

Report in Compliance to the Hon'ble NGT order dated 20.04.2022 in the matter of "Rajesh Kumar V/s State of Punjab" Original Application No. 186/2022

1.0 Preamble :

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal Principal Bench vide order dated 20.04.2022 constituted a four Member Joint Committee comprising of Central Pollution Control Board, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Municipal Corporation, Pathankot and District Magistrate, Pathankot respectively.

The relevant paras of the Hon'ble NGT order, pertaining to the mandate of the committee is reproduced hereunder:

Para-1

In view of violation discussed Mr. Rajesh Kumar resident of H. No. M3/538, S.D School street, Guru Ram Dass Nagar, Tehsil and District Amritsar has sent the present letter petition to this Tribunal complaining that **hospitals situated in Pathankot, particulars of which are mentioned in Annexure 'A' to the letter Petition, are illegally and unscientifically disposing of bio-medical waste into the streets, roads and vacant land in violation of the Biomedical Waste Management Rules 2016** thereby causing grave risks to human health and environment degradation problems in the area.

Para -2

Having regard to the seriousness of the allegations, it appears necessary to ascertain the factual position in the matter through a Joint Committee of the Central Pollution Control Board, State PCB, Municipal Corporation, and District Magistrate, Pathankot. The State PCB will be the Nodal agency for coordination and compliance. The Joint Committee may meet within four weeks and undertake site visits, look into the grievances of the applicant and take requisite action by following due process of law. **Factual and action taken report particularly with regard to status of granting of authorizations under the Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016, arrangements made for captive and combined treatment facility and gap in waste generation and treatment** may be furnished within three months by e-mail at judicial-ngt@gov.in preferably in the form of searchable PDF/OCR Support PDF and not in the form of Image PDF.

2. Scope of the Committee:

The Committee has been vested with the mandate to visit the site in question and to furnish ***factual and action taken report particularly with regard to status of granting of authorizations under the Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016, arrangements made for captive and combined treatment facility and gap in waste generation and treatment.***

The Joint Committee has been asked to meet within four weeks, undertake site visit, look into the grievances of the applicant and take requisite action by following due process of law.

3. Action taken of the Committee:

3.1 Interaction and Discussion meeting with Health Care facilities' operators along with CBWTF operator

The committee convened a meeting with Health Care facilities' representatives and the Common Bio Medical Waste Treatment Facility (CBWTF) operator on 14/07/2022 at DC Office, Pathankot to deliberate that matter. The following members were present in the meeting.

1. SDM Pathankot (representative of DC, Pathankot)
2. Representative of CPCB
3. Representative of PPCB
4. Representatives of health care facilities located at Pathankot
5. Representative of CBWTF operator

Regional Office, Batala of PPCB shared the present status of authorizations under the Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016 of the hospitals mentioned in Annexure 'A' of the writ petition. It was brought out that there is a Common Bio-Medical Waste Treatment Facility (CBWTF) in Pathankot for treatment of the biomedical waste generated from health care facilities, which has requisite arrangements for handling the bio medical waste generated from the HCFs. The CBWTF operator reported that there is no gap in waste generation and treatment in Pathankot.

3.2 Random Site visit to Hospitals located at Pathankot on 14/07/2022

The Hospitals mentioned in Annexure 'A' of the writ petition were randomly visited on 14/07/2022 by the joint committee to verify the status of biomedical waste at the

generation point as well as disposal point (CBWTF Operator). The Joint Committee visited 08 hospital (bedded hospitals-05, non-bedded hospitals-02 and Clinic-01,) out of 53 hospitals mentioned in the list. During the site visit the representatives of hospitals provided the relative documents and records.

3.3 Site visit to the Common Bio-medical Waste Treatment facility on 14/07/2022

The Committee visited the CBWTF (operated by M/s Bio-medical Waste Treatment Plant Pvt. Ltd, Village-Pangoli, Defence Road, Pathankot) to check the status of final disposal of the Bio Medical Waste. During visit, the committee visited various sections of the facility like incinerator, autoclave, shredders, storage facility, transportation vehicles, ETP, APCD, records of the equipment to verify the treatment of biomedical waste collected by the CBWTF operator.

