

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
Principal Bench, New Delhi
In
Original Application No. 568/2019**

In the Matter of: -

**James Jose, Managing Director, CGR
Hallmarkers Pvt. Ltd.**

Applicant(s)

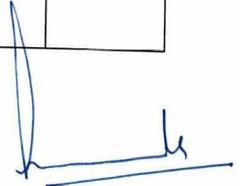
Vs.

Government of India & Ors.

Respondent(s)

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(S.K. Gupta)

Scientist 'E'

Central Pollution Control Board
Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar
Delhi-110032

Place: Delhi

Date: 04.11.2020

Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi

Consolidated Report in the matter OA No. 568/2019: James Jose, Managing Director, CGR Hallmarkers Pvt. Ltd., Ernakulam, Kerala

Guidelines for "Gold Assaying and Hallmarking Centres" in compliance of NGT order dated 18.11.2019

1.0 Background

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Principal Bench, New Delhi, issued the following order to CPCB on 18.11.2019 in the matter of. **OA No. 568/2019: James Jose, Managing Director, CGR Hallmarkers Pvt. Ltd., Ernakulam, Kerala (Annexure-I):**

"... CPCB need to update the existing guidelines on the subject so that environmental norms are met in the process. The updated guidelines may be notified to all the SPCBs/ PCCs within one month and compliance may be duly monitored thereafter. The compliance report may be furnished by all SPCBs/ PCCs. The CPCB may furnish consolidated report before next date of hearing. It is made clear that in case of non-compliance at any level, this tribunal may have to take coercive measures including imposition of environmental compensation on the concerned regulatory authority."

2.0 Action taken by CPCB

- i. CPCB formulated the "**Guidelines for Gold Assaying Hallmarking Centres**" in consultation with constituted Expert Group comprising of representatives of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Shri N.K.Verma, Ex -Additional Director, and CPCB, Delhi. The guidelines were also consulted with Indian Association of Hallmarking Centres through video conferencing. The copy of Guidelines for Gold Assaying & Hallmarking Centres is attached at **Annexure-II**.
- ii. The Guidelines were uploaded on CPCB website with link:
<https://cpcb.nic.in/openpdffile.php?id=TGF0ZXN0RmlsZS9fMTYwMzM1MzE0M19tZWVpYXBob3RvNTM2OC5wZGY=>
- iii. The Guidelines were circulated to all the SPCBs/PCCs vide CPCB letter dated 09.10.2020 for their implementation and to provide the Status of Compliance . The Copy of CPCB letter dated 09.10.2020 is attached at **Annexure-III**.

3.0 Consolidated Report of Status of Compliance by SPCBs/PCCs:

The compliance status report of implementation of Gold Assaying Hallmarking Centres received from following 22 SPCBs/PCCs.

Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Odisha, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Chandigarh, Delhi & Puducherry

- i. The summary of compliance status as submitted by these 22 SPCBs/PCCs, are compiled and given in **Table 1**.
- ii. The overall observations/findings of the compliance status report as submitted by 22 SPCBs/PCCs are as follow:
 - a. Guidelines have been uploaded by SPCBs/PCCs on their websites. Mizoram SPCB had though uploaded the environmental guidelines on their website, but intimated that there are no Gold Assaying and Hallmarking Centes in the state. Chandigarh PCC have not uploaded the guidelines on their website but it is intimated that all the Gold Assaying & Halmarking centres exist in the U.T. have been directed to apply for the consents.
 - b. SPCBs/PCCs have either sent communications to their Regional offices for implementation of the Guidelines or issued notices to Gold Assaying & Hallmarking Centres to submit the compliance of the Guidelines.
 - c. Jammu & Kashmir SPCB has published public notice in the newspaper for obtaining CTE/CTO by Gold Assaying & Hallmarking Centres under Water Act, 1974 & Air Act, 1981.
 - d. CPCB is pursuing with the remainng SPCBs/PCCs to submit the implementation status of Guidelines in their states/UTs.

Status of Implementation of “Guidelines for Gold Assaying and Hallmarking Centres ”

Sl. No.	SPCBs/PCCs	Status of uploading of Guidelines on SPCBs/PCCs website	Communication sent by SPCBs/PCCs to their Regional Offices And/ Or Notices/direction issued by SPCBs/PCCs to Gold Assaying & Hallmarking Centres And/ Or Public notices issued in newspaper by SPCBs/PCCs for implementation of Guidelines
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	Communication sent by Andhra SPCB to all their Regional Offices for ensuring compliance of the Guidelines by Gold Assaying & Hallmarking Units and directed them to obtain consent under Water & Air Act. There are 46 nos of Gold Assaying & Hallmarking Centres the State of Andhra Pradesh.
2.	Bihar	Uploaded on the Bihar SPCB website	Bihar SPCB has issued notices on 16.10.2020 to all Hallmarking Centres in the state to follow the Guidelines and report compliance within 21 days. There are 26 nos of Gold Assaying & Hallmarking Centres the State of Bihar.
3.	Chhattisgarh	Uploaded on the website of Chattisgarh Environmental Conservation Board	-
4.	Goa	Uploaded on the Goa SPCB website	There are 02 nos of Gold Assaying & Hallmarking Centres the State of Goa. Show cause notices issued by SPCBs to the units operating without consent. SPCB has asked these units to submit the compliance of the Guidelines.
5	Gujarat	Uploaded on the Gujarat SPCB website	Communication sent by Gujarat SPCB to all their Regional Offices for ensuring of compliance of Guidelines by Gold Assaying & Hallmarking Centres.
6.	Haryana	Uploaded on Haryana SPCB website	Communication sent by HSPCB to their Regional Offices on 22.10.2020 for ensuring implementation of Guidelines by Hallmarking Centres. Public notice issued in the daily National Newspaper for all stakeholders to comply with Guidelines.

