



ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਰੋਕਥਾਮ ਬੋਰਡ
PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD



SEE(HQ-2)/F.No.703/2026 22-680-98

Dated: 08/10/2026

(Through e-mail only)

To

The Environmental Engineer,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Regional Office, Patiala/ Ludhiana-1/2/3/4/ Batala/
Sangrur/ Jalandhar-1/2/ Amritsar/ Hoshiarpur/ SAS-Nagar/
Roopnagar/ Bathinda/ Fatehgarh Sahib/ Moga/ Faridkot/
Sri Mukatsar Sahib/ Tarn-Taran.

Subject: Direction under section 18(1)(b) of the Water Act, 1974 and the Air Act, 1981- for implementation of Standard Operating Procedure for expeditious disposal of applications for grant of consent & authorization by SPCBs/ PCCs, adoption of proactive approach for ensuring compliance with environmental laws/ norms/ regulations by SPCBs/ PCCs, and creating web-portal for redressal of grievances.

Please find enclosed herewith CPCB letter no. CM-13011/192/2022-LAW-HO-CPCB-HO Part(2)-19639/5959 dated 21.08.2026 regarding directions under section 18(1)(b) of the Water Act, 1974 and the Air Act, 1981- for implementation of Standard Operating Procedure for expeditious disposal of applications for grant of consent & authorization by SPCBs/ PCCs, adoption of proactive approach for ensuring compliance with environmental laws/ norms/ regulations by SPCBs/ PCCs, and creating web-portal for redressal of grievances for information and implementation. A copy of above said SOPs circulated by CPCB vide letter no. CM-13011/192/2022-LAW-HO-CPCB-HO Part(2)- (C.No.19639) dated 27.02.2026 is also attached herewith for ready reference.

DA/ as above

[Signature]
8/10/2026

Chief Environmental Engineer (U.P.)

Endst. No. SEE(HQ-2)/2026/..... 22-699-702

Dated: 08/10/2026

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

1. The Chief Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Patiala/ Ludhiana/ Jalandhar/ Bathinda/ HQ/ PBIP.
2. The Senior Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, HQ-I/II/III, Zonal Office, Patiala-I/II, Ludhiana-I/II, Jalandhar, Amritsar and Bathinda.
3. The Senior Law Officer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Head Office, Patiala.
4. The Environmental Engineer (Computer), Punjab Pollution Control Board, Patiala for uploading the communication on website of the Board.

DA/ as above

[Signature]
8/10/2026
Chief Environmental Engineer (U.P.)



केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड
CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार.
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE, GOVT. OF INDIA.

By Registered Post

F. No. CM-13011/192/2022-LAW-HO-CPCB-HO Part (2)- 19639

August 21, 2026

To,

The Chairman,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Vatavaran Bhawan, Nabha Road,
Patiala – 147001.

DIRECTION UNDER SECTION 18(1)(b) OF THE WATER (PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF POLLUTION) ACT, 1974 AND THE AIR (PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF POLLUTION) ACT, 1981 – FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR EXPEDITIOUS DISPOSAL OF APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT OF CONSENT & AUTHORIZATION BY SPCBS/ PCCS, ADOPTION OF PROACTIVE APPROACH FOR ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS/NORMS/REGULATIONS BY SPCBS/PCCS, AND CREATING WEB-PORTAL FOR REDRESSAL OF GRIEVANCES

WHEREAS, under section 16 (2)(b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and under Section 16 (2)(c) of the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, one of the functions of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), constituted under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, is to coordinate activities of the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs); and

WHEREAS, under section 16 (2)(c) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and under Section 16 (2)(d) of the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, one of the functions of the CPCB is to provide technical assistance and guidance to SPCBs and PCCs; and

WHEREAS, under Section 25 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and Section 21 of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, no person shall, without the previous consent of the State Pollution Control Board/Pollution Control Committee, establish or take any steps to establish any industry, operation or process, or any treatment and disposal system or any extension or addition thereto, which is likely to discharge sewage or trade effluent into a stream or well or sewer or on land and establish or operate any industrial plant in an air pollution control area; and

WHEREAS, as per Rule 6 (1) of the Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016, every occupier of the facility who is engaged in handling, generation, collection, storage, packaging, transportation, use, treatment, processing, recycling, recovery, pre-processing, co-processing, utilisation, offering for sale, transfer or disposal of the hazardous and other wastes shall be required to make an application in Form 1 to the State Pollution Control Board and obtain an authorisation from the State Pollution Control Board.

