

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

OA No. 279 of 2024

In

OA No. 1097 of 2024 (PB)

IN THE MATTER OF:

**NEWS ITEM TITLED 17 KILLED 20 INJURED IN REACTOR BLAST AT
PHARMA COMPANY IN ANDHRA PRADESH S ANAKAPALLI APPEARING
IN THE HINDU DATED 22.08.2024**

..... APPLICANT

VERSUS

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

..... RESPONDENTS

REPORT FILED BY APPCB 2ND RESPONDENT

DATE: 19.07.2025



M/s MADHURI DONTI REDDY

ADVOCATE

STANDING COUNSEL FOR GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

A.P. POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

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**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL SOUTHERN ZONE
BENCH AT CHENNAI IN CONNECTION WITH
Original Application No. 279/2024(SZ)
[Earlier Original Application No. 1097/2024 filed before the National
Green Tribunal Principal Bench, New Delhi (PB)]**

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**Place: Visakhapatnam
Dt:18.07.2025**


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

Report in compliance with the Hon'ble NGT, Southern Zone, Chennai vide Order dated 29.04.2025 in Original Application No. 279 of 2024 (SZ) [Earlier Original Application No. 1097 of 2024(PB)] on the News Item titled "17 killed 20 injured in reactor blast at pharma company in Andhra Pradesh's Anakapalli" published in The Hindu News Paper dated 22.08.2024.

It is to submit that the National Green Tribunal, New Delhi is registered *suo-motu* case based on the News Item titled "17 killed 20 injured in reactor blast at pharma company in Andhra Pradesh's Anakapalli" published in The Hindu News Paper dated 22.08.2024. The matter pertains to the death of 17 workers and injuries caused to 20 others due to the eruption of a major fire reportedly after a reactor blast at Escientia pharmaceutical company, Anakapalli, Visakhapatnam.

The Hon'ble NGT, Delhi in its order dated 22.08.2024 in Original Application No. 1097/2024(PB), stated that

"1. This original application is registered suo motu on the basis of the news item titled "17 killed 20 injured in reactor blast at pharma company in Andhra Pradesh's Anakapalli" appearing in 'The Hindu' dated 22.08.2024.

2. The news item relates to the death of 17 workers and injuries caused to 20 others due to the eruption of a major fire reportedly after a reactor blast in Escientia Advanced Science Private Ltd. in the Special Economic Zone at Atchutapuram in Anakapalli of Andhra Pradesh. As per the article, the company manufactures intermediate chemicals and pharmaceutical ingredients. The article alleges that the death toll is likely to go up as bodies of several workers were feared trapped under the rubble of the slab of the first floor of the four-storey building. Furthermore, the impact of the blast was so strong that the severed body parts of some workers were thrown to some distance on the company premises. Thick flames and smoke engulfed the area. Spread across 40 acres, Escientia Advanced Sciences Private Limited was set up at Atchutapuram SEZ in 2019 with a budget of around ₹200 crore. The company manufactures Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API). The news item highlights that as many as 381 workers have been working in two shifts in the company. The accident occurred around 2.15 p.m., during shift change. It is claimed that such accidents have been occurring frequently, and yet no measures have been taken. Moreover, the news item alleges that repeated accidents had been


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

occurring due to alleged negligence and apathy of the managements. It had been several years since a safety audit was conducted.

3. The Tribunal has passed orders in order dated 01.06.2020 in OA No. 73/2020, order dated 31.08.2021 in OA No. 79/2021, order dated 21.09.2022 in OA 284/2022 with OA 45/2022 (SZ), order dated 18.01.2023 in OA 448/2022 and order dated 28.02.2023 in OA No. 111/2023 in cases relating to industrial accidents forming Committees to find out the cause of accidents and take remedial actions and further directing payment of compensation to the victims. In the present case, it is required to be ascertained if the unit was complying with environmental norms and if compensation to the victims/family member of victims has been paid.

4. The news item raises substantial issue relating to compliance of the environmental norms.

5. 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.

6. Hence, we implead the following as respondents in the matter:

(1). Central Pollution Control Board, Through its Member Secretary, Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032.

(2). Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Through its Member Secretary, Dr. YSR Paryavaran Bhawan, APIIC Colony Road, Gurunanak Colony, Vijaywada-520007.

(3). Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Through its Regional Office, Regional Office (SEZ), Ist and IInd Floor, Handloom Export Promotion Council, 34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai – 34.

(4). District Magistrate, Anakapalli, Collector's Office, Anakapalli.

(5). Director, Directorate of Industrial Safety and Health, Andhra Pradesh.



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

7. Issue notice to the above respondents for filing their response/reply by way of affidavit before the Southern Zonal Bench of the Tribunal at least one week before the next date of hearing. If any of the respondents directly files the reply without routing it through his advocate then the said respondent will remain virtually present to assist the Tribunal.

8. Since the matter falls within the jurisdiction of Southern Zonal Bench of the Tribunal, therefore, the OA is transferred to the Southern Zonal Bench, Chennai for appropriate further action. Let the original record of the OA be transferred to Southern Zonal Bench, Chennai.

9. List before Southern Zonal Bench at Chennai on 30.09.2024.”.

Copy of the Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi Order dated 22.08.2024 is submitted as **Annexure-I.**

In compliance to the Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi Order dated 22.08.2024, the APPCB has filed a report on 29.08.2024. Copy of the APPCB report dated 29.08.2024 is submitted as **Annexure-II.**

The Hon'ble NGT heard the matter on 29.04.2025 and the extract of the order is as follows:

" 11. In I.A. No. 19/2025 the applicant is stated to have make representations to the High Level Committee. The applicant may also make any further representation to the High Level Committee if so desired. Needless to say that the High Level Committee will be bound to consider the representations/submissions made by applicant-SFP in making of the recommendations before this Tribunal. Even though, the applicant has referred to the experience of other cases to fortify its stand for its impleadment but the applicant can file separate original application with specific grievances, suggestions, recommendations regarding industrial safety in the State of Andhra Pradesh with prayer for grant of specific reliefs/issuance of specific directions. The applicant-SFP is not a necessary party and impleadment of applicant-SFP as respondent no. 7 is not essential for just and proper adjudication of the substantial environmental questions involved in the case and its impleadment is also likely to cause delay in disposal of the case due to the consequent

procedural requirements of filing of objections and rejoinders to the same.

