Minutes of 1st Meeting of State Level Committee held under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, Tripura on 11/02/2019 at 11:00 am in Video Conference Room of the New Secretariat to review the progress of implementation on the directions of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal dated 16/01/2019 in case No. O.A. No.606/2018 in the matter of Compliance of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

First meeting of the State Level Committee held under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, Tripura on 11/02/2019 at 11:00 am in the Video Conference Room of the Secretariat to review the progress of implementation on the directions of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal dated 16/01/2019 in case No. O.A. No.606/2018 in the matter of compliance of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016. The list of officers who attended the meeting in Video Conference Room of the New Secretariat is at Annexure-I. The District Magistrate and Collectors of 8(eight) Districts, all the BDO of RD Blocks and Commissioner/CEO/EO of Urban Local Bodies have participated in the meeting through Video Conferencing.

At the outset, the Chief Secretary, Tripura explained the background of the meeting and initiated discussion as per the directions dated 16/01/2019 of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi. Thereafter, the Director, Urban Development Department explained various provisions of SWM Rules-2016 through PPT in connection with the responsibilities and duties of Urban Development Department, RD (Panchayat) Department Urban Local Bodies, Gram Panchayats, Tripura State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) and other stakeholders for effective implementation of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

After detailed discussion by the State Level Committee on each of the issue, following action points /decisions taken which are mentioned as follows:

1. As per the verdict of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, District Magistrate & Collector of each district shall constitute a **Special Task Force** in their respective district by issuing a Notification wherein the District Magistrate & Collector shall be the Chairman and the Superintendent of Police may nominate suitable Police Officer of the rank of Addl SP. Member Secretary, Tripura State Pollution Control Board shall nominate suitable officers of Zonal Offices as the Members of the said District Task Force. The said District task Force shall be responsible for monitoring the implementation of Solid Waste Management Rules 2016 in their concerned districts. **[ACTION: The District Magistrate & Collector, Superintendent of Police, Member Secretary TSPCB]**

2. Urban Local Bodies shall submit monthly report in the prescribed format to the DM & Collectors of the concerned Districts. The DM &
Collectors in turn compile the information from all the ULBs under their jurisdiction and send a compiled report to the Director Urban Development Department with a copy to the Member Secretary State Level Committee (Member Secretary, Tripura State Pollution Control Board) by 5th of every month on the progress of **Solid Waste Management Rules-2016, Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016 and Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules-2016**. The format will be communicated to the DM & Collectors and the Urban Local Bodies by the Directorate of the Urban Development Department shortly. Also the DM & Collectors shall collect the information regarding implementation of **Biomedical Waste Management Rules 2016** from the concerned Chief Medical Officers and shall also send the monthly report to the Secretary, Health Department with a copy to the Member Secretary State Level Committee (Member Secretary State Pollution Control Board) by 5th of every month in the prescribed format. [**ACTION: Action by Director UDD, DM & Collectors & Urban Local Bodies**]

3. All Urban Local Bodies and Gram Panchayats shall ensure that all the storm-water drains leading to the rivers/streams/waterbodies/wetlands etc are tapped with appropriate measures (wire-nets/mesh) to prevent municipal solid waste, plastic waste and other waste going into the rivers/streams/waterbodies/ponds/wetlands etc. The District Magistrate & Collectors of every district shall take review of the progress of this work and include this in their monthly report to the Urban Development Department and Member Secretary State Level Committee. It is suggested that the DM & Collectors may obtain location wise photographs of all such drains so as to ensure that these drains are fitted with the abovesaid measures. [**ACTION: DM & Collectors, Municipal Commissioner AMC, CEO/EOs of Urban Local Bodies, BDOs**]

4. RD (Panchayat) Department shall frame a policy for implementation of SWM Rules 2016 for the areas under its jurisdiction on the pattern of Urban Development Department. [**ACTION: RD (Panchayat) Department**]

5. In order to implement the “polluter pays principle”, the Urban Development Department shall issue a common order/notification mentioning the fines and penalties for violation of various clauses of the Solid Waste Management Rules-2016. All the Urban Local Bodies shall be responsible for imposition and collection of fine/penalty from the violators/polluters. [**ACTION: Urban Development Department & Urban Local Bodies**]

