


**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, DELHI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 638 OF 2023**

IN THE MATTER OF:

'News item titled "Feeling anxious? Toxic air could be to blame" appearing in Times of India dated 10.10.2023'.

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PLACE: DELHI
FILING DATED :20.05.2026

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPLE BENCH, NEW DELHI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 638 of 2023**

IN THE MATTER OF:

'News item titled "Feeling anxious? Toxic air could be to blame" appearing in Times of India dated 10.10.2023'.

REPLY ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENT NO. 02, i.e., CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (CPCB).

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

1. That the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench (hereinafter referred to as "NGT") vide order dated 20.01.2026 & 18.03.2026,

"2. Learned Counsel appearing for the CPCB intends to rely upon some guidelines issued by the CPCB for utilization of the EC amount. He is permitted to place the same on record. The Environmental (Protection) Fund Rules, 2026 have been notified by the Government on 15.01.2026 exercising the powers under Sections 6 and 25 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The CPCB is permitted to examine the implication of these rules."

The Hon'ble NGT has directed to the Central Pollution Control Board (hereinafter referred as, "CPCB") to place on record the guidelines for utilization of the Environmental Compensation ("EC") amount on which CPCB intends to rely and to examine the implications of Environment Protection Fund (EPF) Rules, 2026.



2. That CPCB is constituted under Section 3 of The Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution), Act 1974 (hereinafter referred to as “Water Act, 1974”). It performs its functions under the Water Act, 1974 and The Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution), Act 1981 (hereinafter referred to as “Air Act, 1981”) and under The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. It is further submitted that the State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees (hereinafter referred to as “SPCBs/PCCs”) have been constituted in States/UTs under the Water Act, 1974 and the Air Act, 1981 to perform their functions and implement the provisions of these Acts in respect of their territorial jurisdiction.
3. It is most respectfully submitted that, vide order dated 03.02.2017 passed in OA 24/2011 titled “*Samir Mehta Vs UoI & Ors*”, the Hon’ble NGT mandated that SPCBs/PCCs shall remit 25% of the EC funds received by them to the CPCB. The Hon’ble Tribunal further directed CPCB to maintain a separate account for such EC funds. The amount shall be spent strictly in accordance with the directions of Hon’ble NGT, for pollution control, restoration of environment, committee expenses and implementation of directions of Hon’ble NGT etc.
4. It is further submitted that, vide order dated 07.02.2017 in aforesaid case, the Hon’ble NGT further directed SPCBs/PCCs to file comprehensive plan for EC utilization for the purpose of prevention and control of pollution and improving environment of respective state and CPCB shall frame policy for spending of this amount on Environmental problems and resolution including research on particular project and monitoring standards.



5. It is further submitted that, on 11.01.2019, CPCB filed O.A. No. 101/2019 before the Hon'ble NGT, wherein CPCB proposed 11 activities for the utilization of EC funds. The said proposal was duly accepted by the Hon'ble Tribunal, and the guidelines in this regard are annexed herewith as **Annexure-I**.
6. Further, Hon'ble NGT in the matter of OA No. 639/ 2018 vide order dated 05.11.2019 directed that, CPCB may also undertake capacity enhancement including procurement of requisite equipment, setting up of labs, recruiting/engaging staff and experts on above lines utilizing environment compensation funds. No authority in the Government will obstruct such exercise so that requisite steps for protection of environment and public health are not hampered. The copy of the order is attached as **Annexure-II** for ready reference.
7. It is further submitted that, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 6 and Section 25 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986), the Central Government, in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India, has notified the Environmental (Protection) Fund Rules, 2026 (hereinafter referred as, EPF Rules, 2026). A copy of the said Rules is annexed herewith as **Annexure-III**.
8. In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the objective and purpose for the utilization of funds as notified under EPF Rules, 2026 are aligned with, and broadly similar to, the intended utilization of NGT-EC funds and the guidelines previously promulgated under O.A. No. 101/2019. However, CPCB shall be bound by and shall respectfully obey any further directions issued by this Hon'ble Tribunal in this regard. It is



further submitted that the details of the 24 ongoing projects/activities along with comparison with respect to the guidelines prepared in compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble NGT and the provisions of EPF Rules, 2026 is placed as **Annexure-IV**.

9. Accordingly, it is most respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to permit the utilization of the NGT EC funds for the same purpose as notified under EPF Rules, 2026.

10. That in view of above and of the facts indicated in earlier paras, it is respectfully prayed that necessary directions may be passed in the interest of justice and the Answering Respondent No.2 submits that it shall abide by all orders or directions, passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal in the instant matter.




(Anil C. Ranveer)
Scientist 'F'
Central Pollution Control Board
19.05.2026

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPLE BENCH, NEW DELHI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 638 of 2023**

IN THE MATTER OF:

'News item titled "Feeling anxious? Toxic air could be to blame" appearing in Times of India dated 10.10.2023'.

AFFIDAVIT

I, Anil C. Ranveer in the capacity of Scientist 'F', having office at the Delhi, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state on oath as follows: -

1. That I, the deponent herein, is well conversant with the facts and circumstances of the present case on the basis of the information derived from the official records, and hence, I am competent to verify, sign and swear this affidavit on behalf of the Respondent CPCB.
2. That the accompanying reply may be read part and parcel of the present affidavit as I am competent to swear this affidavit.
3. That the accompanying reply has been drafted and filed under my instructions, the contents thereof are true and correct on the basis of the record maintained during ordinary course of business of CPCB and available records and documents and the contents of the same are read over and explained to me and are not repeated herein for the sake of brevity.



DEPONENT

अनिल सी. रणवीर/Anil C. Ranveer
वैज्ञानिक 'ब'/Scientist 'F'
केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड
Central Pollution Control Board
पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
Min/o Env. Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India
परिवेश भवन, पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली-110032
Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032

VERIFICATION

I, Anil C. Ranveer, working as Scientist 'F' in Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032, does hereby verify that the contents of the above paragraphs are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

19 MAY 2026

Verified at Delhi on this the Day of....., 2026.



ATTESTED

NOTARY PUBLIC
GOVT. OF INDIA

19 MAY 2026

19 MAY 2026


DEPONENT

अनिल सी. रणवीर/Anil C. Ranveer
 वैज्ञानिक 'ब'/Scientist 'F'
 केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड
 Central Pollution Control Board
 पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
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 Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032



Guidelines for Utilization of Environmental Compensation Fund

1.0 Background

The Central Pollution Control Board is a statutory organization under Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change. Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) Order in the matter of OA No. 593/2017 (WP (CIVIL) No. 375/2012), Paryavaran Suraksha Samiti & Anr. Vs. Union of India & Ors has unambiguously empowered State & Central Boards to levy Environmental Compensation on violators of Environmental laws. The NGT Order on the matter is as follows:

“The CPCB may take penal action for failure, if any, against those accountable for setting up and maintaining STPs, CETPs and ETPs. CPCB may also assess and recover compensation for damage to the environment and said fund may be kept in a separate account and utilized in terms of an action plan for protection of the environment.”

Further, Hon'ble NGT, vide its order dated 22-01-2019 in O.A. no 101/2019, has granted approval for utilization of 25% environmental compensation fund for specified activities (**Annexure I**). CPCB is maintaining Environmental Compensation(EC) Fund in a separate dedicated account CPCB has constituted a Committee vide OM No. CB/Dir/PCP/02/EC./2019-20 dated April 03, 2019 (**Annexure II**) comprising of officials from CPCB and SPCBs for evaluation and recommendation of projects for financial assistance from EC Fund. Proposals submitted by CPCB/SPCBs/PCCs for the activities specified in the said NGT Order shall be evaluated by the Committee.

The “Guideline for Utilization of Environmental Compensation(EC) Fund” provides the framework for sanction and assessment of projects financed with EC Amount and is broadly based on MoEF&CC's “Guidelines for Scheme – Assistance for Abatement of Pollution 2012” wherein appropriate modifications have been incorporated.

2.0 Scope of Assistance EC Fund

Funds collected under EC shall be allocated to CPCB/ SPCB/PCCs for execution of projects. The following points shall be taken into consideration for EC Fund allocation and utilization:

- (a) The scope of project proposals submitted by the CPCB/ SPCBs/PCCs shall be within the scope of activities specified in the NGT Orders dated 22-01-2019 in OA no 101/2019 which are as listed below:
 - i. Development of infrastructure for Air and Water quality surveillance and monitoring for different areas/locations in Delhi NCR and other needed places.

- ii. Remediation of contaminated sites-and for that to develop infrastructure, procurement of equipment, etc. including hiring of Experts/ Consultants for specific requirement for remediation of sites, etc.
 - iii. Specific investigations and studies with regard to environment and ecology.
 - iv. Carrying capacity assessment for ecologically and environmentally sensitive & critical areas, including hiring of Experts/Consultants for specific purpose and period.
 - v. R & D activities with regard to new technologies, clean technologies, etc.
 - vi. Capacity building of scientific and engineering personnel of Central Pollution Control Board and PCBs/ PCCs to rejuvenate and protect the environment.
 - vii. Augmenting and strengthening of laboratory network un-terms of manpower and logistics.
 - viii. Payment of honorarium in compliance of Judicial Orders of the Courts and Tribunal.
 - ix. Specialized studies on accidental spill areas, health impact assessment, recalcitrant pollutants, etc.
 - x. Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities.
 - xi. Any other scientific and technical matter which may arise as a contingent matter.
- (b) EC fund shall support activities like procurement of equipment, upgradation of laboratory, technical studies, survey, training of staff. However, the following areas shall be accorded priority for allocation of EC funds
- i. Studies directed by Hon'ble NGT
 - ii. R&D Activities for pollution control
 - iii. Development of infrastructure for Water and Air Quality Surveillance
 - iv. Strengthening and Upgradation of Laboratory
 - v. Inventorization of sources of pollution
 - vi. Preparation of DPR for remediation of contaminated sites
 - vii. Capacity building of CPCB, SPCB&PCC staff

However, as per requirement, SPCBs may decide to forward proposals covering other areas of activity listed in NGT order dated 22.01.2019 in O.A. No. 101/2019.

- (c) Priority shall be given to North Eastern & Low Income States for grant of EC Fund. This categorization shall be based on MoEF&CC's "Guidelines for Scheme – Assistance for Abatement of Pollution 2012" and is given in **Annexure III**.
- (d) Grant for salary support shall be restricted to scientific and technical project staff and would be limited to the project duration only. Recruitment of such staff shall be done as per MoEF&CC's Guidelines on the matter.
- (e) EC Fund shall not be sanctioned for land acquisition and for purchase of staff vehicles.

- (f) No recurring expenditure shall be sanctioned under the EC Fund.