12. I.A. No. 19/2025 is disposed of accordingly with liberty to the applicant-SFP to make appropriate representation before High Level Committee or to file separate original application with specific grievances, suggestions, recommendations and prayer. O.A. No. 279 of 2024(SZ).

13. Learned Counsel appearing for the 6th respondent seeks time for filing of final report of the Andhra Pradesh Pollution control Board along with High Level Committee's recommendations.

14. Post the matter on 21.07.2025."

Copy of the report dated 29.04.2025 is submitted as **Annexure-III**.

In compliance to the Hon'ble NGT, Chennai Order dated 29.04.2025, the following is submitted:

1. The APPCB has submitted report to the Hon'ble NGT on 17.02.2025. Copy of the report is submitted as **Annexure-IV**.
2. During the firefighting, about 100 KL of wastewater generated and same was stored in above ground storage tank. The same was disposed to CETP, AETL on 10.09.2024 to 13.09.2024 & 20.09.2024 for further treatment & disposal.
3. The industry has disposed Rector Mass of 0.32 Tons & Spent carbon of 0.98 Tons to the TSDF, M/s. Coastal Waste Management Project, (A division of M/s. Re Sustainability Limited), Parawada, Anakapalli in the month of Oct-2024. The industry also disposed Titanium waste from FCP Manufacturing of 0.89 Tons to the TSDF, M/s. Coastal Waste Management Project, (A division of M/s. Re Sustainability Limited), Parawada, Anakapalli in the month of Nov-2024. The industry has disposed 165.74 KL of spent and mixed solvents to M/s. Visakha Solvents for recovery and 39.74 tons of off-specification & discarded products to TSDF, M/s. Coastal Waste Management Project, (A division of M/s. Re Sustainability Limited), Parawada, Anakapalli and preprocessors (JR Green Eco Solutions, Jagayyapeta) during the period Sep-2024 to Apr-2025.



4. The industry has disposed 560 KL of LTDS effluent and 140 KL of HTDS effluent to AETL, Atchuthapuram during the period from Sep-2024 to Jun-2025.
5. The industries & Commerce (P&I) Department, Govt. of AP vide G.O MS No. 51 dated 13.09.2024 constituted of High-Level Committee to suggest measures for increasing the industrial safety in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
6. The committee visit the accident site on 26.09.2024 and conducted review meeting with industries & stake holder departments on 27.09.2024 at Visakhapatnam. The committee will submit report within the three (3) months. The committee visit the accident site on 26.09.2024 and conducted review meeting with industries & stake holder departments on 27.09.2024 at Visakhapatnam. The report is under finalization.
7. The industry vide letter dated 16.07.2025 informed that they have proposed to initiate the following Safety and Infrastructure Improvements after fire accident:

1. Structural Stability Assessment and Strengthening:

The industry engaged an authorized agency, IDDC, for a detailed assessment of the building's structural stability. Based on the recommendations, they are in the process of completion of required structural strengthening works to ensure the safety and integrity of the facility. The activity is completed.

2. Departmental Relocation:

The PD Lab, QC, and QA departments proposed to relocate from the production block to the newly constructed administrative block to further segregate operational areas and enhance overall safety. The activity is going on and would be completed by 31.10.2025.

3. Electrical Panel Room Safety Measures:

A dedicated fire-rated room has been constructed to house the electrical panels, completely isolated from production operations. Cable trays are now routed externally, and all floor slab openings have been sealed with concrete to prevent potential liquid leakages between floors. The activity is completed.

4. Relocation of Air Handling Units (AHUs):

AHUs that were earlier located in the ground-floor technical area have been relocated to the first floor, away from production activities, ensuring safer access and reduced risk of contamination. The activity is going on and would be completed by 31.10.2025.

5. Emergency Egress Enhancement:

A fourth emergency staircase is under construction on the west side of the production block, interconnecting all three floors. This addition ensures safe evacuation routes are available from all directions within the building. The activity is going on and would be completed by 30.09.2025.

6. Solvent Pipeline Integrity:

All flange connections in solvent pipelines have been eliminated and replaced with seamless piping, significantly reducing the risk of leaks at joints. The activity is completed.

7. Enhanced Monitoring Systems:

The industry proposed to upgrade the safety monitoring systems by adding 44 Lower Explosive Limit (LEL) detectors and 39 Oxygen sensors across all technical areas. Previously, such sensors were limited to production suites and floors only. The activity is going on and would be completed by 31.10.2025.

8. AHU Interlocking with BMS:

LEL sensors are proposed install within AHUs and integrated with the Building Management System (BMS). In the event of a solvent vapor detection, the BMS automatically switches the AHU damper from recirculation to once-through mode, effectively exhausting contaminated air and preventing accumulation. The activity is going on and would be completed by 31.10.2025.


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

9. Effluent Hood and Scrubber System:

A purchase order has been released for installing a hood system equipped with a double-stage scrubber for LTDS and HTDS effluent tanks. Installation is scheduled for completion by the end of September 2025.

10. Effluent Pipeline Upgrade

All effluent pipelines are being upgraded to Polypropylene Random Copolymer (PPRC) material to enhance chemical resistance and improve overall pipeline integrity. The activity is completed.

Copy of the industry's letter dated 16.07.2025 is submitted as **Annexure-V**.

The Stop Production order was still in force and the industry has not applied for any revocation of stop production order. The industry was inspected on 14.07.2025 and observed that the industry is not in operation & carrying out the above renovation works.

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.18.07.2025


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

Item No. 18

Court No. 1

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

Original Application No. 1097/2024

News Item titled "17 killed 20 injured in reactor blast at pharma company in Andhra Pradesh's Anakapalli" appearing in The Hindu dated 22.08.2024

Date of hearing: 22.08.2024

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRAKASH SHRIVASTAVA, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR TYAGI, JUDICIAL MEMBER
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 "17 killed 20 injured in reactor blast at pharma company in Andhra Pradesh's Anakapalli" appearing in 'The Hindu' dated 22.08.2024.

