

Bulletin



Monthly Newsletter



MAHARASHTRA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

MAY 2022



Editorial



We are gladdened to present to the stakeholders MPCB's 15th edition of E-bulletin as we continue to series. This E-bulletin is an attempt to give you a brief insight into the latest happenings in the field in terms of various new initiatives undertaken, awareness programs being carried out by MPCB and introduce the reader to the breakthrough research which is being done in this field.

In this edition of the E-Bulletin, we present an article on Water Quality Index (WQI), some relevant facts and causes of water pollution and the efforts taken by MPCB in wastewater management. A brief write-up about Majhi Vasundhara 2.0 Awards 2022, an Environment Impact Assessment Notification for mandating prior environmental clearance for certain category of projects by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and a circular on the measures taken by CPCB to implement single use plastic ban is brought to notice.

We hope this E bulletin is very much valuable, informative and helpful for the readers. And we will also greet your suggestion & feedback for betterment of our future E-bulletins.

INITIATIVE

Majhi Vasundhara was initiated on 2nd October, 2020 a unique, integrated first ever exercise in India. Majhi Vasundhara (My Earth) is a comprehensive enterprise taken up by the The Environment and Climate Change Department of Maharashtra govt. The main motive behind this is to increase the awareness about the climate change and environmental issues among the citizens and to urge the them to take efforts for protecting the environment.

THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THIS PROJECT WERE :

1. To identify potential action points for the betterment of the environment for the local bodies in Maharashtra.
2. To connect with every citizen at the individual level (#Epledge)
3. To connect with government institutions (Majhi Vasundhara Summit), local and global corporate entities (Majhi Vasundhara Corporates), and bring all national and



international non-profit organizations (Majhi Vasundhara Non-profit) under one umbrella to pioneer change.

4. To inculcate green values in future generations.

Majhi Vasundhara Abhiyan focuses on five elements of nature comprising of Bhumi (Earth), Jala (Water), Vayu (Air), Agni (Energy), Akash (Enhancement) to ensure sustainable development for the State. It was being implemented by 683 local bodies (395 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), 288 Panchayat Raj Institutes (PRIs)).

- Created rainwater conservation potential of about 11,145 Million Litres per year (equivalent of one day of water supply for the Maharashtra state).

- Saving 140 thousand units of electricity through 12.2 lakh LED lights and around 70 thousand Solar Lights.

- Reduction of 3,70,978 tonnes of CO₂ emission per year which is equivalent to CO₂ absorbed by 17 million fully grown trees.

Majhi Vasundhara-2 was launched by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 5th June, 2021. In total, 11968 local bodies (406 ULBs and 11,562 PRIs) have



BHUMI



JAL



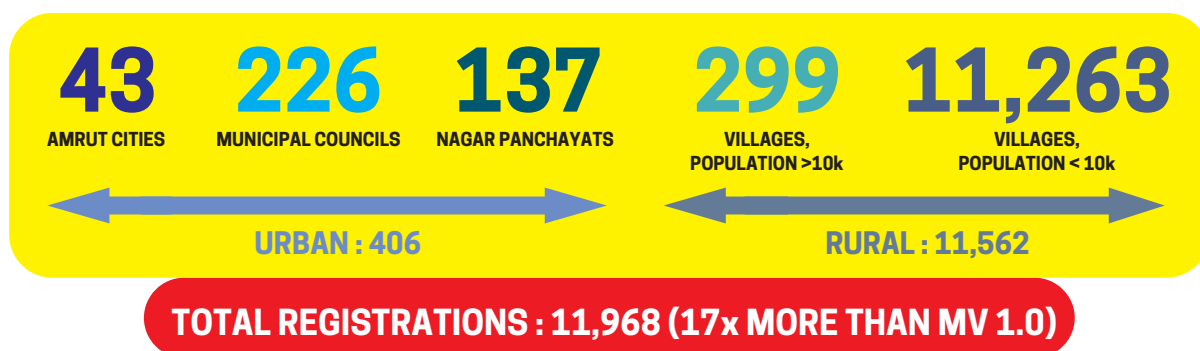
VAYU



AGNI



AKASH



In the first six months of its implementation Majhi Vasundhara Abhiyan (MVA) has contributed the following significant achievements:

- 21.94 Lakh trees planted, which is four times of the Aarey forest in Mumbai.
- Generation of 10,663 tonne of compost per month with an impact of 63,982.5 tonnes of CO₂ sequestration.

participated in MVA-2.0. The Abhiyan period was 16th April 2021 to 31st March 2022.

