



**696**  
**ANDHRA PRADESH POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**  
Dr. YSR Paryavaran Bhavan, APIIC Colony Road,  
Gurunanak Colony, Autonagar, Vijayawada- 520 007



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

23.02.2024

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

Sir,

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

**Ref:-** Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, New Delhi Order dt.02.02.2024

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It is to submit that the Original Application (OA) No. 693 of 2023(PB) has been registered in *suo motu* exercise of power by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Principal Bench (PB), New Delhi on the basis of the News Item titled "**Pollution control boards are the weak link**" appearing in the Deccan Herald dt. 24.10.2023. The Hon'ble NGT in its order dt. 02.02.2024 directed the SPCBs/PCBs to file the reports within four weeks with a copy marked to the Central Pollution Control Board(CPCB).

In this regard, please find herewith attached the report of the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPCEB) for kind consideration.

Encl: As above.

Yours faithfully,

  
**Member Secretary**

Copy submitted to the Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110 032 for information and necessary action.

**MEMBER SECRETARY**

**A.P. Pollution Control Board**  
**VIJAYAWADA-520 007.**

Report of the A.P. Pollution Control Board in compliance with the Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi order dt. 02.02.2024 in OA No. 693 of 2023 (PB) registered in *suo motu* on the basis of the News Item titled "Pollution control boards are the weak link" appeared in the Deccan Herald dt. 24.10.2023

1. It is to submit that the Original Application (OA) No. 693 of 2023(PB) has been registered in *suo motu* exercise of power by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Principal Bench (PB), New Delhi on the basis of the News Item titled "Pollution control boards are the weak link" appearing in the Deccan Herald dt. 24.10.2023. The Hon'ble NGT in the latest order dt. 02.02.2024 issued the following directions:

" 4. Counsel for CPCB is directed to tabulate the information disclosed in these reports by SPCBs/PCCs in the chart form to facilitate the factual appreciation and submit the tabulated information before the Tribunal at least one week before the next date of hearing.

5. It will be open to the Counsel for CPCB to download copy of the report of SPCBs/ PCCs, in case , if any of the SPCBs or PCCs has not supplied it to him.

6. SPCBs /PCCs who have not filed report till now terms of the directions of the Tribunal dated 23.11.2023, are directed to file the same within four weeks to the Tribunal by marking copy to the CPCB by e-mail at [judicial-ngt@gov.in](mailto:judicial-ngt@gov.in) preferably in the form of searchable PDF/OCR Support PDF and not in the form of image PDF".

A copy of the Hon'ble NGT order dt. 02.02.2024 is herewith enclosed (Annexure-I).

2. In this regard, the consolidated information pertaining to staff strength, Laboratories and budget of Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPCB), Vijayawada is submitted below:

A. Information pertaining to the sanctioned strength and working strength of staff in the concerned SPCBs/PCCs, CPCB the ratio of administrative, Ministerial, and Technical staff.

The information pertaining to the staff strength of APPCB is submitted below:

Sl. No	Name of the post sanctioned(category)	No.of posts sanctioned	Working Strength	vacancies	Remarks (if any)
	Technical staff:				
1	Chief Environmental Engineer	1	1	0	
2	Joint Chief Environmental Engineer	6	1	5	
3	Senior Environmental Engineer	10	9	1	1-SEE deputed to SEIAA
4	Environmental Engineer	26	25	1	1-EE deputed to SEIAA
5	Assistant Environmental Engineer	64	14	50	
	Scientific staff:				
6	Joint Chief Environmental Scientist	1	0	1	
7	Senior Environmental Scientist	3	2	1	
8	Junior Scientific Officer	11	11	0	
9	Analyst Grade- I	18	4	14	
10	Analyst Grade- II	36	0	36	
	Ministerial Staff:				
11	Senior Administrative Manager	1	1	0	
12	Chief Accounts Officer	1	0	1	
13	Public Relation Officer	1	0	1	
14	Senior Accountant	1	1	0	
15	Assistant Manager	4	4	0	
16	Accountant	3	1	2	
17	Superintendent	6	1	5	
18	Special Category Stenography	1	1	0	

