Government of Punjab
Department of Science, Technology & Environment
(STE Branch)

NOTIFICATION

No. 10/352/2018-STE(5)/1605749/1

Dated: 31st October, 2019

Setting up of District Environment Committee

1. Whereas, District Level Committees and Task Forces have been constituted by the Government in pursuance of various directions of National Green Tribunal, various Rules and Mission Tandrust Punjab as detailed in the Annexure-1;

2. Whereas, the District Level Committees and Task Forces have not been meeting regularly and not been very effective in ensuring the implementation of various measures for protection of the Environment despite a series of directions from the National Green Tribunal and the State Government;

3. Whereas, the National Green Tribunal has directed the Chief Secretary to personally monitor the preparation of various Action Plans and secure their execution and report quarterly progress to National Green Tribunal;

4. Whereas, the Government of Punjab giving utmost importance to the protection of Environment has launched Mission Tandrust Punjab to make Punjab the healthiest State with healthy people and healthier environment is a pre-requisite for the same;

5. Whereas, NGT vide order dated 26.09.2019 in O.A. No. 360/2018 in the matter of Shree Nath Sharma V/s. Union of India has directed for constitution of District Committee for preparing and monitoring the progress of District Environment Plan and provide an institutional mechanism for effective monitoring of environment norms. The relevant extract of the same is as follows:

"We find it necessary to add that in view of Constitutional provisions under Articles 243 G, 243 W, 243 ZD read with Schedules 11 & 12 and Rule 15 of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, it is necessary to have a District Environment Plan to be operated by a District Committee (as a part of District Planning Committee under Article 243 ZD) with representatives from Panchayats, Local Bodies, Regional Officers, State PCB & a suitable officers representing the Administration, which may in turn be chaired and monitored by the District Magistrate. Such District Environment Plans and constitution of District Committee may be placed on the website of the Districts concerned. The Monthly Report of Monitoring by the District Magistrate may be furnished to the Chief Secretary and may be placed on the website of the District and kept on such websites for a period of one year. This may be made operative from 01.08.2019. Compliance of this direction may also be seen by the Chief Secretaries of the States/UTs. This may not only comply with mandate of law but provide an institutional mechanism for effective monitoring of environment norms."

Page 1 of 8
6. Whereas, the matter regarding multiplicity of Committees at the District Level looking after various environmental issues as detailed in the Annexure-I, has been considered by the Government and a need has been felt to streamline and remove the overlap to make District Level Committees more effective in the implementation of various Environment Management and Protection Action Plans and other related matter.

7. Whereas, the State Government has been delegated with the powers under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act 1986, vide Notification No. S.O.389(E) dated 14.04.1988 to issue directions in writing to any person, officer or any authority and such person, officer or authority shall be bound to comply with such directions

8. Now, therefore, in supersession of all the previous notifications and orders regarding District Level Committees and Task Forces on various environmental issues, following directions are hereby issued under Section 5 of the Environment Protection Act, 1986 by the Government.

**Constitution of District Environment Committee**

9. District Environment Committee under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner is hereby constituted:

|   | Deputy Commissioner | Additional Deputy Commissioner (Development) | Nominee of District Judge of the concerned District in his capacity as Head of the Legal Service Authority | Commissioner of Police/Senior Superintendent of Police | Commissioner, Municipal Corporation/Executive Officer of ULBs in the District | Chief Administrator, Urban Development Authority | Regional Officer, Punjab Pollution Control Board | Superintending Engineer, PWD(B&R) | Civil Surgeon | Chief Agriculture Officer | Secretary, Regional Transport Authority | General Manager, District Industries Centre | District, Development & Panchayat Officer | Note |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Chairman | Member Secretary | | | | | | | | | | | | Any other District Level Officer of relevant Department as may be required from time to time may be invited as a Special Invitee by the Chairperson |
Functions of the Committee

10. The District Environment Committee shall have the following functions:

   (i) To prepare District Environment Plan and revision from time to time w.r.t. various areas of environment & in particular following specific thematic areas:

      a) Compliance to Solid Waste Rules including Legacy Waste
      b) Compliance to Bio Medical Waste Rules
      c) Compliance to Construction & Demolition Waste
      d) Compliance to E-Waste Rules
      e) Four Water Polluted Stretches in the State (Roop Nagar to Harike Bridge in River Sutlej, Along Mukerian & Sultanpur Lodhi to confluence of Beas in River Beas and Mubarakpur to Sardulgar in River Ghaggar)
      f) Nine non-attainment cities namely Patiala, Dera Bassi, Naya Nangal, Dera Baba Nanak, Mandi Gobindgarh, Khanna, Ludhiana, Jalandhar and Amritsar
      g) Industrial Clusters namely Mandi Gobindgarh, Ludhiana
      h) Status of STPs and Re-use of Treated Water
      i) Status of CETPs/ETPs including performance
      j) Ground Water extraction/ contamination and recharge
      k) Air pollution including noise pollution
      l) Illegal sand mining
      m) Rejuvenation of Water Bodies
      n) Crop Residue Burning

   (ii) To prepare District Plans for Climate Change & Mission Tandrust Punjab and to revise the same from time to time.