7.	Jammu & Kashmir	Uploaded on the Jammu & Kashmir SPCB website	J &K SPCB has sent communications to all Hallmarking Centres & Sarafa Association for implementation of Guidelines. SPCB Published Guidelines in all print media & asked local bodies for wide publicity of Guidelines among stakeholders.
8.	Kerala	Uploaded on Kerala SPCB website	Communication sent to all District offices of the Board for field verification and also to all Hallmarking Centres for compliance of the Guidelines.
9.	Karnataka	Uploaded on Karnataka SPCB website	Communication sent to all Regional Offices to furnish the compliance status of Guidelines by Gold Assaying & Hallmarking Centres .
10.	Madhya Pradesh	Uploaded on Madhya Pradesh SPCB website	Communication sent to all Regional Offices of MPPCB with the request to submit the compliance status of environmental Guidelines by Hallmarking Centres. Consent has been issued to 7 nos of Hallmarking Centres.
11.	Maharashtra	Uploaded on Maharashtra SPCB website	Communication sent to Regional Offices of Maharashtra SPCB for implementation & compliance of Guidelines by Hallmarking Centres.
12.	Mizoram	Uploaded on the Mizoram SPCB website	There is no Gold Assaying & Hallmarking Centres in the state .
13.	Odisha	Uploaded on Odisha SPCB website	Communication sent to all Regional Offices of SPCB-Odisha and to identify the gold assaying & hallmarking centres to bring them under consent mechanism.
14.	Punjab	Uploaded on Punjab SPCB website	Communication sent to the Regional Offices of the Board on 13.10.2020 for compliance of guidelines .
15.	Tamil Nadu	Uploaded on Tamil Nadu SPCB website	Communication sent to the Hallmarking Centres identified by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) for implementation of the Guidelines and to furnish the compliance status report.
16.	Telangana	Uploaded on Telangana SPCB website.	Notices have been issued to 38 Gold Assaying & Hallmarking Centres directing them to obtain consent.
17.	Tripura	Uploaded on Tripura SPCB website.	Tripura SPCB has directed the Gold Assaying & Hallmarking units to comply with CPCB Guidelines. There are only 02 nos of Gold Hallmarking & Assaying units in the state of Tripura.
18.	Uttar Pradesh	Uploaded on Uttar Pradesh SPCB website.	Communication sent by UPPCB to all Regional Offices of the Board, on 23.10.2020 for implementation of the Guidelines.

19	Uttarakhand	Uploaded on Uttarakhand SPCB website	Communication sent by Uttarakhand SPCB to all Regional Offices on 23.10.2020 for implementation of the Guidelines
20.	Chandigarh	-	Guidelines have been provided to all Gold Assaying & Hallmarking Centres in U.T.Chandigarh and directed them to apply for consent to operate under Water & Air Acts and Authorzation under Hazardous & Other Waste Rules, 2016.
21.	Delhi	Uplaoded on Delhi PCC website	Guidelines are being implemented in Delhi.
22.	Puducherry	Uplaoded on Puducherry PCC website	Puducherry SPCB has issued direction to two Gold Aassaying & Hallmarking Centres operating without consent .

Item No. 03

Court No. 1

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

Original Application No.568/2019

(With Report dated 01.10.2019)

James Jose, Managing Director, CGR
Hallmarkers Pvt. Ltd.

Applicant(s)

Versus

Govt. of India

Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 18.11.2019

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 Respondent(s): Mr. Jogy Scaria, Advocate for KSPCB
Mr. Raj Kumar, Advocate for CPCB

ORDER

1. The issue for consideration is the need for regulatory regime to check acidic activities in testing of gold. A report was sought from the CPCB and the Kerala State PCB with reference to the allegation that Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) released acids in the environment while testing gold with a view to check the standards.
2. The report furnished by the joint Committee comprising of the CPCB and the State PCB is that the Committee visited BIS certified gold assaying/hallmarking facility in Ernakulam along with two other facilities in Ernakulam on 23rd and 24th August, 2019. Following information was noted:

- “
- a. Almost all the assay and hallmarking centers are located inside city areas or in busy commercial or business complexes.
 - b. These units seldom comply with the pollution control norms or have adequate measures to contain toxic fumes or emissions emanating in the process of precious metal assaying by conventional fire assay method.
 - c. There is no emission monitoring systems in these hallmarking centers.
 - d. There are no personal protective equipments available or being used by the personals handling test procedures.
 - e. Regulatory procedures for the disposal of hazardous residues generated during assaying/testing are not followed in many of the facilities.
 - f. The approved gold hallmarking method is fire assay test, which requires destructive sampling and many of the manufacturer (customers of hallmarking centers) do not prefer sampling of the finished jewellery articles. Due to this spurious hallmarking practices are on rise without conducting standard fire assay test.”