19	Stenographer Cum Typist	6	0	6	
20	Senior Assistant	20	2	18	
21	Junior Assistant Cum Typist	5	1	4	
22	Junior Assistant	7	2	5	
23	Typist	10	0	10	
24	StoresCumPurchase Assistant	1	0	1	
25	Record Assistant	1	0	1	
26	Drivers	10	0	10	
27	Fieldman	2	0	2	
28	AttenderCum Driver	1	0	1	
29	Office Subordinate	26	6	20	
30	Watchman	6	0	6	
<b>Total</b>		<b>289</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>202</b>	

**B. Information with respect to laboratories, the sanctioned strength and present working strength of staff, the infrastructure which is available in the labs and further need for equipment and infrastructure in those labs and the provisions made in laboratories for enforcement and monitoring of hotspots in critically polluted areas**

The information pertaining to APPCB Laboratories is furnished below:

1. APPCB laboratories and infrastructure available:

APPCB has three Zonal Laboratories and two Regional Laboratories in the State that are well equipped with facilities for monitoring and analysis of environmental samples. APPCB proposed to establish four additional Regional Laboratories in the State. The details are furnished in Table 1 & 2 :-

**Table - 1 :**

S. No.	Parameters	Equipment / Instruments available
<b>I</b>	<b>Zonal Laboratory, Visakhapatnam:</b>	
	Water & wastewater:  Physical & Chemical: Colour, TSS, TDS, Odour, Temperature, pH, Electrical Conductivity (EC), Dissolved Oxygen (DO), Ammonical Nitrogen, Nitrate Nitrogen, Nitrite Nitrogen, Total Phosphate, Calcium, Magnesium, Total Hardness, Total Acidity, Total Alkalinity, Sodium, Potassium, Chloride, Sulphate, BOD, COD, Fluoride, Boron, etc.	Ice Boxes/Filtration assembly, Vacuum pump, Thermometers, Refrigerators, Analytical balance, Desiccator, Vis-Spectrophotometer, UV-Vis-Spectrophotometer, pH meter, Conductivity meter, DO meter, Hot Air Oven, BOD incubator, COD digester condensers, Auto Dispenser, Digital Burette, Water Purification System/Distillation assembly, Flame Photometer, Cyanide assembly / Ion meter, Muffle furnace, TKN Analyzer, TOC analyzer.
	Bacteriological: Total Coliform, Fecal Coliform & Bio-Assay.	Bacteriological Incubator, Water bath, Autoclave (02 Nos.), Laminar Flow Bench, Microscope (100x), Aquaria, etc.

	<p>Pesticides: Alachlor, Atrazine, Aldrin/Dieldrin, Alpha HCH, Beta HCH, Gamma-HCH (Lindane), Delta HCH, Butachlor, Chlorpyrifos, 2,4-Dichlorophen Oxyacetic acid, DDT (o,p and p,p-Isoproturon, Malathion, Methyl parathion, Monocrotophos, Phorate.</p> <p>Toxic metals: As, Al, Ag, Cd, Co, Cu, Cr, Fe, Pb, Mn, Hg, Mo, Ni, Se, Zn.</p> <p>Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs): Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons (as PAH), Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), Trihalomethanes (THM).</p> <p>Air: Flue gas emissions, PM10, PM2.5, SO2, NO2, NH3, metals in PM10 &amp; PM2.5 dust.</p>	<p>Rotary Evaporator, GC with ECD-NPD, FID/FPD, GC-MS.</p> <p>Hotplate, Digestion chamber, ICP-MS.</p> <p>Ultrasonic water bath, GC, GC-MS, GC with ECD, GC-MS.</p> <p>RDS, PM2.5 sampler, Stack kits VOC Monitor etc.</p>
<b>II</b>	<p><b>Zonal Laboratory, Vijayawada:</b></p> <p>Physico – Chemical parameters:</p> <p>Colour, TSS, TDS, Odour, Temperature, pH, Electrical Conductivity (EC), Dissolved Oxygen (DO), Ammonical Nitrogen, Nitrate Nitrogen, Nitrite Nitrogen, Total Phosphate, Calcium, Magnesium, Total Hardness, Total Acidity, Total Alkalinity, Sodium, Potassium, Chloride, Sulphate, BOD, COD, Fluoride, Boron,</p> <p>Bacteriological: Total Coliform, Fecal Coliform &amp; Bio-Assay.</p> <p>Air: Flue gas emissions, PM10, PM2.5, SO2, NO2, NH3, etc.</p>	<p>Ice Boxes/Filtration assembly, Vacuum pump, Thermometers, Refrigerators, Analytical balance, Desiccator, Vis-Spectrophotometer, UV-Vis-Spectrophotometer, pH meter, Conductivity meter, DO meter, Hot Air Oven, BOD incubator, COD digester condensers, Auto Dispenser, Digital Burette, Water Purification System/Distillation assembly, Flame Photometer, Cyanide assembly / Ion meter, Muffle furnace, TKN Analyzer, TOC analyzer.</p> <p>Bacteriological Incubator, Water bath, Autoclave (02 Nos.), Laminar Flow Bench, Microscope (100x), Aquaria, etc.</p> <p>RDS, PM2.5 sampler, Stack kits, VOC Monitor etc.,</p>
<b>III</b>	<p><b>Zonal Laboratory, Kurnool:</b></p> <p>Physico – Chemical parameters</p> <p>Colour, TSS, TDS, Odour, Temperature, pH, Electrical Conductivity (EC), Dissolved Oxygen (DO), Ammonical Nitrogen, Nitrate Nitrogen, Nitrite Nitrogen, Total Phosphate, Calcium, Magnesium, Total Hardness, Total Acidity, Total Alkalinity, Sodium, Potassium, Chloride, Sulphate, BOD, COD, Fluoride, Boron, etc.</p>	<p>Ice Boxes/Filtration assembly, Vacuum pump, Thermometers, Refrigerators, Analytical balance, Desiccator, Vis-Spectrophotometer, UV-Vis-Spectrophotometer, pH meter, Conductivity meter, DO meter, Hot Air Oven, BOD incubator, COD digester condensers, Auto Dispenser, Digital Burette, Water Purification System/Distillation assembly, Flame Photometer, Cyanide assembly / Ion meter, Muffle furnace, TKN Analyzer, TOC analyzer.</p>