3.0 Mode of proposal

Norms for receiving, processing, sanctioning of proposals shall be followed for efficient utilization of EC Funds. These norms are as given below:

- (a) The CPCB/SPCB/PCC shall submit the proposal as per the format enclosed at **Annexure IV** for Utilization of EC funds. The proposal should clearly identify the objectives, activities, and methodology as well as project deliverables. It should also specify the additional personnel support required and the time-frame for overall execution of the project and timeline for associated project activities. Further, detailed cost breakup consistent with the funding norms shall be provided
- (b) Proposal for procurement of laboratory equipment/laboratory upgradation shall be submitted as per format given in **Annexure V**. SPCBs/PCCs to further ensure that sufficient space (in case of procurement of equipment) and adequate manpower in case of laboratory upgradation is available with the Board and a certificate to this effect will be provided by it.
- (c) The concerned Board shall give an undertaking clearly stating details of additional funds, if any, sanctioned for the execution of the proposed Project
- (d) The project works may be executed through outsourced institutes, following proper procedures laid down under GFR 2017. The concerned Boards shall be solely responsible for following the procedure in procurement and awarding the works. The R&D Project works should not contain more than 50% of the amount for new equipment/instruments, if the work is awarded to outside institutes. Equipment/instruments procured under R&D projects shall be the property of concerned SPCB.
- (e) Depending upon the need, proposals may be invited by the concerned Board from "Autonomous Institutions/ Statutory Bodies under the Central / State Government" having domain expertise. Selection among the proposals received in response will be on the basis of technical soundness, including credentials of the grantee organization, team involved and cost effectiveness.

4.0 Procedure for Appraisal of Proposals

- (a) The concerned Board shall submit the proposal to CPCB
- (b) The Committee constituted under CPCB O.M. dated 03.04.2019. The Committee will meet at regular intervals (Once in two months) or as necessary and examine to recommend the received project proposals for financial assistance under environmental compensation fund.

- (c) The Committee shall ensure that proposals are in line with specific activities as mentioned in Hon'ble NGT order dated 22-01-2019 and these guideline for utilization of environmental compensation.

5.0 Terms and Conditions for Sanction of Proposals

- (a) A project will normally be sanctioned for a fixed duration and a maximum of two years.
- (b) Extension of project duration may be granted only in exceptional cases, subject to a maximum period of six months.
- (c) Fund shall be spent by the concerned Board as per provisions of GFR 2017 and State Financial Rules. The fund have to be audited as per statutory provisions.
- (d) The concerned Boards shall submit the Utilization Certificate signed by the Member Secretary of Board, which should also certify that the amount spent on the Project has been audited as per statutory requirements.
- (e) The sanctioned proposals will become operative with effect from the date of receipt of payment from CPCB. The date of receipt of payment shall be communicated by the concerned Board to CPCB.
- (f) Cost over runs-if any, shall be borne exclusively by the concerned State Board.

6.0 Norms for Funding

EC Fund for the project shall be released based on the progress made in project execution and recommendations of the Committee. The fund for the sanctioned projects shall be released as per the following norms:

- a) 70 % of the total amount shall be released at the project inception stage
- b) 20% of the total amount shall be released on 80% completion of the project
- c) Balance 10% of the total amount shall be released on submission of the completion report.
- d) The grant will be payable in accordance with funding norms on submission of Utilization Certificate(UC), Expenditure statement and Progress Reports
- e) In case of collaborative studies carried out by a network of institutions, the concerned State Boards shall be responsible for submission of UC, Expenditure statement and Progress Reports

7.0 Monitoring Mechanism

- a) The Committee shall monitor progress of approved project /activities every four months or earlier, if necessary.
- b) The Committee may terminate a project, if progress of it found unsatisfactory. In case of termination of the project at any stage, concerned State Board shall refund full amount received by it along with accrued interest, if any to CPCB.
- c) The concerned Board shall furnish 02 copies of the Final Technical or Implementation Report along with a soft copy to the Committee on completion of the Project

Item No. 12

Court No. 1

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

Original Application No. 101/2019

Central Pollution Control Board

Applicant(s)

Versus

Assam State Pollution Control Board & Ors.

Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 22.01.2019

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ADARSH KUMAR GOEL, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S.P. WANGDI, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE K. RAMAKRISHNAN, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. NAGIN NANDA, EXPERT MEMBER

For Applicant(s): Mr. Rajkumar, Advocate

For Respondent (s):

ORDER

This application seeks approval of the proposal for constitution of 25 per cent of environmental compensation fund by the Central Pollution Control Board. According to the Central Pollution Control Board, a separate dedicated account has been maintained to receive the amount of environmental compensation.

The Central Pollution Control Board has amount of Rs. 3,67,345 as on 31.12.2018 which is proposed to be spent as follows:-

- (i) *Development of infrastructure for Air and Water quality surveillance and monitoring for different areas/locations in Delhi NCR and other needed places.*
- (ii) *Remediation of contaminated sites and for that to develop infrastructure, procurement of equipments, etc. including hiring of Experts/Consultants for specific requirement for remediation of sites, etc..*
- (iii) *Specific investigations and studies with regard to environment and ecology.*
- (iv) *Carrying capacity assessment for ecologically and environmentally sensitive & critical areas, including hiring of Experts/Consultants for specific purpose and period.*

- (v) *R & D activities with regard to new technologies, clean technologies, etc.*
- (vi) *Capacity building of scientific and engineering personnel of Central Pollution Control Board and PCBs/PCCs to rejuvenate and protect the environment.*
- (vii) *Augmenting and strengthening of laboratory network in-terms of manpower and logistics.*
- (viii) *Payment of honorarium in compliance of Judicial Orders of the Courts and Tribunal.*
- (ix) *Specialized studies on accidental spill areas, health impact assessment, recalcitrant pollutants, etc.*
- (x) *IEC activities.*
- (xi) *Any other scientific and technical matter which may arise as a contingent matter."*

We do not see any difficulty or objection to the proposal of the Central Pollution Control Board.

Accordingly, Central Pollution Control Board is at liberty to proceed with its proposal in accordance with law.

The application is disposed of.



Aparsh Kumar Goel, CP

S.N. Wangdi, JM

K. Ramakrishnan, JM

T. Nagin Nanda, EM

January 22, 2019
Original Application No. 101/2019
JG



CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
(Ministry of Environment and Forests)
 Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Shahdara,
 Delhi: 110 032

F. No. CB/Dir/PCP/02/EC./2019-20

Dated: 03.04.2019

Office Memorandum

CPCB is maintaining Environmental Compensation Fund in separate dedicated account.. Hon'ble NGT, vide its order dated 22-01-2019 in OA no 101/2019(**Annexure I**), has granted approval for utilization of 25% environmental compensation fund for specified activities.

A Committee has been constituted for evaluation and recommendation of the projects for financial assistance from Environmental Compensation fund. The constitution of the committee and its Terms of Reference (TOR) is as follows :

1.0 CONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEE

The Committee shall comprise of the following members:

1	Sh A Sudhakar, CPCB	Chairman
2	Representative of MoEF&CC (CP Division)	Member
3	Representative of Gujrat Pollution Control Board	Member
4	Representative of Himachal Pradesh Pollution Control Board	Member
5	Representative of Assam Pollution Control Board	Member
6	Sh Vinod Babu, Additional Director,CPCB	Member
7	Sh V.P.Yadav, Additional Director, CPCB	Member
8	Sh Virendra Bansal, ACO, CPCB	Member
9	Mrs Urmila Thakur, Law Officer, CPCB	Member
10	Mrs Divya Sinha, Additional Director, CPCB	Member Convener

2.0 TERMS OF REFERENCE:

- a) The Committee shall frame Guidelines and finalize format for submission of project proposals to utilize the funds accrued under EC
- b) The Committee shall ensure that proposals are in line with specific activities as mentioned in Hon'ble NGT order dated 22-01-2019 for utilization of environmental compensation.
- c) The Committee shall examine and recommend the received project proposals for financial assistance under environmental compensation fund
- d) The Committee shall monitor progress of the approved project /activities from time to time

- e) The committee will meet at regular interval (Once in two month) and ensure that the fund is judiciously utilized for the approved schemes and activities.


3.0 TERM OF COMMITTEE

The term of the Committee shall be valid for a period of three years

4.0 EXPENSES

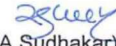
- a) Expenditure on proceedings of the meeting will be borne by CPCB.
b) Non-official members will be paid Airfare (both ways-economy class by Air India) and DA as per prevailing rules applicable.

This issues with approval of Competent Authority


(A. Sudhakar)
Member Secretary

Copy to:

1	Sh A Sudhakar, CPCB	Chairman
2	The Joint Secretary, CP Division, MoEF&CC	Member
3	Member Secretary, Gujarat Pollution Control Board	Member
4	Member Secretary, Himachal Pradesh Pollution Control Board	Member
5	Member Secretary, Assam Pollution Control Board	Member
6	Sh Vinod Babu, Additional Director, CPCB	Member
7	Sh V.P. Yadav, Additional Director, CPCB	Member
8	Sh Virendra Bansal, ACO, CPCB	Member
9	Mrs Urmila Thakur, Law Officer, CPCB	Member
10	Mrs Divya Sinha, Additional Director, CPCB	Member Convener


(A. Sudhakar)

North-Eastern and Weaker SPCBs/PCCs for priority allocation of EC Fund based on MoEF&CC's "Guidelines for Scheme – Assistance for Abatement of Pollution 2012"

Sl. No	State/UT
1.	Assam
2.	Bihar
3.	Chandigarh
4.	Chhattisgarh
5.	Goa
6.	Himachal Pradesh
7.	Jharkhand
8.	Kerala
9.	Pondicherry
10.	Uttarakhand
11.	Andaman & Nicobar
12.	Arunachal Pradesh
13.	J&K
14.	Lakshadweep
15.	Manipur
16.	Meghalaya
17.	Mizoram
18.	Nagaland
19.	Sikkim
20.	Tripura
21.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli
22.	Daman Diu

Format for Proposal

1. Title of the Project
2. Names , Designation of Project Coordinator
3. Address of Organization where Project is implemented
4. Specified Area in reference to NGT Order
5. Objective
6. Justification
7. Scope of Work
8. Methodology
9. Duration of the Project/Time Schedule (PERT Chart)
10. Expected outcome/deliverables
11. Monitorable targets (Physical and Financial)
12. Total Amount of Grant Required along with Cost Breakup
13. Details of additional funds (along with sources), if any, sanctioned for the Project
14. Status of Projects previously financed through EC Funds and Funds released on date

Format for Proposals for Lab Up-gradation / Procurement of Equipment, Studies etc.

S. No	Check List	Status	Comments
1.	Whether the Board/Office have the requisite technical manpower for handling the equipments proposed to be purchased and, if so, full details thereof.		
2.	Whether adequate space is available for installation of the equipments and its day-to-day use / operation.		
3.	Whether any funding was provided by the Central Government/State Board for procurement of equipments in the past and if so, what are the details thereof		
4.	Whether any project report / utilization certificate / expenditure statement in respect of financial support received in the past are pending and, if so, the details thereof		
5.	<p>Details of Equipment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Name of the Equipments to be procured. 2. Number of units sought to be purchased 3. Cost per unit 4. Total Cost 5. No. of units already available with the Board/ Office 6. Reasons for addl. Requirement/ replacement of existing ones. 		
6.	Are the equipments proposed for the existing or new Labs or Regional Labs.		
7.	Timeframe/ bar chart for the implementation of proposal		

Item No. 03

Court No. 1

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

Original Application No. 639/2018

(With report dated 10.10.2019)

Shailesh Singh

Applicant(s)

Versus

State of Haryana & Ors.

Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 05.11.2019

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ADARSH KUMAR GOEL, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S.P WANGDI, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE K. RAMAKRISHNAN, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. NAGIN NANDA, EXPERT MEMBER
HON'BLE MR. SAIBAL DASGUPTA, EXPERT MEMBER

For Applicant(s): Mr. Shlok Chandra, Advocate

For Respondent(s): Mr. Anil Grover, AAG with Mr. Rahul Khurana, Advocate, Mr. Bhupinder Chahal, R.O, Sonipat and Ms. Monika Punia, AEE, Faridabad

ORDER

1. The need for revision of existing monitoring mechanism to oversee compliance of environmental norms by the State PCBs including duration for mandatory inspections of 'highly polluting 17 category', 'red' and 'orange' and 'green' category industries and policy of auto renewals of Consent to Operate under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 as well as the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 is the question for consideration.
2. The Tribunal sought a report from a joint Committee of the CPCB, Haryana State PCB, CGWA and District Administration with reference to the allegation of deterioration of ground water quality in major part of the State of Haryana on account of non-compliance of direction of

the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Paryavaran Suraksha Samiti v. Union of India* (2017) 5 SCC 326 that no untreated effluents be discharged and requisite ETPs, STPs and CETPs be installed. The applicant pointed out that an earlier report of the CGWB established deterioration of the ground water in Haryana. The CAG report in the year 2016 also recorded that several projects were operating without obtaining valid CTE/CTO showing ineffectiveness of monitoring mechanism.

3. In pursuance of the above, report dated 10.12.2018 was filed by the joint Committee pointing out that the Inspection Policy of the State PCB provided for inspection of 'highly polluting 17 category', 'red' and 'orange' category industries in 3, 5 and 7 years respectively and auto renewal of consent to operate. The report also found large scale violation of environmental norms which had remained unchecked on account of such unsatisfactory policies.
4. This Tribunal vide order dated 08.03.2019 observed that policy followed by the State of Haryana was hit by the mandate of 'Precautionary' and 'Sustainable Development' principles of environmental law. Since there was large scale violation of environmental norms by 'highly polluting 17 category' 'red' and 'orange' category industries, meaningful environmental regulatory regime was imperative which required revision of the existing policy framework. The Tribunal also directed remedial directions against violation of environmental norms mentioned in the reports furnished to the Tribunal.

5. Further report was submitted by the CPCB on 23.05.2019 giving unsatisfactory ground situation and making recommendations as follows:

(i) *HSPCB shall verify compliance to the conditions of consent issued under Water Act, 1974 in the remaining 08 industrial units within 15 days and ensure follow up action against all non-complying units within 15 days thereafter.*

(ii) *The Industries which were observed to be closed by self (six units as indicated at Sl. No. 9, 14, 26, 27, 55 and 77) or sealed (eight units at Sl. No. 49, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 70 (dismantled), 84 and 95 as well as 23 units (at S. No. 10, 11, 15, 17, 20, 21, 22, 25, 31, 32, 35, 37, 38, 43, 47, 50, 51, 56, 59, 60, 73, 86, and 93 as per Annexure-IIJ were found not in operation. Such industrial units should not be allowed to operate till compliance to the conditions of consent or directions issued under Section 5 of the E (P) Act, 1986 is ensured.*

(iii) *HSPCB should consider disposal of effluent of all the industries located in Sonipat and Panipat areas through dedicated conveyance system to the nearby existing CETP. In case, existing CETP capacity is not adequate, HSIDC may upgrade the existing CETP to adequate capacity for ensuring treatment of all industrial effluents generated from Sonipat and Panipat areas, in a time bound manner.*

(iv) *As per CGWB, 47 out of 55 units and 13 out of 34 units in Panipat area and Sonipat area respectively drawing ground water have not even applied for obtaining NOC (List of such industries are annexed as Annexure-IV). HSPCB shall ensure action against all defaulter units by imposing deterrent environmental compensation from the date of commissioning for illegal drawl of water within 15 days in addition to the action being taken by CGWB through DCs.*

(v) *HSPCB shall review its present Policy for renewal of consents as well as periodic inspection of the industries as directed by Hon'ble NGT order dated 08.03.2019 in the matter of O.A. No. 639 of 2018 and O.A. No. 624 of 2018 to ensure regular operation of ETBs by respond industries as well as other industries in the state.*

(vi) *HSPCB shall direct Municipal authorities in Sonipat and Panipat areas shall be directed to*

reassess water quality of ground water used for water supply through a reputed organization and in case the water quality of ground water is not complying to the drinking water specifications of IS: 10500- 2012, then action be taken for sealing or capping of such tube wells immediately.”

6. The Tribunal, vide order dated 30.07.2019, reiterated that the Policy of Inspection must be realistic and adequate to ensure effective enforcement of law. The CPCB as well as the State of Haryana were required to furnish a compliance report on the subject.
7. Accordingly, report dated 10.10.2019 has been filed by the Chief Secretary, Haryana on the subject of re-visiting the Policy and report dated 04.10.2019 has been filed by the CPCB on the subject of non-compliance of norms in the State of Haryana.
8. We may notice the report of the CPCB first which is *inter alia* as follows:

“3. Action Taken Report submitted by HSPCB against industries: -

Thereafter, HSPCB has provided an updated ATR on CPCB's direction dated 22.05.2019 vide letter No. HSPCB/ PC/ 2019/219 dated 21.08.2019 as well as ATR as per minutes of the meeting held on 08.08.2019 vide letter No. HSPCB/PC/2019/ 162 dated 18.09.2019 (Annexure-W)

Industries covered under OA No. 639 of 2018:-

Panipat: - *Out of 55 industries covered under OA No. 639 of 2018, 31 industries were reported to be non-complying and HSPCB has confirmed their closure under closure directions issued by HSPCB/CPCB. List of these industries is enclosed as **Annexure-V***

Sonepat:-Out of 33 industries covered under OA No. 639 of 2018, 11 industries were reported to be non-complying and HSPCB has confirmed their closure either under closure directions issued by HSPCB/CPCB or due to permanent self-

closure/dismantling. List of these industries is enclosed as **Annexure-VI**.

02 out of 02 industries in Rewadi and 01 out of 01 industry located in Bahadurgarh are reported to be complying to the discharge norms.

Industries covered under OA No. 624 of 2018:-

Faridabad: - Out of 55 industries covered under OA No. 624 of 2018, 04 industries were reported to be non-complying and HSPCB informed that process for prosecution of these units has been initiated. List of these industries is enclosed as **Annexure-VII**.

HSPCB may keep a regular vigilance on the units for ensuring compliance to the norms and in case found any violations action should be taken by HSPCB as per provisions of Water Act, 1974 or Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

4. Action Taken Report submitted by CGWA w.r.t GW abstraction: -

Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA), Chandigarh has provided ATR as per minutes of the meeting held on 08.08.2019 vide letter No. 4 (172)A-CGWA/NWR/S 86 1/2019-895 dated 21.08.2019 is enclosed as **Annexure-VIII**.

In Sonapat district, out of 33 industries 17 have applied for NOC and the same are under examination. 16 Industrial units have not applied till date.

In Panipat district, out of 54 industries 20 have applied for NOC and the same are under examination. 34 industrial units have not applied till date.

Regarding industries which draw ground water in Panipat and Sonapat areas (**in O A No. 639/2019**), Deputy Commissioners have been advised to get the bore wells sealed which have not obtained NOC from CGWA vide letter dated 09-08-2019. Chief Secretary to Government of Haryana has also written letters dated 19.08.2019 to DC, Panipat and DC, Sonapat to take action in this regard. Subsequently, DC, Panipat has constituted a team for taking action against the industries involved in abstraction of ground water and assured CS, Govt. of Haryana vide letter dated 20.08.2019 that action shall be taken against such industries after expiry of the last date for applying i.e., 30.09.2019.

- The industries withdrawing water without NOC and which have not applied for NOC in Faridabad district (**in O.A. 624/2018**) have been sealed by D.C. Faridabad.

Imposition of Environmental Compensation (EC) on industries for illegal abstraction of ground water:-

CGWA vide letter dated 21.08.2019 informed that rates of EC is not yet decided by CGWA.

CGWA may levy EC on the concerned industries which are indulged in abstraction of ground water without obtaining WOC' from CGWA in light of the order passed by Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in OA No. 176/2015 filed by Shailesh Singh Applicant (s) Versus Hotel Holiday Regency, Moradabad & Ors. Respondent(s) (Date of hearing: 23.08.2019, Date of uploading of order: 11.09.2019).

As regards increase in ground water monitoring in Haryana, CGWA vide letter dated 21.08.2019 informed that CGWA is monitoring the ground water levels and quality through its National Hydrograph Monitoring Stations. During 2015, 351 Samples, in 2016, 414 samples, in 2017, 400 samples, in 2018, 453 samples and 2019, 447 samples were collected (thus) CGWB is making efforts to increase the number of samples collected every year.

5. Ground Water Quality in Haryana State:-

CGWA has provided ground water quality in Haryana State for the year 2017. As per the information received, in the year 2017, CGWA carried out monitoring of ground water quality at 401 locations in the districts of Yamuna Nagar, Sonapat, Sirsa, Rohtak, Panipat, Panchkula, Palwal, Mewat, Mahendragarh, Kurukshetra, Karnal, Khaital, Jind, Jhajjar, Hissar, Gurgaon, Fatehabad, Bhawani and Ambala.

Analysis results of ground water reveals that 224 out of 401 locations monitored are not complying to the BIS drinking water specifications (IS:10500-2012) with respect to one or more TDS parameters such as pH, EC, Cl*, SO4, NO3*, PO4, Ca*, Mg*, Total Hardness (as CaCO3) and Fe', Data also reveals that Fluoride content is exceeding the limit of 1.5 mg/1 at 86 locations and minimum fluoride content is BDL and maximum observed as 11.61 mg/ 1. Details of ground water monitoring locations which are non-complying to the drinking water norms is given as **Annexure-IX**.

Ground water locations where fluoride content is exceeding the drinking water specification (i.e., BIS 10500-2012), all such sources should be prohibited for drinking water purposes and a

display board should be provided at all such contaminated tube wells indicating 'Not Fit for Drinking' by CGWA.

6. Air Quality in Sonapat, Panipat and Faridabad areas: -

Haryana State Pollution Control Board is monitoring air quality using continuous ambient air quality monitoring station (CAAQMS) at Sonapat, Panipat and Faridabad for the parameters such as NO_x, NH₃, SO₂, CO, O₃, PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀. Ambient air quality measured values for the months of July and August 2019 are enclosed as **Annexure-X**.

Panipat:-

The 24 hours average values of PM₁₀ in the months of July 2019 and August 2019 are exceeding the limit for 7 days and 6 days respectively and the 24 hours average values of PM_{2.5} in the month of July 2019 is exceeding the limit for 4 days.

Sonapat:-

The 24 hours average values of PM₁₀ in the months of July 2019 and August 2019 are exceeding the limit for 14 days and 10 days respectively and the 24 hours average values of PM_{2.5} in the months of July 2019 and August 2019 are exceeding the limit for 7 days and 5 days respectively.”

9. The above data shows that there is rampant non-compliance of environmental norms by the industries resulting in contamination of ground water and deterioration of air quality. So much so, the source of drinking water is contaminated depriving the citizens of right to access potable water. Such unsatisfactory state of affairs needs to be factored in the policy framework for remedial action. Revised policy must match the gap in violations and remedial measures by the Regulators. We find it difficult to accept that the proposed revised policy will bridge this gap. While the policy now proposed rightly acknowledges the need for increasing frequency of inspections and need for pre-verification of documents instead of mechanical auto-renewal, there is need for further safeguards by shortening the

duration of mandatory inspections and requiring ground verification before renewal and not mere pre verification of documents as proposed. There is also need to take remedial steps against deficiencies noticed in the report of CPCB, especially providing drinking water to the affected inhabitants.

