Board & Ors. ... Respondents

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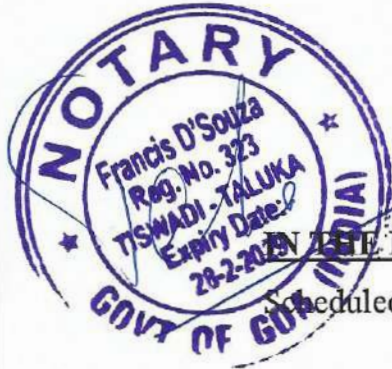
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FILED BY:

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Mob: 8860412959**

**PLACE: PUNE
DATE: 18.09.2024**

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
WESTERN ZONE BENCH, PUNE
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 80/2024 WZ



IN THE MATTER OF:-

Scheduled Tribe Association & Ors. ... Applicants
Versus
Goa State Pollution Control Board & Ors. ... Respondents

**AFFIDAVIT OF COMPLIANCE ON BEHALF OF
RESPONDENT NO. 4 - M/S GOA CARBON
LIMITED RE: RECOMMENDATIONS MADE IN
THE JOINT INSPECTION REPORT DATED
28.05.2024**

I, Pravin Satardekar, S/O Late Rajendra Satardekar, C/O, Goa Carbon Limited, Dempo House, Campal, Panaji - Goa 403 001 the Authorized Representative of Respondent No. 4, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows:

1. That I am duly authorized by the Respondent No. 4 Company, i.e., M/s Goa Carbon Limited in the above manner and as such am fully conversant with the facts and circumstances of the case based on the records maintained by the Respondent No. 4 Company and am, therefore competent to affirm this Affidavit.
2. That this Hon'ble Tribunal is presently seized of the above-mentioned Original Application No. 80/2024 which raises allegations pertaining to

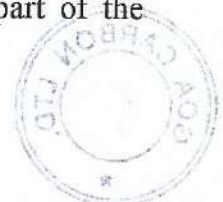


the alleged air pollution being caused by the plant of Respondent No. 4 situated in St. Jose de Areal, Goa.

3. That this Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to issue notice to the respondents vide order dated 23.04.2024 and had also directed that:

We deem it appropriate to constitute a Joint Committee comprising one member each of Goa State Pollution Control Board (GSPCB), the Chief Secretary, State of Goa and Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), GSPCB being the nodal agency of the said Committee, with a direction that the Committee shall visit the spot after intimating the applicants the date of its visit to the spot. After visiting the spot, the Joint Committee will submit a report as to whether respondent No.4 has been granted all the consents which were required to be obtained for setting up the Industry and whether the conditions laid down therein have been complied with by them or not and if there is any non-compliance on the part of respondent No.4, amount of Environmental Damage Compensation (EDC) to be levied from respondent No.4 and the corrective action may also be proposed. Let this report of the Committee be submitted before us by the GSPCB within one month, by e-mail at ngt-pune@gov.in preferably in the form of searchable PDF/ OCR Support PDF and not in the form of Image PDF.

4. That pursuant to the aforesaid order passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal dated 23.04.2024, the Joint Committee was constituted and carried out its inspection on 28.05.2024. It may be noted that one representative of each of the Applicant Associations was also permitted to be a part of the



inspection carried out on 28.05.2024. The said Joint Committee prepared a Report dated 28.05.2024 (“**Inspection Report**”), a copy of which was also forwarded to the Respondent No. 4 on 09.07.2024 by the Goa State Pollution Control Board.

5. That at the outset, it is pertinent to point that the Inspection Report records and concludes that the Respondent No. 4 has been compliant with the conditions Consent to Operate, and thus conclusively holds that the allegations raised in the captioned petition have been met.

That the Inspection Report, however, lists down 8 recommendations, under the head of ‘*Scope for Improvement*’, for the Respondent No. 4 to enhance their performance in terms of environmental compliance. That on 05.08.2024, Respondent No. 4 submitted its Action Taken Report to the Goa State Pollution Control Board to address the aforesaid 8 recommendations made down in the Inspection Report.