	<p>Bacteriological: Total Coliform, Fecal Coliform &amp; Bio-Assay.</p> <p>Toxic metals: As, Al, Ag, Cd, Co, Cu, Cr, Fe, Pb, Mn, Hg, Mo, Ni, Se, Zn.</p> <p>Air: Flue gas emissions, PM10, PM2.5, SO2, NO2, NH3, metals in PM10 &amp; PM2.5 dust.</p>	<p>Bacteriological Incubator, Water bath, Autoclave (02 Nos.), Laminar Flow Bench, Microscope (100x), Aquaria, etc.</p> <p>Hotplate, Digestion chamber, AAS.</p> <p>RDS, PM2.5 sampler, Stack kits, VOC Monitor etc..</p>
<b>IV</b>	<b>Regional Laboratories, Kakinada &amp; Thirupathi:</b>	
	<p>Physico – Chemical parameters:</p> <p>Colour, TSS, TDS, Odour, Temperature, pH, Electrical Conductivity (EC), Dissolved Oxygen (DO), Ammonical Nitrogen, Nitrate Nitrogen, Nitrite Nitrogen, Total Phosphate, Calcium, Magnesium, Total Hardness, Total Acidity, Total Alkalinity, Sodium, Potassium, Chloride, Sulphate, BOD, COD, Fluoride, Boron, etc.</p> <p>Bacteriological: Total Coliform, Fecal Coliform &amp; Bio-Assay.</p> <p>Air: Flue gas emissions, PM10, PM2.5, SO2, NO2, NH3, metals in PM10 &amp; PM2.5 dust.</p>	<p>Ice Boxes/Filtration assembly, Vacuum pump, Thermometers, Refrigerators, Analytical balance, Desiccator, Vis-Spectrophotometer, UV-Vis-Spectrophotometer, pH meter, Conductivity meter, DO meter, Hot Air Oven, BOD incubator, COD digester condensers, Auto Dispenser, Digital Burette, Water Purification System/Distillation assembly, Flame Photometer, Cyanide assembly / Ion meter, Muffle furnace, TKN Analyzer, TOC analyzer, Turbidity Meter.</p> <p>Bacteriological Incubator, Water bath, Autoclave (02 Nos.), Laminar Flow Bench, Microscope (100x), Aquaria, etc.</p> <p>RDS, PM2.5 sampler, Stack kits, Semi-Micro balance etc.</p>