WHEREAS, as per Rule 10 of the Biomedical Waste Management Rules, 2016, “every occupier or operator handling bio-medical waste, irrespective of the quantity shall make an application

Contd....2/-

Run

‘परिवेश भवन’ पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली – 110032.

Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 110 032.

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

in Form II to the prescribed authority i.e. State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) and Pollution Control Committee (PCC), as the case may be, for grant of authorisation and the prescribed authority shall grant the provisional authorisation in Form III and the validity of such authorisation for bedded health care facility and operator of a common facility shall be synchronised with the validity of the consents"; and

WHEREAS, as per Rule 41 of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026, SPCB/PCC is required to examine applications for authorization submitted by waste processing facilities in Form I, considering the requirement of consents under respective enactments and considering views of other agencies as mentioned in the Rule, and issue authorization within sixty days in Form II to the local body or an operator of a facility or any other agency authorised by local body stipulating compliance criteria and environmental standards as specified in Schedules II and III including other conditions, as may be necessary. The validity of the authorization is to be synchronized with the validity of the consents. SPCBs/PCCs may suspend or cancel the authorization issued, if the local body or operator of the facility fails to operate the facility as per the conditions stipulated, after providing notice to the local body or operator, as the case may be. SPCB/PCC shall grant or renew the authorization for the next five years, after examining every renewal applications on merit, and subject to the condition that the operator of the facility has fulfilled all the provisions of the rules, standards or conditions specified in the authorization, consents or environment clearance. In case , the SPCB/PCC proposes to refuse to grant or renew an authorization, it shall do so only after giving the applicant a reasonable opportunity of being heard and for reasons to be recorded in writing.

WHEREAS, The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), New Delhi, in the matter of Naveen Kumar Vs Union of India & Ors. (Original Application No. 820/2022), vide order dated 08.10.2025 directed the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to prepare Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and issue appropriate directions to SPCBs/PCCs of all the States and UTs for (i) expeditious disposal of applications for grant of authorization/CTE/CTO by SPCBs/PCCs within prescribed periods; (ii) adoption of Proactive approach for ensuring compliance with environmental laws/norms by issuing appropriate circulars, letters, notices and making requisite inspections, giving requisite directions for specific remedial measures with specific timelines and pass appropriate orders including conditional/absolute closure orders to the concerned Project Proponents as may be required; and (iii) to create web-portal for redressal of grievances and to look into complaints regarding violation of environmental laws/norms made with relevant details and supporting material and to take requisite remedial action on the same in accordance with law and also to inform the complainant about the action taken on the complaint with specific information regarding availability of legal remedy of appeal/revision against the same and also to upload the information regarding the same on the web-portal; and

WHEREAS, CPCB prepared Standard Operating Procedure in consultation with SPCBs/PCCs for Expeditious disposal of applications for grant of Consent & Authorization by SPCBs/ PCCs, adoption of proactive approach for ensuring compliance with environmental laws/norms/regulations by SPCBs/PCCs, and creating web-portal for redressal of grievances and also to upload the information regarding the same by them; and

Contd...3/-

Pms

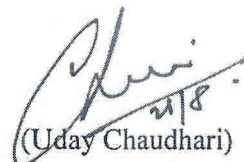
..3..

WHEREAS, the said Standard Operating Procedure was circulated to all SPCBs/PCCs by CPCB vide letter dated 27.02.2026 requesting to take necessary action for implementation of the said Standard Operating Procedure and to intimate action taken in this regard to CPCB; and

WHEREAS, the Hon'ble NGT, after going through the Action Taken Report and SOP, has directed CPCB, vide order dated 14.05.2026, to monitor implementation of the SOP periodically and also the creation of web portals by the SPCBs and PCCs by issuing requisite directions in exercise of its statutory powers for appropriate compliance.

NOW THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred to Central Pollution Control Board under Section 18(1)(b) of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and under Section 18(1)(b) of the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, SPCBs/PCCs are hereby directed to take appropriate actions as per aforesaid SOP (circulated vide CPCB letter dated 27.02.2026) for its implementation.

The SPCBs/PCCs shall acknowledge the receipt of this direction immediately and shall submit the action taken report to the CPCB within 30 days from the date of receipt of this direction.