A copy of the letter dated 05.08.2024 along with the Action Taken Report submitted by the Respondent No. 4 to the Respondent No. 1 has been annexed herewith and marked as **ANNEXURE-R-4/H.**

7. For the sake of convenience, the action taken by the Respondent No. 4 in respect of the 8 recommendations listed herein below for the kind perusal by this Hon’ble Tribunal:



- (i) **Recommendation No. 1- The unit needs to take up regularly cleaning of the internal premises to avoid possibility of any fugitive dust emitting:**

Action taken: The Respondent No. 4 has deployed mechanized sweeping machinery to enhance cleaning efficiency. Additionally, the Respondent No. 4 has employed dedicated housekeeping personnel who have to ensure thorough cleaning of areas that the machine cannot reach. To further mitigate fugitive dust emissions, the frequency of the machine's operation has been increased from once to twice daily.

- (ii) **Recommendation No. 2- The drain needs to be regularly cleaned & settling ponds to be de-silted before every monsoon:**

Action taken: The Respondent No. 4 carries out routine maintenance practices which includes clearing the drains and de-silting the settling pond before every monsoon. This year too, as planned, the cleaning was completed by May 2024 and similar actions would be taken throughout the year as when required.

- (iii) **Recommendation No. 3- Overall housekeeping needs to be improved:**

Action taken: The Respondent No. 4 has implemented the 5S concept across the entire plant and provided 100 man-hours of training to the relevant employees through an external trainer.



Further, an area-wise ownership has been assigned to designated individuals to ensure proper upkeep of specific zones.

- (iv) **Recommendation No. 4- The spillage at raw material storage shed and final product bagging shed to be timely handled:**

Action taken: The Respondent No. 4, with a view to improve general housekeeping practices and for eliminating spillage, has assigned the work of spillage removal in the RPC and CPC yard to a contractor. Further, to ensure that the work is carried out daily without delay, the area is covered by CCTV surveillance to monitor the activities, housekeeping, fugitive dust as well as emission levels through stacks

- (v) **Recommendation No. 5- The conveyer belt covers needs to be periodically checked and no open belt spaces to be allowed:**

Action taken: The Respondent No. 4 carried out a comprehensive inspection of the covering of the conveyor belt. A 60-meter section of the cover that had corroded has now been replaced with new covers at a cost of Rs. 10 lakhs. The Respondent No. 4 would be ensuring that no part of conveyor belt is left uncovered.

- (vi) **Recommendation No. 6- Sufficient lighting and ventilation needs to be provided in the product bagging shed in order to improve performance:**



Action taken: The Respondent No. 4 installed LED focus lights in various areas of the plant to enhance illumination. These lights have been placed in the product handling shed and other key locations as suggested by the Inspection Committee and has significantly improved the visibility. The enhanced lighting also ensures that the CCTV captures clear footage even at night. The Electrical Manager has been tasked with regularly checking the illumination and promptly replacing any lights that may fuse.

- (vii) Recommendation No. 7- Additional mist sprinkler needs to be provided at raw material unloading area, periphery of Raw material storage shed and on periphery of product bagging shed in order to avoid any fugitive dust emission during handling:

Action taken: The Respondent No. 4 has installed 29 new mist-type sprinklers in addition to the pre-existing water sprinklers which now cover an area of 40 metres in the unloading area. Additional mist sprinklers have also been installed near the raw material storage area and the product bagging front area. Further, the Respondent No. 4 has installed and erected 12 metres high barricades on both sides of the RPC unloading area to ensure that no fugitive dust emission takes place during handling.



- (viii) Recommendation No. 8: PP shall install one continuous ambient air quality monitoring station in the nearby residential area outside the plant, preferably in the land where the Government Primary School exists. The system shall be regularly maintained and calibrated through authorised agencies:

Action taken: The Respondent No. 4 has addressed a letter to the Headmistress of the Govt. Primary School, Sao Jose Deareal, requesting for providing a space of 10ftx10ft to install an Ambient Air Quality Machine and is awaiting necessary permissions and approvals to proceed with installing the same. The Respondent No. 4 has also undertaken to pay for the power consumption or other charges for upkeeping the monitoring station, if needed.