4.0 Salient Observations:

1. The committee carried out random Survey of 08 Health Care Facilities (HCFs) located at Pathankot. The Committee verified the status of :-
 - (i) Segregation at the point of generation of waste in colour coded containers
 - (ii) In-house transportation of BMW
 - (iii) Temporary storage of BMW within HCFs
 - (iv) Records of waste generation and housekeeping.
 - (v) Status of agreement with Common bio-medical waste treatment facility (CBWTF)
 - (vi) Status of Authorization BMW Rules, 2016.
2. During visit, committee observed that HCFs have requisite facilities for handling the biomedical waste generated and these were found satisfactory.
3. The committee observed that Hospitals have provided posters/placards for bio-medical waste segregation in all the wards and temporary waste storage areas.
4. As informed by the representatives HCFs the bio-medical waste is collected on daily basis from all the wards at a fixed interval of time. Dedicated staff along with supervisor for in-house collection and management of the same have been engaged.
5. On the day of inspection, the committee observed that each bag of biomedical waste at the temporary storage area of health care facilities was provided with bar code label for tracking of the same according to the CPCB guidelines.

6. The records provided by HCF operators and bar code generated receipts indicate collection time along with quantity of different category of wastes with colour coding. The bio-medical waste generated from hospitals is lifted daily by the CBWTF for final disposal.
7. Based on the petitioner's complaint, the committee visited the backyards of the hospitals/Diagnostic centres and its surrounding solid waste collection area to check any illegal and unscientific disposal of bio-medical waste. During visit, no bio medical waste was found dumped in these areas.
8. During visit, committee checked the general waste containers of the hospitals to verify if there was any disposal of bio medical waste mixed with general waste. No bio medical waste was found mixed with general waste. The representatives informed that general waste is lifted by Municipal Corporation, Pathankot and is disposed off as per the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
9. The CBWTF operator informed that all the member HCFs have been allotted bar code system for tracking of biomedical waste from source of generation to final disposal (CBWTF).
10. The representative of PPCB informed that all the HCFs located at Pathankot have valid agreements with the CBWTF.
11. The committee visited the CBWTF to verify the operating practices for handling and treatment of the biomedical waste.
12. The CBWTF operator does not have valid authorization (since 30/06/2022) under the Bio-medical Waste Management Rules, 2016. However, the operator has applied for the same, which is pending with the PPCB.
13. The CBWTF operator has 13 no. dedicated transportation vehicles fitted with GPS for collection and transportation of the bio-medical waste from member HCFs.
14. The CBWTF operator collects bio medical waste from all the HCFs located at Pathankot, Gurdaspur & Hoshiarpur Districts and about 50% of HCFs located at Jalandhar City. The facility covers a distance of approximately 100 Kms.
15. The facility has total 1675 members HCFs having total 11650 no. of beds. However, the facility is authorized to cover 1568 HCFs having 11150 no. of beds as per the BMW authorization issued by PPCB for period of 20/05/2022 to 30/06/2022.

16. As per data provided by the CBWTF operator, all an average about 2730 kg/day of bio-medical Waste is collected from member HCFs, out of which yellow category waste is 850 Kg/day, Red category waste is 1300 kg/day, Blue category waste is 550 Kg/day and White category waste is 30.00 kg/day and disposed of the same. The facility is handling biomedical waste as per the quantity authorized in the BMW authorization.
17. The CBWTF operator has installed one incinerator of capacity 150kg/hr for incineration, 02 Autoclaves of total capacity 4850 Lit/batch (2850 Lit/batch & 2000 Lit/batch) for autoclaving and 02 shredders of total capacity 550 Kg/hr (250 kg/hr & 300 kg/hr) for shredding.
18. The CBWTF operator has installed Online Continuous Emission Monitoring System (OCEMS) for monitoring CO, CO₂, PM, NO_x in flue gases along with temperature in primary and secondary chamber of incinerator. The OCEMS is connected with CPCB & PPCB server.
19. As per records provided by CBWTF operator, the facility has made requisite arrangement for treatment of the biomedical waste generated from the covered area.
20. It is evident from the above data at there is no gap in waste generation and treatment. The CBWTF has suitable arrangement for treatment of the biomedical waste generated in the area covered by it.
21. As per record provided by PPCB, 28 HCFs mentioned in the list have valid authorization, 17 HCFs do not have valid authorization (Expired) and 08 HCFs have been closed.
22. As per record provided by PPCB, 45 HCFs have valid Agreement (Membership) with CBWTF and the 08 remaining HCFs are closed.