3. The Committee also considered the guidelines dated 02.09.2018 for recognition and operation of hallmarking centers. 851 hallmarking facilities are recognized in Maharashtra, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and other States. The Committee conducted 'Fire Assay Test' and also considered 'hazardous waste generation' and 'Gold Assay Techniques'. In the hallmarking centers, it was observed that toxic emissions are released.

4. The Committee has made following observations and recommendations:

“7.0. OBSERVATIONS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE

- i. The testing of the jewellery as well as the marking is done in approved, private assaying & hallmarking centers across the country. Approval and monitoring of such private undertaking are done by BIS. Although, hallmarking gold jewellery is mandatory, it is yet to be implemented. Due to wide acceptance of BIS

hallmarking among consumers, fake hallmarking of jewellery is on rise.

- ii. Most of the hallmarking centers are in the busy commercial areas.
- iii. Even though there are many techniques available for assaying precious metal with merits and demerits, the conventional fire assay is still the preferred assaying method for higher accuracy, repeatability, moderate and comparatively lesser cost of analysis.
- iv. The fire assay test does create toxic emissions by way of toxic metal and acidic fumes.
- v. The AAS or ICP methods, requires expensive equipments, sample processing by acid digestion and trace amount of sample is lost during analysis.
- vi. XRF is a non destructive analysis with moderate cost of analysis and requires flattened sample for accurate analysis.
- vii. Spark/ Arc OES is a potential method, almost non destructive in nature and only limitation is the high equipment cot.

8.0 SUGGESTIONS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE

- A. All the gold assaying and hallmarking centers in the country shall obtain the Consent to Establish / Consent to Operate under Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 & Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 of the State Pollution Control Boards / Pollution Control Committees. These units shall also obtain authorization under Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management & Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016. The above regulatory requirements shall be made mandatory to all gold assaying/ hallmarking facilities and the same may be incorporated in the BIS guideline for gold assaying and hallmarking. The committee suggested the KSPCB to issue notice to all defaulting units.
- B. The lead fumes generated during cupellation and the acidic nitrous fumes generated during the parting acid treatment are to be treated by a proper fumes extraction I treatment system. Technical guidelines shall be formulated for selection, installation and operation of proper exhaust arrangement for fire assay furnace, parting acid chamber and for the fire assay room for proper extraction and treatment of fumes before discharging into atmosphere.

C. Spent cupels containing heavy metals, scrubber water residue containing lead and spent parting acid are the specific hazardous wastes generated during fire assay which need to be disposed properly through authorized waste disposal facilities as per the norms.

D. The conventional fire assay method requires, sample to be scraped/ cut out of the sample and thus it is not an acceptable choice for the finished jewellery articles. Moreover, the use of hazardous materials like lead and parting acids during assaying, also make this method less preferable though it is a robust method for assaying. Due to the above constraints, alternate instrumental methods with low pollution foot print shall be explored.

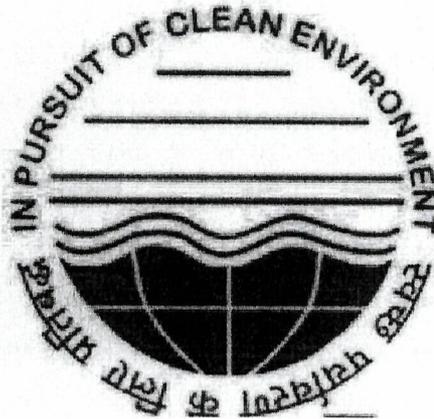
E. AAS and ICP methods require expensive equipments and elaborate sample processing in the form of acid digestion during analysis. As in many other countries XRF can be adopted for assaying and hallmarking, but the only limitation is the requirement of flat/ flattened sample.

F. Spark or Arc OES is a potential method for precious metal assaying which is almost non-destructive method with minimum or no sample processing. This method is already used in many metal industries to test the purity of alloys and metals."

5. Learned counsel for the CPCB as well as the State PCB support the above suggestions. We see no reason why the same be not acted upon.

6. In view of the above, the CPCB needs to update the existing guidelines on the subject so that environmental norms are met in the process. The updated guidelines may be notified to all the State PCBs/PCCS within one month and compliance may be duly monitored thereafter. The compliance report may be furnished by all the State PCBs/PCCs to the CPCB. The CPCB may furnish consolidated report before the next date by email at judicial-ngt@gov.in. It is made clear that in case of non-compliance at any level, this Tribunal may have to take coercive measures including

Guidelines for Gold Assaying and Hallmarking Centres



Central Pollution Control Board
(Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt of India)
Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar
Delhi-110032

(October 2020)

Environmental Guidelines for Gold Assaying and Hallmarking Centres

Background:

An Original application (OA) No.568/2019, James Jose, Managing Director, CGR Hall markers Pvt. Ltd. vs Govt. of India was filed in the Hon'ble NGT highlighting the air pollution caused by acidic fumes in gold hallmarking centres from the process of Gold Assaying and Hallmarking without complying the pollution control norms. Hon'ble NGT vide its order dated 18.11.2019 directed CPCB to "update the existing guidelines in the matter so that environmental norms are met in the process". There is no existing environmental guidelines prepared by CPCB for Gold Hallmarking Centres. These Hallmarking centres are BIS certified under the provision of Indian standard IS 15820:2009.