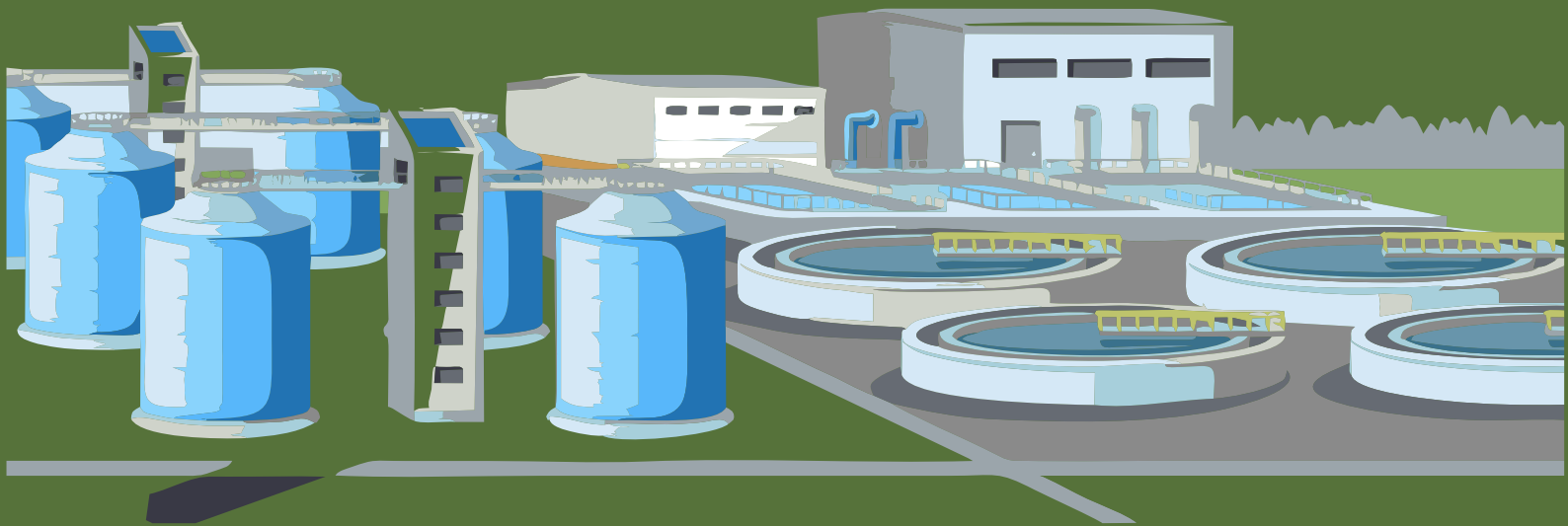
Majhi Vasundhara E-Pledge was launched on 1/1/2021 with the aim to encourage individual citizens to take earth pledge by adopting at least one green and sustainable life style change. MV has recorded 2.2 crore E-Pledges till date.

ARTICLE

WATER QUALITY INDEX (WQI)

Water Quality Index (WQI) is a means by which water quality data is summarized for reporting to the public in a consistent manner. It is similar to air quality index (AQI). It is a mathematical method of calculation used for assessing the overall water quality based on various physico-chemical parameters. The weights in each parameter are based on its respective standards, and the assigned weight indicates the parameter's significance and impacts on the index. The index provides a single number that represents overall water quality at a certain location and time based on some water parameters.





MPCB regularly monitors the water quality across 250 Water Quality Monitoring Stations (WQMS) for both surface and ground water (200 for surface water and 50 for groundwater) under Central Pollution Control Board's project of NWMP. Surface water samples are monitored every month whereas the ground water samples are monitored every six months. In order to have continuous vigilance check on water quality, MPCB has installed WQMS (Water Quality Monitoring Stations) across the State.

