

**MINUTES OF THE 51st MEETING (SPECIAL MEETING) OF THE
GOA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
HELD ON 15th JULY, 2002 AT 3.30 PM IN THE CHAMBER OF THE
CHIEF SECRETARY/CHAIRMAN, GSPCB, SECRETARIAT, PANAJI.**

I. The 51st meeting (Special meeting) of the Goa State Pollution Control Board was held in the Chamber of the Chief Secretary/Chairman, Secretariat, Panaji on 15th July, 2002 at 3.30 pm.

The following members were present for the meeting:

1.	Shri Baleshwar Rai, Chief Secretary	Chairman
2.	Dr. A.V. Salelkar, Director, Health Services	Member
3.	Shri S.S. Parabhudessai, Chief Inspector, Factories and Boilers	Member
4.	Adv. Dileshwar Naik	Member
5.	Ms. Nilam Naik, Member, Zilla Parishad	Member
6.	Mrs. Kamalini Paigainkar, Chairperson, Margao Mun. Council	Member
7.	Dr. N.P.S. Varde, Director, S.T.E	Member
8.	Shri Pramod Shetye, Managing Director, G.T.D.C	Member
9.	Shri P.P. Borkar, Chief Engineer, P.W.D	Member
10.	Shri A.A. Parulekar	Member Secretary

The following members did not attend the meeting:

1. Shri Ashok Naik, Chairperson, Panjim Municipal Council
2. Mrs. Kunda S. Chodankar, Vice President, Zilla Parishad, North
3. Mrs. Zinia S. Dias, Member Zilla Parishad, North
4. Shri Nitin Kunkolienkar, President Goa Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Chairman informed the members, that this Special meeting has been convened to discuss the problems created by pollution of St. Inez nallah which has been brought before the Hon. High Court vide Writ Petition no. 30/2002. He suggested that, at the first instance the Board may appraise the action plan of the concerned agencies.

With the permission of the Chairman, Member Secretary briefly explained the contents of the Writ Petition no. 30/2002. He further placed before the Board the submission made by Panjim Municipal Council (P.M.C) and Executive Engineer In-charge of Panaji Sewage Treatment Plant (S.T.P), vide their Affidavit in reply filed before the Hon. High Court. He also placed before the Board the information given by the Executive Engineer In-charge of Panaji S.T.P. in reply to the notice given to him by the Board.

The members requested Chief Engineer, Public Works Department (P.W.D) to place before the Board the details of the action taken by his department up till now and the action plan for implementation in the near future.

Chief Engineer, P.W.D explained that the S.T.P at Tonca- Panaji, was designed and commissioned in 1967. One 400 mm dia. asbestos cement pipe line was laid to carry the treated effluent from the plant to Mandovi river for final disposal. His department has already replaced the old pipe line by 500 mm dia. ductile iron pipe line in January, 2001. In July 2000, the old pump sets which were pumping the effluent from the S.T.P. to the final point of disposal into the river Mandovi are also replaced by two new 50 H.P. pumps. One of these two pumps is a stand-by arrangement. The disposal point is located 50 metres inside the river to achieve proper dilution and dispersion. He further informed that the new pipe line and pump sets are working very efficiently and no effluent is being discharged into the St. Inez nallah.

Chief Engineer P.W.D. further informed that his department is in the process of implementation of a project entitled 'Environmental Upgradation of Panaji City Phase - I. This project is approved and partly financed by Ministry of Environment. & Forests, Govt. of India under the 'National River Conservation Plan.' He explained that the project is broadly divided into four stages.

The Stage I comprises of construction of additional S.T.P of 12.5 MLD capacity and at the same time renovating and re-modeling of the existing

treatment plant. The estimated cost of these two works together, is Rs. 730.95 lakhs. The process of implementation of this project is already initiated.

As a stage II of the project, the pipe line discharging the treated effluent will be further extended up to 120 metres inside the river. A diffuser will be fixed on the mouth of the pipe. The estimated cost of this project is Rs. 69 lakhs. This work will be commissioned along with the new S.T.P. so that the dispersion of the treated effluent within the river water will be further improved.

His department is also designing a plant for further conditioning of the treated effluent to make it fit for irrigation and gardening. This ambitious plant will be taken up for execution at stage III of the Environmental Up-gradation plan of Panaji City (Phase I), at an estimated cost of Rs. 193 lakhs.

As a stage 4 of this project, his department will be taking up extension of under ground sewer lines to cover the left out portion of the city. The survey and design work for this job is proposed to be stated by end of the monsoons.

Director STE informed the Board that, the Government of Goa has constituted a project Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Environment), for monitoring implementation of this project both from financial and technical angle.