(Uday Chaudhari)

Member Secretary



By Speed-Post

CM-13011/192/2022-LAW-HO-CPCB-HO Part(2) – (C. No. 19639)

February 27, 2026

To,

The Member Secretary,
All SPCBs/UTs

Sub: Standard Operating Procedure for Expeditious disposal of applications for grant of Consent & Authorization by SPCBs/ PCCs, adoption of proactive approach for ensuring compliance with environmental laws/norms/regulations by SPCBs/PCCs, and creating web-portal for redressal of grievances and also to upload the information regarding the same by them – reg.

Sir,

This has reference to the Hon'ble NGT Order dated 08.10.2025 in O.A. No. 820/2022 (Naveen Kumar vs. Union of India & Ors.), wherein CPCB was directed to prepare a Standard Operating Procedure(SOP) regarding expeditious disposal of applications for grant of Consent & Authorization by SPCBs/PCCs, adoption of a proactive approach for ensuring compliance with environmental laws/norms/regulations by SPCBs/PCCs, and creating a web portal for redressal of grievances and also to upload the information regarding the same by them.

In compliance with the aforesaid directions of the Hon'ble Tribunal, CPCB has prepared the SOP and a copy of the same is enclosed herewith for ready reference.

It is requested to kindly take necessary action for implementation of the said SOP in your State/UT. Action taken in this regard be also intimated to this office within a month.

Yours faithfully,



(Bharat K Sharma)
Member Secretary

Encl: As above

o/c

List 1 (SPCBs/PCCs)

✓ 1. Andhra Pradesh State Pollution Control Board, D.No. 33-26-14 D/2, Near Sunrise Hospital, Pushpa Hotel Centre, Chalamvari Street, Kasturibaipet, Vijayawada – 520010, Andhra Pradesh	✓ 2. Bihar State Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, Plot No. NS-B/2, Paliputra Industrial Area, Patliputra, Patna - 800023, Bihar
✓ 3. Arunachal Pradesh State Pollution Control Board, Paryavaran Bhawan, Papu Hill, Yupia Road, Naharlagun- 791110, Arunachal Pradesh	✓ 4. Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee, Paryavaran Bhawan, Ground Floor, Sector-19 B, Madhya Marg, Chandigarh - 160019
✓ 5. Assam Pollution Control Board, Bamunimaidan, Guwahati- 781021, Assam	✓ 6. Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board, Paryavas Bhavan, Paryavas Bhavan, North Block Sector-19, Atal Nagar, Raipur -492002, Chhattisgarh
✓ 7. Andaman & Nicobar Islands Pollution Control Committee, Department of Science & Technology, Dollygunj Van Sadan, Haddo P.O., Port Blair-744102, Andaman & Nicobar	✓ 8. Pollution Control Committee, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, 1st Floor, Udhyog Bhavan Bhenslore, Dumetha Nani Daman, Daman – 396 210, Daman
✓ 9. Delhi Pollution Control Committee, Government of N.C.T. Delhi, 4th Floor, ISBT Building, Kashmere Gate, Delhi-110006	✓ 10. Haryana State Pollution Control Board, C-11, Sector-6, Panchkula-134109, Haryana
✓ 11. Gujarat Pollution Control Board, Paryavan Bhavan, Sector 10-A, Gandhinagar – 382043, Gujarat	✓ 12. Himachal Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Him Parivesh, Phase-III, New Shimla- 171009, Himachal Pradesh
✓ 13. Goa State Pollution Control Board, Nr. Pilerne Industrial Estate, Opp. Saligao Seminary, Saligao - Bardez – 403511, Goa	✓ 14. Jharkhand Pollution Control Board, T.A Building, HEC, P.O. Dhurwa, Ranchi – 834004, Jharkhand
✓ 15. Jammu & Kashmir State Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, Forest Complex, Gladni, Narwal, transport Nagar, Jammu - 180004, Jammu and Kashmir	✓ 16. Nagaland Pollution Control Board, Signal Point, Dimapur- 797112, Nagaland
✓ 17. Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Parisara Bhavan, 4th & 5th Floor, # 49, Church Street, Bangalore-560001, Karnataka	✓ 18. Odisha Pollution Control Board, A-118, Nilakanta Nagar, Unit –VIII, Bhubaneswar – 751012, Odisha
✓ 19. Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Plamoodu Jn., Pattom Palace P.O., Thiruvananthapuram-695004, Kerala	✓ 20. Pondicherry Pollution Control Committee, Housing Board Complex, Anna Nagar- 600005, Pondicherry