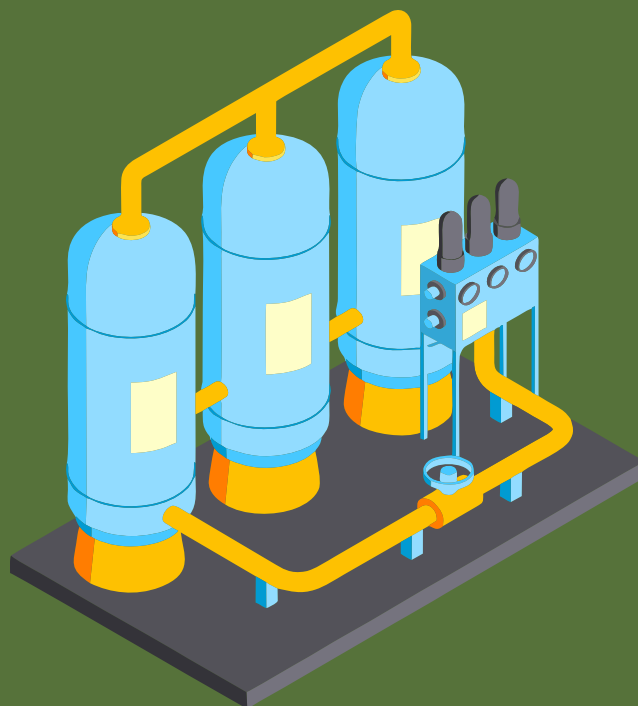
Under the National Water Monitoring Program (NWMP), river biodiversity monitoring of 156 places in 56 rivers of Maharashtra is done in two seasons and the report is presented every year.

During the year 2020-21, under the project of Central Pollution Control Board, the National Water Monitoring Program collected samples of rivers, seas, creeks and gullies of 200 places in Maharashtra every month and monitored their water quality. The results were calculated and published on MPCB website.

Groundwater samples of 50 places are collected twice a year and their results are published on MPCB website for awareness of general public.

MPCB monitors the water quality during the Ganeshotsav festival season every year.

ROLE OF MPCB IN WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT



The large number of water pollutants may be broadly classified under the following categories:

- Organic Pollutants
- Inorganic Pollutants
- Sediments
- Radioactive materials
- Thermal Pollutants



ENVIRONMENT TWEETS



Aaditya Thackeray @AUTHackeray · May 10

नांदेड येथे माझी वसुंधरा अभियानांतर्गत उभारलेल्या विकेंद्रित पद्धतीच्या सांडपाणी प्रक्रिया प्रकल्पास आज भेट दिली. या प्रकल्पामुळे दिवसेंदिवस गंभीर होणाऱ्या शहरातील सांडपाणी व्यवस्थापनाचा प्रश्न मार्गी लागून याद्वारे निर्माण होणाऱ्या शुद्ध पाण्याचा पुनर्वापरही करता येणार आहे.



Hemant Patil and Uday Samant



Aaditya Thackeray @AUTHackeray · May 12

Honoured to deliver my inaugural address at the Climate Crisis 2.0 conference in Mumbai, where we discussed:

- Maharashtra's goals as India's leader in 'Race to Zero'
- Collective responsibility as Government, ULBs, and Industry leadership toward climate resilience



Ministry of Environment & Climate Change, GoM and 4 others



Aaditya Thackeray @AUTHackeray · May 22

मंत्री @Subhash_Desai जी @NitinRaut_INC जी यांच्यासह आज @Davos येथे महाराष्ट्र पॅव्हेलियनचे उद्घाटन केले.

@wef मध्ये महाराष्ट्राचे प्रतिनिधित्व मोठ्या प्रमाणावर दिसत आहे. महाराष्ट्राचे अस्तित्व जागतिक व्यासपीठावर वाढवणे मजबूत महाराष्ट्रासाठीच नव्हे तर बलशाली भारतासाठी आवश्यक आहे



CMO Maharashtra and Office of Uddhav Thackeray



Aaditya Thackeray @AUTHackeray · May 29

timesofindia.indiatimes.com/in-two-years-m...

Maharashtra leading the EV revolution. One of the largest fleets for any ULB/ sub- national governments in the world, thanks to the sustainable development model of CM Uddhav Thackeray ji. In Mumbai itself, we aim to have 10k electric buses by 2026.