6. The District Magistrate & Collector of each District shall identify and allocate a suitable land for setting up of Solid Waste Processing and Disposal Plant & for Faecal Sludge (Septage) Treatment Plant for Urban Local Bodies. District-wise eight clusters have been identified by the Urban
Development Department for setting up of processing facilities. The DM & Collectors shall identify suitable lands (2-3 acres) at feasible sites after discussion with the CEOs/EOs of ULBs and inform the same to the Director, Urban Development Department with a copy to the Member Secretary State Level Committee. The District wise clusters are:-

i. Solid Waste Processing Cluster under West Tripura District for Agartala Municipal Corporation, Mohanpur Municipal Council, Ranirbazar Municipal Council, Bishalgarh Municipal Council and Jirania Nagar Panchayat. Land is already available at DC Nagar where 250 TPD SWM Plant is operational to cater the needs of all these five ULBs.


[**ACTION:** The District Magistrate & Collectors of concerned Districts]


8. Agartala Municipal Corporation and other four ULBs have framed the Solid Waste Management Action Plans etc in accordance with the Solid Waste Management Rules, policy formulated by the Urban Development Department. Remaining 16 Urban Local Bodies shall prepare their action Plans accordingly and submit the same before 28th February 2019 to the Director Urban Development Department. [**ACTION:** Urban Local Bodies]

9. The Member Secretary, TSPCB shall share Action Plan, Tripura Solid Waste Management Policies etc with all the District Magistrate & Collectors
of all Districts and Commissioner/CEOs/EOs of all the Urban Local Bodies so as to ensure immediate compliance of the directions of Hon’ble NGT. Also the Member Secretary TSPCB shall forward all the six Rules, Orders of Hon’ble NGT, notifications, minutes, letter etc to the Director IT Department so as to get it uploaded on the State Portal [ACTION: Member Secretary TSPCB, Director IT, Government of Tripura]

10. Action shall be initiated by the Tripura State Pollution Control Board (TSPCB) to complete assessment of Bodhjungnagar Industrial Growth Centre by the method of Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI) within February, 2019. The short comings of assessment Report should be adequately addressed. [ACTION: TSPCB]

11. In order to prevent the pollution because of fecal sludge (septage) from flowing into the drains, streams, rivers, water bodies etc and in order to prevent fecal contamination of food chain, it has been decided that the Urban Development Department shall issue Notification/Order for mandatory cleaning of all the private & government septic tanks with prescribed user charges by the concerned Urban Local Bodies using mechanical vehicle mounted suction machines (Cesspools) at least once in a year, so that there should not be any overflow from septic tank in the storm water drains. To reduce faecal coliform contamination, the Committee instructed the Urban Development department to prepare proposal to construct low cost Faecal-sludge (Septage) Treatment Plants in the above mentioned eight clusters mentioned in para 7 above. Also the Urban Development Department shall issue By- Laws for Faecal Sludge (Septage) Management for the state of Tripura [ACTION: Urban Development Department, Urban Local Bodies]

12. The Committee directed all the DM & Collectors to strictly enforce implementation of ban on plastic carry-bags as per the State Notification banning plastic carry bags dated 10.03.2015. The DM & Collectors are the Chairman of District Level Committee for implementation of this ban order for plastic carry-bags. The Committee directed the DM & Collectors to submit monthly report on the status of implementation of Plastic Waste Management Rules-2016 in the prescribed format which will be communicated to the DM & collectors by the Director Urban development Department. The Committee also directed the DM & Collectors to ensure imposition and collection of fines and penalties for effective control of use of unauthorized plastic carry bags as per the State Notification dated 04.06.2018. The Committee suggested the PWD Department and Urban Development Department to promote the use of plastic waste for road construction or for construction of eco-bricks/pavers etc. [ACTION: Urban Development Department & PWD (R&B)]
13. In order to ensure effective public information, education and communication, TSPCB shall publish a series of advertisements on important environmental issues in the local newspapers and also display posters and banners in the prominent places so that environmental message should be reached to the common people. The Urban Development Department, Education Department and District Administration shall also take similar actions for awareness generation activities. [ACTION: TSPCB, Urban Development Department, Urban Local Bodies, Education Department & DMs]

14. The Committee intends to take opportunity of various Eco-Clubs on the IEC programme. The Eco-Club Schools be involved for organizing awareness generation programme on the theme of Solid Waste Management, Plastic Waste Management & Bio-Medical Waste Management, etc. In this regard, TSPCB shall prepare 10-15 action points in the shape of leaflets (indicating do and don'ts) for distribution of the same to the Eco-Club Schools. [ACTION: TSPCB]