List 1 (SPCBs/PCCs)	
✓ 21. Lakshadweep Pollution Control Committee, Department of Science, Technology & Environment, Kavarati-682555, Lakshadweep	✓ 22. Punjab Pollution Control Board, Vatavaran Bhawan, Nabha Road, Patiala – 147001, Punjab
✓ 23. Ladakh Pollution Control Committee, Wildlife Office Building, Near Council Secretariat, Opposite Police Station Housing Colony, UT Leh Ladakh – 194101, Ladakh	✓ 24. Rajasthan Pollution Control Board, 4, Jhalana Institutional Area, Jhalana Doongri, Jaipur- 302004, Rajasthan
✓ 25. Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kalpataru Point, 2 nd - 4 th Floor, (Opp. Cine Planet Cinema), Nr. Sion Circle, Sion, Mumbai – 400022, Maharashtra	✓ 26. Sikkim State Pollution Control Board, Department of Forest, Environment & Wildlife Management, Deorali, Gangtok, - 737102, Sikkim
✓ 27. Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board, E-5, Arera Colony, Paryavaran Parisar, Bhopal- 462016, Madhya Pradesh	✓ 28. Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, 76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai - 600032, Tamil Nadu
✓ 29. Manipur Pollution Control Board, Lamphelpat, Near Imphal West D.C. Office, Imphal – 795004, Manipur	✓ 30. Telangana State Pollution Control Board, Paryavaran Bhawan, A-3, I.E. Sanath Nagar, Hyderabad - 500018, Telangana
✓ 31. Meghalaya Pollution Control Board, Arden-Lumpyngngad, Shillong- 793014, Meghalaya	✓ 32. Mizoram Pollution Control Board, New Secretariat Complex, Khatla Thlanmual Peng, Khatla, Aizawl- 796001, Mizoram
✓ 33. Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Building No. TC-12V, Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow - 226010, Uttar Pradesh	✓ 34. Tripura Pollution Control Board, Vigyan Bhawan Pandit Nehru Complex, Gorkhabasti, PO: Kunjaban, Agartala – 799006, Tripura
✓ 35. West Bengal Pollution Control Board, Paribesh Bhavan, 10A, Block-L.A., Sector III, Bidhan Nagar, Kolkata – 700106, West Bengal	✓ 36. Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board, Gaura Devi Bhawan, 46 B IT Park Sahastradhara, Dehradun – 248001, Uttarakhand

Standard Operating Procedure for Expeditious disposal of applications for grant of Consent & Authorization by SPCBs/ PCCs, adoption of proactive approach for ensuring compliance with environmental laws/norms/regulations by SPCBs/PCCs, and creating web-portal for redressed of grievances and also to upload the information regarding the same by them



CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
(Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change)
East Arjun Nagar, Delhi – 110 032
February 2026

Standard Operating Procedure for expeditious disposal of applications for grant of Consent & Authorization by SPCBs/ PCCs, Adoption of proactive approach for ensuring compliance with environmental laws/norms/regulations by SPCBs/PCCs, and Creating web-portal for redressal of grievances and also to upload the information regarding the same by them

1.0 Background

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), New Delhi, in Naveen Kumar Vs Union of India & Ors. (Original Application No. 820/2022), concerning alleged violations of environmental norms by Shivalik Hospital, Una, Himachal Pradesh, vide order dated 08.10.2025 directed the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to frame a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to ensure time bound, transparent and technology driven disposal of applications relating to Consent to Establish (CTE), Consent to Operate (CTO) under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Authorization within prescribed periods by the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs). The Hon'ble Tribunal further emphasized the adoption of a proactive approach for enforcement of environmental regulations instead of reaction based compliance and to create web-portal for Public disclosure of pending cases and reasons for delay, redressal of grievances & uploading the information regarding the same. The relevant para of the said order are as below:

“96. Incidents of such unreasonable delays in disposal of applications for grant of authorization/CTE/CTO by SPCBs/PCCs abound and also surface in numerous cases coming up before this Tribunal which warrant taking of appropriate remedial measures.