10. The report of the Chief Secretary refers to ease of doing business initiatives to encourage industrial development. Needless to say that while industrial development in sustainable manner is necessary, it cannot be at the cost of air and water quality which are the means of sustenance of life. The industrial development cannot be on the graves of human beings. There can be no objection to bureaucratic procedures and hassles being relaxed, simplified and shortened and industrial growth and employment generation programmes being encouraged but at the same time, such initiatives are to be balanced against deterioration of air and water quality which must be protected.
11. Having considered the material on record, we are of the view that there is need for further reduction of period of inspections and increase in frequency with regard to 'highly polluting 17 category', 'red category' and 'orange category'. Vigilance is also required on 'green category' to verify that 'green' status is being genuinely used. Since the report of the Chief Secretary states that similar policies are operating in 19 States, there is need for the CPCB to ensure revision of such policies in all the States having regard to the data of air and water quality, CEPI, non-attainment cities and polluted water stretches, etc. in said States. The policy should cover inspections with reference to the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act,

1974 as well as the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. Further action taken report may be filed by the CPCB before the next date by email at judicial-ngt@gov.in.

12. Accordingly, we direct:

- i) The State of Haryana may shorten the period of inspection at higher frequencies preferably as follows:

Period of mandatory inspections:

a)	Highly polluting 17 Category: months	3
b)	Other Red Category: months	6
c)	Orange Category	1 year
d)	Green Category	2 years
e)	CBWTF/CHWSRDF/ CMSWTDF/CETP/STP: months	3

This will not dispense with inspections wherever situations so require in the wisdom of the Board and environmental exigencies. The conditions for grant/renewal of consents may be placed in public domain consistent with the spirit of Section 25(6) of the Water Act and corresponding provision of the Air Act. Revised norms for inspections may be placed on record before the next date.

- ii) These timelines and other changes may be followed by the CPCB for other States under Section 18 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974/Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 unless there are reasons for exception for any particular State.
- iii) The Chief Secretary, State of Haryana may also ensure remedial action against the deficiencies pointed out in the

report of the CPCB especially with regard to fluoride in ground water which requires making potable water available to the concerned inhabitants in a time bound manner. Compliance report in this regard may be filed before the next date.

iv) Since the CGWA has still not evolved any compensation regime, compensation regime laid down by CPCB may be utilized as a guideline an interim measure till any further policy is framed.

v) To meet the increased frequency of inspections, the SPCBs/PCCs may undertake capacity enhancement out of consent funds by procuring requisite equipments, setting up of modern labs and recruiting/engaging staff and experts. All vacancies must be filled up as already directed by this Tribunal in *O.A No. 95/2018, Aryavart Foundation v. M/s Vapi Green Environ Ltd & Ors* vide order dated 28.08.2019 which may be ensured by the Chief Secretary. Compliance report may be filed before the next date.

vi) The CPCB may also undertake capacity enhancement including procurement of requisite equipment, setting up of labs, recruiting/engaging staff and experts on above lines utilising environment compensation funds. No authority in the Government will obstruct such exercise so that requisite steps for protection of environment and public health are not hampered. Compliance report may be filed before the next date.

13. A copy of this order be sent to all the Chief Secretaries of the States/UTs, CPCB and the State PCBs/PCCs by email.

List for further consideration on 11.02.2020.

Adarsh Kumar Goel, CP

S.P Wangdi, JM

K. Ramakrishnan, JM

Dr. Nagin Nanda, EM

Saibal Dasgupta, EM

November 05, 2019
Original Application No. 639/2018
AK





भारत का राजपत्र The Gazette of India

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असाधारण

EXTRAORDINARY

भाग II—खण्ड 3—उप-खण्ड (i)

PART II—Section 3—Sub-section (i)

प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित

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पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय

अधिसूचना

नई दिल्ली, 15 जनवरी, 2026

सा.का.नि. 35(अ).— केंद्रीय सरकार, पर्यावरण (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1986 (1986 का 29) की धारा 6 और धारा 25 द्वारा प्रदत्त शक्तियों का प्रयोग करते हुए, भारत के नियंत्रक और महालेखा परीक्षक से परामर्श करके निम्नलिखित नियम बनाती है, अर्थात्:-

1. संक्षिप्त नाम और प्रारंभ - (1) इन नियमों का संक्षिप्त नाम पर्यावरण (संरक्षण) निधि नियम, 2026 है।

(2) ये राजपत्र में इनकी अधिसूचना की तारीख से प्रवृत्त होंगे।

2. परिभाषाएँ- (1) इन नियमों में, जब तक संदर्भ से अन्यथा अपेक्षित न हो, -

(क) "अधिनियम" से पर्यावरण (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1986 (29 का 1986) अभिप्रेत है;

(ख) "प्रशासक" से पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय या केंद्रीय सरकार द्वारा अधिसूचित कोई भी निकाय अभिप्रेत है;

- (ग) "सक्षम प्राधिकारी" से पर्यावरण वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन के माननीय मंत्री अभिप्रेत है;
- (घ) "प्ररूप" से इन नियमों के साथ संलग्न प्ररूप अभिप्रेत है;
- (ङ) "निधि" से अधिनियम की धारा 16 के अंतर्गत भारत के लोक लेखा में गठित पर्यावरण संरक्षण निधि अभिप्रेत है;
- (च) "अनुसूची" से इन नियमों से संलग्न अनुसूची अभिप्रेत है;
- (छ) "वर्ष" से 1 अप्रैल से शुरू होने वाले और उसके तुरंत बाद वाले वर्ष के मार्च में समाप्त होने वाला वित्तीय वर्ष अभिप्रेत है।

(2) इन नियमों में प्रयुक्त वे शब्द और अभिव्यक्तियाँ जो परिभाषित नहीं हैं, परन्तु अधिनियम में परिभाषित हैं, उनका वही अर्थ होगा जो उन्हें अधिनियम में दिया गया है।

3. पर्यावरण संरक्षण निधि की राशि का उपयोग - (1) निधि का उपयोग निम्नलिखित प्रयोजनों के लिए किया जाएगा, अर्थात्:-

- (क) पर्यावरण निगरानी नेटवर्क को मजबूत करने के लिए पर्यावरण निगरानी उपकरणों की स्थापना, संचालन और रखरखाव;
- (ख) प्रयोगशाला भवनों और अनुसंधान अवसंरचना सहित पर्यावरण प्रयोगशालाओं का विकास और उन्नयन;
- (ग) स्वच्छ प्रौद्योगिकी से संबंधित अनुसंधान;
- (घ) पर्यावरणीय क्षति का आकलन और उपचार, जिसमें दूषित स्थल शामिल हैं;
- (ङ) राज्य पर्यावरण प्राधिकरण, राज्य स्तरीय विशेषज्ञ मूल्यांकन समिति, केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, प्रदूषण नियंत्रण समिति, प्रबंधन आयोग और शहरी स्थानीय निकायों की क्षमता निर्माण और सुदृढीकरण;
- (च) सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी सक्षम प्रणालियों और संबंधित प्रणालियों का विकास;
- (छ) विभिन्न न्यायालयों और न्यायाधिकरणों द्वारा निर्देशित अध्ययन करना;
- (ज) पर्यावरण क्लबों के माध्यम से जागरूकता पैदा करने से संबंधित परियोजनाएं;
- (झ) सुरक्षा से संबंधित नवीन प्रौद्योगिकियों से जुड़े प्रदर्शन परियोजनाएं;
- (ञ) पर्यावरणीय प्रदूषण की रोकथाम, नियंत्रण और शमन के उपाय;
- (ट) परियोजना इकाई में निधि के प्रशासन के लिए तैनात संविदा कर्मचारियों और सलाहकारों को वेतन, पारिश्रमिक, प्रबंधन इकाई के लिए आवश्यक कार्यालय उपकरण और फर्नीचर, लेखा परीक्षकों और विधिक या अन्य पेशेवर सेवाओं के भुगतान से संबंधित प्रशासनिक व्यय (केंद्रीय सरकार या राज्य सरकार/क्षेत्रीय प्रशासन के पास वित्तीय वर्ष में उपलब्ध निधि की राशि के पांच प्रतिशत से अधिक नहीं):

परन्तु पर्यावरण कोष में पर्याप्त धनराशि जमा होने तक, प्रशासनिक व्यय संबंधित सरकारी निकायों के माध्यम से पूरा किया जाएगा।

(ठ) पर्यावरण संरक्षण और सुधार के लिए केंद्रीय सरकार द्वारा आवश्यक समझे जाने वाले किसी अन्य उद्देश्य के लिए, जिसे सक्षम प्राधिकारी द्वारा अनुमोदित किया गया हो।

(2) उप-नियम (1) में प्रयुक्त निधि का प्रयोग निम्नलिखित के लिए नहीं किया जाएगा, अर्थात्:-

- (क) चिकित्सा व्यय का भुगतान;
- (ख) विदेशी यात्राएं करना;
- (ग) अधिकारियों और कार्यालयों के लिए भवनों का निर्माण;
- (घ) सरकारी कार्यालयों के लिए फर्नीचर, कार्यालय उपकरण, वाहन, एयर कंडीशनर और जनरेटर सेट सहित फिक्स्चर की खरीद।

(3) पर्यावरण संरक्षण निधि के लिए स्वीकृति देने वाला प्राधिकारी, यथास्थिति, निधि के लिए संबंधित सरकार या राज्य सरकार या संघ राज्यक्षेत्र प्रशासन होगा।

4. अधिनियम की धारा 16 के अंतर्गत पर्यावरण संरक्षण कोष में जमा की जाने वाली राशि- निम्नलिखित राशियाँ कोष में जमा की जाएँगी, अर्थात्:-

- (क) वायु (प्रदूषण निवारण और नियंत्रण) अधिनियम, 1981 (1981 का 14), जल (प्रदूषण निवारण और नियंत्रण) अधिनियम, 1974 (1974 का 06) और पर्यावरण (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1986 (29 का 1986) के अधीन लगाए गए जुर्माने की राशि;
- (ख) अधिनियम की धारा 16(2) के अनुसार तथा सक्षम प्राधिकारी द्वारा अनुमोदित कोई अन्य आय, निधि में प्राप्त होती है।

5. पर्यावरण संरक्षण कोष में जमा करने की रीति। (1) वायु (प्रदूषण निवारण और नियंत्रण) अधिनियम, 1981 (1981 का 14), जल (प्रदूषण निवारण और नियंत्रण) अधिनियम, 1974 (1974 का 06), पर्यावरण (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1986 (29 का 1986) के अधीन लगाए गए जुर्माने और किसी अन्य राशि का भुगतान भारत सरकार के ऑनलाइन भारतकोष पोर्टल के माध्यम से पर्यावरण संरक्षण कोष में किया जाएगा। यह राशि भारत की संचित निधि (सीएफआई) में जमा की जाएगी और फिर अनुमोदित लेखा प्रक्रिया के अनुसार पर्यावरण संरक्षण कोष के अंतर्गत भारत के सार्वजनिक खाते में स्थानांतरित की जाएगी।