**Table – 2**  
**Trainings – Laboratory**

- i. Training on Stack Monitoring to 10 Scientists at Visakhapatnam for three days in the month of May, 2022 by the instrument supplier M/s. Envirotech Instruments, New Delhi.
- ii. Training on estimation of total & fecal coliforms in water & waste water using IDEXX enzyme substrate kit for two days to seven APPCB scientists during August, 2022 at Vijayawada Zonal Laboratory.
- iii. Training on "Monitoring of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in the environment" during September 5 - 9, 2022 to three APPCB Scientists at CSIR-NEERI, Nagpur.
- iv. Regular hands-on training on all types of instruments placed at Zonal & Regional Offices is being imparted by the instrument supplier / AMC / O&M service provider on operation, maintenance & calibration during AMC visits on quarterly / half-yearly / yearly basis to the APPCB scientists.

## 2. Further need for equipment and infrastructure

- APPCB has procured various laboratory instruments / equipment for air, water & noise monitoring in the year 2019-20 by utilizing grants of Rs.12,15,14,384/- under the scheme "Control of Pollution" under sub-component "Assistance for Abatement of Pollution".
- APPCB is in the process of procurement of 33 types of various field monitoring, sampling & laboratory instruments / equipment with a cost of Rs. 10,22,20,000/- from the grants sanctioned in the year 2021-22 by MoEF& CC, GoI under the scheme "Control of Pollution" under sub-component "Assistance for Abatement of Pollution".
- APPCB is in the process of establishment of 53 new National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP) stations by utilizing grants received from CPCB (with 50% financial assistance) with a budget estimate of Rs. 2,88,40,000/- for capital cost under "Establishment of new ambient air quality monitoring stations under NAMP" in towns / cities & rural areas under the sub-component 'Environmental Monitoring Programme' for the FY 2022-23.

## 3. Provisions made in Laboratories for enforcement and monitoring of hotspots in critically polluted areas:

- Air quality is being monitored in the 13 non-attainment cities of Andhra Pradesh through manual & CAAQM Stations sanctioned under various Central Sector Schemes as per the NAAQS, 2009 guidelines and identified air pollution hotspots in these cities under NCAP.
- Monitoring of ambient air at locations identified as hotspots under NCAP using Mobile Lab in various cities of Andhra Pradesh.
- Measures like end-to-end pavement of roads, pothole free roads, regular sweeping of roads using mechanical sweepers & water sprinkling, maintenance of greenery etc., are being taken up to improve the air quality in these identified hotspots with the grants sanctioned by the MoEF& CC under NCAP.
- The air quality in these hotspots is being reviewed bi-weekly by APPCB for assessing the improvement.

## 4. Details of training to the scientific staff:

Training is being imparted to the Scientific Staff in APPCB from time to time in the field of Monitoring and Analysis of Environmental Pollutants along with Hands on training on Instrumentation available in APPCB laboratories.

The scientific staff is also deputed for trainings conducted by CSE, CPCB and other external organizations like ESCI, TERI etc.

C. With respect to the availability of budget and its sources and expenditure in the last two years (2020-2021 and 2021-2022)

The information pertaining to APPCB is submitted below:

**RECEIPTS:**

Sl. No	Particulars	In Crores			
		Budget 2020-21	Receipts 2020-21	Budget 2021-22	Receipts 2021-22
1	Consent Fee (CFE & CFO)	10.00	32.88	30.00	167.91
2	Analysis Fee	0.90	1.48	2.00	3.82
3	Bio-MedicalWaste Management Fee	1.00	1.10	2.00	1.81
4	Interest on Savings Account	0.30	5.02	4.00	4.72
5	Interest on Deposits	0.10	15.71	12.00	17.82
	<b>Total</b>	<b>12.30</b>	<b>56.19</b>	<b>50.00</b>	<b>196.08</b>

**EXPENDITURE:**

Sl. No	Particulars	In Crores			
		Budget 2020-21	Expenditure 2020-21	Budget 2021-22	Expenditure 2021-22
1	Revenue Expenditure	184.64	57.98	208.19	49.03
2	Scheme Expenditure	61.61	5.17	66.60	3.80
3	Capital Expenditure	106.99	4.30	118.02	0.64
	<b>Total</b>	<b>353.24</b>	<b>67.45</b>	<b>392.81</b>	<b>53.47</b>