2. The news item relates to the death of 17 workers and injuries caused to 20 others due to the eruption of a major fire reportedly after a reactor blast in Escientia Advanced Science Private Ltd. in the Special Economic Zone at Atchutapuram in Anakapalli of Andhra Pradesh. As per the article, the company manufactures intermediate chemicals and pharmaceutical ingredients. The article alleges that the death toll is likely to go up as bodies of several workers were feared trapped under the rubble of the slab of the first floor of the four-storey building. Furthermore, the impact of the blast was so strong that the severed body parts of some workers were thrown to some distance on the company premises. Thick flames and smoke engulfed the area. Spread across 40 acres, Escientia Advanced Sciences Private Limited was set up at Atchutapuram SEZ in 2019 with a budget of around ₹200 crore. The

company manufactures Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API). The news item highlights that as many as 381 workers have been working in two shifts in the company. The accident occurred around 2.15 p.m., during shift change. It is claimed that such accidents have been occurring frequently, and yet no measures have been taken. Moreover, the news item alleges that repeated accidents had been occurring due to alleged negligence and apathy of the managements. It had been several years since a safety audit was conducted.

3. The Tribunal has passed orders in order dated 01.06.2020 in OA No. 73/2020, order dated 31.08.2021 in OA No. 79/2021, order dated 21.09.2022 in OA 284/2022 with OA 45/2022 (SZ), order dated 18.01.2023 in OA 448/2022 and order dated 28.02.2023 in OA No. 111/2023 in cases relating to industrial accidents forming Committees to find out the cause of accidents and take remedial actions and further directing payment of compensation to the victims. In the present case, it is required to be ascertained if the unit was complying with environmental norms and if compensation to the victims/family member of victims has been paid.

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6. Hence, we implead the following as respondents in the matter:

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 - (3). Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Through its Regional Office, Regional Office (SEZ), Ist and IInd Floor, Handloom Export Promotion Council, 34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai – 34.
 - (4). District Magistrate, Anakapalli, Collector's Office, Anakapalli.
 - (5). Director, Directorate of Industrial Safety and Health, Andhra Pradesh.
7. Issue notice to the above respondents for filing their response/reply by way of affidavit before the Southern Zonal Bench of the Tribunal at least one week before the next date of hearing. If any of the respondents directly files the reply without routing it through his advocate then the said respondent will remain virtually present to assist the Tribunal.
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9. List before Southern Zonal Bench at Chennai on 30.09.2024.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

August 22, 2024
Original Application No. 1097/2024
dv

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL PRINCIPAL BENCH,
NEW DELHI IN CONNECTION WITH

Original Application No. 1097/2024 filed before the National Green
Tribunal Principal Bench, New Delhi

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It is certified that all the documents contained in the above annexure are true copies.

Place: Visakhapatnam
Dt:28.09.2024


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

Report in compliance with the Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, Delhi vide Order dated 22.08.2024 in Original Application No. 1097 of 2024(PB) on the News Item titled "17 killed 20 injured in reactor blast at pharma company in Andhra Pradesh's Anakapalli" published in The Hindu News Paper dated 22.08.2024.

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two shifts in the company. The accident occurred around 2.15 p.m., during shift change. It is claimed that such accidents have been occurring frequently, and yet no measures have been taken. Moreover, the news item alleges that repeated accidents had been occurring due to alleged negligence and apathy of the managements. It had been several years since a safety audit was conducted.

3. The Tribunal has passed orders in order dated 01.06.2020 in OA No. 73/2020, order dated 31.08.2021 in OA No. 79/2021, order dated 21.09.2022 in OA 284/2022 with OA 45/2022 (SZ), order dated 18.01.2023 in OA 448/2022 and order dated 28.02.2023 in OA No. 111/2023 in cases relating to industrial accidents forming Committees to find out the cause of accidents and take remedial actions and further directing payment of compensation to the victims. In the present case, it is required to be ascertained if the unit was complying with environmental norms and if compensation to the victims/family member of victims has been paid.

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9. List before Southern Zonal Bench at Chennai on 30.09.2024."

Copy of the Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi Order dated 22.08.2024 is submitted as **Annexure-I.**

In compliance to the Hon'ble NGT Order dated 22.08.2024, the following is submitted:

1. M/s. Escientia Advanced Sciences Private Limited has established in total area of 40 acres at Plot No.11, 11 A, 12 & 12 A, APIIC, APSEZ, Atchuthapuram.
2. The industry has obtained CTO(CPM) vide order dated 25.05.2024 to manufacture bulk drugs with a maximum production capacity of 2600 Kg/Day. Copy of the CTO(CPM) Order dated 25.05.2024 is herewith submitted as **Annexure-II.**
3. An accident took place at about 02:15 PM on 21.08.2024 in M/s. Escientia Advanced Sciences Pvt., Ltd., Plot No.11, 11 A, 12 & 12 A, APSEZ, Atchutapuram & Rambilli (M), Anakapalli District.
4. The APPCB Regional Office, Visakhapatnam Officials inspected the industry on 21.08.2024 and submitted preliminary report. Copy of the preliminary report dated 22.08.2024 is herewith submitted as **Annexure-III.**

5. APCCB has carried out monitoring from 21.08.2024 to 22.08.2024 and collected samples from the contaminated firefighting water at front side of the production block & back side of the production block. The monitoring results are as follows:

I. VOC Monitoring data:

S.No	Location	VOC Values Rang in ppm						
		Timings	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	8:00 PM
1	Security Back Gate (East side)	BDL	BDL	0.1- 0.2	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL
2	Security Main gate (North side)	0.3-0.6	0.4-0.5	0.4-0.5	0.3-0.4	0.3-0.4	0.2-0.4	0.1-0.2
3	Drum storage area(West side)	0.1-0.2	0.1-0.0	0.1-0.2	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL
4	Laurus Unit-2 Road(South side)	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL
5	Near Production Block	0.3-0.8	0.4-0.6	0.3-0.6	0.2-0.4	0.2-0.3	0.1-0.2	0.1-0.2
Note: BDL – Below detectable Limit								

