

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

**OA No. 108 of 2025**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**TRIBUNAL ON ITS OWN MOTION SUO MOTU BASED ON THE NEWS ITEM  
IN THE HINDU DATED 14 APRIL 2025 TITLED SIX POLICE TEAMS  
FORMED TO PROBE CRACKER UNIT EXPLOSION IN AP ANAKAPALLI  
DISTRICT**

..... APPLICANT

**VERSUS**

**CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD THROUGH ITS MEMBER  
SECRETARY AND OTHERS**

..... RESPONDENTS

**REPORT FILED BY APPCB 4<sup>TH</sup> RESPONDENT**

DATE: 13.07.2025



**M/s MADHURI DONTI REDDY**

**ADVOCATE**

**STANDING COUNSEL FOR GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH**

**A.P. POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

#26, S2, Royal Castle, Gill Nagar Extension, Choolaimedu, Chennai – 600 094.

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**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
SOUTHERN ZONE AT CHENNAI IN CONNECTION WITH**

**Original Application No. 108 of 2025 (SZ)**

**[Earlier O.A. No. 191 of 2024(PB) filed before the Hon'ble NGT, New  
Delhi]**

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**Place: Visakhapatnam  
Dt:12.07.2025**

  
**Environmental Engineer,  
A.P. Pollution Control Board,  
Regional Office, Visakhapatnam**

**Environmental Engineer  
A.P. Pollution Control Board  
Regional Office, Visakhapatnam**

**Report in compliance with the Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, New Delhi vide Order dated 29.04.2025 in Original Application No. 191/2025(PB) in the matter in SUO MOTU based on the news item published in 'The Hindu', Chennai Edition dated 14.04.2025, "Six police teams formed to probe cracker unit explosion in A.P.'s Anakapalli District".**

It is to submit that the Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, New Delhi registered suo-motu on the basis of the news item titled "Six Police teams formed to prove cracker unit explosion in Anakapalli district appearing in The Hindu Bureau dated 14.04.2025".

The Hon'ble NGT has disposed the case vide order dated 29.04.2025 with the following directions:

"1. This original application is registered suo-motu on the basis of the news item titled "Six Police teams formed to prove cracker unit explosion in Anakapalli district appearing in The Hindu Bureau dated 14.04.2025".

2. The news item relates to the death of eight people in an explosion in a firecracker manufacturing unit at Kailasapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. As per the news item six teams have been constituted by the police to investigate the explosion. The forensic report is still awaited. As per the article the explosion occurred while the production activities were going on.

3. The news item does not disclose that any compensation has been paid to the victims of the explosion in the firecracker manufacturing unit. The Tribunal, in similar circumstances, in the matter of O.A. No.

44/2021 titled as In re: News item published in The News Indian Express dated 12.02.2021 has granted the compensation of Rs. 20 lakh to the family members of the deceased and also awarded the compensation to the injured persons. The detailed discussion in this regard is contained in the said order of the Tribunal.

4. The above matter indicates violation of the provisions of the Environment Protection Act 1986 and Public Liability Insurance Act 1991.



**Environmental Engineer  
A.P. Pollution Control Board  
Regional Office, Visakhapatnam**

5. The news item raises substantial issue relating to compliance of the environmental norms and implementation of the provisions of scheduled enactment.

6. Power of the Tribunal to take up the matter suo-motu has been recognized by the Supreme Court in the matter of Corporation of Greater Mumbai vs. Ankita Sinha & reported in 2021 SCC Online SC 897.

7. Hence, we implead the following as respondents:

- i. Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) Through its Member Secretary, Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 110032
- ii. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF), Regional Office, Andhra Pradesh
- iii. Regional Office (SEZ), Ist and IInd Floor, Handloom Export Promotion Council, 34, Cathedral Garden Road,
- iv. District Magistrate, Anakpalli District
- v. Andhra Pradesh State Pollution Control Board, Through its Member Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Paryavaran Bhavan, APIIC Colony Road, Gurunank Colony, Autonagar, Vijayawada – 520007

8. Issue notice to the respondents for filing their response before the appropriate bench of the Tribunal at least one week before the next date of hearing.

9. Since the matter relates to the Southern Zonal Bench, Chennai, therefore, OA is transferred to the Southern Zonal Bench. The original record of this OA be transferred to the Southern Zonal Bench, Chennai for further action.

