

## **Achievements on Hazardous Waste Management in Maharashtra**

During the period 2004 -2005 MPCB has been intensely involved in the activities for the environmentally sound management of hazardous waste in the state of Maharashtra. The strong and exemplary actions taken by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board to streamline the enforcement of Hazardous waste Rules, compliance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India directives and directives of the SCMC issued from time to time after their visits to Maharashtra have been appreciated by the Supreme Court Monitoring Committee. This

Maharashtra Pollution Control Board was instrumental in setting up world class CHWTSDF facilities at Talaja and TTC Thane- Belapur. The discrepancy of incineration facility at these TSDFs has also been removed and an incineration capable of destroying the HWs with adequate air pollution control measures has been now established at Talaja TSDF site. This facility has become operational since November, 2004.

Considering the voluminous HW generation in the State of Maharashtra, the two TSDFs were grossly inadequate to cater to the needs of treatment storage and disposal of these HWs in different regions of the state. Therefore, it had become necessary to expand this infrastructure in the other industrial areas. The proposals to set up TSDFs at MIDC Buti Bori, Nagpur and Ranjangaon, Pune have been accorded sanctions and the EIAs of these sites have been completed. It is expected that these facilities will become operational during 2005 and will completely eliminate the needs of storing the HWs by the industries in those regions. Two more TSDFs to be established at Mahad and Shendre are at advanced planning stages. MPCB has been interacting with Goa SPCB for establishing a TSDF either at Lote Parshuram or at a suitable location in South Konkan. This would be possibly a Joint Venture between Goa and Maharashtra in line with the policy of non proliferation of the TSDFs, especially if the waste generation in the neighboring state is less.

Illegal waste dumping in and outside the industrial areas has been an issue of great concern in Maharashtra. To weed out this problem especially the historical HW disposals within the MIDC area at Tarapur, a SLF is being established which will cap the nearly 1.5 lakh tones of illegally dumped HWs. This HW consisting mostly ETP sludge, ash etc. has accumulated on the vacant plot of MIDC over a period of last 10 years or so. The work on this project has already begun and is in advanced stage of completion. The SCMC has been continuously monitoring the work on the SLF and is satisfied with the progress.

The SCMC directives on the maintenance of the quality of treated effluent in Tarapur have been complied with by setting up a new 22 MLD capacity CETP at MIDC, Tarapur. This was a landmark development which has been completed in a record time and the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of CETP has become ready now. The initiatives of MPCB to establish a Local Area Environment Committee have been lauded by SCMC especially the terms of reference of the committee to monitor the compliance of the SCMC directives. The committee is playing a very effective

role in the pollution control at MIDC Tarapur. MPCB has also appointed a Local Area Environment Committee for Dombivali industrial area on the similar lines.

Apart from the problems of illegally dumped HWs in MIDC industrial areas, the HWs lying in the CETP sumps was another challenge for MPCB. However through continued follow up actions, the CETP sludge from the MIDC collection sumps in various industrial areas have been completely removed to the satisfaction of SCMC.

MPCB has realized fine from the industries who had failed to send the HWs to TSDFs. It is for the first time in the country that such a pecuniary action has been taken by the SPCB. Till April 2005, MPCB collected an amount of Rs. 22,48,500/- as per the amended HW Rules.

An innovative effort has been made on the directive of SCMC to detect the illegal HW dumping in Thane district. MPCB has involved NRSA, Hyderabad in this project and attempts are already initiated to develop signatures of illegal dump sites. NRSA study has been financially supported by MPCB by sanctioning Rs. 4.42 lakhs for the project. The work has already begun and expected to be completed in next 4 months. Depending on the results, the scope of this study may be extended to other HW generating districts.

MPCB was able to successfully solve the long pending problem of the Airport Authority of India on about the disposal of the large quantities of the unclaimed / uncleared hazardous chemical goods in the go-down at Cargo complex, Sahar disposal unit CSI Airport, Mumbai. MPCB facilitated the disposal of the above unclaimed hazardous goods in TSDF at Talaja.

Through persistent and focused efforts, MPCB was able to facilitate the disposal of the several consignments of a variety of hazardous wastes lying in the Mumbai Port Trust area since these goods were unclaimed by the importers. MPCB can now boast of total compliance of the SCMC directives on the HWS lying in MbPT area.

Through the painstaking efforts of MPCB, the disposal of the waste oil / used oil lying unclaimed by the importers at JNPT for several years has started. MPCB was able to comply with SC and SCMC directives on this important issue.

The work on re-inventorization of hazardous Waste quantities in all the Regions in Maharashtra (11 Regions) has been completed by MPCB within the SCMC stipulated time frame in May 2005.

The tender process about the BMW treatment and disposal facilities, to be established in the Municipal area of Greater Mumbai, were completed by MPCB as the Project Management Consultants for the MCGM.