II. Samples of Contaminated Firefighting Water

S. No.	Parameter	Sample of contaminated firefighting water at front side of the production block	Sample of contaminated firefighting water at back side of the production block
1.	pH	6.36	9.04
2.	Total Suspended Solids	127 mg/lit	118 mg/lit
3.	Total Dissolved Solids	1428 mg/lit	1352 mg/lit
4.	Chemicals Oxygen Demand	336 mg/lit	320 mg/lit

6. A detailed report was submitted on 23.08.2024 for taking further necessary action. Copy of the APCCB report dated 23.08.2024 is herewith submitted as **Annexure-IV**.
7. It was observed that from the above the maximum VOC concentration was found 0.8 ppm near production block during monitoring at 03.00 PM. The VOC were also monitored outside the factory premises and the VOC concentrations are found in the range of 0.3 ppm to 0.8 ppm.

8. The industry drained out the waste water generated from firefighting into a unlined sump, which is potential to cause contamination of ground water.
9. The operational status of the industry is not suitable to continue further operations of the industry and Potential to cause pollution problems into surrounding environment.
10. The APPCB, Vijayawada has issued stop production order to the industry on 23.08.2024 to stop further discharges of air and water pollutants into surrounding environment, since operational status of your industry is not suitable to continue further operations and potential to cause pollution problems. Copy of the stop production order dated 23.08.2024 is herewith submitted as **Annexure-V**.
11. The Collector & District Magistrate, Anakapalli District vide proceeding dated 27.08.2024 constituted a committee to examine the safe disposal of the solvents in the premises and post corrective measures and directed to submit the report. The Joint Committee inspected on 27.08.2024 and the APPCB has submitted report to the Collector & District Magistrate on 28.08.2024. Copy of the report dated 28.08.2024 is herewith submitted as **Annexure-VI**.
12. The Collector & District Magistrate, Anakapalli District vide letter dated 03.09.2024 addressed a letter to the District Roads & Buildings Officer, Anakapalli, Deputy chief Inspector of Factories, Visakhapatnam Assistant Director, DIC, Anakapalli, District Disaster Response & Fire Officer, Anakapalli, Deputy Chief Inspector of Boilers, Anakapalli, District Drug Control Officer, Anakapalli, Assistant Environmental Engineer, APPCB, Electrical Inspector, Visakhapatnam, EE, APEPDCL, Anakapalli, District In-charge, Labour Dept., Anakapalli to specific recommendations by the Joint Committee for shifting of the solvents and other materials from the damaged building in M/s. Escientia Advanced Sciences (P) Ltd. Copy of the Collector & District Magistrate, Anakapalli District letter dated 03.09.2024 is herewith submitted as **Annexure-VII**.
13. The APPCB has submitted report to the Collector & District Magistrate, Anakapalli District on 06.09.2024. Copy of the report dated 06.09.2024 is herewith submitted as **Annexure-VIII**.

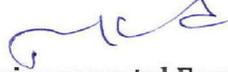
14. The Joint Committee submitted report on 06.09.2024 to the Collector & District Magistrate, Anakapalli District. Copy of the Joint Committee report dated 06.09.2024 is herewith submitted as **Annexure-IX**.
15. Based on the Joint Committee report, the Collector & District Magistrate, Anakapalli District issued orders vide proceedings dated 11.09.2024 to M/s. Escientia Advanced Sciences Private Limited to shift all the solvents and other materials from the production block under the supervision of the Joint Committee members within one week as per the SOPs and undertaking submitted by the management of M/s. Escientia Advanced Sciences Private Limited., APSEZ, Atchuthapuram. Copy of the proceedings dated 11.09.2024 is herewith submitted as **Annexure-X**.
16. As per the Inspection of Factories Department report dated: 12.09.2024, the management of M/s. Escientia Advanced Sciences Private Limited has paid the amount of one crore to each for 17 deceased workers, for injured workers 50 lakhs to 21 workers and 25 lakhs to 18 workers on 23.08.2024. Copy of the Inspection of Factories Department report dated: 12.09.2024, is herewith submitted as **Annexure-XI**.
17. The industries & Commerce (P&I) Department, Govt. of AP vide G.O MS No. 51 dated 13.09.2024 constituted of High Level Committee to suggest measures for increasing the industrial safety in the State of Andhra Pradesh. The High-Level Committee consists of the following members
Copy of the G.O MS No. 51 dated 13.09.2024 is herewith submitted as **Annexure-XII**:

1.	Smt. Vasudha Mishra, IAS (Retd).	Chairperson
2.	Special Chief Secretary, Environment, Forest, Science & Technology Department	Member
3.	Principal Secretary, Home Department	Member
4.	Secretary, Labour Factories Boilers & Insurance Medical Services Department	Member
5.	Secretary, Industry and Commerce Department	Member
6.	Development Commissioner, VSEZ, Government of India	Member
7.	Director General, Fire services	Member
8.	Member Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board	Member
9.	Director of Boilers	Member
10.	Director of Industries	Member
11.	Vice-Chairman & Managing Director, APIIC	Member
12.	Director of Factories	Convener

18. The committee visit the accident site on 26.09.2024 and conducted review meeting with industries & stake holder departments on 27.09.2024 at Visakhapatnam. The committee will submit report within the three(3) months.

Submitted.

Place: Visakhapatnam
Dt. 28.09.2024


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

Item No.08:-**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

[Through Physical Hearing (Hybrid Option)]

Original Application No. 279 of 2024 (SZ)**&****I.A. No. 19 of 2025(SZ)**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion
Suo Motu based on the news item
appearing in the Hindu Newspaper dated
22.08.2024 titled "17 killed, 20 injured
in reactor blast at Pharma company in
Andhra Pradesh's Anakapalli ."

And

CPCB and Ors.

...Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 29.04.2025.