In two years, Mumbai will have two electric buses for every km of road

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/in-two-years-mumbai-will-have-two-electric-buses-for-every-km-of-road/articleshow/95484847.cms>

4BAI: In a couple of years, Mumbai will likely have two electric buses for every km of road—the largest in the country with around 4,000 e-buses in the undertaking.

will be almost double the electric fleet in other cities in Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai or Bengaluru.

It has also resolved to go "100% green" by early 2026, by phasing out all diesel vehicles: 23% of buses will continue on CNG for some time before being fully replaced with e-buses, said general manager Chandra. The undertaking is targeting 6.5 million tonnes of CO2 reduction by switching to 10,000 e-buses by 2027.

MUMBAI: In a couple of years, Mumbai will likely boast of two electric buses for every km of road—the largest fleet in the country with around 4,000 e-buses in the undertaking.

CMO Maharashtra and 9 others

56 893 1,549



Aaditya Thackeray @AUTHackeray

16.4K Tweets

crucial goal of sustainable development of our state.

@UNEP @ClimateGroup @c40cities

Dr. Sanjay Mukherjee @DrSanMukherjee · May 24

@CIDCO_Ltd completes process of handing over #Mangroves to #Forest department #NaviMumbai Project Area. Remaining 908.03 Ha transferred.

@CMOMaharashtra @mieknathshinde @AUTHackeray

Show this thread



Aaditya Thackeray @AUTHackeray · May 23

In my meeting with the Netherlands Environment Minister, @vivanneheijnen, we reaffirmed our collaborative commitment and continue to work closely with @NLinMumbai in Maharashtra on crucial issues like solid waste management to efficient climate change mitigation.



World Economic Forum and 9 others

CPCB has undertaken measures to give effect to India's commitment to ban identified Single Use Plastic items by 30th June, 2022, to realise Hon'ble PM's clarion call to phase out SUP. CPCB's multi-pronged approach as part of its Comprehensive Action Plan encompasses measures to reduce supply of raw materials, demand side measures to reduce plastic demand, enabling measures to promote alternatives to SUP, digital interventions for efficient monitoring and to create awareness, and guidance to State Boards for effective implementation of directions. As per the Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules, 2016, there is a complete ban on sachets using plastic material used for storing, packing or selling gutkha, tobacco and pan masala. As per PWM (Amended) Rules, 2021, the manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of carry bags made of virgin or recycled plastic less than seventy-five microns has been banned with effect from 30th Sept, 2021 as opposed to fifty microns recommended earlier under PWM Rules, 2016. Additionally, the notification of 12th August 2021, prohibits manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of the following identified single use plastic items, which have low utility and high littering potential with effect from 1st July, 2022:

Plastic Sticks

**EARBUDS, BALLOONS,
CANDY, ICE-CREAM**

Cutlery items

**PLATES, CUPS, GLASSES,
FORKS, SPOONS, KNIVES, TRAYS**

Packaging / Wrapping Films

**SWEET BOX
INVITATION CARDS
CIGARETTE PACKETS**

Other items

**PVC BANNERS < 100 µm,
POLYSTYRENE FOR DECORATION**

CPCB TAKES MEASURES TO IMPLEMENT THE

SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAN



To curb the supply of identified items, directions have been issued at national, state and local level. For example, all leading petrochemical industries to not supply plastic raw materials to the industries engaged in banned SUP production. Additionally, directions have been issued to SPCB/PCCs to modify / revoke Consent to operate issued under Air/Water Act to industries engaged in banned SUP production. Customs Authority have been asked to stop the import of banned SUP items. To complete the loop, Local Authorities have been being directed to issue fresh commercial licenses with the condition that SUP items shall not be sold on their premises and the existing commercial licenses shall be cancelled, if entities are found to be selling banned SUP items.

As an alternative to the existing supply, enabling measures for promoting alternative to SUP are being actively pursued. Further, an Online portal has been developed to facilitate certification of these manufacturers. To support the MSMEs, CPCB in association with CIPET is organizing Workshops for MSMEs across the country to transition to alternatives to SUP. Three such Workshops have been held at Ranchi, Guwahati & Madurai. Development of alternatives to petro based plastics is also being pursued in collaboration leading technical institutions like IISc and CIPET. On the demand side, directions

have been issued to E-commerce companies, leading single use plastic sellers/users, and plastic raw material manufacturers with respect to phasing out of identified single use plastic items.