10. List before Southern Zonal Bench at Chennai on 02.07.2025.”

Copy of the news item published in The Hindu Bureau dated 14.04.2025 is submitted as Annexure-I.

In compliance to the NGT Order dated 29.04.2025, the following is submitted:

1. Fire Accident occurred at M/s. Sri Vijaya Lakshmi Ganesh Fire Works, Kotavrutla, Kailasapatnam, Anakapalli District on 13.04.2025.

  
 Environmental Engineer  
 A.P. Pollution Control Board  
 Regional Office, Visakhapatnam

2. The APPCB has not issued consent to the M/s. Sri Vijaya Lakshmi Ganesh Fire Works.
3. APPCB has collected firefighting water sample on 14.04.2025 and as per analysis report, the parameter values are pH – 7.32, Total Suspended Solids – 38, Total Dissolved Solids – 1020 mg/l, Chemical Oxygen demand – 32 mg/l, Biochemical Oxygen Demand of 10 mg/l. Copy of the analysis report is submitted as **Annexure-II**.
4. APPCB has conducted VOC monitoring on 14.04.2025 and the values are recorded as nil.
5. As per the CPCB categorization 2016, the fire crackers manufacturing and bulk storage is categorized under red category for which the proponent has to obtain Consent To Establish and Consent To Operate of APPCB under Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 amendments thereof. Copy of the CPCB categorization 2016 is submitted as **Annexure-III**. Recently, the CPCB has revised the categorization in the year 2025, the Manufacturing of Firecrackers including improved crackers/green crackers, etc., is comes under orange category. Copy of the CPCB categorization 2025 is submitted as **Annexure-IV**.
6. So far, one unit has obtained Consent to Establish (CTE) of the Board in the name of M/s. Ramesh Fire Works, Sy.No.444-1, Chinna Doddigallu (V), Nakkapalli (M), Anakapalli District on 01.02.2024. The unit has not obtained Consent to Operate(CTO) till date.

This report is submitted for kind consideration and will abide by all such directions as the Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and appropriate.

Place: Visakhapatnam  
Dt:12.07.2025

  
**Environmental Engineer,  
A.P. Pollution Control Board,  
Regional Office, Visakhapatnam**  
Environmental Engineer  
A.P. Pollution Control Board  
Regional Office, Visakhapatnam

Item No. 07

Court No. 1

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

Original Application No. 191/2025

News Item titled "Six Police teams formed to prove cracker unit explosion in A.P.'s Anakapalli district appearing in The Hindu Bureau dated 14.04.2025"

Date of hearing: 29.04.2025

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

**ORDER**

1. This original application is registered *suo-motu* on the basis of the news item titled "Six Police teams formed to prove cracker unit explosion in A.P.'s Anakapalli district appearing in The Hindu Bureau dated 14.04.2025".

2. The news item relates to the death of eight people in an explosion in a firecracker manufacturing unit at Kailasapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. As per the news item six teams have been constituted by the police to investigate the explosion. The forensic report is still awaited. As per the article the explosion occurred while the production activities were going on.

3. The news item does not disclose that any compensation has been paid to the victims of the explosion in the firecracker manufacturing unit. The Tribunal, in similar circumstances, in the matter of **O.A. No. 44/2021 titled as In re: News item published in The News Indian Express dated 12.02.2021** has granted the compensation of Rs. 20 lakh to the family members of the deceased and also awarded the compensation to the injured persons. The detailed discussion in this regard is contained in the said order of the Tribunal.

4. The above matter indicates violation of the provisions of the Environment Protection Act 1986 and Public Liability Insurance Act 1991.
5. The news item raises substantial issue relating to compliance of the environmental norms and implementation of the provisions of scheduled enactment.
6. Power of the Tribunal to take up the matter *suo-motu* has been recognized by the **Hon'ble** Supreme Court in the matter of "***Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai vs. Ankita Sinha & Ors.***" reported in 2021 SCC Online SC 897.
7. Hence, we implead the following as respondents:
  - i. Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) Through its Member Secretary  
Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 110032
  - ii. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF) –  
Regional Office, Andhra Pradesh  
Regional Office (SEZ), Ist and IInd Floor, Handloom Export Promotion Council, 34, Cathedral Garden Road,  
**Nungambakkam, Chennai – 34.**
  - iii. District Magistrate, Anakpalli  
**Collector's Office, Anakpali**
  - iv. Andhra Pradesh State Pollution Control Board, Through its Member Secretary,  
Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Paryavaran Bhavan,  
APIIC Colony Road, Gurunank Colony, Autonagar, Vijayawada -  
520007

8. Issue notice to the respondents for filing their response before the appropriate bench of the Tribunal at least one week before the next date of hearing.