A copy of the letter dated 05.08.2024 by the Respondent No. 4 to the Headmistress, Govt. Primary School, Sao Jose Deareal has been annexed herewith and marked as ANNEXURE-R-4/I.

8. That this Affidavit of Compliance is being filed *bona fide* and is being filed without any prejudice to the Respondent No. 4's rights and contentions before this Hon'ble Tribunal. The same may not be viewed as an acceptance of the allegations raised by the Complainant in its original application.





9. That the facts stated hereinabove are true and correct

DEPONENT

VERIFICATION

I, the deponent above named, do hereby verify the contents of the above affidavit as being true and correct. I state that nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

Verified at Panaji Goa on this, the 19th day of September 2024.

[Signature]
DEPONENT



[Signature]
BEFORE ME
SHRI FRANCIS D'SOUZA
NOTARY FOR TISWADI TALUKA
STATE OF GOA (INDIA)



I hereby attest the above signature of
Shri/Smt/Miss. Pravin Satandiker
The deponent
above named
Who has been identified before me
by
..... who is personally known to me
registered under No. 108D/2024

ADV. FRANCIS D'SOUZA
NOTARY
KAMAKSHI PRASAD BLDG
THIRD FLOOR, FLAT NO. 304
PATTO, PANAJI
TISWADI GOA - 403 001



Goa Carbon Limited

1393

ANNEXURE R-4/H



GOA PLANT

Sao Jose de Areal, Salcete, - Goa - 403 730, INDIA.
Tel.: +91 (0832) 286 0336, 63. 66 to 68, 286 1052 Fax: +91 (0832) 286 0364
E-mail: head_works@goacarbon.com
Website: www.goacarbon.com
Corporate Identity Number - L23109GA1967PLC000076



Ref No-GCL/PLANT/083

Date: 05.08.2024

To

The Member Secretary,
Goa State Pollution Control Board,
Salogao, Bardez Goa- 403511.

Respected Madam,

Subject: Submission of Action Plan and Update on Compliance with MoEF & CC Notification


We are pleased to submit our action plan, including timelines, to address the recommendations highlighted in the report under the section 'Scope for Improvement'. The detailed plan is attached herewith (Action Taken Report – 8 Pages).

Regarding the notification issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF & CC) dated 5th June 2023, concerning the amendment to the Environmental Protection Rules related to revised standards for calcined petroleum coke, we wish to inform you that we are actively engaging with various suppliers and technical experts to identify and install proven technology that will enable us to meet the new standards set by the Pollution Control Board (PCB).

Once the technology selection is finalized, we will promptly update your office. We are confident that the installation will be completed within the stipulated timeline, by June 2025.

GCL remains committed to complying with all rules and regulations as they are issued.

For Goa Carbon Limited (Goa Unit)


B. Jena
Plant Head


12/08/24
Goa State Pollution Control Board
Opp. Salogao Seminary
Salogao, Goa 403 511

ENCL:

Action Plan on the Recommendations provided by the Joint Inspection Committee constituted by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (WZ).

Scope for Improvement

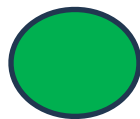
Following actions have been taken for further improvement of housekeeping practices.

[Our Action plan](#)

Point No-1: The unit needs to be regularly cleaning of the internal premises to avoid possibility of any fugitive dust emitting.

[Reply:](#) GCL has deployed mechanized sweeping machinery (valued at 31 lakhs) to enhance cleaning efficiency. Additionally, dedicated housekeeping personnel have been assigned to ensure thorough cleaning of areas that the machine cannot reach. To further mitigate fugitive dust emissions, the frequency of the machine's operation has been increased from once to twice daily.

Compliance Status = Completed

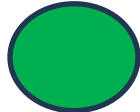


Mechanised sweeping machine.



Point No-2. The drain needs to be regularly cleaned & settling ponds to be desilted before every monsoon.

Reply: As part of our routine maintenance practices, GCL regularly cleans the drains and desilts the settling pond before every monsoon. This year too, as planned, the cleaning was completed by May 2024 and similar actions will be taken throughout the year as when required. Photographs attached.