To encourage citizens to partake in the efforts, SPCB's and local bodies are organizing large scale awareness drives with participation of all citizens – students, voluntary organisations, self-help groups, local NGOs/CSOs, RWAs, market associations, corporate entities, etc. Previously, CPCB conducted surprise inspections of Gutkha / Pan Masala manufacturing industries across the country to check usage of plastic in packaging of their product.

To create an enabling support system, CPCB is handholding the State Boards to operationalise the advisories issued by conducting meetings so that all the Urban local bodies in the respective states are able to effectively implement the guidelines with their help. Regional Workshops with SPCBs/PCCs in addition to a Central Workshop with Chairpersons of all SPCBs/PCCs is being organised in June 2022.

CPCB is committed to facilitating the Single Use Plastic Ban of notified items through active collaboration with key stakeholders to achieve this ambitious goal of phasing out SUP plastics for India's green future.

NOTIFICATION

12th April, 2022



BY THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Whereas the Central Government in the erstwhile Ministry of Environment and Forests, has published the Environment Impact Assessment Notification for mandating prior environmental clearance for certain category of projects;

And whereas, it is noted that Nuclear Power Projects and Hydro Power Projects have high gestation period due to various issues which are often beyond the control of project proponent and in this context, the Central Government deems it necessary to extend the validity of Environmental Clearance (EC) for such projects;

And whereas, for other projects also, considering the time taken for addressing local concerns including environmental issues related to the implementation of such projects, the Central Government deems it necessary to extend the validity of such Ecs;

And whereas, as per the provisions of Mines & Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, the Central Government deems it necessary to align the validity of mining ECs which is currently permissible up to a maximum duration of thirty years, subject to review and appropriate environmental safeguards;

In the said notification,-

- The "Validity of Environmental Clearance" is meant the period from

which a prior Environmental Clearance is granted by the regulatory authority, or may be presumed by the applicant to have been granted

- To the start of production operations by the project or activity; or completion of all construction operations, to which the application for prior environmental clearance refers:

Provided that in the case of mining projects or activities, the validity shall be counted from the date of execution of the mining lease.

- The prior environmental clearance granted for an existing or new project or activity shall be valid for a period of,-

(a) 13 years in the case of River Valley projects or activities (b) 15 years in the case of Nuclear power projects or activities and processing of nuclear fuel (c) 10 years in the case of all other projects and activities other than the Mining projects and River Valley Projects and Nuclear power projects

(iii) In the case of Area Development projects and Townships, the validity period of 10 years shall be limited only to such activities as may be the responsibility of the applicant as a developer:

Provided that the period of validity of Environmental Clearance may be extended in respect of valid Environmental Clearance, by the regulatory authority concerned by a maximum period of two years in the case of River Valley projects, five years in the case of Nuclear power projects and processing of nuclear fuel and one year in the case of all other projects, if an

application is made in the laid down proforma to the regulatory authority by the applicant within the validity period of the existing Environment Clearance:

Provided further that the regulatory authority may also consult the concerned Expert Appraisal Committee before grant of such extension.

- The prior Environmental Clearance granted for mining projects shall be valid for the project life as laid down in the mining plan approved and renewed by competent authority, from time to time, subject to a maximum of 30 years, whichever is earlier:

Provided that the period of validity of Environmental Clearance with respect to projects or activities may be extended by another 20 years, beyond 30 years, subject to the condition that the adequacy of the existing environmental safeguards laid down in the existing Environmental Clearance shall be examined by concerned Expert Appraisal Committee every 5 years beyond 30 years, on receipt of such application in the laid down proforma from the Project Proponent within the maximum validity period of Environmental Clearance of 30 years, and subsequently on receipt of such application in the laid down proforma from the Project Proponent within the validity period of the extended Environment Clearance, every 5 years for incorporating such additional environment safeguards in the Environmental Management Plan, as may be deemed necessary, till the validity of the mining lease or end of life of mine or 50 years, whichever is earlier.

Refer to the link: <https://egazette.nic.in/WriteReadData/2022/235092.pdf>



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