9. Since the matter relates to the Southern Zonal Bench, Chennai, therefore, OA is transferred to the Southern Zonal Bench. The original record of this OA be transferred to the Southern Zonal Bench, Chennai for further action.

10. List before Southern Zonal Bench at Chennai on 02.07.2025.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

April 29, 2025  
O.A. No. 191/2025  
HB..



**ANALYSIS REPORT**

Report No : VSP202504411

Sample source /Address : Sample collected from fire crackers manufacturing unit at Kilasapuram (V&P), Kotavuratla (M), Anakapalli District.

Sample Code No. : VSP202504411  
Sample description : Fire fighting water collected near fire crackers manufacturing unit at Kilasapatnam (V&P), Kotavuratla (M), Anakapalli District.

Sample collected on : 14.04.2025  
Sample collected by : Analyst (OS),RO, Visakhapatnam  
Sample quantity : 1 Litre in Plastic Can  
Report issued on : 29.04.2025

Sample received on : 16.04.2025  
Purpose of sampling : Fire Accident  
Sample Conditions : Fit for analysis  
Page No : 1 of 1

It is to certify that the aforementioned samples were analyzed from 16.04.2025 to 29.04.2025 and declare the analysis results as follows:

S. No.	Parameter	Unit	SAMPLE CODE	Test Method [APHA (24 <sup>th</sup> Edition)]
			VSP202504411	
			Analysis Result	
1.	pH @ 25°C	--	7.32	4500-H+B
2.	Total Suspended Solids (at 105°C)	mg/L	38	2540- D
3.	Total Dissolved Solids (at 180°C)	mg/L	1020	2540- C
4.	Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)	mg/L	32	5220- B
5.	Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) 3 days @ 27°C	mg/L	10	IS 3025 (Part 44)

Note: 1. Result is related to sample as received and tested.  
2. This report shall not be reproduced except in full without the prior approval of Laboratory.

Authorized Signatory

  
(M. RAVI)

STATE BOARD ANALYST  
Senior Environmental Scientist  
Zonal Laboratory, Visakhapatnam

\*\*\*END OF THE REPORT\*\*\*



केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड  
CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
(पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)  
(MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS, GOVT. OF INDIA)

No.B-29012/ESS(CPA)/2015-16/

March 07, 2016

To

The Chairman  
All the State Pollution Control Boards / Pollution Control Committees  
( List Attached)

**SUB: MODIFIED DIRECTIONS UNDER SECTION 18(1)(b) OF THE WATER (PREVENTION & CONTROL OF POLLUTION) ACT, 1974 and THE AIR (PREVENTION & CONTROL OF POLLUTION) ACT, 1981 REGARDING HARMONIZATION OF CLASSIFICATION OF INDUSTRIAL SECTORS UNDER RED / ORANGE / GREEN / WHITE CATEGORIES.**

WHEREAS, under section 16 (2)(b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and under Section 16 (2)(c) of the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, one of the functions of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), constituted under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, is to coordinate activities of the State Pollution Control Boards ( SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs); and

WHEREAS, under section 16 (2)(c) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and under Section 16 (2)(d) of the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, one of the functions of the CPCB is to provide technical assistance and guidance to SPCBs and PCCs; and

WHEREAS, it was brought to the notice of CPCB, that different SPCBs /PCCs were following different criteria for classification of industrial sectors under Red/Orange/ Green category and that classification was being used by the SPCBs/PCCs for grant of consents to industries and for Inventorization / surveillance of industries.

