

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, NEW DELHI

M.A. No. 87/2024

In

Original Application No. 327 of 2023

In the matter of Suo Moto Cognizance

In Re: News item Published in India Today dated 30.4.2023 titled "3 minors among 11 dead in Ludhiana Gas leak", Punjab Govt. announces 2 Lakh Ex-Gratia

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Date: 22.10.2024

Place: Ludhiana


(Amritpal Singh Chahal)
Environmental Engineer
Regional Office-4, Ludhiana
On behalf of Punjab Pollution Control Board



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Report of Member Secretary, Punjab Pollution Control Board in compliance to order dated 06.09.2024.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH

- 1) That briefly submitted, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal has disposed of OA No. 327 of 2023 "In Re: News item published in India Today dated 30.04.2023 titled 3 minor among 11 dead in Ludhiana Gas Leak-Punjab Government announces Rs 2 Lakh ex gratia." vide orders dated 05.03.2024. However the Member Secretary, Punjab Pollution Control Board was directed to furnish a report to the Registrar General disclosing the installed capacity of CETP run by M/s JBR technologies and the details of agreements which have been entered into by the JBR Company.
- 2) That in compliance to the orders dated 05-03-2024 of the Hon'ble Tribunal passed in O.A. no. 327 of 2023, the Board has filed report dated 08.05.2024. After considering the report dated 08.05.2024 filed by the Board, the Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to pass an order dated 06.09.2024 thereby directing the Board to explain the position with regard to the Project. The operative part of the order dated 06.09.2024 is reproduced below for kind perusal & reference.
3. *The report dated 08.05.2024 has been filed by the Member Secretary, PPCB stating therein that the effluent treatment capacity of 500 KLD of the CETP was enhanced to 800 KLD vide onder dated 02.02.2024 valid up to 01.08.2024, it is not clearly disclosed in the report as to how the*

capacity of the CETP has been increased and if any expansion or upgradation of the CETP has been done. The chart annexure A has been filed along with the report giving the details of the agreement district-wise entered into by the operator of the CETP with the industrial units. The last column of the chart mentions commitment but no unit of measurement has been mentioned herein nor the details of such commitment or if the commitment shown is daily, monthly or yearly mentioned.

4. Learned counsel for the PPCB from Annexure A could not demonstrate that the industrial effluent received by the CETP per day is within the capacity of the CETP.
5. On page 715 though tabulated information is disclosed but by comparing it with Annexure A it cannot be ascertained if the total lifted quantity by CETP tallies with the agreement quantity with the industries.
6. Faced with such a situation learned counsel for the PPCB seeks a further four weeks to file a fresh report. We require the Member Secretary PPCB to remain present virtually on the next date of hearing to explain the position.
7. List on 20.12.2024.

3) That necessary clarifications in compliance to orders dated 06.09.2024 of the Hon'ble Tribunal are given in the following paragraphs:


- a) The CETP operator has increased its capacity from 500 KLD to 800 KLD by making an expansion in its components. It has added one Collection tank, two reaction tanks, two primary tube settlers, two sand filters, two activated carbon filters, one set anion-cation column, two sets of Reverse Osmosis (RO) system, one sludge drying bed and replaced old Multi-effect evaporator (MEE) with enhanced capacity of new MEE.
- b) The CETP Operator has also obtained Consent to Establish (NOC for expansion) for increasing its capacity from 500 KLD to 800 KLD vide no. CTE/Ext/LDH4/2024/24683269 dated 02.02.2024, which is valid upto 01.08.2024. A copy of the Consent to Establish granted by the Board is enclosed as **Annexure-T1**.
- c) That the report submitted by the Board dated 08.05.2024 includes "Annexure-A", which indicates the list of industries that have made an agreement for lifting of their industrial effluent with the CETP operator in liters per month upto 11.03.2024.

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- d) That it is further submitted that the word "commitment" mentioned in the last column of Annexure-A indicates the agreement quantity between the CETP operator and the industry in liters per month for lifting of untreated industrial effluent.
- e) That in order to ascertain the fact that the effluent collected by the CETP operator is within its treatment capacity, the record of effluent collected by the CETP operator and discharge of effluent through its outlet meter was examined by the Board officers and the following table illustrates that the average effluent received at the CETP per month in kilolitres per day is consistently within the consented capacity of 500 kiloliters per day (KLD).

