

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL WESTERN
ZONE BENCH, PUNE**

Original Application No. 34/2024(WZ)

**NEWS ITEM TITLED PUNE FACES RISING CONCERNS
OVER INCREASED GARBAGE BURNING AND POOR AIR
QUALITY APPEARING IN PUNEKAR NEWS DATED
27.12.2023**

VS.

MPCB & Ors.

**Report filed on behalf of Respondent No. 3 Pune Municipal
Corporation (PMC) as per the directions of Hon'ble Tribunal
Principal Bench vide its order dated 25/01/2024**

1. Pune city with its large geographical area covering 516 sq km and a huge population of over 6 million has witnessed rapid urbanization and exponential growth in population over past few decades. The rapid urbanization has resulted in multitude

of urban challenges like mobility/public transport, affordable housing, air quality, drinking water supply, sewage treatment, solid waste management etc. Pune has been facing significant air quality issues over the past few years. The rapid industrialization and urbanization of the city contribute towards deteriorating air quality. The major causes of poor air quality in Pune include vehicular emissions, construction dust, industrial emissions, and others. The rise in air pollution levels poses a significant threat to the health of its residents and the environment.

2. The news item dated 27/12/23 and titled 'Pune facing rising concerns over increased garbage burning and poor air quality' appeared in *Punekar News* have highlighted the isolated incidents of garbage burning issues in few areas of the city during months of November and December, 2023. The article has mentioned the rising incidents of garbage burning in these two months and its contribution in rising air pollution leading to Air Quality Index (AQI) dip of the city in poor category.

The rising air pollution has very adverse impact on respiratory health of citizens.

3. Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) attaches significant importance to the issue of air pollution and has undertaken several initiatives to address air pollution and improve Pune's overall air quality. The Solid Waste Management (SWM) Department has formulated key strategies and implementing them across the wards for controlling incidents of garbage burning and other activities contributing to rising air pollution in the city. The garbage burning incidents are isolated cases and not rampant and frequent in nature. Following are some of the important steps being taken by dept:

a. Pune city has robust arrangements for door to door collection of municipal solid waste with almost 100% coverage and 100% source segregation. The waste pickers cooperative SWACH has been appointed by PMC for door to door collection of waste from residential, slums and commercial areas. There are around 3800 waste pickers engaged in door-

to-door waste collection daily in the city. Each waste picker is allotted 200 to 250 Households.

- b. The total daily waste generation for the city is around 2200 TPD which comprises of around 1200 TPD dry waste and approx. 1000 TPD wet waste. PMC operates various dry and wet waste processing facilities with the designed capacity of more than 2400 TPD. All processing plants operates as per SWM and MPCB guidelines and their contribution to air pollution is very minimal.
- c. SWM dept, PMC has more than 750 vehicles fleet for collection and transportation of municipal solid waste from feeder points to processing plants. This large fleet of different categories (Small bell truck, large bell truck, compactors, BRC etc.) is adequate for meeting the daily requirements of waste transportation in the city.

- d. The SWM department has prepared a strategy and roadmap for elimination of Garbage vulnerable points (GVP)/Chronic spots across the city and it is being implemented at the ward and kothi level. The daily reporting of chronic spots monitoring is being done and reclaimed spot is being beautified.
- e. PMC operates fleet of more than 15 mechanized road sweepers across five zones in the city for maintaining cleanliness of main 4 lane roads network using vacuum sweeping technology and hydraulic cleaning by water spraying. Each road sweeper vehicle has an attached tipper vehicle and a group of labourers for cleaning of side footpath, dividers, medians and overall route areas. This helps in significantly minimizing the air pollution due to vehicular and construction dust particles.
- f. PMC employs more than 8,000 sweepers across more than 250 kothis in the city. Each street sweeper has a dedicated

sweeping beat which is cleaned everyday in the morning shift.

This significantly reduces the air pollution due to dust particulate.

g. SWM Department, PMC has issued a notification for spot fine and penalty amount for violating the SWM Rules, 2016.

Under the notification, the penalty for garbage burning is Rs 500 for every incident. Ward wise daily reports are

maintained for various offences as per spot fine notification for penalties collected from offenders.

h. SWM department has formed monitoring squads across 15 ward offices and 42 prabhags consisting of ward officials i.e.

DSI, Sanitary Inspector (SI) and Mokadams for spotting and preventing the open burning of garbage at any place. The

monitoring squad has been authorised to collect penalty under

the spot fine notification.

- i. To minimize pollution due to construction waste, PMC operates a Construction & Demolition (C&D) Waste processing plant of 250 TPD capacity and has designated C&D waste collection points across all wards with dedicated vehicles.