(2) प्रशासक संबंधित राज्य और संघ राज्यक्षेत्र की समेकित निधि में एकत्रित जुर्माने का 75% जमा करेगा तथा जुर्माने का 25% केंद्रीय द्वारा रखा जाएगा।

(3) प्रशासक से निधि प्राप्त होने पर, प्रत्येक राज्य या संघ राज्यक्षेत्र के पर्यावरण संबंधी मामलों से संबंधित विभाग उस राशि को राज्य के लोक खातों के अंतर्गत आरक्षित निधि में जमा करेगा। राज्य या संघ राज्यक्षेत्र के पर्यावरण संबंधी मामलों से संबंधित संबंधित विभाग द्वारा सृजित आरक्षित निधि में जमा की गई राशि का उपयोग केवल उपरोक्त नियम 3 और अधिनियम की धारा 16 के अनुसार ही किया जाएगा।

6. निधि के प्रशासन की रीति (1) पर्यावरण संरक्षण निधि की निगरानी एक समर्पित परियोजना प्रबंधन इकाई द्वारा की जाएगी, जिसका गठन केंद्रीय सरकार और राज्य सरकार या संघ राज्यक्षेत्र प्रशासन द्वारा किया जाएगा, जैसा भी हो।

(2) परियोजना प्रबंधन इकाई की अध्यक्षता ऐसे अधिकारी द्वारा की जाएगी जिसका स्तर भारत सरकार में संयुक्त सचिव या राज्य और संघ राज्य क्षेत्र प्रशासन में राज्य सरकार के सचिव जैसा भी मामला हो, के पद से कम न हो।

(3) संबंधित परियोजना प्रबंधन इकाई पर्यावरण संरक्षण निधि के वितरण का विस्तृत लेखा-जोखा रखेगी।

(4) संबंधित परियोजना प्रबंधन इकाई प्राप्तियों का उचित अभिलेख रखेगी।

(5) संबंधित परियोजना प्रबंधन इकाई, जिसमें विधिक और वित्तीय सलाहकार शामिल होंगे, राज्य या संघ राज्यक्षेत्र के प्रशासक को निधि के सुचारू प्रशासन से संबंधित सभी मामलों में पर्यावरण संबंधी मुद्दों से निपटने में सहायता करेगी।

(6) संबंधित परियोजना प्रबंधन इकाई केंद्रीय के लिए प्ररूप II (क) तथा संबंधित राज्य संघ राज्यक्षेत्र के लिए प्ररूप 2 (ख) के अनुसार वार्षिक विवरण तैयार करेगी तथा संबंधित केंद्रीय सरकार या राज्य सरकार या संघ राज्यक्षेत्र प्रशासन के लिए प्ररूप III के अनुसार वार्षिक रिपोर्ट तैयार करके प्रशासक को प्रस्तुत करेगी।

(7) निधि में किए जाने वाले सभी भुगतान प्ररूप I के साथ प्रशासन को प्रस्तुत किए जाएंगे।

(8) राज्य या संघ राज्य क्षेत्र प्रत्येक वित्तीय वर्ष के अंत में कुल प्राप्त निधियों, उसके उपयोग तथा संबंधित राज्यों या संघ राज्य क्षेत्र द्वारा सृजित निधियों में उपलब्ध शेष राशि का विवरण, इन नियमों में संलग्न प्ररूप II(ख) तथा प्ररूप III में निर्धारित प्रारूप के अनुसार क्रमशः लेखाओं के वार्षिक विवरण तथा वार्षिक रिपोर्ट के रूप में प्रस्तुत करेगा।

7. वार्षिक लेखा विवरण और वार्षिक रिपोर्ट। - (1) संबंधित वार्षिक विवरण इस नियम के अधीन निर्धारित पर्यावरण संरक्षण कोष के खातों का प्ररूप II (क) के अनुसार केंद्रीय के लिए और प्ररूप II(ख) के अनुसार राज्य या संघ राज्यक्षेत्र के लिए अंतिम रूप केंद्रीय के प्रशासक और संबंधित राज्य सरकार या संघ राज्यक्षेत्र प्रशासन के संबंधित विभाग द्वारा दिया जाएगा।

(2) केंद्रीय सरकार पर्यावरण संरक्षण कोष से संबंधित अपनी वार्षिक रिपोर्ट प्ररूप-III के अनुसार प्रत्येक वित्तीय वर्ष के लिए अंतिम रूप देगी, जिसमें इस अधिनियम के अधीन परिभाषित गतिविधियों का पूरा विवरण दिया जाएगा, और इसे भारत के नियंत्रक और महालेखा परीक्षक द्वारा दी गई लेखापरीक्षा रिपोर्ट के साथ संसद के प्रत्येक सदन के समक्ष रखा जाएगा। राज्य सरकार या संघ राज्यक्षेत्र प्रशासन के मामले में भी यही प्रक्रिया अपनाई जाएगी और रिपोर्टें संबंधित राज्य विधानमंडलों के समक्ष रखी जाएंगी।

(3) राज्य सरकार प्रत्येक वित्तीय वर्ष के लिए पर्यावरण संरक्षण कोष के संबंध में प्ररूप-III के अनुसार अपनी वार्षिक रिपोर्ट तैयार करेगी, जिसमें पर्यावरण संरक्षण कोष के अंतर्गत परिभाषित क्रियाकलापों का पूरा विवरण दिया जाएगा।

8. निधि का लेखापरीक्षा - (1) निधि के खातों की लेखापरीक्षा, भारत के नियंत्रक महालेखा परीक्षक द्वारा ऐसे अंतरालों पर की जाएगी जैसा कि उनके द्वारा निर्दिष्ट किया जाए और ऐसी लेखापरीक्षा रिपोर्ट सहित लेखापरीक्षा संसद और विधानमंडल में रखी जाएगी, जैसा भी मामला हो।

(2) केंद्रीय सरकार के प्रशासक और संबंधित राज्य सरकार या संघ राज्यक्षेत्र प्रशासन के संबंधित विभाग के प्रशासक के पास निधि का नियमित अंतराल पर आंतरिक लेखापरीक्षा करने का अधिकार होगा।

9. ऑनलाइन पोर्टल - केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड इन नियमों के कार्यान्वयन के लिए एक ऑनलाइन पोर्टल विकसित और अनुरक्षित करेगा, जो एक बार चालू हो जाने के बाद इन नियमों के अंतर्गत विभिन्न अधिकारियों और हितधारकों के बीच एकमात्र इंटरफ़ेस होगा।

प्ररूप I

निधि में भुगतान करने का प्रारूप

1. पार्टी का नाम (बड़े अक्षरों में):
2. पहचान का प्रमाण प्रस्तुत किया गया:

टिप्पण: निम्नलिखित में से कोई भी दस्तावेज पहचान के वैध प्रमाण के रूप में मान्य होगा;

ड्राइविंग लाइसेंस, केंद्रीय सरकार, राज्य सरकार, सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उपक्रम या पब्लिक लिमिटेड कंपनी द्वारा कर्मचारियों को जारी किए गए फोटोयुक्त सेवा पहचान पत्र, बैंक या डाकघर द्वारा जारी की गई फोटोयुक्त पासबुक, स्थायी खाता संख्या (पैन) कार्ड, राष्ट्रीय जनसंख्या रजिस्टर के अधीन भारत के रजिस्ट्रार जनरल द्वारा जारी स्मार्ट कार्ड, ग्रामीण रोजगार गारंटी कार्ड, श्रम मंत्रालय की योजना के अधीन जारी स्वास्थ्य बीमा स्मार्ट कार्ड, फोटोयुक्त पेंशन दस्तावेज, संसद सदस्यों, विधानसभा सदस्यों या विधान परिषद सदस्यों को जारी किए गए आधिकारिक पहचान पत्र, मतदाता पहचान पत्र, पासपोर्ट (विदेशी नागरिक के मामले सहित), मास्कड आधार कार्ड, फर्म या कंपनी के मामले में कर कटौती और संग्रह खाता संख्या (TAN) या कॉर्पोरेट पहचान संख्या (CIN)।

3. पहचान प्रमाण पत्र का पहचान क्रमांक:

4. जन्म तारीख/निगमन तारीख:

5. लिंग:

6. राष्ट्रीयता:

7. स्थायी पता:

(क) मकान/संपत्ति संख्या:

(ख) स्थानीय ग्राम:

(ग) जिला:

(घ) शहर:

(ङ) राज्य:

(च) देश:

(छ) पिन कोड/डाक कोड या ज़ोनल कोड:

8. पत्राचार का पता:

(क) मकान/संपत्ति संख्या:

(ख) स्थानीय ग्राम:

(ग) जिला:

(घ) शहर:

(ङ) राज्य:

(च) देश:

(छ) पिन कोड/डाक कोड या ज़ोनल कोड:

9. व्यवसाय/पदनाम:

10. कार्यालय का पता:

11. टेलीफोन नंबर/मोबाइल नंबर:
12. ईमेल पता:
13. भुगतान करने का कारण:
 - (i) आदेश की तारीख:
 - (ii) वे अधिनियम जिनके अंतर्गत आदेश पारित किया गया है:
 - (iii) वह नियम जिसके अधीन आदेश पारित किया गया है:
 - (iv) निर्णय अधिकारी का नाम:
 - (v) निर्णय अधिकारी का पदनाम:
 - (vi) वह राज्य जहां दंड लगाया जाता है:
 - (vii) अनुपालन न करने का विवरण:
- (क) निर्णय अधिकारी का आदेश:
- (ख) अन्य:
- (ग) अतिरिक्त दंड (यदि कोई हो):
14. कुल देय भुगतान:
15. कुल देय भुगतान (शब्दों में):
16. वित्तीय वर्ष :
17. मुख्य शीर्ष :
18. लघु शीर्ष:
19. उप शीर्ष:
20. वस्तु शीर्ष:
21. राशि (रुपये में):
22. राशि (शब्दों में):
23. कॉर्पोरेट पहचान संख्या (CIN):
24. भुगतान की रीति: नेट बैंकिंग/बैंक चालान/क्रेडिट कार्ड/डेबिट यूनिफाइड पेमेंट्स इंटरफेस (यूपीआई)
25. बैंक का नाम:
26. बैंक संदर्भ संख्या:
27. जमा करने की तारीख:

28. मूल सांख्यिकीय रिटर्न कोड (बीएसआर) कोड:
29. चालान संख्या:
30. निविदा तारीख:
31. जमाकर्ता का नाम (बड़े अक्षरों में):
32. संपर्क विवरण और फ़ोन नंबर:

प्रति:

1. प्रशासक
2. संबंधित न्यायनिर्णय अधिकारी (जहां भी लागू हो)
3. संबंधित राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड/ संघ राज्यक्षेत्र प्रदूषण नियंत्रण समितियाँ (जहाँ भी लागू हो)
4. केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड

प्ररूप II(क)

वार्षिक लेखा विवरण का प्रारूप
(केंद्रीय सरकार द्वारा भरा जाना है)

31 मार्च 20... को समाप्त पर्यावरण संरक्षण कोष का वार्षिक लेखा

(रूप में राशि)