(Table-2)

Sr. No.	Month	Total Quantity of effluent lifted by CETP Operator in kiloliters per day (KLD).
1)	March, 2024	454 KLD
2)	April, 2024	449 KLD
3)	May, 2024	441 KLD
4)	June, 2024	406 KLD
5)	July, 2024	446 KLD
6)	August, 2024	423 KLD
7)	September, 2024	420 KLD

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- f) That it is relevant to mention here that the industries which have made agreements with the CETP operator usually work on job basis and the quantity of effluent depends upon job work undertaken by the industry. Sometimes the industries remain idle without any job work of electroplating and in such situation, there is no generation of effluent. There are also some units which are having very less work but otherwise having agreement with the CETP operator. The Industrial units thus typically enters into agreement with the CETP operator by estimating their effluent generation based on their business operations. To account

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for fluctuations and peak discharge periods, these agreements are generally set on higher side than the actual effluent generated allowing flexibility given the restrains and changing aspects of their operations. However, in practice, the actual effluent collected by the CETP operator is usually lower than agreement quantity due to this the effluent lifted by the industries to the CETP operator sometimes may or may not tallies with the agreement quantities.

- 4) That the report is hereby submitted in compliance to order dated 06.09.2024 for kind consideration of the Hon'ble Tribunal.

Date: 22.10.2024

Place: Ludhiana

Submitted by

(Amritpal Singh Chahal)
Environmental Engineer
Regional Office-4, Ludhiana
On behalf of Punjab Pollution Control Board

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PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

Zonal Office-II, E-648-B, Backside CICU Office, Phase-5, Focal Point, Ludhiana

Website:- www.ppcb.gov.in



LIFE
Lifestyle for
Environment

Office Dispatch No :

Registered/Speed Post

Date:

Industry Registration ID: R14LDH4694786

Application No : 24683269

To,

Rajinder Singh
D-260-261, Phase - Viii, Focal Point
Ludhiana, Ludhiana-141010

Subject: Extension in validity of 'Consent to Establish' (NOC for Rxpansion) issued vide no. CTE/Exp/LDH4/2022/20668865 dated 30.12.2022 granted under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 & Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

1. Particulars of Consent to Establish (NOC) for Extension granted to the Industry

Certificate No.	CTE/Ext/LDH4/2024/24683269
Date of issue :	02/02/2024
Date of expiry :	01/08/2024
Certificate Type :	Extension
Previous CTE/CTO No. & Validity :	CTE/Exp/LDH4/2022/20668865 From:30/12/2022 To:29/12/2023

2. Particulars of the Industry

Name & Designation of the Applicant	Rajinder Singh, (Managing Director)
Address of Industrial premises	Jbr Technologies Limited, D 260-261, Phase - Viii, Focal Point, Jagroan, Ludhiana Iv-141010
Category of Industry	Red
Type of Industry	Common effluent treatment plant.
Scale of the Industry	Medium
Office District	Ludhiana Iv

This is with reference to the request made by the CETP Operator for extension in validity of consent to establish (NOC for expansion) earlier granted by the Board under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

The validity of consent to establish (NOC for expansion) granted to the CETP operator vide no. CTE/Exp/LDH4/2022/20668865 dated 30.12.2022 (Expiry on 29.12.2023) under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, is hereby extended upto 01.08.2024 with the same conditions as mentioned therein and with following special conditions:

1. The CETP operator shall complete its pending work of expansion on priority basis in speeding manner.
2. The project proponent may also develop the vermicomposting/composting to manage the biodegradable solid waste. PP shall not throw, burn or bury any solid wastes in open, outside premises or in drain / water bodies.
3. The project proponent shall perform / promote its Corporate Environment Responsibility (CER) activities as well as use of alternatives of single use plastics (SUP) and awareness to discourage use of plastic (See attached banner/circular).
4. The project proponent shall ensure that there are no usages of single use plastic- thermocol disposable items such as water bottles / water pouches/water cups, plates, forks, spoons, straw etc. and single use decorating material made of plastic-thermocol or any other non-biodegradable material in the premises.
5. The project proponent shall properly handle and manage the solid wastages as per the provisions of the Municipal Solid Waste Rules 2016 and ensure that the solid waste is segregated & disposed of in an environmentally sound manner.
6. The project proponent shall carry out awareness and activities for the themes / action points identified under Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for the Environment) by Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change given at the website (<http://missionlife-moefcc.nic.in>).

All other contents shall remain unchanged. This letter shall remain appended with the original CTE/NOC issued to the CETP Operator under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

PUNJAB

Samita

02/02/2024

(Samita)
Environmental Engineer

For & on behalf

of

(Punjab Pollution Control Board)

Endst. No.:

Dated:

A copy of the above is forwarded to the following for information and necessary action please:

The Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office-4, Ludhiana. He is requested to ensure the compliance of the conditions of Consent to establish (NOC for extension) granted under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

Samita

02/02/2024

(Samita)
Environmental Engineer

For & on behalf

of

(Punjab Pollution Control Board)