   (iii) To review the progress of District Environment Plans and other plans.

   (iv) To identify all persons responsible for violation of law and norms relating to water pollution, air pollution, noise pollution and waste management

   (v) To review action by the competent authority w.r.t. civil and criminal action against the violators as well as those who fail to perform their duties in this regard.

   (vi) To involve civil society organizations and public participation for organizing awareness programs.

   (vii) To ensure periodic sampling of river water as well as ground water to check water quality

   (viii) Any Other function assigned to the Committee by the State Government on its own or in pursuance of directions of the Hon’ble Court or Hon’ble NGT from time to time
Powers of the Committee

11. The Committee in discharge of its functions for Environment Management and Protection including preparation and monitoring of District Environment Plans, shall have the following powers:

(i) To call for record and report from any department and organization regarding any matter concerning environment management and protection.

(ii) To inspect any site, industry or other utility to ascertain the compliance of Environmental Norms

(iii) To recommend penalties and environmental compensation on “Polluter Pays Principal” by following laid down mechanism

(iv) To recommend administrative action against the functionaries of any department or organization, who fail to discharge their duties for protection of environment

12. The Deputy Commissioner as Chairman of the Committee, can exercise these powers himself, or through the District Environment Protection Committee or any sub-committee, he may set up to secure proper execution of the functions of the Committee.

Submission of Reports by the Committee

13. The Committee shall submit a monthly report on all actions taken by it to the Chief Secretary through Directorate of Environment and Climate Change, Govt. of Punjab, by first week of every month and will place a copy of the same on the website of the District.

14. In addition, the Directorate of Environment and Climate Change can ask for any specific report within specific timelines, and the same shall be submitted by the District Committee.

15. The Deputy Commissioner as Chairman of the Committee shall ensure submission of the Reports to the Government.

Secretariat and Technical Support to the Committee

16. The District Environment Committee will work in coordination with District Planning Committee.

17. The Directorate of Environment and Climate Change will provide the necessary secretariat and technical support to the Committee to discharge their functions. However, till the necessary arrangements are made, the concerned Regional Office of Punjab Pollution Control Board will provide the necessary support.
18. Chairman, Punjab Pollution Control Board shall, in the interim, make necessary support available for the functioning of the Committees.

Place: Chandigarh
Dated: 31st October, 2019

R.K. Verma, IAS
Principal Secretary to Govt. of Punjab
Department of Science, Technology & Environment

Endst. No. 10/352/2018-STE(5)/ 1605949/2
Dated: 31st October, 2019

A copy, along with two spare copies of the Notification, is forwarded to the Controller, Printing and Stationery, Punjab, Chandigarh for publication of this Notification in the Punjab Government Gazette (Ordinary) and to supply 50 copies of the same to this Department.

Endst. No. 10/352/2018-STE(5)/ 1605949/3-14
Dated: 31st October, 2019

A copy of the above is forwarded to the following for information:

1. Chief Secretary, Government of Punjab
2. Chief Principal Secretary to Chief Minister, Punjab

Endst. No. 10/352/2018-STE(5)/ 1605949/5-15
Dated: 31st October, 2019

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

1. Administrative Secretary, Local Government, Punjab
2. Administrative Secretary, Department of Rural Development & Panchayats, Punjab
3. Administrative Secretary, Home & Affairs, Punjab
4. Administrative Secretary, PWD (B&R), Punjab
5. Administrative Secretary, Health and Family Welfare, Punjab
6. Administrative Secretary, Housing and Urban Development, Punjab
7. Administrative Secretary, Development, Punjab
8. Administrative Secretary, Transport, Punjab
9. Administrative Secretary, Industries & Commerce, Punjab
10. Director, Environment & Climate Change, Punjab
11. Chairman, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Patiala

Endst. No. 10/352/2018-STE(5)/ 1605949/6-17
Dated: 31st October, 2019

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

1. All Deputy Commissioner, Punjab
2. All District & Session Judge, Punjab, as Head of Legal Service Authority
1. The Department of Science, Technology & Environment in compliance with the directions of National Green Tribunal (NGT) in various cases has constituted the following Committees at District Level:

(i) **District Level Special Task Force for Mohali, Patiala, Sangrur & Mansa Districts**

The Task Force has been notified vide order no. 10/375/2018-STE (5)/1352595/1-20 dated 14.11.2018 in pursuance of NGT Order dated 07.08.2018 in O.A. No. 138 & 139 of 2016 titled as, “Stench Grips Mansa’s Sacred Ghaggar River (Suo Motu Case) and Yogender Kumar.

The Functions of the Task Force are as follows:

(a) It shall identify all persons, responsible for violation of law and norms relating to pollution in Ghaggar River and the drains joining it.

(b) It shall review action by the competent authority as regards civil and criminal action against the violators as well as those who fail to perform their duties in this regard.

(c) It shall submit a monthly report on all actions taken by it to the State Level Special Task Force (SLSTF), by first week of every month.

(d) It shall also assist the SLSTF in preparation of the Action Plan and finalizing the timelines.

(e) It shall involve civil society organizations and public participation in preparing the Action Plan in all possible areas.

(f) It shall ensure periodic sampling of river water as well as ground water to check water quality.

(ii) **Special Environment Surveillance Task Force**

The Task Force has been notified vide order no. 03/58/2018-STE(5)/1356455/1-56 dated 20.11.2018 in pursuance of NGT Order 20.09.2018 in O.A. No. 673 of 2018 titled as News Item published in, “The Hindu” authored by Shri Jacob Kosuhy titled, "More River stenches are now critically polluted: Central Pollution Control Board”.

The Functions of the Task Force are as follows:

(a) The Task Force will act in accordance of the mandate of the judgment dated 20.09.2018.

(b) The Task Force will also ensure that no illegal mining takes place in river beds of such polluted stretches.
(iii) **District Level Special Task Force**

The Task Force has been notified vide order no. 10/352/2018-STE(S)/1491052/1-9 dated 27.05.2019 in pursuance of NGT Order 16.01.2019 in O.A. No. 606 of 2018 in the matter of Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

The District Level Special Task Force shall be responsible for effective implementation of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and other related Rules for Waste Management in the District creating awareness about these Rules by involving educational, religious social organizations including local eco clubs.

2. The District Level Committee under Deputy Commissioner has been notified vide order no. PHSC/BMW(Vol-III)/17/60-192 dated 09.05.2017 by the Punjab Health System Corporation in compliance of Rule 12 (4) of the Bio Medical Waste Rules, 2016.

The Functions of the Committee are as under:

(i) The Committee shall be responsible to monitor the compliance of the provisions of the Rules in the health care facilities generating Bio Medical Waste.

(ii) The Committee shall also monitor the common bio medical waste treatment & disposal facilities where the biomedical waste is treated and disposed off.

(iii) To ensure maintenance of records related to generation, collection, reception, storage, transportation, treatment and disposal and is in accordance with the rules in each of the facility of the District

(iv) The Committee shall meet once in six months and submit its report to the State Advisory Committee concerned for taking further necessary action.

3. The District Level Committee under Deputy Commissioner has been notified for the implementation of Mission Tandrust Punjab at District Level vide notification no. PA/MD-TPM/2018/158 dated 05.09.2018.

4. In pursuance of various NGT orders in O.A. no. 138 & 139 of 2016, O.A. no. 673 of 2018, O.A. no. 681 of 2018 & O.A. 606 of 2018, following action plans have been prepared and submitted to NGT:

(i) Action Plan for Clean River Sutlej
(ii) Action Plan for Clean River Beas
(iii) Action Plan for Clean River Ghaggar
(iv) Action Plan for Reuse of Treated Wastewater
(v) Action Plan for Clean Air Mandi Gobindgarh
(vi) Action Plan for Clean Air Khanna
(vii) Action Plan for Clean Air Ludhiana
(viii) Action Plan for Clean Air Jalandhar
(ix) Action Plan for Clean Air Amritsar
(x) Action Plan for Clean Air Derabassi
(xi) Action Plan for Clean Air Dera Baba Nanak
(xii) Action Plan for Clean Air Naya Nangal
(xiii) Action Plan for Clean Air Patiala
(xiv) Action Plan for Waste Management
(xv) Action Plan for Bio Medical Waste Management
(xvi) Action Plan for Plastic Waste Management

5. These action plans provide for governance and supervision at the District Level by constituting District Level Committees under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner.

6. And whereas, the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) vide D.O. No. Q-16017/12/2019-CPA dated 24.04.2019 requested the State to constitute Implementation Committee at the City Level under the Chairmanship of either District Magistrate or the Commissioner of the Municipal Corporation for day to day monitoring and implementation of National Clean Air Program.