

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN****TRIBUNAL PRINCIPAL BENCH,****NEW DELHI****IN THE MATTER OF:**

Original Application No. 687/2023

**In re:** Air Quality Index in various Cities

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**PLACE: Chandigarh****DATED: 30.04.2024**

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL****PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI****IN THE MATTER OF:**

Original Application No. 687/2023

**In re:** Air Quality Index in various Cities

**Action taken report by Mr. Pardeep Kumar, IAS, Director, Environment Department, Haryana in compliance of order dated 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2024 passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal.**

**RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:-**

1. That this Hon'ble Tribunal took up the above referred matter suo- moto on 03 November 2023, considering the air quality bulletins of the CPCB posted on their web site in respect of Air Quality Index (AQI) for different cities from 20 October 2023 to 01 November 2023.
2. The Hon'ble Tribunal vide its orders dated 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2024 issued the following directions:-
  - “ i. The States/cities which have not furnished the reports are directed to provide the complete report at least one week before the next date of hearing.
  - ii. All the cities (53) should disclose contribution by each polluting source in terms of identified pollutant (PM10/PM2.5) as per source apportionment

and progressive reduction on account of measures taken.”

3. That, the report regarding action plan, efforts incorporated for mitigation of air pollution, Source Apportionment Study, fund allocation under 15th Finance Commission and utilization, as submitted by the Municipal Corporation, Faridabad, was incorporated in the reply dated 16th February, 2024 submitted on 17th February, 2024 before Hon'ble Tribunal through e-filing in compliance of orders dated 05th December, 2023.
4. That, Municipal Corporation, Faridabad (MCF) is conducting a detailed Source Apportionment Study through The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) in respect of the various factors contributing in air pollution in the city. The interim reports were received in January 2023 and August 2023, respectively based on which the Annual Action Plan FY 2023-24 was prepared and calibrated to address specific solution for mitigating air pollution in the city. The final Source Apportionment Study report from TERI is yet awaited. The Municipal Corporation Faridabad submitted their additional reply in this matter as under:-

" i. Completion of Source Apportionment Studies is underway.

ii. Based on interim reports received from TERI it has been found that major contributor to air pollution is the road dust and accordingly efforts are made towards undertaking road dust mitigating activities. Completion of Source Apportionment Studies is underway. Further, MCF is undertaking following activities as mentioned under Road Dust (TA Code: RD) Mitigation measures in PRANA portal:

- Immediate lifting of solid waste generated
- End-to-end paving of roads along with black-topping and maintaining potholes free roads
- Regular cleaning of street surfaces and spraying of water to suppress dust
- Remove road dust/silt regularly by using mechanical sweepers
- Introduce water fountain at major traffic intersection
- Widening of Roads
- Identify road stretches with high dust generation
- All the canals/nullah's side roads should be brick lined. Proper plantation also carried out
- Greening of traffic corridors, open areas, gardens, community places, schools and housing societies
- Urban Greening with vertical garden

iii. Apart from funds received from Central Government through NCAP/XV FC, MCF is also utilizing its own funds to perform its own statutory and obligatory functions. As per Annual Action Plan F. Yr. 2023-24 approved by CPCB, funds contribution by MCF and Government of Haryana is Rs 22 Cr in addition to funds provided by Central Government.

iv. In Faridabad four numbers of CAAQMS are operational to have seasonal trends in addition to GRAP guidelines issued for Delhi National Capital Territory. Accordingly, action plan be implemented in advance."

The reply submitted by Municipal Corporation, Faridabad is enclosed as per **Annexure-R1**.

5. That, reply may kindly be taken on record in compliance of the order dated 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2024 passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal.

Place: Chandigarh

30.04.2024

  
(Pardeep Kumar, IAS) Dated:

Director, Environment Department

Haryana

**Annexure-R1**

From  
Executive Engineer (NCAP)  
Municipal Corporation,  
Faridabad.

To  
Sr. Env. Engineer (HQ)  
Haryana State Pollution Control Board,  
C-11, Sector-6, Panchkula

Memo No. MCF/EE/NCAP/2024/ 12

Date: 22-04-2024

**Sub: - Original Application No. 687/2023 before the National Green Tribunal Principal Bench, New Delhi Air Quality Index in various cities. (Now matter related with NCAP).**

With reference to your letter No. HSPCB/Air Cell/2024/7479 dated 07/03/2024, the point wise replies related to Municipal Corporation, Faridabad against the Order issued by Hon'ble NGT dated 24/02/2024 are as under:-

*Order Point No. 1 – In this Original Application, the Tribunal is considering the issue of deteriorating air quality in different cities on Pan India basis as reflected in the Air Quality Index. In the previous proceeding dated 05.12.2023, the Tribunal had considered the report submitted by the concerning States i.e. UP, Bihar, Haryana, Punjab, MP, Jharkhand, GPCB, Rajasthan and MPCB and had found that the States had not fully utilized the funds received under the NCAP and 15th Finance Commission.*

MCF Reply to Point No. 1 – Noted and replied vide Action Taken Report dated 16.02.2024.