*97. We are of the considered view that applications for grant of authorization and CTE/CTO need to be disposed of within statutorily prescribed periods of 90 days under Rule 10 (3) of BWM Rules, 2016 and four months under Section 25 (7) of the Water Act, 1974 as long unreasonable delay in disposal of applications for grant of authorization and CTE/CTO leads to corruption and also other complications and remedial measures are required to be taken to prevent the same. Accordingly, CPCB is directed to **prepare SoP** and to **issue appropriate directions** for disposal of applications for authorization and grant of CTE/CTO by SPCBs/PCCs in time bound manner within the prescribed periods **and** also for uploading of the information on website of the concerned SPCB/PCC and on the website of the concerned Regional Office regarding pendency of the applications beyond the prescribed period and reasons for delay.*

...

*100. Accordingly, in exercise of powers under Sections 14 and 15 of the NGT Act, 2010, CPCB is directed to **prepare SoP** and **issue appropriate directions** to SPCBs/PCCs of all the States and UTs for*

*(i) **expeditious disposal of applications for grant of authorization/CTE/CTO by SPCBs/ PCCs within prescribed periods;***

(ii) adoption of Proactive approach for ensuring compliance with environmental laws/norms by issuing appropriate circulars, letters, notices and making requisite inspections, giving requisite directions for specific remedial measures with specific timelines and pass appropriate orders, including conditional/absolute closure orders to the concerned Project Proponents as may be required; and

(iii) to create web-portal for redressal of grievances and to look into complaints regarding violation of environmental laws/norms made with relevant details and supporting material and to take requisite remedial action on the same in accordance with law and also to inform the complainant about the action taken on the complaint with specific information regarding availability of legal remedy of appeal/revision against the same and also to upload the information regarding the same on the web-portal.

2.0 Prescribed period and SOP for expeditious disposal of Applications for grant of Consent and Authorization by SPCBs/ PCCs

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has notified the following guidelines for Grant, Refusal and Cancellation of Consent under the Section 25 & 27 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Section 21 of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, as follow:

1. Control of Water Pollution (Grant, Refusal or Cancellation of Consent) Guidelines, 2025 (Notified on 30.01.2025 and amended on 23.01.2026)
2. Control of Air Pollution (Grant, Refusal or Cancellation of Consent) Guidelines, 2025 (Notified on 29.01.2025 and amended on 23.01.2026)

Further, the MoEF&CC has also issued notification on exemption of certain category of industrial plants from the Consent mechanism.

1. Notification G.S.R. 761 (E) dated 17.10.2025 on exemption of certain category of industrial plants from the Consent mechanism under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution), Act, 1981
2. Notification G.S.R. 762 (E) 17.10.2025 on exemption of certain category of industrial plants from the Consent mechanism under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution), Act, 1974

The above Guidelines dated 30.01.2025 and 29.01.2025, as amended on 23.01.2026, prescribe that a single-step procedure shall be adopted for granting Consent under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act 1974 and the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act 1981 along with Authorization under various Waste Management Rules notified under the Environment(Protection) Act,1986 as may be applicable. In order to ensure expeditious disposal of applications for the Consent, the above Guidelines prescribe the maximum period for disposal of the Application (grant or refusal) as below:

Disposal of Applications

S. No.	Application	Specified Period (in days)		
		Red	Orange	Green
1	Grant or refusal of Consent to establish	60	45	30
2	Grant or refusal of Consent to operate, first time	90	60	30
3	Grant or refusal of renewal of Consent or expansion or amendment	90	60	30

The above Guidelines dated 30.01.2025 and 29.01.2025, as amended on 23.01.2026, further prescribe that in case the application for consent is not decided by the State Board within the specified period, the case shall be referred to State Level Monitoring Committee constituted under the Guidelines dated 30.01.2025 and 29.01.2025, as amended on 23.01.2026, and the Member Secretary of the State Board shall present the case before the Committee, the Committee shall dispose of the application within thirty days from the date of its receipt. Further, while deciding on such application, the Committee shall look into causes of delay in grant or refusal of the consent and recommend appropriate disciplinary action where the reasons of delay are not justified and the State Board shall comply with such decision. The Committee may also recommend presenting the case for contravention of the Act before concerned adjudicating officer under section 45B of the Act.

Thus the prescribed period and SOP for expeditious disposal of applications for the Consent under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act 1974 (hereinafter referred as Water Act 1974) and the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act 1981 (hereinafter referred as the Air Act 1981) and the provision for a single-step procedure to be adopted for granting Consent under the Water Act 1974 and the Air Act 1981 along with Authorization under various Waste Management Rules notified under the Environment(Protection) Act,1986 as may be applicable is already laid down under the above guidelines dated 30.01.2025 and 29.01.2025, as amended on 23.01.2026.