In compliance of Hon'ble NGT order, CPCB has framed Environmental Guidelines to bring such facilities into the environmental regulatory framework.

2.0 Hallmarking:

The BIS (Bureau of Indian Standards) Hallmark is a certifying mechanism to certify the purity of precious metals jewellery viz. gold and silver, sold in India. The testing and marking of the jewellery is done in BIS certified Assaying & Hallmarking centres across the country. BIS has framed & published the "Guideline (HMA&HC/Guidelines/2, September,2018)" for recognition and operation of hallmarking centres. BIS guidelines stipulate the procedures for grant, operation, renewal, suspension and cancellation of recognition of Assaying and Hallmarking (A &H) Centers. Indian standard IS 15820:2009 is the basis for recognition of assaying and hallmarking centers, which specifies a Fire Assay test for Assay and Hallmarking of gold, following the procedure prescribed in the method IS 1418: 2009 (Assaying of Gold in Gold Bullion, Gold alloys and Gold Jewelry/Artefacts:Cupellation- Fire Assay Method.)

There are 923 recognized Gold Assaying and Hallmarking facilities in India. Highest number of such facilities is in Southern region (312 Nos), followed by Western Region (203 Nos), Eastern Region (181) Central Region (133) and Northern Region (94).

3.0 Gold Assaying Process:

Hallmarking of jewellery/artefact is done in BIS certified facilities/centres, which acts as testing laboratories. These hallmarking facilities/centres/labs are located inside city areas or in busy commercial or business complexes nearby the jewellery manufacturing hub/markets.

Assaying is the technical term used for the quantitative chemical analysis of precious metals. In context of Gold Jewellery, assaying means determination of gold in the jewellery/article. The steps involved in **Gold Assaying process** are as follows:

- i. **Reception Section:** The process starts from reception. Jewelry are received from different parties i.e. jewelers and are sorted as per their purity claimed by the party and after acceptance, the jewellery are sent for Assaying.
- ii. **X-ray Fluorescence (XRF) Section:** After receiving the jewellery sample, the fineness (purity as declared by customer) of the samples are verified by the XRF machine by comparing with the reference material.
- iii. **Melting Section:** The accepted samples (Jewellery/artefacts) are cut/drilled in the defined quantity as per BIS guidelines and these drilled/cut piece of sample is then homogenised in melting furnace in graphite crucibles.
- iv. **Sample preparation:** The homogenized sample is weighed and other metals i.e. silver and copper is mixed with the homogenised sample and put in lead foil, which is then assayed. Out of several techniques available for assaying precious metals, Fire Assaying is one of the oldest and most reliable methods for the quantitative analysis of gold and silver.
- v. **Assaying section (Fire Assay Test):**
As per the standard IS 15820:2009, Assay and Hallmarking of gold is done by the fire assay test as per the method IS 1418: 2009 (Assaying of Gold in Gold Bullion, Gold alloys and Gold Jewelry/Artefacts). In this test, magnesia or calcium phosphate cupels, parting acids (Nitric acids of specific gravity 1.2 & 1.3 g/cm³), lead foil, precious metals (silver) and other metals like copper are used. The fire assay method is based on the principle of removal of all base metals like lead, copper, etc, present in the sample from noble metals like gold and silver through the process of cupellation and Parting.

Cupellation. In this process samples are kept in cupels for cupellation inside the muffle furnace for 25 min at 1100°C. During the process, lead is oxidised into lead oxide & emitted in the form of fumes, whereas other impurities along with lead is absorbed in cupels.

Parting: Once cupellation is completed, a gold and silver alloy in the form of bead is obtained. Separating silver from gold by selectively dissolving silver-gold alloy in Nitric acid, is known as parting.

4.0 Sources of Environmental pollution associated with Fire Assay Procedure and Environmental issues of Hallmarking Centres:

Main sources of pollution in Fire Assay Testing and other environmental issues associated with hallmarking centres are as under:

a) Air Pollution:

Lead oxides and Nitrous fumes are generated during cupellation and parting acid treatment respectively. These fumes, if inhaled may pose a health hazard to personals/workers involved in assaying, if not addressed properly.

To control the emissions, fume extraction system is installed and the fumes generated are sucked through suction hood and exhausted fumes are scrubbed by sprinkling of water. The scrubbed water is collected and the recirculate back in the process.

b) Water Pollution

As such there is no usage of water in the process, however the scrubbed water is generated from scrubbing operations during fume extractions. Though the scrubbed water is recycled and recirculated in the process, but over a period of time it is discharged which contain lead as contaminant.

c) Hazardous waste:

During the process of cupellation, Cupels become contaminated due to the absorption of lead and other heavy metals. Used/Spent cupels bearing lead

and scrubbed water containing residues of lead are the hazardous wastes generated during fire assay posing risk to the environment.