*Order Point No. 2 – Thus, the Tribunal by order dated 05.12.2023 had issued following directions:-*

*“8. Hence, States are required to utilize the fund promptly and for the purpose it has been allocated without leaving any gap in utilization. The cities under consideration where apportionment study has not been done are required to complete the said apportionment study in respect of the factors contributing in pollution and focus on those factors which have a larger share in contribution. Further efforts are required to ensure that the air quality improves in the cities under consideration.”*

MCF Reply to Point No. 2 – Noted and replied vide Action Taken Report dated 16.02.2024.

*Order Point No. 3 – A prayer has been made on behalf of Counsel for the State of UP seeking adjournment.*

MCF Reply to Point No. 3 – Noted

*Order Point No. 4 – After the previous order, reports on behalf of State of Meghalaya, PPCB, State of Rajasthan, GPCB, GNCTD, Uttar Pradesh, MoEF&CC, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Haryana have been filed.*

MCF Reply to Point No. 4 – Noted

*Order Point No. 5 – On examination of the reports, following position emerges:*

- i. The reports indicate that in cities, action plans are implemented without having complete Source Apportionment Studies.*
- ii. The major contributor to air pollution is the road dust and accordingly efforts should be towards undertaking road dust mitigating activities. However, progressive reduction of PM10 and PM2.5 linking with the source identified, is not disclosed.*
- iii. Out of 53 cities identified under the present matter, 19 cities fall in Non-Attainment City (NAC) and Rs. 1644.4025 crores has been allocated for air quality improvement. MoEF&CC needs to ensure that assets created by expanding such amount are proper utilized and issue relating to O&M are duly addressed. It is also necessary that such funding do not create too much dependency on central funding and authorities concerned in the States and cities perform their own statutory and obligatory functions.*
- iv. We also find that dust pollution issue and its behavior is concerned with metrological conditions and each city is required to have seasonal trends and accordingly, action plan be implemented in advance.*

MCF Reply to Point No. 5 –

- i. Completion of Source Apportionment Studies is underway.*
- ii. Based on interim reports received from TERI it has been found that major contributor to air pollution is the road dust and accordingly efforts are made towards undertaking road dust mitigating activities. Completion of Source Apportionment Studies is underway. Further, MCF is undertaking following activities as mentioned under Road Dust (TA Code: RD) Mitigation measures in PRANA portal:*

- Immediate lifting of solid waste generated
  - End-to-end paving of roads along with black-topping and maintaining potholes free roads
  - Regular cleaning of street surfaces and spraying of water to suppress dust
  - Remove road dust/silt regularly by using mechanical sweepers
  - Introduce water fountain at major traffic intersection
  - Widening of Roads
  - Identify road stretches with high dust generation
  - All the canals/nullah's side roads should be brick lined. Proper plantation also carried out
  - Greening of traffic corridors, open areas, gardens, community places, schools and housing societies
  - Urban Greening with vertical garden
- iii. Apart from funds received from Central Government through NCAP/XV FC, MCF is also utilizing its own funds to perform its own statutory and obligatory functions. As per Annual Action Plan F. Yr. 2023-24 approved by CPCB, funds contribution by MCF and Government of Haryana is Rs 22 Cr in addition to funds provided by Central Government.
- iv. In Faridabad four numbers of CAAQMS are operational to have seasonal trends in addition to GRAP guidelines issued for Delhi National Capital Territory. Accordingly, action plan be implemented in advance.

*Order Point No. 6 – In view of the above, we direct as under:-*

- i. *The States/cities which have not furnished the reports are directed to provide the complete report at least one week before the next date of hearing.*
- ii. *All the cities (53) should disclose contribution by each polluting source in terms of identified pollutant (PM10/PM2.5) as per source apportionment and progressive reduction on account of measures taken.*

MCF Reply to Point No. 6 –

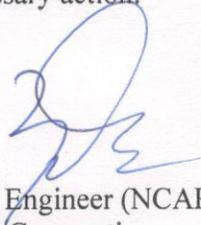
- i. Noted and complied.

- ii. MCF has conducted a detailed Source apportionment study in respect of the factors contributing to pollution through TERI. The interim reports were received in January 2023 and August 2023, respectively and based on initial findings of the Reports the Annual Action Plan FY 2023-24 was prepared and calibrated to address specific solutions for mitigating air pollution in the city.

*Order Point No. 7 – List on 03.05.2023*

MCF Reply to Point No. 7 – Noted and directed Sh. Brajesh Tripathi (CPCB Consultant) to attend the hearing.

Hence, the above report is submitted for information and further necessary action.

  
Executive Engineer (NCAP)  
Municipal Corporation,  
Faridabad.

Copy to:-

1. Worthy Commissioner and Secretary, Urban Local Bodies, Govt. of Haryana for information, please.
2. The Member Secretary, HSPCB, for information, please.
3. The Director, Urban Local Bodies, Haryana, for information, please.
4. The Commissioner, MCF for information, please.
5. The Regional Officer, HSPCB, Ballabgarh and Faridabad region for information and further necessary action, please.
6. CE, MCF for information, please.
7. Sh. Rahul Khurana, Advocate for information and further necessary action, please.