Compliance Status = Completed 



Drain cleaning at outside boundary wall



Point No-3 & 4 Overall housekeeping needs to be improved and the spillage at raw material storage shed and final product bagging shed to be timely handled.

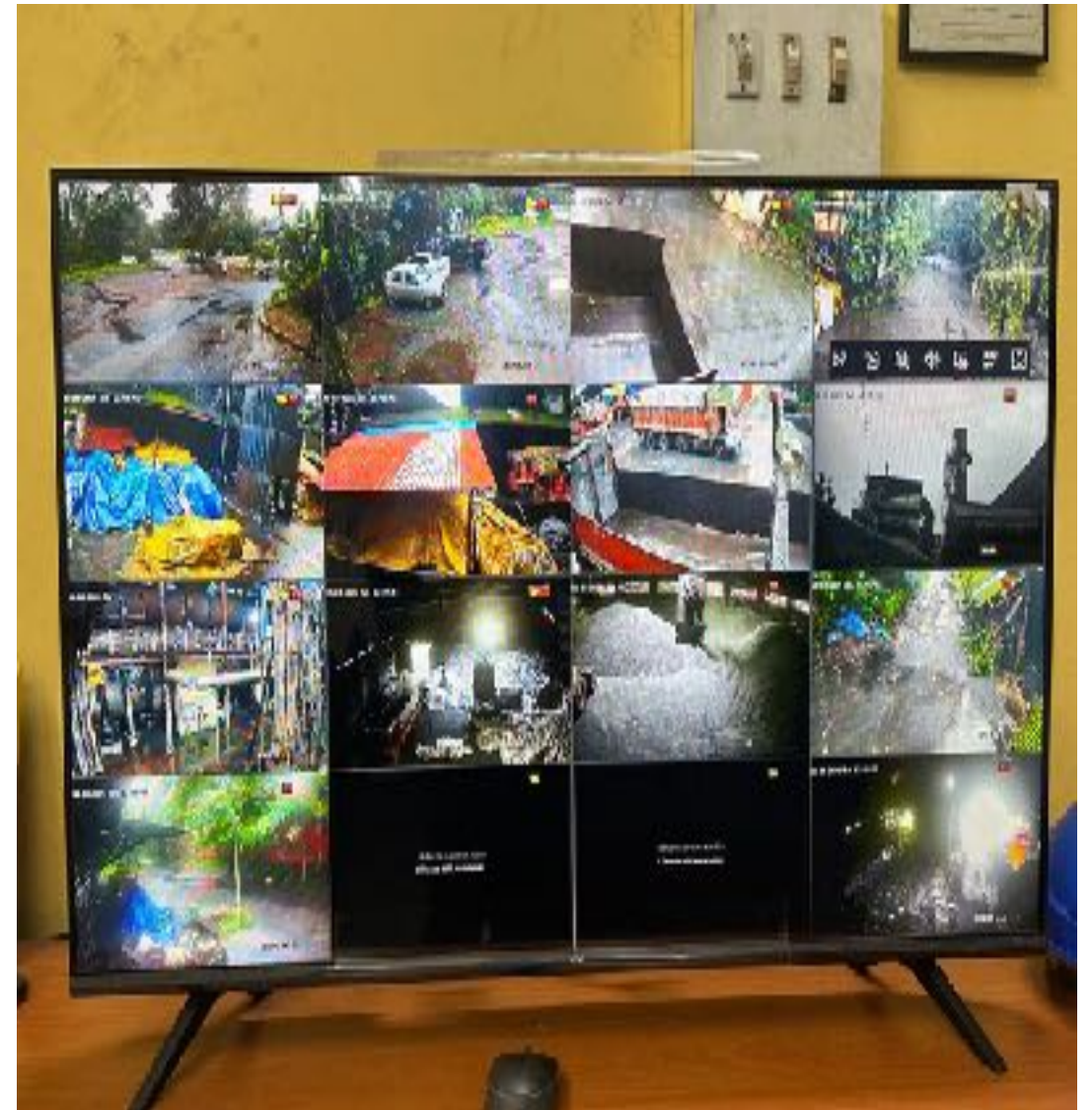
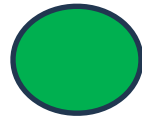
Reply:

1. GCL has implemented the 5S concept across the entire plant and provided 100 man-hours of training to the relevant employees through an external trainer. Area-wise ownership has been assigned to designated individuals to ensure proper upkeep of specific zones.
2. Routine rounds are conducted by supervisors and senior officials.



