

MAHARASHTRA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

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No. MPCB/AST/SOP-Inspection/TB- 200519-F1S-0030

Date: 19/05/2020

To,
The Regional Officer /Sub-Regional Officer/Scientific Officer
MPC Board.

Sub: Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for carrying out Inspection during phase of COVID-19 pandemic in Maharashtra

Maharashtra Pollution Control Board is mandated for Prevention, Control and Abatement of Pollution in the Environment and secure execution thereof. MPCB is granting Consents and Authorizations to all such establishments covered under Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution Act) 1981 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Board is verifying the compliance of consent conditions by regular vigilance to the industries.

Maharashtra is currently facing COVID-19 pandemic issue. Government of India and Government of Maharashtra have issued Government Resolutions/Orders for operation of various essential commodities. Accordingly, Government of Maharashtra also decided to start the support offices/vigilance offices as per the requisite staff strength which was clearly mentioned in the respective GR/Orders to deliver/perform their duties.

As the prime duty of the Board to control the pollution by carrying out inspection of polluting industry and considering the current situation, Board has prepared Standard Operating Procedure (SOP's) for carry out the inspection and collection of joint vigilance samples to minimize the risk of the COVID-19. The copy of SOP is attached herewith.

All Technical & Scientific Officials shall perform their duties of joint vigilance and sample analysis as per the guidelines mentioned in the SOP.

(E. Ravendiran, IAS)
Member Secretary

Copy for favor of inf to: The Hon'ble Chairman, MPC Board Mumbai.

Copy to:

The Asst. Sec. (Tech)/JD (APC)/JD (WPC)/PSO/Regional Officer (HQ), MPC Board Mumbai.

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Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for carrying out Inspection during phase of COVID-19 pandemic in Maharashtra.

1. Introduction:

Maharashtra Pollution Control Board is mandated for Prevention, Control and Abatement of Pollution in the Environment and secure execution thereof. MPCB is granting Consents and Authorizations to all such establishments covered under Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution Act) 1981 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

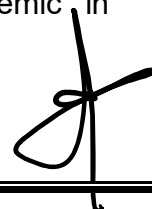
Presently, Board is inspecting/verifying the compliance of industries by following ways:

- a. **Manual Inspection:** In this type, inspection is carried out through Centralized randomized Inspection System (Procedure of the same already published by the Board).
- b. **Online Monitoring System:** Highly polluted industries and Industries located in CETP area were mandated to install Online Monitoring system and directed these industries to transmit their data to Board server.
- c. **Compliance Module:** Board has recently developed compliance module and asked 17 Category and CAC/CC industries to submit daily data to the Board through this module. The data consisting design and operational parameters of pollution control system.

Maharashtra is currently facing COVID-19 pandemic issue. Government of India and Government of Maharashtra have issued Government Resolutions/Orders for operation of various essential commodities industries which included pharma, Bulk Drug and continuous process industries, along with respective supply chains industry.

Accordingly, Government of Maharashtra, also decided to start the support offices/vigilance offices as per the requisite staff strength which was clearly mentioned in the respective GR/Orders to deliver/perform their duties.

As the prime duty of the Board to control the pollution by carrying out inspection of polluting industry and considering the current situation, it was decided to prepare the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP's) for carry out the inspection and collection of joint vigilance samples to minimize the risk of the COVID-19. This SOP is applicable to only the current phase of COVID-19 pandemic in Maharashtra.



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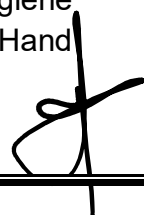
2. Priority of Inspection:

Board officials initially identify the priority of inspection among the industries are working/operational within respective jurisdiction. All operational 17 Category and CAC/CC units to be monitored through Online Monitoring System and data available in compliance module. The physical inspection to be carried out in case of following criteria only by taking due precautions and prior permission from controlling officer.

- a) Compliance of the Hon'ble NGT/Court order.
- b) Any untoward incidents/industrial accidents.
- c) Application received to the Board for Consent to Establish, 1st Consent to Operate or for expansion of all red and orange category industries, all industries where EIA Notification is applicable and all industries wherever the citing criteria is mandated, example Establishment of Stone Crusher, etc. In case of green category Industries, self-declaration about site, machineries, and equipment and site photograph along with GPS coordinate of site shall be taken on record instead of site visit.
- d) Common facilities especially for CBMWSTDF, CETP's, CHWMTF, etc.
- e) Complaint received against the industries regarding discharge of trade effluent/emissions without any treatment in Environment and posing threat to the public life and endangering the environment.
- f) Complaint about illegal disposal of HW & BMW from industries/HCEs.
- g) Environmental Sample collection of State and National program.

3. Precautions to be taken during physical inspection & Sample Collection:

- i. The Officer going for the inspection should be less than 45 Years of age and does not have dependents age more than 60 Years and less than 5 Years who are residing with them.
- ii. Thermal screening is compulsory for daily basis of all officers /staff and record of thermal screening should be kept in office.
- iii. Any symptoms of COVID-19, like fever, cough; sneezing should not attend the office/not carry out the inspection.
- iv. Assign designated vehicle and driver for Inspection (ensure the Office vehicle used)
- v. Apply for the online pass for movement of the vehicles. (From Police Department)
- vi. Vehicle to be sanitized by driver in morning and record of record of sanitizing vehicle should be kept on logbook.
- vii. Officer and driver should perform hand hygiene and wear PPE (mask, goggles, etc.) before entering in the vehicle. They shall perform hand hygiene frequently, particularly after contacted with respiratory secretions. Hand



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hygiene to be carried out either cleaning hands with soap and water or with an alcohol-based hand rub. And record of PPE used should be maintained by inspecting officer/team.

- viii. Similarly, monitoring logistic provider should take measures as per protocol and maintain the record of the officials accompanies Viz. screaming of their Temperature, PPE used, disinfection of Vehicle and instruments/equipment, chemical used for disinfection etc. The record in this regard has to be maintain office wise and shall be produced when asked for check.
- ix. Ensure the social distancing criteria as per the Government guideline while travelling in the vehicles.
- x. The sampling equipment's also to be sanitized before use. (While stack monitoring more precaution are required, as using alcohol-based sanitizer)
- xi. Officer shall carry out inspection and ensure maintenance of social distance with Industry representative during inspection, avoid personnel contact. The sampling/inspection to be carried out as per the prevailing procedure lay down by the Board (on the tab only using inspection module).
- xii. Only one industry representative, who must wear PPE, shall accompany the Board Officials during visit and inspection, and inspecting officer/team should maintain the record of people (name, address of office and home, contact number and mode of transport they use) whom they meet during inspection for contact tracing.
- xiii. The collected sample after seal at the site itself to be handed over to Laboratory by externally sanitizing it.

4. **Precaution to be taken at Laboratory:**

- i. Before receiving the sample receiving officer shall check the sanitizing details.
- ii. All officers/staff at Laboratory shall sufficiently wear PPE and they shall maintain record of PPE used.
- iii. During sample handling officers/staff shall perform hand hygiene and wear PPE (mask, goggles, etc.).
- iv. Ensure the social distancing criteria as per the Government guideline while conducting test.
- v. Laboratory need to be frequently sanitized and especially sample storerooms.

5. **Applicability of SOP's:**

This SOP is applicable to only the current phase of COVID-19 pandemic in Maharashtra.