CORAM:

HON'BLE Mr. JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR TYAGI, JUDICIAL MEMBER

HON'BLE Dr. SATYAGOPAL KORLAPATI, EXPERT MEMBER

For Applicant(s): Suo Motu.

For Respondent(s): Mr. R. Thirunavukarasu for R1.
Mr. Gowdham for Ms. Madhuri Donti Reddy for
R2, R4 and R5.
Mr. G. M. Syed Nurullah Sheriff and Mr. L.
Suryaprabhu for R6.
Mr. Amarnadha Prasad for applicant in I.A. No.
19 of 2025

ORDER**I.A. No. 19 of 2025(SZ)**

1. Cognizance of the matter was taken by the Principal Bench of this Tribunal on the basis of the news item published in the Hindu Newspaper dated 22.08.2024 titled **“17 killed, 20 injured in reactor blast at Pharma company in Andhra Pradesh’s Anakapalli.”** and while issuing notices to the respondents the matter was ordered to be listed before this Bench.
2. I.A. No. 19/2025 has been filed by Scientists for People, a group of retired scientists and academics from premier Institutes, Universities, and IITs all over the country for its impleadment as proposed respondent no. 7.
3. The applicant has submitted that despite the fact that the Tribunal has disposed of several cases but the same hazard that caused the accident remains and impleadment of the applicant is necessary for proper adjudication of the issues involved to address the root cause of the accident in question. The relevant part of I.A. No. 19/2025 mentioning the grounds for its impleadment is reproduced as under:-

“11. In the light of the aforementioned facts and circumstances the impleadment of the Applicant Organization becomes necessary for proper adjudication of the issues and to address the root cause of the accident in question.

12. It is submitted that the Applicant Organization has been following the statements from officials concerned and sent inputs for a proper investigation into the causes of the incident that occurred at Escientia and Synergene as these incidents occurred within a span of two days and the High-Level Committee appointed is to probe these incidents. SFP made a presentation to the HLC chairperson and other officials through a video conference. It sent analysis of the causes of the incident based on the data available in the public domain at Synergene Active Ingredients Pvt Ltd at about 1:00 am on 23 August 2024. However, SFP could not complete its investigation on the Escientia incident as there are several missing links due to the credibility of the available information. News on the incident blamed human error, so SFP sent a detailed literature note rejecting human error as the cause of accidents. And SFP is waiting for the submissions of the official respondents to NGT to present its analysis.

13. It is submitted that despite occurrence of similar accidents time and again, the Director of Factories has no industrial hygiene laboratory and has no means to monitor workplace exposure. During the recent toxic exposure incident at Tagoor Laboratories (26-11-2024), both APPCB and the director of factories have failed to inform the public about the identity of the gas leaked. Fortunately, the exposure was confined to the company premises, but if the emissions went beyond the premises the damage to the person and property would have been tenfold. It is pertinent to note that the

company remained secretive about the identity of the gas and the authority cannot be ignorant of what is released. The exposed workers and the hospital that treated them know the truth, but nothing came out in the public domain answering these questions.

14. *It is submitted that the said incident in question raises critical concerns related to occupational safety, compliance with environmental laws, and human rights including the right to life and a safe working environment. And given the complexity in issue and the scientific aspects in question that lead to the explosion, the impleadment of the Applicant becomes just and necessary.*

15. *It is submitted that to seek accountability from such regulatory bodies established under the law to protect the people and the environment and take note of the repetitive violations by the factory (Escientia Advance Science Private Ltd) and the absence of any enforcement of strict measures against the said company by the regulatory authorities, namely, the Director of Factories and APPCB, the applicant herein seeks to be impleaded as a party in the present matter. It is submitted that SFP would assist this Hon'ble Tribunal by making submissions that include its views and comments on:*

(i) Analysis of the Respondent authority reports

(ii) Further action that is necessary based on the Respondent authorities' submissions

(iii) In respect of any lapses by the company or relevant authorities

(iv) On systemic failures and the needed policy improvements to enhance industrial safety and environmental protection in similar industries.”

4. We have heard learned Counsel for the intervenor applicant and other parties and gone through the relevant record.

5. Learned Counsel for the applicant in I.A. No. 19/2025 has reiterated the factual and legal submissions made therein and prayed that impleadment of the applicant as proposed respondent no. 7 may be allowed.

6. The case involves two aspects (a) award of compensation to legal heirs of deceased, the injured and the other affected persons whose property was damaged and (b) taking of remedial measures to prevent occurrence of such accidents in future.

7. The Tribunal has passed orders in order dated 01.06.2020 in OA No. 73/2020, order dated 31.08.2021 in OA No. 79/2021, order dated 21.09.2022 in OA 284/2022 with OA 45/2022 (SZ), order dated 18.01.2023 in OA 448/2022 and order dated 28.02.2023 in OA No. 111/2023 in cases relating

to industrial accidents forming Committees to find out the cause of accidents and take remedial actions and further directing payment of compensation to the victims. In the present case, it is required to be ascertained if the unit was complying with environmental norms and if compensation to the victims/family member of victims has been paid.

8. As per the Inspection of Factories Department report dated: 12.09.2024, the management of M/s. Escientia Advanced Sciences Private Limited has paid the amount of one crore to each for 17 deceased workers, for injured workers 50 lakhs to 21 workers and 25 lakhs to 18 workers on 23.08.2024.

9. The Industries and Commerce (P&I) Department, Govt. of AP vide G.O MS No. 51 dated 13.09.2024 constituted of High Level Committee for ascertaining the cause of accident and suggesting remedial measures for increasing the industrial safety in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

10. Both the aspects mentioned hereinabove can be adjudicated upon by the Tribunal on the basis of the reports to be submitted by the concerned respondents and other material before it.