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

Place: Vijayawada

23.02.2024



MEMBER SECRETARY  
A.P. Pollution Control Board

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

Item No.13

Court No. 1

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

Original Application No.693/2023

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

Date of hearing: 02.02.2024

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

Respondent: Mr. Amit Singh Chauhan, Adv. for CPCB (Through VC)  
Ms. Srishti Govil & Mr. Tanish Manuja, Advs. for MoEF & CC  
Mr. Rahul Khurana, Adv. for the State of Haryana & HSPCB  
Mr. Shubham Bhalla & Ms. Anchita Nayyar, Advs. for R - 30  
Ms. Snehpreet Kaur, Adv. for the State of Uttarakhand  
Mr. Prateek K. Chadha, D.A.G with Mr. Sreekar Aechuri, Adv. for the State of Punjab  
Mr. Nishe Rajen Shonker & Mr. Alim Anvar, Advs. for the State of Kerala  
Mr. Jogy Scaria & Mr. Ashwani Kumar Soni, Advs. for Kerala PCB  
Ms. Jyoti Mendiratta, Adv. for Govt. of NCT of Delhi (Through VC)  
Mr. A.V. Nair, Adv. for Gujarat PCB (Through VC)  
Ms. Anshul Sura, Adv. for UT of Puducherry (Through VC)  
Ms. Aanchal, Adv. for UT of Lakshadweep (Through VC)  
Ms. Pranali Tayade, Adv. for the State of Telangana (Through VC)  
Ms. Anupama Ngangom, Adv. for the State of Manipur (Through VC)  
Mr. Rahul proxy counsel for Mr. Bhanwar Pal Singh Jadon, Adv. for the State of UP

**ORDER**

1. In this original application, Tribunal is considering the issue of infrastructure, resources and capacity of the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) to perform the functions assigned to them, which is affected on account of inadequate sanctioned strength of personnel, high number of vacancies especially in technical positions, absence of proper training, lack of pollution monitoring and abatement equipments, absence of technically competent leadership, protracted enforcement mechanisms, insufficient funds and ineffectual spending. These issues have already been flagged by the Tribunal in the order dated 23.11.2023 by taking note of the earlier order in OA 95/2018 in the matter of *Aryavarat Foundation vs. M/s. Vapi green Enviro Ltd.* dated 05.02.2021 and issuing notices to SPCBs, PCCs and

CPCB for filing their reports on the line including the information as directed in that order.

2. Reports on behalf of CPCB and some of the SPCBs/PCCs have been filed i.e. State of Nagaland, State of Chhattisgarh, State of Madhya Pradesh, State of Maharashtra, State of Punjab, Union Territory of Ladakh, State of Arunachal Pradesh, State of Manipur, State of Meghalaya, State of Tripura, State of Uttar Pradesh, Union Territory of Chandigarh, Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, State of Telangana, State of Uttarakhand, State of Gujarat, Union Territory of Delhi, Union Territory of Lakshadweep and State of Kerala.

3. Learned Counsels appearing for SPCBs/PCCs submitted that they have submitted copies of these reports to CPCB.

4. Counsel for CPCB is directed to tabulate the information disclosed in these reports by SPCBs/PCCs in the chart form to facilitate the factual appreciation and submit the tabulated information before the Tribunal at least one week before the next date of hearing.

5. It will be open to the Counsel for CPCB to download copy of the report of SPCBs/PCCs, in case, if any of the SPCBs or PCCs has not supplied it to him.

6. SPCBs/PCCs who have not filed report till now in terms of the directions of the Tribunal dated 23.11.2023, are directed to file the same within four weeks to the Tribunal by marking copy to the CPCB by e-mail at [judicial-ngt@gov.in](mailto:judicial-ngt@gov.in) preferably in the form of searchable PDF/ OCR Support PDF and not in the form of Image PDF.

7. Learned Counsel for MoEF&CC has pointed out that CPCB has been wrongly impleaded as respondent no. 37 through Secretary,

MoEF&CC. Hence, we correct the description of respondent no.37 as under:

37. Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and Regional Directorate Laboratories through Secretary, CPCB.

8. We also deem it proper to implead the following:-

38. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) through Secretary.

39. Ms. Srishti Govi, Advocate accepts notice on behalf of respondent no. 38-MoEF&CC and seeks four week's time to file response.

40. List on 12.04.2024.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

February 02, 2024  
Original Application No.693/2023  
JG.