क्र.सं.	विवरण	चालू वित्तीय वर्ष
1.	वर्ष के प्रारंभ में निधियों का प्रारंभिक शेष	
2.	<p>निधि में जोड़ी गई राशि</p> <p>(क) पर्यावरण (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1986 (1986 का 29) के अधीन लगाया गया जुर्माना</p> <p>(i) केंद्रीय</p> <p>(ii) राज्य/ संघ राज्यक्षेत्र</p> <p>(ख) वायु (प्रदूषण निवारण और नियंत्रण) अधिनियम, 1981 (1981 का 14) के अधीन लगाया गया जुर्माना,</p> <p>(i) केंद्रीय</p> <p>(ii) राज्य/ संघ राज्यक्षेत्र</p> <p>(ग) जल (प्रदूषण निवारण और नियंत्रण) अधिनियम, 1974 (1974 का 06) के अधीन लगाया गया जुर्माना</p>	

	<p>(i) केंद्रीय</p> <p>(ii) राज्य/ संघ राज्यक्षेत्र</p> <p>(घ) ऐसे स्रोतों से कोई अन्य राशि, जैसा कि निर्धारित किया जा सकता है</p>	
	कुल (1+2)	
3.	<p>निधि का वितरण</p> <p>(i) आंध्र प्रदेश,</p> <p>(ii) अरुणाचल प्रदेश,</p> <p>(iii) असम,</p> <p>(iv) बिहार,</p> <p>(v) छत्तीसगढ़,</p> <p>(vi) गोवा,</p> <p>(vii) गुजरात,</p> <p>(viii) हरियाणा,</p> <p>(ix) हिमाचल प्रदेश,</p> <p>(x) झारखंड,</p> <p>(xi) कर्नाटक,</p> <p>(xii) केरल,</p> <p>(xiii) मध्य प्रदेश,</p> <p>(xiv) महाराष्ट्र,</p>	

(xv) मणिपुर,	
(xvi) मेघालय,	
(xvii) मिजोरम,	
(xviii) नागालैंड,	
(xix) ओडिशा,	
(xx) पंजाब,	
(xxi) राजस्थान,	
(xxii) सिक्किम,	
(xxiii) तमिलनाडु,	
(xxiv) तेलंगाना,	
(xxv) त्रिपुरा,	
(xxvi) उत्तर प्रदेश,	
(xxvii) उत्तराखंड,	
(xxviii) पश्चिमी बंगाल	
(xxix) अंदमान और निकोबार द्वीप समूह,	
(xxx) चंडीगढ़,	
(xxxi) दादरा और नगर हवेली, दमण और दीव,	
(xxxii) दिल्ली,	

	(xxxiii) जम्मू - कश्मीर, (xxxiv) लद्दाख, (xxxv) लक्षद्वीप, और (xxxvi) पुडुचेरी	
	कुल	
4.	भारत के लोक खातों में केंद्र को आवंटित निधि (1+2-3)	
5.	वर्ष के प्रारंभ में भारत के सार्वजनिक खातों में निधियों का प्रारंभिक शेष।	
6.	<p>केंद्रीय सरकार द्वारा निधियों का उपयोग:</p> <p>(क) विद्यमान पर्यावरण निगरानी नेटवर्क को मजबूत करने के लिए सतत जल गुणवत्ता निगरानी स्टेशन, सतत और मैनुअल परिवेशी वायु गुणवत्ता निगरानी स्टेशन और परिवेशी शोर निगरानी स्टेशन की स्थापना।</p> <p>(ख) अपेक्षानुसार नए पर्यावरण प्रयोगशालाओं का विकास या विद्यमान पर्यावरण प्रयोगशालाओं का उन्नयन।</p> <p>(ग) औद्योगिक क्षेत्रों और स्वच्छ प्रौद्योगिकी पर अनुसंधान और विकास दस्तावेजों की तैयारी।</p> <p>(घ) पर्यावरणीय क्षति का आकलन, विस्तृत परियोजना रिपोर्ट (डीपीआर) तैयार करना और दूषित स्थलों का उपचार करना।</p> <p>(ङ) राज्य पर्यावरण प्रभाव आकलन प्राधिकरणों या राज्य पर्यावरण मूल्यांकन समितियों या केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड या राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड या प्रदूषण नियंत्रण समितियों या शहरी स्थानीय निकायों (यूएलबी) की क्षमता निर्माण और सुदृढीकरण।</p> <p>(च) संविदा कर्मचारियों को वेतन और अन्य पारिश्रमिकों का भुगतान</p> <p>(छ) सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी (आईटी) सक्षम प्रणालियों का विकास।</p> <p>(ज) विधि मंचों द्वारा निर्देशित अध्ययन किए।</p> <p>(झ) पर्यावरण क्लबों के माध्यम से जागरूकता पैदा करने से संबंधित परियोजनाएं।</p> <p>(ञ) लेखा परीक्षकों, सलाहकारों और अन्य पेशेवर सेवाओं के भुगतान सहित निधियों के प्रबंधन से संबंधित प्रशासनिक व्यय।</p>	

	(ट) पर्यावरण संरक्षण के लिए स्वच्छ प्रौद्योगिकी से संबंधित नवोन्मेषी प्रौद्योगिकी प्रदर्शन परियोजनाएं।	
	(ठ) कोई अन्य उद्देश्य जिसे केंद्रीय सरकार पर्यावरण संरक्षण के लिए सुसंगत समझे।	
	कुल	
7.	भारत के लोक खातों में वर्ष के अंत में उपलब्ध कुल समापन शेष (5-6):	
8.	वर्ष के अंत में केंद्र के पास उपलब्ध कुल समापन शेष राशि:	

प्रशासक का
अधिकृत हस्ताक्षरकर्ता

प्ररूप II(ख)

वार्षिक लेखा विवरण का प्रारूप
(प्रत्येक राज्य/ संघ राज्यक्षेत्र द्वारा प्रस्तुत किया जाना है)

31 मार्च 20... को समाप्त पर्यावरण संरक्षण कोष का वार्षिक लेखा विवरण।

(राशि रुपये में)

क्र.सं.	विवरण	चालू वित्तीय वर्ष
1.	वर्ष के आरंभ में निधि का प्रारंभिक शेष	
2	केंद्र द्वारा निधि का आवंटन	
	(क) पर्यावरण (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1986 (1986 का 29) के अधीन लगाया गया जुर्माना, (ख) वायु (प्रदूषण निवारण और नियंत्रण) अधिनियम, 1981 (1981 का 14) के अधीन लगाया गया जुर्माना, (ग) जल (प्रदूषण निवारण और नियंत्रण) अधिनियम, 1974 (1974 का 06) के अधीन लगाया गया जुर्माना।	
3.	राज्य सरकार/ संघ राज्यक्षेत्र द्वारा निधियों का उपयोग (क) विद्यमान पर्यावरण निगरानी नेटवर्क को मजबूत करने के लिए सतत जल गुणवत्ता निगरानी स्टेशन, सतत और मैनुअल परिवेशी वायु गुणवत्ता निगरानी स्टेशन और परिवेशी शोर निगरानी स्टेशन की स्थापना। (ख) अपेक्षानुसार नए पर्यावरण प्रयोगशालाओं का विकास या मौजूदा पर्यावरण प्रयोगशालाओं का उन्नयन। (ग) औद्योगिक क्षेत्रों या स्वच्छ प्रौद्योगिकी पर अनुसंधान और विकास दस्तावेजों की तैयारी।	

	<p>(घ) पर्यावरणीय क्षति का आकलन, विस्तृत परियोजना रिपोर्ट (डीपीआर) तैयार करना और दूषित स्थलों का उपचार करना।</p> <p>(ङ) राज्य पर्यावरण प्रभाव आकलन प्राधिकरणों या राज्य पर्यावरण मूल्यांकन समितियों या केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड या राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड या प्रदूषण नियंत्रण समितियों या शहरी स्थानीय निकायों (यूएलबी) की क्षमता निर्माण और सुदृढीकरण।</p> <p>(च) संविदा कर्मचारियों को वेतन और अन्य पारिश्रमिकों का भुगतान।</p> <p>(छ) सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी (आईटी) सक्षम प्रणालियों का विकास।</p> <p>(ज) विधि मंचों द्वारा निर्देशित अध्ययन किए।</p> <p>(झ) पर्यावरण क्लबों के माध्यम से जागरूकता पैदा करने से संबंधित परियोजनाएं।</p> <p>(ञ) लेखा परीक्षकों, सलाहकारों और अन्य पेशेवर सेवाओं के भुगतान सहित निधियों के प्रबंधन से संबंधित प्रशासनिक व्यय।</p> <p>(ट) पर्यावरण संरक्षण के लिए स्वच्छ प्रौद्योगिकी से संबंधित नवोन्मेषी प्रौद्योगिकी प्रदर्शन परियोजनाएं।</p> <p>(ठ) कोई अन्य उद्देश्य जिसे केंद्रीय सरकार पर्यावरण संरक्षण के लिए सुसंगत समझे।</p>	
	कुल	
4.	राज्य के सार्वजनिक खातों में वर्ष के अंत में उपलब्ध कुल समापन शेष (2-4):	

संबंधित राज्य/ संघ राज्यक्षेत्र विभाग की ओर से प्राधिकृत हस्ताक्षरकर्ता

प्ररूप III

31 मार्च 20... को वार्षिक रिपोर्ट का प्रारूप (केंद्रीय/राज्य/संघ राज्यक्षेत्र द्वारा भरा जाना है)

पिछले वित्तीय वर्ष के दौरान नियम 3 में उल्लिखित संबंधों का सही और पूर्ण विवरण देते हुए, पिछले वित्तीय वर्ष के लिए वार्षिक रिपोर्ट निम्नलिखित प्रारूप में प्रस्तुत की जानी चाहिए:

(राशि रुपये में)

क्र. स.	क्रियाकलाप	स्वीकृत राशि	खर्च की गई राशि	बचत/अतिरिक्त व्यय	क्रियान्वयन अभिकरण	कमी/बचत के कारण
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						

केंद्रीय सरकार/राज्य सरकार/संघ राज्यक्षेत्र के अधिकृत हस्ताक्षरकर्ता

[फा. सं. आईए-जेड-11013/20/2022-आईए-II(आईएनडी-I)]

नीलेश कुमार साह, संयुक्त सचिव

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 15th January, 2026

G.S.R. 35(E).— In exercise of the powers conferred by section 6 and section 25 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986), the Central Government in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India, hereby makes the following rules, namely:-

1. Short title and commencement. - (1) These rules may be called the Environmental (Protection) Fund Rules, 2026.

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their notification in the official Gazette.

2. Definitions. - (1) In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires, -

- “Act” means the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986);
- “Administrator” means the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change or any body as notified by the Central Government;
- “Competent Authority” means the Hon’ble Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change;
- “Form” means a Form appended to these rules;
- “Fund” means Environmental Protection Fund constituted in the Public Account of India under section 16 of the Act;
- “Schedule” means a Schedule annexed to these rules;
- “Year” means the financial year beginning on 1st April and ending on 31st March of the year immediately following.

(2) The words and expressions used in these rules and not defined, but defined in the Act, shall have the same meanings respectively as assigned to them in the Act.