11. In I.A. No. 19/2025 the applicant is stated to have make representations to the High Level Committee. The applicant may also make any further representation to the High Level Committee if so desired. Needless to say that the High Level Committee will be bound to consider the representations/submissions made by applicant-SFP in making of the recommendations before this Tribunal. Even though, the applicant has referred to the experience of other cases to fortify its stand for its impleadment but the applicant can file separate original application with specific grievances, suggestions, recommendations regarding industrial safety in the State of Andhra Pradesh with prayer for grant of specific reliefs/issuance of specific directions. The applicant-SFP is not a necessary party and impleadment of applicant-SFP as respondent no. 7 is not essential for just and proper adjudication of the substantial environmental questions involved in the case and its impleadment is also likely to cause delay in disposal of the case due to the consequent procedural requirements of filing of objections and rejoinders to the same.

12. I.A. No. 19/2025 is disposed of accordingly with liberty to the applicant-SFP to make appropriate representation before High Level Committee or to file separate original application with specific grievances, suggestions, recommendations and prayer.

O.A. No. 279 of 2024(SZ)

13. Learned Counsel appearing for the 6th respondent seeks time for filing of final report of the Andhra Pradesh Pollution control Board along with High Level Committee's recommendations.

14. Post the matter on 21.07.2025.

Justice Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. Satyagopal Korlapati, EM

O.A. No.279/2024 (SZ)&
I.A. No. 19/2025(SZ)
29th April, 2025. AM.



**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL SOUTHERN ZONE
BENCH AT CHENNAI IN CONNECTION WITH
Original Application No. 279/2024(SZ)
[Earlier Original Application No. 1097/2024 filed before the National
Green Tribunal Principal Bench, New Delhi (PB)]**

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Place: Visakhapatnam
Dt: 17.02.2025


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

Report in compliance with the Hon'ble NGT, Southern Zone, Chennai vide Order dated 07.01.2025 in Original Application No. 279 of 2024 (SZ) [Earlier Original Application No. 1097 of 2024(PB)] on the News Item titled "17 killed 20 injured in reactor blast at pharma company in Andhra Pradesh's Anakapalli" published in The Hindu News Paper dated 22.08.2024.

It is to submit that the National Green Tribunal, New Delhi is registered *suo-motu case* based on the News Item titled "17 killed 20 injured in reactor blast at pharma company in Andhra Pradesh's Anakapalli" published in The Hindu News Paper dated 22.08.2024. The matter pertains to the death of 17 workers and injuries caused to 20 others due to the eruption of a major fire reportedly after a reactor blast at Escientia pharmaceutical company, Anakapalli, Visakhapatnam.

The Hon'ble NGT, Delhi in its order dated 22.08.2024 in Original Application No. 1097/2024(PB), stated that

"1. This original application is registered suo motu on the basis of the news item titled "17 killed 20 injured in reactor blast at pharma company in Andhra Pradesh's Anakapalli" appearing in 'The Hindu' dated 22.08.2024.

2. The news item relates to the death of 17 workers and injuries caused to 20 others due to the eruption of a major fire reportedly after a reactor blast in Escientia Advanced Science Private Ltd. in the Special Economic Zone at Atchutapuram in Anakapalli of Andhra Pradesh. As per the article, the company manufactures intermediate chemicals and pharmaceutical ingredients. The article alleges that the death toll is likely to go up as bodies of several workers were feared trapped under the rubble of the slab of the first floor of the four-storey building. Furthermore, the impact of the blast was so strong that the severed body parts of some workers were thrown to some distance on the company premises. Thick flames and smoke engulfed the area. Spread across 40 acres, Escientia Advanced Sciences Private Limited was set up at Atchutapuram SEZ in 2019 with a budget of around ₹200 crore. The company manufactures Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API). The

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

news item highlights that as many as 381 workers have been working in two shifts in the company. The accident occurred around 2.15 p.m., during shift change. It is claimed that such accidents have been occurring frequently, and yet no measures have been taken. Moreover, the news item alleges that repeated accidents had been occurring due to alleged negligence and apathy of the managements. It had been several years since a safety audit was conducted.

3. The Tribunal has passed orders in order dated 01.06.2020 in OA No. 73/2020, order dated 31.08.2021 in OA No. 79/2021, order dated 21.09.2022 in OA 284/2022 with OA 45/2022 (SZ), order dated 18.01.2023 in OA 448/2022 and order dated 28.02.2023 in OA No. 111/2023 in cases relating to industrial accidents forming Committees to find out the cause of accidents and take remedial actions and further directing payment of compensation to the victims. In the present case, it is required to be ascertained if the unit was complying with environmental norms and if compensation to the victims/family member of victims has been paid.

4. The news item raises substantial issue relating to compliance of the environmental norms.

5. 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.

6. Hence, we implead the following as respondents in the matter:

(1). Central Pollution Control Board, Through its Member Secretary, Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032.

(2). Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Through its Member Secretary, Dr. YSR Paryavaran Bhawan, APIIC Colony Road, Gurunanak Colony, Vijaywada-520007.

(3). Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Through its Regional Office, Regional Office (SEZ), Ist and IInd

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

Floor, Handloom Export Promotion Council, 34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai - 34.

(4). District Magistrate, Anakapalli, Collector's Office, Anakapalli.

(5). Director, Directorate of Industrial Safety and Health, Andhra Pradesh.

7. Issue notice to the above respondents for filing their response/reply by way of affidavit before the Southern Zonal Bench of the Tribunal at least one week before the next date of hearing. If any of the respondents directly files the reply without routing it through his advocate then the said respondent will remain virtually present to assist the Tribunal.

8. Since the matter falls within the jurisdiction of Southern Zonal Bench of the Tribunal, therefore, the OA is transferred to the Southern Zonal Bench, Chennai for appropriate further action. Let the original record of the OA be transferred to Southern Zonal Bench, Chennai.

9. List before Southern Zonal Bench at Chennai on 30.09.2024."

Copy of the Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi Order dated 22.08.2024 is submitted as **Annexure-I**.

In compliance to the Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi Order dated 22.08.2024, the APPCB has filed a report on 29.08.2024. Copy of the APPCB report dated 29.08.2024 is submitted as **Annexure-II**.

The Hon'ble NGT heard the matter on 07.01.2025 and the extract of the order is as follows:

"1. The reports of the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPCB) and the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) are filed.