The spent acids generated during parting process are also hazardous waste generated in the fire assay test. The parting process involves boiling of a metal mixture (Gold & Silver) with parting acid (Conc. Nitric acid) to remove the silver. In this process silver present in the metal gets dissolved with nitric acid leaving only gold in its purest form. After recovering dissolved silver from acid, the spent parting acid (Conc nitric acid) is generated which is highly acidic and may adversely affect the receiving environment, if discharged without proper neutralization and treatment. The quantity of nitric acid used in the process is approximately 0.5 litres/assaying and on average daily spent acid generation is 1.0 lit/day. Spent acid has pH about 2.0. Spent acid generated is collected in the small container (20-25 litres) to recover silver.

5.0 Environmental Guidelines:

Environmental Guidelines for "Environmental Guidelines for Gold Assaying and Hallmarking Centres"

1. The emissions from cupellation and parting process should be channelized through a well-designed suction hood and duct arrangement system to control lead and nitric acid fumes.
2. The extracted fumes from cupellation and parting should be scrubbed by installing well designed scrubbing system for removing the pollutants from the exhausted air & discharged through appropriate stack as per SPCBs consent conditions.
3. The adequacy/efficiency of the Scrubber system installed need to be verified by the SPCBs or through Expert institutions.
4. The spent acid generated from parting acid should be sent to TSDF or neutralized before its disposal. These Hallmarking centres should have facilities of pH testing like litmus paper, pH meter to check that the spent acid is neutralized.

5. The Spent cupels/scrubbed water containing lead should be sent to TSDF or to the authorized registered lead recyclers dealers.
6. Manifest/records should be maintained for storage and disposal of spent acid/cupels/scrubbed water residue generated during the process.
7. Proper personal protection equipment's such as Face Shields, Helmets, Acid Gloves, First Aid Box, etc. must be used by the personals carrying out fire assay & parting test.
8. Good housekeeping should be maintained by frequent and regular cleaning of the assay lab, preventing lead dust from accumulating on laboratory surfaces.
9. All the gold assaying and hallmarking centers shall obtain necessary Consents under the provisions of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 & Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 & Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management & Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016 from the concerned State Pollution Control Boards / Pollution Control Committees.
10. The Gold Hallmarking Assaying facilities/Centres should be established as per the siting policies/guidelines of local administration.
11. The Blood test of worker for lead, should be done once in a year who has worked for at least 6 months in such facility.
12. BIS may explore new alternate instrumental methods like Spark or Arc OES with low pollution foot print for assaying of Gold.
13. BIS may also make mandatory to have a copy of consents issued by SPCBs/PCCs under Water Act 1974 & Air Act 1981 and Authorization certificates while issuing the BIS certificates.



CPCB/IPC-V/NGT_Gold/2020 7963 - 7997

October 09, 2020

To

The Member Secretary
All SPCBs/PCCs
(List enclosed)

Sub: Implementation of "Guidelines for Gold Assaying and Hallmarking Centres" in compliance of NGT order dated 18.11.2019 in the matter of OA No. 568/2019: James Jose, Managing Director, CGR Hallmarkers Pvt. Ltd., Ernakulam, Kerala;
Sir,

In compliance of Hon'ble NGT, order passed on 18.11.2019 in the matter of O.A. No. 568/2019: James Jose, Managing Director, CGR Hall markers Pvt. Ltd., Ernakulam, Kerala; CPCB has framed "Guidelines for Gold Assaying and Hallmarking Centres". The copy of guidelines is attached. These guidelines may also be uploaded on SPCBs/PCCs website.

As per Hon'ble NGT, these guidelines are to be implemented by SPCBs/PCCs and a report of status of compliance is to be provided to CPCB by SPCBs/PCCs for submission to Hon'ble NGT. Therefore, it is requested to implement the guidelines and provide the status of compliance latest by October 17, 2020 by post and also through E-mail ipc5division.cpcb@gov.in for onward submission to Hon'ble NGT. The list of hallmarking centres may be accessed at the weblink of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS): <https://bis.gov.in/index.php/hallmarking-overview/hallmarking-centre/list-of-hallmarking-centres/>.

The next date of hearing is on 29.10.2020.

Yours faithfully

(S.K. Gupta)

AD & Div. Head IPC-V

Encl: as above

Copy to:

1. PS to CCB : for kind information to CCB, please.
2. PS to MS : for kind information to MS, please.
3. All Regional Directorates : With request to follow up, please.
Central Pollution Control Board
(List enclosed)

केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड

दिनांक.....

दिनांक.....

(S.K. Gupta)

'परिवेश भवन' पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली-110032

Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032

दूरभाष/Tel : 43102030 22305792 वेबसाइट/Website : www.cpcb.nic.in



ANDHRA PRADESH POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
D.No.33-26-14D/2, Near Sunrise Hospital, Pushpa Hotel Centre,
Chalamalavari Street, Kasturibaipet, Vijayawada - 520 010
Phone. No.0866-2463200, Website : <https://pcb.ap.gov.in/>

Lr.No:APPCB/CPCB Corres/Gold hallmarking/2020

27/10/2020

To
S.K.Gupta,
AD & Div. Head, IPC-V,
Central Pollution Control Board,
Parivesh Bhawan,
East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 110032.

Sir,

Sub: APPCB - UH-IV -Implementation of "Guidelines for Gold assaying and Hallmarking - centres" in compliance to Hon'ble NGT Order dated 18.11.2019 in Hon'ble NGT O.A.No. 568/2019 - Status of compliance - Submitted - Reg.