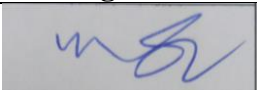
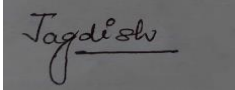
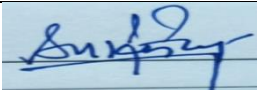
The summarised status of these HCFs is tabulated below:

Status of Valid authorization Under BMW Rules, 2016			
Total HCFs (mentioned in Petitioner's writ)	HCFs having valid authorization Under BMW Rules, 2016	HCFs with Expired authorization under BMW Rules, 2016	Closed
53	28	17	08
Status of Valid Agreement with CBWTF			
Total HCFs (mentioned in Petitioner's writ)	HCFs having valid agreements (As per list)	HCFs not having valid agreement with CBWTF/closed	
53	45	08	

Suggestions /Recommendations

1. The Punjab Pollution Control Board shall take necessary action against the hospitals operating without valid authorization under the Bio-medical Waste Management Rules, 2016.
2. In view of the above submissions, it is humbly prayed that the report as above may please be taken on record and suitable orders be passed in the matter please.

Committee Members:

Name	Designation, Institute/ Department	Signature
Kala Ram Kansal	SDM, Pathankot	
J.P. Meena	Scientist-'D' Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Regional Directorate, Chandigarh	
Sh. Sukhwant Singh	AEE, PPCB, Regional Officer, Batala (Nodal Agency)	

Photographs taken by Committee during the Site Visit dated 14/07/2022

 <p>CPCB 14.07.2022 12:40 32.27695, 75.64936 7MGQ+2R, Dalhousie Road, Mamun, Pathankot, Punjab 145001</p>	 <p>CPCB 14.07.2022 12:34 32.276, 75.69531 7MGQ+2G, Dalhousie Road, Opposite Amandeep Hospital, Mamun, Pathankot, Punjab 145001</p>
<p>Amandeep Hospital(AH) Pathankot</p>	<p>Biomedical waste storage in ward of AH</p>
 <p>CPCB 14.07.2022 12:40 32.27709, 75.64492 7MGQ+2R, Dalhousie Road, Mamun, Pathankot, Punjab 145001</p>	 <p>CPCB 14.07.2022 12:40 32.27706, 75.64491 7MGQ+2R, Dalhousie Road, Mamun, Pathankot, Punjab 145001</p>
<p>In house transportation of Biomedical Waste in (Hospital) AH</p>	<p>Temporary storage area of Biomedical Waste in AH</p>
 <p>CPCB 14.07.2022 12:48 32.27697, 75.65927 7MGQ+2U, Dalhousie Road, Mamun, Pathankot, Punjab 145001</p>	 <p>CPCB 14.07.2022 12:48 32.27697, 75.65927 7MGQ+2U, Dalhousie Road, Mamun, Pathankot, Punjab 145001</p>
<p>General & Biomedical Waste site of AH</p>	<p>STP in Amandeep Hospital</p>
 <p>CPCB 14.07.2022 12:50 32.27318, 75.65867 7MGQ+2A, Mamun, Punjab 145001</p>	 <p>CPCB 14.07.2022 13:07 32.27315, 75.65867 7MGQ+2A, Mamun, Punjab 145001</p>
<p>Aarogya Trauma & Life Care Centre, Pathankot</p>	<p>Temporary storage area at Aarogya Trauma & Life Care Centre</p>



North central Hospital, Pathankot



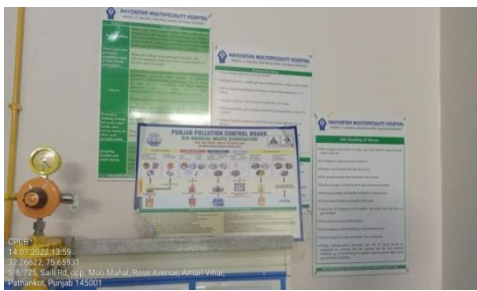
Biomedical waste site of Northcentral Hospital



Chikitsa Multispeciality Hospital, Pathankot



Biomedical waste site of Chikitsa Hospital



Navchetan Multispeciality Hospital, Pathankot



Biomedical waste collection at Navchetan Hospital



S K R Hospital, Pathankot



Bio-medical waste site of S K R Hospital



Puri Clinic, Pathankot



CBWTF Plant, Pathankot



Transporation Vehicle of CBWTF for collection of BMW



Incinerator of capacity 150 kg/hr at CBWTF



02 Autoclaves of total capacity 2850k/hrat CBWTF



Two Shredders of total capacity 550 kg/hr at CBWTF



BMW storage area at CBWTF



View of ETP at CBWTF



Hazardous Waste Storage area at CBWTF (Incineration ash, ETP Sludge)