3. Utilization of the amount of environmental protection fund. - (1) The fund shall be utilized for the following purposes, namely: -

- (a) installation, operation and maintenance of Environmental monitoring equipment for strengthening of environmental monitoring network;
- (b) development and upgradation of environmental laboratories including laboratory buildings and research infrastructure;
- (c) research relating to Clean Technologies;
- (d) assessment and remediation of environmental damages including remediation of contaminated sites;
- (e) capacity building and strengthening of State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, State Level Expert Appraisal Committee, Central Pollution Control Board, State Pollution Control Board, Pollution Control Committee, Commission for Air Quality Management and Urban Local Bodies;
- (f) development of Information Technology enabled systems and related equipment;
- (g) conducting studies as directed by various Courts and Tribunals;
- (h) projects related to awareness generation including through eco-clubs;
- (i) demonstration projects involving Innovative Technologies pertaining to environment protection;
- (j) measures for prevention, control and mitigation of Environmental Pollution;
- (k) administrative expenses (not exceeding five percent of the amount available in the fund in a financial year with the Central Government or State Government or Union territory Administration, as the case may be) relating to payment of salaries and other emoluments to the contractual staff and consultants deployed in the project management unit for administration of fund, necessary office equipment and furniture for the project management unit, payment of auditors and legal or other professional services:

Provided that till sufficient funds are accrued in the Environment Protection Fund, the administrative expenses shall be met through respective government budgets; and

(l) any other purpose as may be considered necessary by the Central Government as approved by the Competent Authority for the protection and betterment of environment.

(2) The fund used in sub-rule (1) shall not be used for the following, namely :-

- (a) payment of medical expenses;
- (b) undertaking foreign visits;
- (c) construction of buildings for officers and offices;
- (d) purchase of furniture, office equipment, vehicles, fixtures including air conditioners and generator sets for Government offices.

(3) The sanctioning authority for the Environmental Protection Fund shall be the Central Government or State Government or Union territory Administration for their shares of the fund, as the case may be.

4. Amount to be credited in the Environmental Protection Fund under Section 16 of the Act. - The following sums shall be credited to the Fund, namely: -

- (a) The amount of penalty imposed under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 (14 of 1981), Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 (06 of 1974) and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986);
- (b) Any other income, as per section 16(2) of the Act and approved by the Competent Authority, received in the Fund.

5. Manner for crediting in the environmental protection fund. - (1) The payment of penalty as imposed under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981(14 of 1981), the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 (06 of 1974), the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986) and any other amount shall be made in the Environmental Protection Fund through the online Bharatkosh portal of the Central Government by crediting into the Consolidated Fund of India (CFI) and thereafter transferred to the Public Account of India under the Environmental Protection Fund as per the approved accounting procedure.

(2) The Administrator shall remit 75% of the penalty collected in the Fund to the Consolidated Fund of the State of the concerned State and the Union territory, and 25% of the penalty shall be retained by the Centre.

(3) On receipt of the fund from the Administrator, the respective Department dealing with environment issues of each State or Union territory shall credit the amount in a reserve fund under the Public Accounts of the State. The amount credited in the reserve fund created by the respective Department dealing with environment issues of the States or Union territory shall only be utilized as prescribed under rule 3 above and section 16 of the Act.

6. Manner of administration of fund. - (1) The Environmental Protection Fund shall be monitored by a dedicated Project Management Unit that shall be created by the Central Government and the State Government or Union territory Administration, as the case may be.

(2) The Project Management Unit shall be headed by an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary to the Government of India or Secretary to the State Government, in a State and Union territory Administration as the case may be.

(3) The concerned Project Management Unit shall maintain the detailed accounts related to the disbursement of the Environmental Protection Fund.

(4) The concerned Project Management Unit shall maintain proper record of receipts.

(5) The concerned Project Management Unit comprising of legal and financial consultants shall assist the respective Department dealing with environment issues of the Administrator or the State or Union territory in all matters incidental and ancillary thereto pertaining to smooth administration of the Fund.

(6) The concerned Project Management Unit shall prepare the annual statement of accounts as per the Form II (a) for the Centre and Form II (b) for the respective State or Union territory and annual report as per Form III for the respective Central Government or State Government or Union territory Administration and submit to the Administrator.

(7) All payments to the Fund shall be submitted along with Form I to the Administrator.

(8) The State or Union territory at the end of every financial year shall submit details of the total funds received, its utilization, along with the balances available in the funds created by the respective States or Union territory, in the form of annual statement of accounts and annual report as per the format prescribed in Form II(b) and Form III annexed in these rules, respectively.

7. Annual statement of accounts and annual report. - (1) The concerned annual statement of accounts as per Form II(a) for the Centre and Form II(b) for the State or Union territory of the Environmental Protection Fund as prescribed under this rule shall be finalised by the Administrator for the Centre and the concerned Department of the respective State government or Union territory Administration.

(2) The Central Government shall finalise its annual report as per Form -III in relation to Environmental Protection Fund giving a full account of its activities defined under this act for each financial year, and shall be laid before each House of Parliament along with audit report given by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India. In case of State Government or Union territory Administration, the same process shall be replicated and the reports be laid before the respective State Legislatures.

(3) The State Government shall prepare its annual report as per Form -III in relation to Environmental Protection Fund giving a full account of its activities defined under this act for each financial year.

8. Audit of Fund. - (1) The accounts of the Fund shall be audited by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India at such intervals as may be specified by him and such audited accounts together with the audit report thereon shall be laid in the Parliament and State Legislature as the case may be.

(2) The Administrator in case of the Central Government and concerned Department of the respective State Government or Union territory Administration shall have the powers to conduct internal audit at regular intervals of the Fund.

9. Online portal. - Central Pollution Control Board shall develop and maintain an online portal for implementation of these rules, which shall be an exclusive interface between different authorities and stakeholders under these rules, once it becomes operational.

FORM I
FORMAT FOR MAKING PAYMENTS TO THE FUND

1. Name of the Party (In Block Letters):
2. Proof of identity furnished:

Note: Any of the following documents will be considered as a valid proof of identity namely;

Driving License, Service Identity Cards with photograph issued to employees by Central government or State Government or Public Sector Undertaking or Public Limited Company, Passbook with photograph issued by a Bank or Post Office, Permanent Account Number (PAN) Card, Smart Card issued by Registrar General of India under National Population Register, Gramin Rozgar Guarantee Card, Health Insurance Smart Card issued under the scheme of Ministry of Labour, Pension document with photograph, Official identity cards issued to Member of Parliaments or Member of Legislative Assemblies or Member of Legislative Councils, Voter Identity Document, Passport (including in case of a foreign national), masked Aadhaar Card, Tax Deduction and Collection Account Number (TAN) or Corporate Identification Number (CIN) in case of firm or company.

3. Identification number of the proof of identity:
4. Date of Birth/ Incorporation:
5. Gender:
6. Nationality:
7. Permanent Address:
 - (a) House/Property Number: _____
 - (b) Locality Village: _____
 - (c) District: _____
 - (d) City: _____
 - (e) State: _____
 - (f) Country: _____
 - (g) Pin Code/Postal or Zonal Code: _____
8. Correspondence Address:
 - (a) House/Property Number: _____
 - (b) Locality Village: _____
 - (c) District: _____
 - (d) City: _____
 - (e) State: _____
 - (f) Country: _____
 - (g) Pin Code/Postal or Zonal Code: _____
9. Occupation/Designation:
10. Office Address:
11. Telephone Number/Mobile Number:
12. Email Address:
13. Reason for making payment:
 - (i) Date of order:
 - (ii) Act(s) under which order is passed:
 - (iii) Rule under which order is passed:
 - (iv) Name of Adjudicating officer:
 - (v) Designation of Adjudicating Officer:
 - (vi) State where penalty is imposed:
 - (vii) Details of the non-compliance:
 - (a) Order of the Adjudicating Officer:
 - (b) Others:
 - (c) Additional Penalty (if any):

14. Total payment due :
15. Total payment due (In Words):
16. Financial year :
17. Major Head :
18. Minor Head :
19. Sub Head:
20. Object Head:
21. Amount (in Rs.) :
22. Amount (in words) :
23. Corporate Identification Number (CIN) :
24. Mode of Payment : Net Banking/ Bank Challan/ Credit Card/ Debit Card/ Unified Payments Interface (UPI)
25. Bank Name :
26. Bank Reference Number :
27. Date of Deposit :
28. Basic Statistical Return Code (BSR) code :
29. Challan No :
30. Tender Date :
31. Name of depositor (In Block Letters):
32. Contact details and phone no.:

Copy to:

1. Administrator
2. Concerned Adjudicating Officer (wherever applicable)
3. Concerned State Pollution Control Board/ Union territory Pollution Control Committees (wherever applicable)
4. Central Pollution Control Board

FORM II(a)
FORMAT FOR ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
(To be filled by Central Government)

Annual Statement of Accounts of Environmental Protection Fund
as on 31st March 20....

(Amount in Rs.)

S. No.	Particulars	Current Financial Year
1.	Opening Balance of funds at the beginning of the Year	
2.	Additions to the Fund (a) Penalty imposed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, (29 of 1986) (i) Centre (ii) State/Union territory (b) Penalty imposed under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 (14 of 1981), (i) Centre	

	(ii) State/ Union territory (c) Penalty imposed under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, (06 of 1974) (i) Centre (ii) State/ Union territory (d) Any other amount from such sources, as may be prescribed.	
TOTAL (1+2)		
3.	Disbursal of Funds (i) Andhra Pradesh, (ii) Arunachal Pradesh, (iii) Assam, (iv) Bihar, (v) Chhattisgarh, (vi) Goa, (vii) Gujarat, (viii) Haryana, (ix) Himachal Pradesh, (x) Jharkhand, (xi) Karnataka, (xii) Kerala, (xiii) Madhya Pradesh, (xiv) Maharashtra, (xv) Manipur, (xvi) Meghalaya, (xvii) Mizoram, (xviii) Nagaland, (xix) Odisha, (xx) Punjab, (xxi) Rajasthan, (xxii) Sikkim, (xxiii) Tamil Nadu, (xxiv) Telangana, (xxv) Tripura, (xxvi) Uttar Pradesh, (xxvii) Uttarakhand, (xxviii) West Bengal (xxix) Andaman and Nicobar Islands, (xxx) Chandigarh, (xxxi) Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, (xxxii) Delhi, (xxxiii) Jammu and Kashmir, (xxxiv) Ladakh, (xxxv) Lakshadweep, and (xxxvi) Puducherry.	
TOTAL		
4.	Funds allocated to Centre in the Public Accounts of India (1+2-3)	
5.	Opening Balance of funds in the Public Accounts of India at the beginning of the Year	
6.	Utilisation of Funds by Central Government: (a) Installation of Continuous Water Quality Monitoring Stations, Continuous and Manual Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations and Ambient Noise Monitoring Stations for strengthening of existing environmental monitoring network. (b) Development of New or Upgradation of Environmental Laboratories, as per requirement. (c) Preparation of Research and Development documents on Industrial Sectors and Clean Technology. (d) Assessment of Environmental Damages, preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) and Remediation of Contaminated Sites. (e) Capacity Building and Strengthening of State Environment Impact Assessment Authorities or State Environment Appraisal Committees or Central Pollution Control Board or State Pollution Control Boards or Pollution Control Committees or Urban Local Bodies (ULBs).	