2. The CPCB has fixed the compensation which ought to be paid by the industry and the said industry is not a party to this proceeding. Therefore, M/s. Escientia Advanced Sciences Private Limited, Plot No.11, 11A, 12 & 12A, APSEZ, Atchutapuram & Rambilli (M), Anakapalli District is Suo Motu impleaded as additional Respondent


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

No.6. Let notice be issued to the newly added respondent through the Tribunal.

3. Let the APPCB also file a report on the action taken for the violations already found.

4. Today, Ms. D. Sowmya, Scientist 'E', Central Pollution Control Board, Regional Directorate, Chennai was personally present to explain the cause of the accident.

5. Post the matter on 18.02.2025."

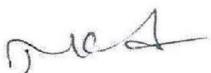
Copy of the report dated 07.01.2025 is submitted as **Annexure-III**.

In compliance to the Hon'ble NGT, Chennai Order dated 07.01.2025, the following is submitted:

1. M/s. Escientia Advanced Sciences Private Limited has established in total area of 40 acres at Plot No.11, 11 A, 12 & 12 A, APIIC, APSEZ, Atchuthapuram.
2. The industry has obtained CTO(CPM) vide order dated 25.05.2024 to manufacture bulk drugs with a maximum production capacity of 2600 Kg/Day. Copy of the CTO(CPM) Order dated 25.05.2024 is herewith submitted as **Annexure-IV**.
3. An accident took place at about 02:15 PM on 21.08.2024 in M/s. Escientia Advanced Sciences Pvt., Ltd., Plot No.11, 11 A, 12 & 12 A, APSEZ, Atchutapuram & Rambilli (M), Anakapalli District.
4. The APPCB Regional Office, Visakhapatnam Officials inspected the industry on 21.08.2024 and submitted preliminary report. Copy of the preliminary report dated 22.08.2024 is herewith submitted as **Annexure-V**.
5. APPCB has carried out monitoring from 21.08.2024 to 22.08.2024 and collected samples from the contaminated firefighting water at front side of the production block & back side of the production block. The monitoring results are as follows:

I. VOC Monitoring data:

S.No	Location	VOC Values Rang in ppm							
		3:00 PM	4:00 PM	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	9:00 PM	
1	Security Back Gate (East side)	BDL	BDL	0.1- 0.2	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	

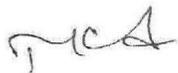

 Environmental Engineer
 A.P. Pollution Control Board
 Regional Office, Visakhapatnam

2	Security Main gate (North side)	0.3-0.6	0.4-0.5	0.4-0.5	0.3-0.4	0.3-0.4	0.2-0.4	0.1-0.2
3	Drum storage area(West side)	0.1-0.2	0.1-0.0	0.1-0.2	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL
4	Laurus Unit-2 Road(South side)	BDL						
5	Near Production Block	0.3-0.8	0.4-0.6	0.3-0.6	0.2-0.4	0.2-0.3	0.1-0.2	0.1-0.2
Note: BDL – Below detectable Limit								

II. Samples of Contaminated Firefighting Water

S. No.	Parameter	Sample of contaminated firefighting water at front side of the production block	Sample of contaminated firefighting water at back side of the production block
1.	pH	6.36	9.04
2.	Total Suspended Solids	127 mg/lit	118 mg/lit
3.	Total Dissolved Solids	1428 mg/lit	1352 mg/lit
4.	Chemicals Oxygen Demand	336 mg/lit	320 mg/lit

6. It was observed that from the above the maximum VOC concentration was found 0.8 ppm near production block during monitoring at 03.00 PM. The VOC were also monitored outside the factory premises and the VOC concentrations are found in the range of 0.3 ppm to 0.8 ppm.
7. The industry drained out the waste water generated from firefighting into a unlined sump, which is potential to cause contamination of ground water.
8. The operational status of the industry is not suitable to continue further operations of the industry and Potential to cause pollution problems into surrounding environment.
9. The APPCB, Visakhapatnam has submitted report to the Head Office on 23.08.2024 for taking further necessary action. Copy of the APPCB report dated 23.08.2024 is herewith submitted as **Annexure-VI**.


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

10. The APPCB, Vijayawada has issued stop production order to the industry on 23.08.2024 to stop further discharges of air and water pollutants into surrounding environment, since operational status of your industry is not suitable to continue further operations and potential to cause pollution problems. Copy of the stop production order dated 23.08.2024 is herewith submitted as **Annexure-VII**.
11. The Collector & District Magistrate, Anakapalli District vide proceeding dated 27.08.2024 constituted a committee to examine the safe disposal of the solvents in the premises and post corrective measures and directed to submit the report. The Joint Committee inspected on 27.08.2024 and the APPCB has submitted report to the Collector & District Magistrate on 28.08.2024. Copy of the report dated 28.08.2024 is herewith submitted as **Annexure-VIII**.
12. The Collector & District Magistrate, Anakapalli District vide letter dated 03.09.2024 addressed a letter to the District Roads & Buildings Officer, Anakapalli, Deputy chief Inspector of Factories, Visakhapatnam Assistant Director, DIC, Anakapalli, District Disaster Response & Fire Officer, Anakapalli, Deputy Chief Inspector of Boilers, Anakapalli, District Drug Control Officer, Anakapalli, Assistant Environmental Engineer, APPCB, Electrical Inspector, Visakhapatnam, EE, APEPDCL, Anakapalli, District In-charge, Labour Dept., Anakapalli to specific recommendations by the Joint Committee for shifting of the solvents and other materials from the damaged building in M/s. Escientia Advanced Sciences (P) Ltd. Copy of the Collector & District Magistrate, Anakapalli District letter dated 03.09.2024 is herewith submitted as **Annexure-IX**.
13. The APPCB has submitted report to the Collector & District Magistrate, Anakapalli District on 06.09.2024. Copy of the report dated 06.09.2024 is herewith submitted as **Annexure-X**.
14. The Joint Committee submitted report on 06.09.2024 to the Collector & District Magistrate, Anakapalli District. Copy of the Joint Committee report dated 06.09.2024 is herewith submitted as **Annexure-XI**.
15. Based on the Joint Committee report, the Collector & District Magistrate, Anakapalli District issued orders vide proceedings dated 11.09.2024 to M/s. Escientia Advanced Sciences Private Limited to shift all the solvents

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

and other materials from the production block under the supervision of the Joint Committee members within one week as per the SOPs and undertaking submitted by the management of M/s. Escientia Advanced Sciences Private Limited., APSEZ, Atchuthapuram. Copy of the proceedings dated 11.09.2024 is herewith submitted as **Annexure-XII**.