Under the above Guidelines dated 30.01.2025 and 29.01.2025, as amended on 23.01.2026, CPCB has been entrusted with the responsibility of developing an online portal for implementation of the said guidelines, which shall act as a single point data repository with respect to management and implementation of the aforesaid guidelines. Accordingly, a Unified Consent Management and Authorization System (UCAMS) for grant, refusal or cancellation of the Consent under the Water Act, 1974 and the Air Act, 1981, and the Authorizations under various Waste Management Rules notified under the Environment(Protection) Act,1986 as may be applicable has been developed and implementation of the same is under progress. All the SPCBs/PCCs shall shift to the unified portal at the earliest.

3.0 Adoption of proactive approach by SPCBs/ PCCs for ensuring compliance with environmental laws/norms/regulations

CPCB has already issued direction under Section 18(1)(b) of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 on 12.12.2019 and 12.02.2025 regarding inspection frequency for environmental surveillance of industries. As per the directions for environmental surveillance, industries are required to be inspected preferably at the frequency as mentioned below, unless there are reasons for exception for any particular State:

Sl. No.	Industrial Category/Facility	Frequency of Mandatory inspection for Environmental Surveillance*
1.	Highly Polluting 17 Category Industries	3 months
2.	Red Category (Other than 17 category industries)	6 months
3.	Orange Category Industries	1 year
4.	Green Category Industries	2 year
5.	CBWTF/ CHWSRDF/ CMSWTDF/ CETP/ STP	3 months

(*States/UTs following more aggressive timelines can continue to do so)

In order to prevent emissions/discharges exceeding the prescribed limits and strengthen the compliance monitoring, in addition to periodic inspections, SPCBs/PCCs shall respond proactively to:

- Alerts from OCEMS/other real-time monitoring systems indicating non-compliance (exceedance of emissions, leak detection, bypass flow, etc.) as per online automatic alert generation protocol for OCEMS communication issued vide CPCB's direction dated 12.08.2025 to all SPCBs/PCCs under section 18(1) (b) of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981
- Complaints from citizens, NGOs, local bodies, media, or other stakeholders.
- Incidents like chemical leaks, fire, accidents, environmental hazards, public health threats etc.
- Directions or orders from authorities, as applicable.

The SPCBs/PCCs shall periodically place the information about existing and new/amended environmental rules/guidelines/standards/SOPs/Policy of State/UT Govt., OCEMS requirements, EPR Obligations, Waste Management Obligations, etc. including the best practices for pollution prevention, resource conservation, waste reduction, etc., on the Board's website to disseminate the information for project proponents, associations, stakeholders and public.

4.0 Creating web-portal for management by SPCBs/PCCs and redressal of Grievance and uploading the information regarding the same

Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) operates as a single integrated portal connecting all Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, with role-based access provided to concerned authorities. CPGRAMS is a 24x7 online platform that enables citizens to lodge grievances with public authorities on matters relating to service delivery. The platform is accessible through the CPGRAMS web portal, a standalone mobile application, and the UMANG platform. Each grievance is assigned a unique registration number, enabling online tracking. CPGRAMS also provides a feedback and appeal mechanism, wherein an appeal is enabled if the complainant records feedback as “Poor.”

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) addresses public grievances and complaints relating to violations of environmental laws, rules, and norms received in the CPGRAMS.

In addition, CPCB has developed the SAMEER App to enhance public awareness on air quality and to provide a dedicated platform for air pollution-related grievance redressal. The App provides hourly updated Air Quality Index (AQI) information for more than 289 cities using real-time data from Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS). It offers an interactive map interface, pollutant-wise sub-indices, a monthly AQI calendar, daily AQI bulletins uploaded at 4:00 PM, and air quality advisories through push notifications. The CAAQMS data is also made available to the public.

The SAMEER App also facilitates lodging of air pollution-related complaints in the Delhi-NCR region, allowing complainants to upload photographs with automatic capture of geo-coordinates to accurately identify the pollution source and enable prompt action by the concerned agencies. Complaints are automatically routed to the relevant implementing agencies based on location. In the Delhi-NCR region, more than 40 implementing agencies are integrated with the App.

State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) may develop and operate their own portals for redressal of grievance similar to such CPGRAMS and SAMEER App in case such system is not available in their respective State/UT.