Ref:-CPCB/IPC-V/NGT_Gold/2020 dated 09.10.2020 of CPCB.

It is to submit that there are 46 nos. of Gold assaying/ hallmarking units across the state of Andhra Pradesh. The Regional Officers communicated the guidelines to the units to comply with and shall obtain the consent under Water & Air Acts.

The status of compliance of the units are as follows:

Name of the district	Number of units	APPCB action
Srikakulam	Recognition No.: SRO/RHMS/R-600660 Validity: 21/12/2020 M/s Sri Mahalakshmi Assay & Hallmarking Centre D No.11-4-74/1, Town SVY No.150/p, Champagalli Veedhi, Koteshwara Ward, Srikakulam- 532 001 Andhra Pradesh	The hallmark center is operating without consent of the Board. RO, Srikakulam issued notice directing to apply for consent of the Board.
	Recognition No.: SRO/RHMS/R-600690 Validity: 18/06/2021 M/s Sri Sai Hallmarking Centre Door No.12-178/A, 1st Floor, Gandhi Bazar, Near Grama Panchayat Office, Narasannapeta Village & Mandal, Srikakulam District, 532421 (AP)	
Vizianagaram	M/s.GT Assay & Hallmarking Centre, Prop : Shri Balaji Kadam, Proprietor, 7-1-2 (First Floor), Manchukondavari Street, Ward 7, Vizianagaram (Urban), Vizianagaram - 535 001, Andhra Pradesh	Show cause notice issued to the proponent
	M/s SBM Assaying & Hallmarking Centre, Door no. 47-13-1-2nd floor, Sai ShoppingCentre,	Show cause notice issued to the proponent

Visakhapatnam	Dwarkanagar, Vishakhapatnam -530009	
	M/s Varun Hallmarking Centre, Shop No. 201A, 1st Floor, Door No.47-15-15/2, VRCCComplex, Opposite TSR Complex, Railway Station Road, Dwarakanagar, Visakhapatnam-530016	
	M/s Sampath Assaying and Hallmarking Private Limited, D. No, 9-13-7B, Sree Ramakrishna Engg Co. Bldg., New Resapuvanipalem, Visakhapatnam.	
	M/s Saisuma Assaying And Hallmarking Centre, 4th Floor, Shop No. 402B, Door No.47-15-13, Navarathan Jewel Square, Dwarakanagar, Visakhapatnam - 530016.	
	M/s S N Hall Marking Centre, Shop No. SF6, 2nd floor, Navaratna Jewel Square,Dwarakanagar, Vishakapatanam -531001	
Kakinada	M/s. Sri Balaji Hallmarking Centre, D.No.31-9-3815, 31-9-38/8, K.V.R. Swamy Road, NearSeethamma Lane, Rajamahendravaram, East Godavari District.	Show cause notice issued to the proponent
	M/s.Sri Ganesh Hallmarking Centre, D.No.9-11-18/2, Gunduvari Veedhi,Rajamahendravaram, East Godavari District.	
	M/s.BJ Hallmarking Centre, D.No.32-1-21/4 & 5, K.V.R Swamy Road,Rajamahendravaram, East Godavari District	
	M/s.Sundari Hallmarking Centre, D.No.32-1-27, K.V.R Swamy Road,Rajamahendravaram, East Godavari District.	
	M/s.Sreenidhi Assaying and Hallmarking center, D.No.34-1-13/16, Victory Colony, TempleStreet, Kakinada, East Godavari District.	
Eluru	M/s Balaji Hallmarking and Assaying Centre, Door No. 32-11-43, First Floor, Ikya-6 Complex, Velpur Road,Sajapuram, Tanuku – 534 211,	Show cause notice issued to the proponent
	M/s Ganesh Assaying and Hall Marking Center, 29-1-4 / Velpur Road, Old LIC Building, Opp. Subbam Grand, W.G. District, Tanuku – 534 211,	
	M/s Bhimavaram Hallmarking Centre Door no. 22-7-34, 1st Floor, Rajya Guru Complex, Main Road Bhimavaram- 534201	
	M/s Balaji Hallmarking Centre, Door No. 3A-16-2/1, 2 & 3, Kanyakaparapeswari Ammavari Satram, Eluru,West Godavari District,	