- j. Public awareness and IEC campaigns for mass awareness among citizens for discouraging open burning of garbage and sustainable waste management solutions.

In view of the above, SWM dept, PMC is focusing on reported garbage burning cases for preventing such incidents in future and taking steps to improve air quality.

PUNE

DATE: 27/02/2024



Kelkhaty
CSJ **SANDIP KADAM**
Deputy Commissioner
Solid Waste Management
Pune Municipal Corporation
RESPONDENT NO. 3

**THE SOLID WASTE
MANAGEMENT RULES,
2016**

(as amended to date)

SAUNDIP KADAM
Deputy Commissioner
Solid Waste Management
Pune Municipal Corporation



- (a) co-ordinate with the State Pollution Control Boards and the Pollution Control Committees for implementation of these rules and adherence to the prescribed standards by local authorities;
- (b) formulate the standards for ground water, ambient air, noise pollution, leachate in respect of all solid waste processing and disposal facilities;
- (c) review environmental standards and norms prescribed for solid waste processing facilities or treatment technologies and update them as and when required;
- (d) review through State Pollution Control Boards or Pollution Control Committees, at least once in a year, the implementation of prescribed environmental standards for solid waste processing facilities or treatment technologies and compile the data monitored by them;
- (e) review the proposals of State Pollution Control Boards or Pollution Control Committees on use of any new technologies for processing, recycling and treatment of solid waste and prescribe performance standards, emission norms for the same within 6 months;
- (f) monitor through State Pollution Control Boards or Pollution Control Committees the implementation of these rules by local bodies;
- (g) prepare an annual report on implementation of these rules on the basis of reports received from State Pollution Control Boards and Committees and submit to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and the report shall also be put in public domain;
- (h) publish guidelines for maintaining buffer zone restricting any residential, commercial or any other construction activity from the outer boundary of the waste processing and disposal facilities for different sizes of facilities handling more than five tons per day of solid waste;
- (i) publish guidelines, from time to time, on environmental aspects of processing and disposal of solid waste to enable local bodies to comply with the provisions of these rules; and
- (j) provide guidance to States or Union territories on inter-state movement of waste.

15. Duties and responsibilities of local authorities and village Panchayats of census towns and urban agglomerations.- The local authorities and Panchayats shall,-

- (a) prepare a solid waste management plan as per state policy and strategy on solid waste management within six months from the date of notification of state policy and strategy and submit a copy to respective departments of State Government or Union territory Administration or agency authorised by the State Government or Union territory Administration;
- (b) arrange for door to door collection of segregated solid waste from all households including slums and informal settlements, commercial, institutional and other non residential premises. From multi-storage buildings, large commercial complexes, malls, housing complexes, etc., this may be collected from the entry gate or any other designated location;
- (c) establish a system to recognise organisations of waste pickers or informal waste collectors and promote and establish a system for integration of these authorised waste-pickers and waste collectors to facilitate their participation in solid waste management including door to door collection of waste;
- (d) facilitate formation of Self Help Groups, provide identity cards and thereafter encourage integration in solid waste management including door to door collection of waste;
- (e) frame bye-laws incorporating the provisions of these rules within one year from the date of notification of these rules and ensure timely implementation;
- (f) prescribe from time to time user fee as deemed appropriate and collect the fee from the waste generators on its own or through authorised agency;
- (g) direct waste generators not to litter i.e throw or dispose of any waste such as paper, water bottles, liquor bottles, soft drink canes, tetra packs, fruit peel, wrappers, etc., or burn or burry waste on streets, open public spaces, drains, waste bodies and to segregate the waste at source as prescribed under these rules and hand over the segregated waste to authorised the waste pickers or waste collectors authorised by the local body;
- (h) setup material recovery facilities or secondary storage facilities with sufficient space for sorting of recyclable materials to enable informal or authorised waste pickers and waste collectors to separate recyclables from the waste and provide easy access to waste pickers and recyclers for collection of segregated recyclable waste such as paper, plastic, metal, glass, textile from the source of generation or from material recovery facilities; Bins for storage of bio-degradable wastes shall be painted green, those for storage of recyclable wastes shall be printed white and those for storage of other wastes shall be printed black;