- Several steps have been taken to improve general housekeeping practices and eliminating spillage and to ensure the compliance and continuing such practices, spillage removal in the RPC and CPC yard has been assigned to a contractor.
- To ensure that the work is carried out daily without delay, the area is covered by CCTV surveillance to monitor the activities, housekeeping, fugitive dust as well as emission levels through stacks.

Compliance Status = Completed



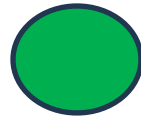
CCTV Covering all footages of Plant

Point No-5-The conveyer belt covers needs to be periodically checked and no open belt spaces to be allowed.

Reply:

A comprehensive inspection of the covering of the conveyer belt has been completed. A 60-meter section of the cover that had corroded has been replaced with new covers at a cost of Rs. 10 lakhs. GCL is committed to ensuring that no conveyer belt is left uncovered.

Compliance Status = Completed



Rusted covers (Before)

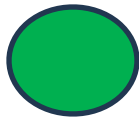


Covered conveyor Belts (After)

Point No-6. Sufficient lighting and ventilation needs to be provided in the product bagging shed in order to improve performance.

Reply: : GCL has installed LED focus lights in various areas of the plant to enhance illumination. These lights have been placed in the product handling shed and other key locations as suggested by the Inspection Committee, significantly improving visibility. The enhanced lighting also ensures that the CCTV captures clear footage even at night. The Electrical Manager has been tasked with regularly checking the illumination and promptly replacing any lights that may fuse.

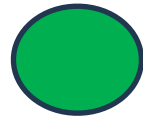
Compliance Status = Completed



Point No-7. Additional mist sprinkler needs to be provided at raw material unloading area ,periphery of Raw material storage shed and on periphery of product bagging shed in order to avoid any fugitive dust emission during handling.

Reply: In addition to the existing nozzles, 29 mist-type sprinklers have been installed, covering a total of 40 meters in the unloading area. To prevent dust particles from dispersing, 12-meter-high barricades have been erected on both sides of the RPC unloading area. Additional mist sprinklers have also been installed near the raw material storage area and the product bagging front area.

Compliance Status = Completed



12mtr barricade to prevent fly of dust particles (At RPC unloading Area)

Goa Carbon Limited

1401

ANNEXURE R-4/I



GOA PLANT

Sao Jose de Areal, Salcete, - Goa - 403 730, INDIA.
Tel.: +91 (0832) 286 0336, 63. 66 to 68, 286 1052 Fax: +91 (0832) 286 0364
E-mail: head_works@goacarbon.com
Website: www.goacarbon.com
Corporate Identity Number - L23109GA1967PLC000076

Ref.No: GCL/PLANT/.082

Date : 05.08.2024

To

Head Mistress,

Govt. Primary School,

Sao Jose Deareal,Salcete,Goa.

Respected Madam,

Sub: Requesting for availing a small space at your area.

We have received a recommendation from Goa Pollution Control Board to install a Ambient Air Quality Machine nearer to your premises to collect the data & display the data at main gate of Goa Carbon Limited.

The machine may required maximum 10ft*10ft space to accommodate.

GCL is ready to pay for power consumption & for any other charges if any.

Your support is highly required for the compliance of the directions of the Regulatory body & for interest of the Society.

Anticipating your co -operation all the time.

Yours sincerely,

For Goa Carbon Limited,

B.Jena

Plant Head.

B.Jena
[Signature]
5 Aug 2024
HEADMASTER
GOVT. MIDDLE SCHOOL
SAO JOSE DE AREAL (MAY)