	M/s Ramdas Hallmarking Centre, 3A-10-5, Ward No.30, T.S. NO 281/1, 3, Main Bazar, Bellamkottu Sandu, Eluru, West Godavari – 534 001,	
Vijayawada	M/s. Akshaya Hallmarking Centre, 27-14-16, 2 nd Floor, Shot No.15, E.V. Plaza, Rajagopalachari Street, Governorpet, Vijayawada, Krishna District.	Issued notices to the Hallmarking centers on 21.10.2020 with a direction to apply for CFO of the Board, as per the CPCB Guidelines issued in October,2020.
	M/s. Pavan Gold Check & Hallmarking Centre, 27-14-55, 1 st Floor, M.G. Road Corner, Vijayawada, Krishna District.	
	M/s. Viswasri Hallmarking Centre, D.No.27- 14-16, 1 st Floor, E.V. Plaza, Rajagopalachari Street, Governorpet, Vijayawada, Krishna District.	
	M/s. Sonaa Hallmarking Centre, D.No.11-49- 367, First Floor, Sivalayam Street, Vijayawada, Krishna District.	
	M/s. Viswakarma Goldsmiths Private Limited, D.No.27-14-60, First Floor, Rajagopalachari Street, Governorpet, Vijayawada, Krishna District.	
	M/s. Venkateswara Hallmark Centre, Ground, 11-58-10, Bavaji Matham Lane, Vijayawada, Krishna District.	
	M/s. Surya Mahendra Assaying & Hallmarking Centre, First Floor, D.No.11-42-50/51, Ramgopal Street, Vijayawada, Krishna District.	
	M/s. Siddhanath Hallmark Private Limited, 11-49/1-1, Janda Lane, Sivalayam Street, Vijayawada, Krishna District.	
Guntur	10 no of units	Show cause notice issued to the proponent
Prakasam	M/s. Sri Balaji Testing and Hallmarking Center Door No.23-1-355/Shop No.3(Ground Floor) And Shop No.6(First Floor) Dathri Complex, Gandhi Road, Ongole City, Ongole, Prakasam District	Show cause notice issued to the proponent
SPSR Nellore	M/s. Sree Akshaya Hallmarking Centre D.No. 12/599, Chinna Bazaar, Nellore -524001	Show cause notice issued to the proponent
	M/s Nellore Hallmarking Centre D. No. 13/575, Dhudhi Vaari Sandhu, Besides Raja Lakshmi Hall, Chinna Bazar,Nellore- 524001	
Anantapur	M/s Anantha Hall Mark Centre 21-358, Brahmana Veedhi, Old Town,Anantapur – 515001	Show cause notice issued to the proponent

YSR Kadapa	M/s Sri Sudarshan Muskan Assaying & Hallmarking Centre, 11/184, Up Stairs, Mokshagundam Street, Proddatur, YSR District -516360	Show cause notice issued to the proponent
	M/s Kadapa Muskan Assaying & Hallmarking Centre D.No. 13/544-1, Up Stairs, Room No.15-20, Jumma Masjid Backside, CK Street, KadapaYSR District - 516001	
	M/s Hi Tech Hallmarking Center, 12/197, Darga Bazaar Street, Ward No.12, Proddatur Town,YSR District - 516 360	
Kurnool	M/s. P.K. Assaying & Hallmarking Centre, Shop No. 18/100, A1, Second Floor, S.V.C Shroof Bazar,Kurnool, A.P-518001,	Show cause notice issued to the proponent

DR. B.MADHUSUDHANA RAO, JCEE(MSRB), O/o JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER4-APPCB

GOA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

गोंय राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण मंडळ

(An ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015, OHSAS 18001:2007 Certified Board)

Phone Nos. : 0832-2407700
2407701, 2407702
2407703

Tel/Fax No. : 0832-2407700

No. 1/20/20-PCB/Tech/12905



Speed Post

Email ids:
Chairman, GSPCB: chairman-gspcb.goa@nic.in
Member Secretary GSPCB: ms-gspcb.goa@nic.in
Environment Engineer, GSPCB: ee-gspcb.goa.nic.in
Scientist, GSPCB: scientist-gspcb.goa@nic.in
Office: goapcb@gspcb.in

Date : 27/10/2020

To,
S.K. Gupta,
AD & Div. Head. IPC-V,
Central Pollution Control Board,
Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar,
Delhi - 110032..

Sub: Implementation of "Guidelines for Gold Assaying and Hallmarking Centres in compliance of NGT Order dated 18/11/2019 in the matter of OA No. 568/2019 -James Jose. Managing Director CRG Hall Markers Pvt Ltd, Ernakalam, Kerala.
Ref: Your letter No. CPCB/IPC-V_Gold/2020/7992 dated 09/10/2020

Sir,

This is to inform you that Board has already uploaded the said guidelines on the Board website. The link to the same is" <http://goaspcb.gov.in/Media/Default/uploads/CPCB%20-%20IMPLEMENTATION%20OF%20GUIDELINES%20FOR%20GOLD%20ASSYING%20AND%20HALLMARKING%20CENTRES%20IN%20%20COMPLIANCE%20OF%20NGT%2001.pdf>

As per the records there are only two unit (M/s. Shree Laxminarayan Hallmarking Centre Margao and M/s. Chodankars Hallmarking & Refinery , Mapusa) are operating in the State of Goa and Board has already issued show cause notices to unit for operating without Consent of the Board and for submitting compliance towards guidelines set by CPCB .(copy of the notice enclosed).

This is for your information and necessary action at your end.