- (i) establish waste deposition centres for domestic hazardous waste and give direction for waste generators to deposit domestic hazardous wastes at this centre for its safe disposal. Such facility shall be established in a city or town in a manner that one centre is set up for the area of twenty square kilometers or part thereof and notify the timings of receiving domestic hazardous waste at such centres;
- (j) ensure safe storage and transportation of the domestic hazardous waste to the hazardous waste disposal facility or as may be directed by the State Pollution Control Board or the Pollution Control Committee;
- (k) direct street sweepers not to burn tree leaves collected from street sweeping and store them separately and handover to the waste collectors or agency authorised by local body;
- (l) provide training on solid waste management to waste-pickers and waste collectors;
- (m) collect waste from vegetable, fruit, flower, meat, poultry and fish market on day to day basis and promote setting up of decentralised compost plant or bio-methanation plant at suitable locations in the markets or in the vicinity of markets ensuring hygienic conditions;
- (n) collect separately waste from sweeping of streets, lanes and by-lanes daily, or on alternate days or twice a week depending on the density of population, commercial activity and local situation;
- (o) set up covered secondary storage facility for temporary storage of street sweepings and silt removed from surface drains in cases where direct collection of such waste into transport vehicles is not convenient. Waste so collected shall be collected and disposed of at regular intervals as decided by the local body;
- (p) collect horticulture, parks and garden waste separately and process in the parks and gardens, as far as possible;
- (q) transport segregated bio-degradable waste to the processing facilities like compost plant, bio-methanation plant or any such facility. Preference shall be given for on site processing of such waste;
- (r) transport non-bio-degradable waste to the respective processing facility or material recovery facilities or secondary storage facility;
- (s) transport construction and demolition waste as per the provisions of the Construction and Demolition Waste management Rules, 2016;
- (t) involve communities in waste management and promotion of home composting, bio-gas generation, decentralised processing of waste at community level subject to control of odour and maintenance of hygienic conditions around the facility;
- (u) phase out the use of chemical fertilizer in two years and use compost in all parks, gardens maintained by the local body and wherever possible in other places under its jurisdiction. Incentives may be provided to recycling initiatives by informal waste recycling sector.
- (v) facilitate construction, operation and maintenance of solid waste processing facilities and associated infrastructure on their own or with private sector participation or through any agency for optimum utilisation of various components of solid waste adopting suitable technology including the following technologies and adhering to the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Urban Development from time to time and standards prescribed by the Central Pollution Control Board. Preference shall be given to decentralised processing to minimize transportation cost and environmental impacts such as-
- a) bio-methanation, microbial composting, vermi-composting, anaerobic digestion or any other appropriate processing for bio-stabilisation of biodegradable wastes;
 - b) waste to energy processes including refused derived fuel for combustible fraction of waste or supply as feedstock to solid waste based power plants or cement kilns;
- (w) undertake on their own or through any other agency construction, operation and maintenance of sanitary landfill and associated infrastructure as per Schedule 1 for disposal of residual wastes in a manner prescribed under these rules;
- (x) make adequate provision of funds for capital investments as well as operation and maintenance of solid waste management services in the annual budget ensuring that funds for discretionary functions of the local body have been allocated only after meeting the requirement of necessary funds for solid waste management and other obligatory functions of the local body as per these rules;
- (y) make an application in Form-I for grant of authorisation for setting up waste processing, treatment or disposal facility, if the volume of waste is exceeding five metric tones per day including sanitary landfills from the State Pollution Control Board or the Pollution Control Committee, as the case may be;
- (z) submit application for renewal of authorisation at least sixty days before the expiry of the validity of authorisation;