	(f) Payment of Salaries and other emoluments to the Contractual staff. (g) Development of Information Technology (IT) enabled systems. (h) Conducted studies as directed by forums of law. (i) Projects related to awareness generation including through eco-clubs. (j) Administrative expenses relating to management of funds including payment of auditors, consultants and other professional services. (k) Innovative Technology demonstration projects pertaining to Clean Technology for environment protection. (l) Any other purpose as may be considered by the Central Government to be relevant for the protection of environment.			
TOTAL				
7.	Total Closing balance available at the end of the year in the Public Accounts of India (5-6):			
8.	Total Closing balance available at the end of the year with the Centre:			

Authorised Signatory of the Administrator

FORM II(b)
FORMAT FOR ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
(To be submitted by each State/Union territory)
Annual Statement of Accounts of Environmental Protection Fund
as on 31st March 20....

S.No.	Particulars	Amount (in Rs.)	
		Current	Financial Year
1.	Opening Balance of funds at the Beginning of the Year		
2.	Allocation of Fund by the Centre (a) Penalty imposed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, (29 of 1986), (b) Penalty imposed under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 (14 of 1981), (c) Penalty imposed under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, (06 of 1974).		
3.	Utilization of Funds by State Government/ Union territory (a) Installation of Continuous Water Quality Monitoring Stations, Continuous & Manual Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations and Ambient Noise Monitoring Stations for strengthening of existing environmental monitoring network. (b) Development of New or Upgradation of Environmental Laboratories, as per requirement. (c) Preparation of Research and Development documents on Industrial Sectors or Clean Technology. (d) Assessment of Environmental Damages, preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) and Remediation of Contaminated Sites. (e) Capacity Building and Strengthening of State Environment Impact Assessment Authorities or State Environment Appraisal Committees or Central Pollution Control Board or State Pollution Control Boards or Pollution Control Committees or Urban Local Bodies (ULBs). (f) Payment of Salaries and other emoluments to the Contractual staff. (g) Development of Information Technology (IT) enabled systems. (h) Conducted studies as directed by forums of law. (i) Projects related to awareness generation including through eco-clubs. (j) Administrative expenses relating to management of funds including payment of auditors, consultants and other professional services. (k) Innovative Technology demonstration projects pertaining to Clean Technology for environment protection.		

	(l) Any other purpose as may be considered by the Central Government to be relevant for the protection of environment.	
TOTAL		
4.	Total Closing balance available at the end of the year in the Public Accounts of State (2-4):	

Authorized Signatory on behalf of concerned Department of State/ Union territory

FORM III
FORMAT FOR ANNUAL REPORT (to be filled by Centre/State/ Union territory)
Annual Report
as on 31st March 20....

The annual report in respect of the year last ended giving a true and full account of the activities as mentioned at Rule 3 during the previous financial year in the format below:

(Amount in Rs.)

S. No.	Activity	Amount sanctioned	Amount spent	Saving/Excess expenditure	Implementing Agency	Reasons for shortfall/savings
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						

**Authorized Signatory of the
Central Government/ State/ Union territory**

[F. No. IA-Z-11013/20/2022-IA-II(IND-I)]

NEELESH KUMAR SAH, Jt. Secy.

List of 24 ongoing activities permitted under Hon'ble NGT directions in OA No. 101/2019 & also eligible for consideration under Environment Protection Fund Rules, 2026. (as on 28.02.2025)

S. No.	Title of ongoing Projects	Scope of activities specified & approved in the NGT Orders dated 22-01-2019 in the matter of OA no 101/2019 (as per guidelines)	Tentative Scope of activities specified for the Utilization of the amount of environmental protection fund	Date of start of project	Amount Sanctioned (Lakhs)	Amount released (Lakhs)	Committed Expenditure (Lakhs)
1	Bioremediation of contaminated soils and surface water bodies and ground water (aquifer) of the De-sludged and refilled Lagoon of Distillery Spent wash of M/s Godavari Bio-refineries Ltd. at Sakarwadi, Maharashtra	2a(ii) Remediation of contaminated sites and for that to develop infrastructure, procurement of equipment, etc. including hiring of Experts/Consultants for specific requirement for remediation of sites, etc	3(d) Assessment and remediation of environmental damages including remediation of contaminated sites;	Sep 2017	16.95	6.78	10.17
2	Environmental and health studies in Malegaon in pursuant to Hon'ble NGT matter in OA No. 359 of 2019-PB	2a(iii) Specific investigations and studies with regard to environment and ecology.	3(g) Conducting studies as directed by various Courts and Tribunals;	June 2020	59	35.4	23.6
3	Restoration plan for environment, public health and ground water around Panipat refinery	2a(ii) Remediation of contaminated sites and for that to develop infrastructure, procurement of equipment, etc. including hiring of Experts/Consultants for specific requirement for remediation of sites, etc	3(d) Assessment and remediation of environmental damages including remediation of contaminated sites;	Nov 2021	4251	780	3471
4	Restoration of Phuldera drain	2a(ii) Remediation of contaminated sites and for that to develop infrastructure, procurement of equipment, etc. including hiring of Experts/Consultants for specific	3(d) Assessment and remediation of environmental damages including remediation of contaminated sites;	May 2021	125	62.5	62.5

		requirement for remediation of sites, etc					
5	Source Apportionment / Carrying Capacity study for 25 Non-Attainment Cities (NACs)	2a(iii) Specific investigations and studies with regard to environment and ecology.	3(l) Any other purpose as may be considered necessary by the Central Government as approved by the Competent Authority for the protection and betterment of environment.	June 2021	1417.18	600.5	816.68
6	Implementation of centralized barcode system for tracking of biomedical waste	2a(xi) Any other scientific and technical matter which may arise as a contingent matter.	3(f) Development of Information Technology enabled systems and related equipment;	Jan 2023	160.9	16.09	144.81
7	Strengthening and upgradation of laboratories of CPCB	2a(vii) Augmenting and strengthening of laboratory network in terms of manpower and logistics.	3(b) Development and upgradation of environmental laboratories including laboratory buildings and research infrastructure;	Oct 2019	8136.67	1263.2	6873.47
8	Strengthening & upgradation of laboratory of CPCB Regional Directorate Vadodara	2a(vii) Augmenting and strengthening of laboratory network in terms of manpower and logistics.	3(b) Development and upgradation of environmental laboratories including laboratory buildings and research infrastructure;	Aug 2022	300	0	300
9	IT enabled Laboratories–laboratory information management system	2a(vii) Augmenting and strengthening of laboratory network in terms of manpower and logistics.	3(f) Development of Information Technology enabled systems and related equipment;	Nov 2020	313	234.36	78.64
10	Review of National Ambient Air Quality Standards	2a(xi) Any other scientific and technical matter which may arise as a contingent matter.	3(l) Any other purpose as may be considered necessary by the Central Government as approved by the Competent Authority for the protection and betterment of environment.	June 2021	24.662	19.646	5.016
11	Machine learning and Artificial Intelligence (AI) tool development for analysis of air quality data	2a(i) Development of infrastructure for Air and Water quality surveillance and monitoring for different areas/locations in Delhi NCR and	3(a) installation, operation and maintenance of Environmental monitoring equipment for strengthening of environmental monitoring network;	Aug 2021	59.45	23.78	35.67

		other needed places.					
12	Satellite based ambient air quality monitoring at national scale (SAANS)	2a(i) Development of infrastructure for Air and Water quality surveillance and monitoring for different areas/locations in Delhi NCR and other needed places.	3(a) installation, operation and maintenance of Environmental monitoring equipment for strengthening of environmental monitoring network;	Jan 2022	140.06	40.04	100.02
13	Noise Mapping, Hot Spot Identification and Mitigation Plan for Noise Pollution Control in Delhi	2a(iii) Specific investigations and studies with regard to environment and ecology.	3(l) Any other purpose as may be considered necessary by the Central Government as approved by the Competent Authority for the protection and betterment of environment.	Dec 2021	112.37	33.71	78.66
14	Development of National Hazardous Waste Tracking (NHWTS) Software	2a(xi) Any other scientific and technical matter which may arise as a contingent matter.	3(f) Development of Information Technology enabled systems and related equipment;	Aug 2019	200	0	200
15	Random verification of annual inventory report on hazardous waste management submitted by SPCBs/PCCs	2a(iv) Carrying capacity assessment for ecologically and environmentally sensitive & critical areas, including hiring of Experts/Consultants for specific purpose and period.	3(l) Any other purpose as may be considered necessary by the Central Government as approved by the Competent Authority for the protection and betterment of environment.	Aug 2020	200	130	40
16	Design, Development & Implementation of OCEMS* Data Acquisition and Management System (ODAMS) for direct data transfer for the Control of Pollution from Industries in India	2a(i) Development of infrastructure for Air and Water quality surveillance and monitoring for different areas/locations in Delhi NCR and other needed places.	3(f) Development of Information Technology enabled systems and related equipment;	Feb 2021	522	48.4	473.6
17	Development of comprehensive Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) & Circular Economy Portal	2a(xi) Any other scientific and technical matter which may arise as a contingent matter.	3(f) Development of Information Technology enabled systems and related equipment;	Jan 2022	300	14.27	285.73

18	Capacity building of scientists and officials through development of e-learning module under Mission Karamyogi	2a(x) Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities.	3(e) Capacity building and strengthening of State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, State Level Expert Appraisal Committee, Central Pollution Control Board, State Pollution Control Board, Pollution Control Committee, Commission for Air Quality Management and Urban Local Bodies;	Aug 2022	371	2.36	368.64
19	Inventorization of salt generated from Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) of Textile & Tannery sector and status of management in the state of Tamil Nadu	2a(iii) Specific investigations and studies with regard to environment and ecology.	3(l) Any other purpose as may be considered necessary by the Central Government as approved by the Competent Authority for the protection and betterment of environment.	Jan 2020	12	6	2.5
20	Status of Secured Land-Fills (SLF) maintained by individual industries and CETPs in Tamil Nadu and assessment of ground water quality around SLF	2a(iii) Specific investigations and studies with regard to environment and ecology.	3(l) any other purpose as may be considered necessary by the Central Government as approved by the Competent Authority for the protection and betterment of environment.	Jan 2020	6	3	3
21	Value added use of Bottom Ash of thermal power plant as partial replacement of natural sand in concrete	2a(v) R & D activities with regard to new technologies, clean technologies, etc.	3(c) Research relating to Clean Technologies;	Jan 2024	16.8	11.76	5.04
22	Scientific study to review the deep sea discharge norm at Kantiajal, Gujarat with respect to increase in concentration of COD in discharge effluent	2a(iii) Specific investigations and studies with regard to environment and ecology.	3(l) any other purpose as may be considered necessary by the Central Government as approved by the Competent Authority for the protection and betterment of environment.	Jan 2023	197	157.6	39.4
23	Setting up of Continuous	2a(i) Development of	3(a) installation, operation and	Aug 2023	510	0	510

	Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) in Charkhi Dadri and Mohendergarh in Haryana	infrastructure for Air and Water quality surveillance and monitoring for different areas/locations in Delhi NCR and other needed places.	maintenance of Environmental monitoring equipment for strengthening of environmental monitoring network;				
24	Sampling & analysis charges, purchase of equipment/consumables, etc. for NGT assignments conducted by Regional Directorates of CPCB	2a(vii) Augmenting and strengthening of laboratory network in terms of manpower and logistics.	3(b) Development and upgradation of environmental laboratories including laboratory buildings and research infrastructure;	--	As per the requirement	126.5	--