Chairman informed the members that phase II of the project for 'Environmental Up-gradation for Panaji City' will be implemented by Water Resource Department (W.R.D) of Government of Goa. The project is already submitted to Govt. of India for approval and financial assistance. This phase II is focused on improvisation of the drainage conditions of the two nallahs namely 'St. Inez nallah' and 'St. Cruz nallah'. These two nallahs are draining the catchment comprising of Panaji City and some surrounding areas. The W.R.D has prepared a detailed project for improving the drainage capacity of these nallahs by desilting and by constructing the bank protection walls. The estimated cost of this project is Rs. 14.38 Crores. After completion of the project, the nallahs will efficiently flush the rain water during the monsoons, which will eliminate flooding of low lying areas during heavy rains.

The Board perused the information placed before them and expressed that both P.W.D and W.R.D have already carried out exhaustive planning for protection and improvisation of both the nallahs flowing through Panaji city. The

Board further opined that both the depts. are the competent authorities having necessary expertise and infrastructure for effective implementation of the projects. The Board resolved to convey to both the departments that, they should work out a detail implementation schedule for commissioning of both the phases of the project to ensure that they will be completed in totality, without any bottlenecks, and keep the Board informed about their planning and progress, from time to time.

Chairman inquired from Chief Engineer, P.W.D the progress made in re-commissioning of the sewage treatment plant at Patto Plaza, which was discharging the sewage into 'St. Cruz nallah'. Chief Engineer, P.W.D informed that the S.T.P constructed by E.D.C for Patto Plaza was transferred to his department three months back. The re-commissioning of the same is already completed. About three months time will be required to locate and complete the missing links of the underground sewerage network of Patto Plaza. Chairman advised him to interact with Kadamba Transport Corporation officials and lay a sewerage pipe line from Kadamba bus stand to sewage treatment plant at Patto Plaza. He further advised him to prepare a detail time schedule for execution of this project and complete the same within six months.

Chairperson, P.M.C, who is also a member of the Board has not attended this special meeting even though the notice and agenda note was delivered to his office well in advance. The Board expressed that it is the primary duty of the Municipal Council, to maintain sanitary conditions within the area under their jurisdiction. Since the local authorities are very important stakeholders in controlling pollution, five members of the Board are representing various local authorities. The Board desired that this fact needs to be impressed upon by Chairperson of P.M.C

The Board resolved to issue directions under section 33 A of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, directing the Chief Officer of P.M.C to take immediate steps to clear the St. Inez nallah of all floating matters and to demolish the toilets constructed on the banks of the nallah which are discharging raw sewage directly to the nallah. It was also decided to give 45 days time period for compliance of the directions.

The Board further decided to advise P.M.C to construct sanitary toilets like 'Sulabh toilets' for the traditional residents on the banks of the nallah and also to take steps to connect the toilets to the P.W.D sewer lines at the earliest possible.

II. With the permission of the Chairman, Member Secretary placed before the Board Two Table Items:

TABLE ITEM NO. 1

RECRUITMENT RULES FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE GOA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD.

Member Secretary informed the members that the draft recruitment rules for the employees of the Board approved at the 49th meeting of the Board are returned by the Personnel Department with minor suggestions. The corrections and modifications in the original recruitment rules are as follows:

- a. The age limit for direct recruitment for Group A, B, C, D has been enhanced to 40 years.
- b. The Competent Authority for imposing minor penalty for Group 'B' employees has been changed from Member Secretary to Chairman and accordingly the Board is specified as Appellate authority.
- c. Composition of Departmental Promotion Committee for Group A and B posts is modified to include a member of the Board to be nominated by the Chairman.

Member Secretary further informed the Board that these Recruitment Rules will take effect after formal approval of the State Government in terms of section 12 (3A)(b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.

TABLE ITEM NO. 2

HONORARIUM PAYABLE TO CHAIRMAN

Member Secretary informed the Board that, as per sub-rule 4 of Rule 15 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Rules, 1988, honorarium to be paid to the part-time Chairman is to be approved by the Government on the recommendations of the Board. In 1989, Govt. has granted its approval for honorarium of Rs. 500/-. Since more than 12 years have passed and thereafter this amount is due for revision. Member Secretary proposed that the Board may consider a revised figure for recommendation to the Government.


Chairman did not participate in the discussions on this item.


After brief discussion, the Board resolved that the recommendation be submitted to the State Government to increase the honorarium payable to the part-time Chairman from Rs. 500/- to Rs. 1000/- per month.

III. The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

Prepared by:

Approved by:


(A.A. Parulekar)
Member Secretary
17/07/02


(Baleshwar Rai, C.S)
Chairman