- (za) prepare and submit annual report in Form IV on or before the 30th April of the succeeding year to the Commissioner or Director, Municipal Administration or designated Officer;
- (zb) the annual report shall then be sent to the Secretary -in-Charge of the State Urban Development Department or village panchayat or rural development department and to the respective State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee by the 31st May of every year;
- (zc) educate workers including contract workers and supervisors for door to door collection of segregated waste and transporting the unmixed waste during primary and secondary transportation to processing or disposal facility;
- (zd) ensure that the operator of a facility provides personal protection equipment including uniform, fluorescent jacket, hand gloves, raincoats, appropriate foot wear and masks to all workers handling solid waste and the same are used by the workforce;
- (ze) ensure that provisions for setting up of centers for collection, segregation and storage of segregated wastes, are incorporated in building plan while granting approval of building plan of a group housing society or market complex; and
- (zf) frame bye-laws and prescribe criteria for levying of spot fine for persons who litters or fails to comply with the provisions of these rules and delegate powers to officers or local bodies to levy spot fines as per the bye laws framed; and
- (zg) create public awareness through information, education and communication campaign and educate the waste generators on the following; namely:-
- (i) not to litter;
 - (ii) minimise generation of waste;
 - (iii) reuse the waste to the extent possible;
 - (iv) practice segregation of waste into bio-degradable, non-biodegradable (recyclable and combustible), sanitary waste and domestic hazardous wastes at source;
 - (v) practice home composting, vermi-composting, bio-gas generation or community level composting;
 - (vi) wrap securely used sanitary waste as and when generated in the pouches provided by the brand owners or a suitable wrapping as prescribed by the local body and place the same in the bin meant for non-biodegradable waste;
 - (vii) storage of segregated waste at source in different bins;
 - (viii) handover segregated waste to waste pickers, waste collectors, recyclers or waste collection agencies; and
 - (ix) pay monthly user fee or charges to waste collectors or local bodies or any other person authorised by the local body for sustainability of solid waste management.
- (zh) stop land filling or dumping of mixed waste soon after the timeline as specified in rule 23 for setting up and operationalisation of sanitary landfill is over;
- (zi) allow only the non-usable, non-recyclable, non-biodegradable, non-combustible and non-reactive inert waste and pre-processing rejects and residues from waste processing facilities to go to sanitary landfill and the sanitary landfill sites shall meet the specifications as given in Schedule-I, however, every effort shall be made to recycle or reuse the rejects to achieve the desired objective of zero waste going to landfill;
- (zj) investigate and analyse all old open dumpsites and existing operational dumpsites for their potential of bio-mining and bio-remediation and wheresoever feasible, take necessary actions to bio-mine or bio-remediate the sites;
- (zk) in absence of the potential of bio-mining and bio-remediation of dumpsite, it shall be scientifically capped as per landfill capping norms to prevent further damage to the environment.

16. Duties of State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee.- (1) The State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee shall,-

- (a) enforce these rules in their State through local bodies in their respective jurisdiction and review implementation of these rules at least twice a year in close coordination with concerned Directorate of Municipal Administration or Secretary-in-charge of State Urban Development Department;
- (b) monitor environmental standards and adherence to conditions as specified under the Schedule I and Schedule II for waste processing and disposal sites;
- (c) examine the proposal for authorisation and make such inquiries as deemed fit, after the receipt of the application for the same in Form I from the local body or any other agency authorised by the local body;

१ जानेवारी २०२३ ते २० फेब्रुवारी २०२४ पर्यंत सार्वजनिक ठिकाणी कचरा जाळणे सर्व क्षेत्रीय कार्यालयकडून करण्यात आलेल्या टोडाल्मक कारवाईची माहिती खालीलप्रमाणे

क्र	क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय	जानेवारी २३		फेब्रुवारी २३		मार्च २३		एप्रिल २३		मे २३		जून २३		जुलै २३		ऑगस्ट २३		सप्टेंबर २३		ऑक्टोबर २३		नोव्हेंबर २३		डिसेंबर २३		जानेवारी २४		फेब्रुवारी २४		एकूण			
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1	नगर रोड वडगाव शेरी	2	2500	2	1500	0	0	2	10000	1	500	0	0	5	2500	1	500	42	21000	58	29500	133	66500	186	94000	47	23500	480	252500				
1	सेरुडा कळस धानोरी	3	1500	11	5500	0	0	0	0	6	3000	5	2500	12	6000	8	4000	32	16000	11	5500	50	25000	26	13000	1	500	172	96000				
1	दोले पाटील रोड	0	0	1	500	3	1500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1500	5	2500	2	1000	3	1500	0	0	0	0	25	12500				
	ओप बाणेर	1	1000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	500	2	1000	3	1500	4	4500	3	2000	14	11500				
	पोलेरोड शिवाजीनगर	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	कोपरुड बावण	3	3000	12	6000	8	4000	15	7500	1	500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	धनकवडी सहकारनगर	4	2000	0	0	5	2500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	सिर्गाड रोड	0	0	1	500	5	2500	3	1500	1	500	1	500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	बायले कर्वेनगर	6	3500	7	3500	2	1000	4	2000	0	0	1	500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	हडपसर	10	5000	8	4000	7	3500	2	1000	4	2000	0	0	1	500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	भानवडी रामटेकडी	5	2500	13	6500	6	3000	20	10000	7	3500	8	4000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	कोटवा भेटलेवाडी	5	5000	7	3500	8	4000	6	3000	6	3000	10	5000	11	5500	11	5500	17	8500	16	8000	23	11500	32	16500	4	2000	151	87500				
	कसबा विधानवाडा	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	भवानीपेट	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	शिववाडी	5	1900	0	0	0	0	2	1200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	एकूण	48	27900	86	44500	55	30000	55	37700	32	20500	33	30000	32	16500	23	11500	25	18000	166	87500	166	87500	154	80000	554	297000	306	183500	85	50000	1654	942600

2-2-23