WHEREAS, the issue regarding classification of industries was deliberated upon in the 56<sup>th</sup> Conference of Chairmen & Member Secretaries of CPCB & SPCBs/PCCs held on August 31, 2010 and a working group comprising of representatives from SPCBs & CPCB was constituted to prepare a consolidated list of industrial sectors falling under Red/Orange/Green category to bring uniformity in classification of industrial sectors across the country;

'परिवेश भवन' पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली-110032

'Parivesh Bhawan', East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 110032

दूरभाष/Tel. : 43102030, फॅक्स/Fax : 22305793, 22307078, 22307079, 22301932, 22304948

ई-मेल/e-mail : cpcb@nic.in वेबसाइट/Website : www.cpcb.nic.in

9.	66	Power generation plant [except Wind and Solar renewable power plants of all capacities and Mini Hydel power plant of capacity <25MW]	10	-	10	15	10	25		62.5	R-R	1. Mainly air polluting. It uses a mixture of biomass (agro based) and coal (< 10 %) as a fuel. Almost, round the year operation. 2. In case of DG sets of 5 MVA & more and emissions of SO <sub>2</sub> will take place due to use of liquid fuel. Air pollution score will be =20 + 10 = 30, Normalized score will be 75. 3. In case of 'Waste to Energy Plants', water will be used for cooling and air score will be - 30+10 = 40.
10.	34	Industries engaged in recycling / reprocessing/ recovery/reuse of Hazardous Waste under schedule iv of HW( M, H& TBM) rules, 2008 - Items namely - Spent catalyst containing nickel, cadmium, Zinc, copper, arsenic, vanadium and cobalt,	30	-	30	25	-	25	10	65	R-R	All the three types of pollutants are expected.
11.	67	Processes involving chlorinated hydrocarbons	30	-	30	20	-	20	15	65	R-R	Chlorinated hydrocarbons are used in the manufacture of insecticides, pesticides and organo chloro pesticides. Effluents & emissions are toxic in nature.
12.	74	Sugar (excluding Khandsari)	20	10	30	15	10	25	10	65	R-R	i. <b>This industrial sector is the one among the '17 categories of Highly Polluting Industries'.</b> ii. Sugar mills generate all sorts of pollution problems.
13.	22	Fibre glass production and processing (excluding moulding)	-	-	-	20	-	20	20	67	R-R	i. The use of styrene in most methods of fiberglass production causes hazardous air pollution that is harmful to breathe at excessive levels. ii. It is mainly air polluting & HW generating industry. The air pollution & HW scores are normalized to 100. iii. In case of lead containing glass, the score of A1 will be 25 and final normalized score will be 75 and shall be categorized as Red.
14.	23	Fire crackers manufacturing and bulk storage facilities	-	-	-	20	-	20	20	67	R-R	i. This is the normalized score based on air pollution & HW generation. ii. Various hazardous chemicals are used in the manufacturing process. iii. These chemicals are namely Potassium Nitrate , Potassium per-chlorate, Barium Nitrate, Aluminium compounds, Copper Chloride etc.



# **Classification of Sectors into Red, Orange, Green, White and Blue Categories**

(A tool for progressive environmental management)



**Central Pollution Control Board**

**“Parivesh Bhawan”, East Arjun Nagar  
Delhi-110032**

**(January 2025)**

S. No.	Sector	W1	W2	W3	PI <sub>w</sub>	A1	A2	A3	PI <sub>A</sub>	H1	H2	PI <sub>H</sub>	Pollution Index (PI)	Category	Remarks	Concerned Division
49	Electric lamp (bulb) and CFL manufacturing by assembling only	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	White		IPC-V
50	Electrical and electronic item assembling (completely dry process)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	White		IPC-V
51	Engineering and fabrication units (dry process without any heat treatment / metal surface finishing operations / painting)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	White		IPC-V
~F~																
52.0	FIBRE GLASS (FIBRE REINFORCED PLASTIC) PRODUCTION															
52.1	Fibre glass (containing lead) production and processing (excluding moulding)	0	0	0	0	35	0	25	60	25	20	45	69	Orange		IPC-V
52.2	Fibre glass (without lead) production and processing (excluding moulding)	0	0	0	0	30	0	25	55	25	20	45	65.1	Orange	The use of styrene in most methods of fibre glass production causes hazardous air pollution that is harmful to breathe at excessive levels.	IPC-V
53	Manufacturing of Firecrackers including improved crackers/green crackers, etc.	0	0	0	0	35	30	0	65	30	10	40	72	Orange	Various hazardous chemicals are used in the manufacturing process. Accident/safety hazard is also associated with such sector during manufacturing and usages.	IPC-V
54.0	SYNTHETIC FIBRES MANUFACTURING															
54.1	Synthetic fibres-PSF & PFY, generated from petrochemical	35	30	35	100	30	25	35	90	30	20	50	100	Red		IPC-I