16. As per the Inspection of Factories Department report dated: 12.09.2024, the management of M/s. Escientia Advanced Sciences Private Limited has paid the amount of one crore to each for 17 deceased workers, for injured workers 50 lakhs to 21 workers and 25 lakhs to 18 workers on 23.08.2024. Copy of the Inspection of Factories Department report dated: 12.09.2024, is herewith submitted as **Annexure-XIII**.
17. The industries & Commerce (P&I) Department, Govt. of AP vide G.O MS No. 51 dated 13.09.2024 constituted of High Level Committee to suggest measures for increasing the industrial safety in the State of Andhra Pradesh. The High-Level Committee consists of the following members
Copy of the G.O MS No. 51 dated 13.09.2024 is herewith submitted as **Annexure-XIV**:
18. The committee visit the accident site on 26.09.2024 and conducted review meeting with industries & stake holder departments on 27.09.2024 at Visakhapatnam. The committee will submit report within the three (3) months.
19. The committee visit the accident site on 26.09.2024 and conducted review meeting with industries & stake holder departments on 27.09.2024 at Visakhapatnam. The Committee also interacted the industries and stake holders department at Tirupati on 24.10.2024 & 25.10.2024 and Vijayawada. The report is under finalization.
20. The industry has disposed Rector Mass of 0.32 Tons & Spent carbon of 0.98 Tons to the TSDF, M/s. Coastal Waste Management Project, (A division of M/s. Re Sustainability Limited), Parawada, Anakapalli in the month of Oct-2025. The industry also disposed Titanium waste from FCP Manufacturing of 0.89 Tons to the TSDF, M/s. Coastal Waste Management Project, (A division of M/s. Re Sustainability Limited), Parawada, Anakapalli in the month of Nov-2025.

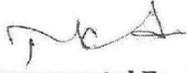
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Environmental Engineer
A.P. Pollution Control Board
Regional Office, Visakhapatnam

21. The industry has disposed 340 KL of LTDS effluent and 40 KL of HTDS effluent to AETL, Atchuthapuram during the period from Sep-2024 to Jan-2025.
22. The Stop Production order was still in force and the industry has not applied for any revocation of stop production order. The industry was inspected on 13.02.2025 and observed that the industry was not in operation.

Place: Visakhapatnam

Dt.17.02.2025


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

Annexure-V

16th Jul 2025,
Visakhapatnam.

To,
The Environmental Engineer
AP Pollution Control Board
Regional office
Visakhapatnam.



SIC
R.P.P
17/07/25

Respected Sir,

Subject: Submission of Key Safety and Infrastructure Improvements Implemented post incident at Escientia Advanced Sciences Pvt Ltd.

With reference to the above subject, we would like to update/submit the following Key Safety and Infrastructure Improvements Implemented after the incident at our facility.

Key Safety and Infrastructure Improvements Implemented**1. Structural Stability Assessment and Strengthening**

We engaged an authorized agency, *IDDC*, for a detailed assessment of the building's structural stability. Based on their recommendations, we have completed all required structural strengthening works to ensure the safety and integrity of the facility. This activity is Completed.

2. Departmental Relocation

The PD Lab, QC, and QA departments removed from existing API Building and being relocated to the newly constructed administrative block to further segregate operational areas and enhance overall safety. This activity is going on and will be completed by 31.10.2025.

3. Electrical Panel Room Safety Measures

A dedicated fire-rated room has been constructed to house the electrical panels, completely isolated from production operations. Cable trays are now being routed externally, and all floor slab openings have been sealed with concrete to prevent potential liquid leakages between floors. This activity is Completed.

4. Relocation of Air Handling Units (AHUs)

AHUs that were earlier located in the ground-floor technical area have been removed and are being relocated to the first floor, away from production activities, ensuring safer access and reduced risk of contamination. This activity is going on and will be completed by 31.10.2025.

5. **Emergency Egress Enhancement**

A fourth emergency staircase is under construction on the west side of the production block, interconnecting all three floors. This addition ensures safe evacuation routes are available from all directions within the building. This activity is going on and will be completed by 30.09.2025.

6. **Solvent Pipeline Integrity**

All flange connections in solvent pipelines have been eliminated and replaced with seamless piping, significantly reducing the risk of leaks at joints. This activity is Completed.

7. **Enhanced Monitoring Systems**

We have significantly upgraded our safety monitoring systems by adding 44 Lower Explosive Limit (LEL) detectors and 39 Oxygen sensors including across all technical areas. Previously, such sensors were limited to production suites and floors only. This activity will be completed by 31.10.2025.

8. **AHU Interlocking with BMS**

LEL sensors have been installed within AHUs and integrated with the Building Management System (BMS). In the event of a solvent vapor detection, the BMS automatically switches the AHU damper from recirculation to once-through mode, effectively exhausting contaminated air and preventing accumulation. This activity will be completed by 31.10.2025.

9. **Effluent Hood and Scrubber System**

A purchase order has been released for installing a hood system equipped with a double-stage scrubber for LTDS and HTDS effluent tanks. Installation is scheduled for completion by the end of **September 2025**.

10. **Effluent Pipeline Upgrade**

All effluent pipelines are being upgraded to Polypropylene Random Copolymer (PPRC) material to enhance chemical resistance and improve overall pipeline integrity. This activity is Completed.

Kindly acknowledge the receipt of the same

Thanking you

Yours Faithfully

For ESCIENTIA ADVANCED SCIENCES PRIVATE LIMITED


16/07/2025

AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY

