

**Minutes of 3rd Meeting of River Rejuvenation Committee (RRC) held on 23/01/2019
at 3rd Floor, Kalpataru Point, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Sion, Mumbai –
400 022.**

The Hon'ble NGT Principal Bench has issued an order on 20th September, 2018 In order to comply 2nd Meeting of River Rejuvenation Committee (RRC) was convened on 23/01/2019 as per the Maharashtra Government G.R. issued by the Environment Dept, GoM vide No. NGT 2018/PC-2/TC-3 dtd.13/12/2018.

The Following officials were present for the meeting:

- 1) Shri. E. Ravendiran, Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board
- 2) Shri. S. K. Nikam, Director, Environment Dept, GoM, Mumbai
- 3) Shri. B. S. Behere, Deputy Director, Directorate of Municipal Administration Representative

The following issues were discussed and decided:

Point	Discussion	Outcome	Timeline
1	The Maharashtra State has river which are not perennial in nature the majority of the rivers are seasonal	Some of the rivers are flowing in the monsoon rest of the year it doesn't have any water in the river bed. It has resulted into no dilution available in the river.	It will be verified from river to river as some of the rivers flows during rains.
2	While comparing data of the year 2016 and 2017 CPCB has come up with the 53 polluted stretches in the Maharashtra.	While comparing the data of the last one year (Jan 18 to Dec 18) it has observed that, 12 stretches are now either dry or within the 3 mg/l of BOD. 1) Priority I stretches has come down from number 9 to 4 2) Priority II stretches has come down from number 6 to 4 3) Three rivers which were earlier declared as polluted, now confirm the <3mg/l BOD Standard and 9 stretches observed as dry. Total polluted stretches are now 41.	The table mentioning comparative chart of CPCB's report in comparison with data of 2018 is attached at Annexure I.
3	Preparation of the action plans of polluted river stretches	1. The Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) has already submitted modified action plans for 09 Priority-I and 06	20 th January 2019

		<p>priority-II polluted river stretches Action plans for polluted river stretches were reviewed by RRC in its 2nd meeting.</p> <p>2. Action plans for remaining 38 river stretches of Priority-III, IV & V are reviewed by RRC.</p> <p>3. It is decided that field offices will coordinate with local bodies to collect information regarding budgetary provision and source of funding for sewage collection and treatment.</p> <p>4. Timelines for completion of STPs in the draft action plans are too long. It is decided that field offices will coordinate with local bodies and revisit the timelines.</p>	
4	Status of STPs	The above action plans includes status of the existing STPs of the towns at the bank of river with proposed plan of STPs for the said towns. There is no provision for STPs to be provided by villages.	The present status and proposed plan of STPs will be verified on case to case basis. But there is difficulty to provide STPs at village level
5	Action taken by MPCB for pollution caused by discharge of sewage into rivers	a. The MPCB has already introduced and is implementing by directing to the urban local bodies to reserve 25% of their budgetary funds to be used only for sewage and solid waste management. Accordingly Maharashtra State has 27 municipal Corporations generating 87% of the total sewage of the state are made mandatory to reserve such funds. All these 27 corporations have confirmed funds reservation from year 2015 onward. Details enclosed for Municipal Corporations in the Annexure-II.	Board is reviewing timely utilization of Funds through Regional Officers. It will be re verified by the Committee.

		<p>b. All Construction Projects are issued Consent stipulating BOD Discharge limit as 10mg/Lit and it is made mandatory to recycle minimum 60% of the generated sewage and such Projects are not allowed to discharge treated effluent in the river.</p> <p>c. The Consented standards to the STPs are stipulated as per the Revised Standards of MoEF&CC.</p> <p>d. Board has issued Directions to 16 Municipal Corporations and 29 Municipal Councils & Cantonments located at bank of river for complying the Order of Hon. NGT Principal Bench dtd. 20.09.2018. For submission of Time-Bound Action Plan for minimization of Pollution of Rivers in a time bound manner.</p> <p>e. 09 directions issued to the Municipal Corporations for providing adequate treatment facility for sewage.</p>	
6	Action taken by MPCB for pollution caused by discharge of industrial effluents into rivers	<p>MPCB has already decided the action plan for minimization of the pollution from industries:</p> <p>a. The industries are not allowed to discharge treated/untreated effluent into the river since year 2000. Only 3 industries are allowed to discharge treated effluent to the river after achieving the stream standards.</p> <p>b. The Randomized Risk Based inspection & sampling is being carried out by MPC Board on the basis of following objectives.</p> <p>i. Randomized generation of computerized list of</p>	MPCB has taken initiatives.

industries for inspection based on predetermined objectives and criteria. As far as Environmental sampling is concerned, the existing protocol will be followed.

ii. To prioritize serious pollution related matters under the mandatory inspection list.

iii. Complaint based and emergency list of inspection under specific circumstances will be determined centrally after examination of data and evidences.

c. The Maharashtra Pollution Control Board has already made mandatory to the industries from 17 categories to provide online real time continuous monitoring system.


d. The Maharashtra Pollution Control Board is granting Consent to Establish stipulating pre-condition, to provide adequate Effluent Treatment Plant. While granting consent to operate, it is duly verified the adequacy of Effluent Treatment Plant provided and based on the inspections, the Consent to Operate is issued. Regular renewal is also granted after verification of functional Effluent Treatment Plant and its adequacy of operation & maintenance.

e. To ensure the transparency & strong monitoring mechanism, the MPC Board is carrying out randomized risk based inspection & sampling. The inspection is coupled with sampling and wherever non-compliances are observed, various penal actions are

		<p>initiated including closure directions. Wherever accidental discharges are observed, the immediate actions are initiated.</p> <p>f. The non-compliances are treated transparently as defined in the Enforcement Policy framed by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board vide Notification dtd.29/02/2016 to integrate various aspects including inspections, monitoring standards, compliances, directions, remedial measures, filing of complaints before the various Courts of Law, as per the provisions of various Environmental Laws based on culpability, environmental damages, severity of pollution, repeated violations etc.</p>	
7	Monitoring of action plan	It is decided that MPCB will review the status of proposed STPs with concerned local body authorities after every three months.	
8	Website inviting public participation from educational institutions, religious institutions and commercial establishments	A separate icon is provided on the MPCB website provided for Public Participation and all the action plans & other details regarding polluted river stretches are displayed on the website.	--
9	Current Status of polluted river stretches	<p>MPCB has checked the current data of 2018 from January to December 2018 and found that</p> <p>4) Priority I stretches has come down from number 9 to 4</p> <p>5) Priority II stretches has come down from number 6 to 4</p> <p>6) Priority III stretches has come down from number 14 to 08</p>	Annexure I

		<p>7) Priority IV stretches has remained same as 10</p> <p>8) Priority V stretches has gone up from number 14 to 15</p> <p>9) Three stretches have found less polluted i.e. BOD is less than or equal to 3 mg/l and nine stretches dry.</p>	
10	Awareness Programme	<p>MPCB has conducted Awareness Programmes regarding minimization of polluted river stretches jointly with Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi and SPCBs in India at Yeshwantrao Chavan Auditorium near Mantralaya on 25th April 2018. The said event was attended by 610 participants from Corporations, Councils and SPCBs from other states.</p> <p>The State Government is reviewing status of STPs of Local Bodies regularly.</p>	Similar kind of Awareness Programmes shall be organised frequently to sensitize Local Bodies and Public at large.
11	The information as per CPCB letter dtd. 10.01.2019.	I. Basic information about the polluted river stretches	The information included in action plan except ground water quality & health status. It will be placed in RRC & submitted to CPCB.
		II. With respect to industrial pollution control.	The major industrial statistics is provided with compliance and OCEMS details. The detailed list will be reviewed by RRC and submitted.
		III. Identification of major sources required to be controlled based on pollution load.	The information of solid waste management status is enclosed for entire Maharashtra in Annexure-III.

			Biomedical waste status enclosed in Annexure-IV
		IV. Detailed gap analysis for identification of requisite infrastructure for control of river pollution.	The timeline is enclosed in action plans for completion of sewage management.
		V. Monitoring mechanism for proposed action plan.	RRC will monitor the plans in a time bound manner.
		VI. Financial estimates for action plans	Financial estimates for sewage management is included in action plans.
		VII. Proposed plan for maintaining e-flow.	The matter will be referred to Government.
		VIII. The action plans submitted after approval of RRC.	RRC has approved the action plans.
		IX. Action plan is prepared based on rejuvenation of River Hindon.	All action plans are prepared based on River Hindon.


(E. Ravendiran, IAS)
 Member Secretary & Convenor of RRC