Yours Faithfully,

(Dr. Shamila Monteiro)

Member Secretary

Goa State Pollution Control Board

Copy to,

1. Regional Directorate(South),Central Pollution Control Board,"Nisarga Bhawan", A-Block, 1st & 2nd Floor,Thimmaiah Road,7th D-Main, Shivanagar,Bengaluru -500079.. *for information*

1. Office file

3. Guard file

GOA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD गोंय राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण मंडळ

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Email Ids:
Chairman, GSPCB: chairman-gspcb.goa@nic.in
Member Secretary GSPCB: ms-gspcb.goa@nic.in
Environment Engineer, GSPCB: ee-gspcb.goa.nic.in
Scientist, GSPCB: scientist-gspcb.goa@nic.in
Office: goapcb@gspcb.in

No. 1/20/20-PCB/Tech/12896

Speed Post

27/10/2020

SHOW CAUSE NOTICE

WHEREAS, Goa State Pollution Control Board (hereinafter referred to as the "Board", in short) was in receipt of letter dated 09/10/2020 from CPCB forwarding the "guidelines for Gold Assaying and Hallmarking Centres" and further and requested to implement the same and provide the status of compliance so as to forward it to the Hon'ble NGT.(Copy of letter enclosed)

WHEREAS, Consent of the Board is required for the operation of Gold manufacturer unit under the under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981,

WHEREAS, upon perusal of the records available with the Board, it is noted that your unit M/s. Shree Laxminarayan Hallmarking Centre, located at Shop No.FF-3, 5th Floor, Sweet Home Symphony Building, Near Railway Over Bridge, Margao, Goa, has not obtained Consent to Operate as required under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, which constitutes an offence under the said Acts.

WHEREAS, the Board at its 144th meeting held on 06/07/2020 has delegated its powers to issue, refuse, withdraw and vary consent under section 25, 26 and 27 of the Water Act and under section 21 of the Air Act to the undersigned

NOW THEREFORE, in view of the above and in exercise of the powers delegated to the undersigned under section 33(A) read with section 25/26 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and under section 31(A) read with section 21 of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the management of your unit namely, M/s. Shree Laxminarayan Hallmarking Centre, Shop No.FF-3, 5th Floor, Sweet Home Symphony Building, Near Railway Over Bridge, Margao, GOA, is hereby directed to show cause within 15 days from the date of receipt of this notice as to why action should not be initiated against your unit for operating without obtaining Consent to Operate from the Board.

FURTHER, you are hereby directed,

1. Submit online application for Consent of the Board through (www.goacmms.nic.in) within 7 days.
2. Submit compliance towards guidelines set by CPCB in the said matter within 7 days from the date of issue of this notice.

TAKE NOTE, that failure to comply with the aforesaid notice will compel the Board to initiate stringent legal action against you under the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and Air(Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, without further notice.

Issued on this 27th day of October, 2020

N. Prabhudessai

(Nandan Prabhudessai)

Assistant Environmental Engineer

Goa State Pollution Control Board

To,
M/s. Shree Laxminarayan Hallmarking Centre,
Shop No.FF-3, 5th Floor,
Sweet Home Symphony Building,
Near Railway Over Bridge, Margao, Goa.

Copy to:

1. Office file.
2. Guard file.
3. Legal Section file.

GOA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD गोंय राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण मंडळ

(An ISO 9001-2015, ISO 14001:2015. OHSAS 18001:2007 Certified Board)

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Member Secretary GSPCB: ms-gspcb.goa@nic.in
Environment Engineer, GSPCB: ee-gspcb.goa.nic.in
Scientist, GSPCB: scientist-gspcb.goa@nic.in
Office: goapcb@gspcb.in

No. 1/20/20-PCB/Tech/12897

Speed Post

27/10/2020

SHOW CAUSE NOTICE

WHEREAS, Goa State Pollution Control Board (hereinafter referred to as the "Board", in short) was in receipt of letter dated 09/10/2020 from CPCB forwarding the "guidelines for Gold Assaying and Hallmarking Centres" and further and requested to implement the same and provide the status of compliance so as to forward it to the Hon'ble NGT (Copy of letter enclosed)

WHEREAS, Consent of the Board is required for the operation of Gold manufacturer unit under the under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981,

WHEREAS, upon perusal of the records available with the Board, it is noted that your unit M/s. Chodankars Hallmarking & Refinery, Plot No.40, Mapusa Industrial Estate, Mapusa, Bardez, Goa, has not obtained Consent to Operate as required under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, which constitutes an offence under the said Acts.

WHEREAS, the Board at its 144th meeting held on 06/07/2020 has delegated its powers to issue, refuse, withdraw and vary consent under section 25, 26 and 27 of the Water Act and under section 21 of the Air Act to the undersigned

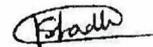
NOW THEREFORE, in view of the above and in exercise of the powers delegated to the undersigned under section 33(A) read with section 25/26 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and under section 31(A) read with section 21 of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the management of your unit namely M/s. Chodankars Hallmarking & Refinery, Plot No.40, Mapusa Industrial Estate, Mapusa, Bardez, Goa, is hereby directed to show cause within 15 days from the date of receipt of this notice as to why action should not be initiated against your unit for operating without obtaining Consent to Operate from the Board.

FURTHER, you are hereby directed,

1. Submit online application for Consent of the Board through (www.goaocmms.nic.in) within 7 days.
2. Submit an compliance towards guidelines set by CPCB in the said matter within 7 days from the date of issue of this notice.

TAKE NOTE, that failure to comply with the aforesaid notice will compel the Board to initiate stringent legal action against you under the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and Air(Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, without further notice.

Issued on this 27th day of October, 2020



(Keshav Fadke)

Assistant Environmental Engineer
Goa State Pollution Control Board

To,
M/s. Chodankars Hallmarking & Refinery,
Plot No.40,
Mapusa Industrial Estate,
Mapusa, Bardez, Goa,.

Copy to:

1. Office file.
2. Guard file.
3. Legal Section file.