15. In order to ensure effective implementation of Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules- 2016, State Level Advisory Committee chaired by the Secretary in Charge of Department of Health and Family Welfare shall be constituted on urgent basis and first meeting may be conducted within 28th February 2019. Health Department shall submit Action Taken Report on implementation of Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016 by 5th March, 2019. Health Department shall issue directions for formation of District Level Committee under the chairmanship of DM & Collectors for implementation of Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules- 2016. The DM & Collector shall be responsible for sending monthly report in the prescribed format to the Secretary Health Department with copy to the Member secretary State Level Committee (Member Secretary Tripura State Pollution Control Board) [ACTION: Health Department]

16. Action Plan as prepared in compliance with the direction dated 20/09/2018 in the News Item published in “The Hindu” authored by Shri Jacob Koshy Titled “More river stretches are now critically polluted: CPCB (Original Application No.673/2018)” for restoration of water quality of 6 (six) identified polluted river stretches of the State has been briefed before the State Level Committee. The State Level Committee has reviewed the action taken reports. The said action plan has been approved by the Central pollution Control Board and filed before the Hon’ble NGT. The Committee directed the Member Secretary TSPCB to forward the said Action Plan to all the DM & Collectors, Municipal Commissioner, CEOs/Eos of all the Urban Local Bodies for implementation. [ACTION: TSPCB, Urban Development Department]

17. The Committee has noted that in Tripura there is no non-attainment
city in the context of air pollution as per the verdict of Hon'ble NGT where 102 cities in India have been identified. However none of the city or towns in Tripura have been identified or declared to be among these 102 cities of India. However, TSPCB may prepare Action Plan in consultation with the State Government for various measures to prevent air pollution in the cities and towns of Tripura immediately. [ACTION: TSPCB]

18. The Committee has noted status of implementation in compliance with the direction passed in case O.A. No.173 of 2018 in the matter of Sudarshan Das Vs. State of West Bengal & Other in connection with the action against illegal Sand Mining. Already District Level Survey for identification of river stretches suitable for sand mining without harming the eco system have been identified. District Magistrate & Collectors are directed to display this draft District Survey Report (DSR Report) in their portal and Notice Boards to obtain comments & views from public for finalization of the District Survey Report DSR for each District. [ACTION: Forest Department, DMs and Department of Science, Technology & Environment, DM & Collectors]

19. TSPCB will identify the erring industries violating Solid waste Management Rules- 2016 and impose & collect penalty from such industries on the basis of “polluter pays principle” in accordance with the direction of the Hon'ble NGT. Amount recovered from the polluters may be spent for the restoration of the environment. TSPCB may submit the details of utilization of fund collected to the Hon'ble NGT. [ACTION: TSPCB]

20. It has been decided that Agartala City (Agartala Municipal Corporation) shall be notified as Model City for Implementation of SWM Rules-2016 so that the best practices may be replicated by the other ULBs of the State. [ACTION: Urban Development Department]

21. It was pointed by the Director Urban Development Department that except Agartala Municipal Corporation, other 19 Urban Local Bodies do not have manpower and funds to implement Solid Waste Management Rules-2016 as per the verdict of the Hon'ble NGT. The Committee directed the Urban Development Department to set up one Mission Management Unit (MMU) under each ULB to implement Solid Waste Management Rules-2016 and Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules-2016 with one Nodal Officer (outsourced expert in Environmental Science /SWM) and one or two technical staff. Extra funds for implementation of Solid Waste Management Activities and deployment of MMU shall be given by the State Government in the form of the Share of Taxes for which the Urban Development Department shall assess the gap and forward the proposal for funding. The Committee also suggested the Urban Local Bodies to involve willing women members of SHGs in SWM activities so as to reduce the cost.
of implementation and for better compliance. **[ACTION: Urban Development Department & all the Urban Local Bodies]**

22. Secretary In-charge, Finance Department & Education Department shall be the members of the State Level Committee. Suitable addendum Notification shall be issued in this regard.  **[ACTION: Member Secretary TSCPB, Director Urban Development Department]**

23. Urban Development Department shall organize State Level as well as District Level Workshop on implementation of Solid Waste Management Rules 2016 involving all the Stakeholders before 1st week of March 2019. **[ACTION: Urban Development Department]**

24. The departments such as State Pollution Control Board, Environment and Forest, Urban development, Health, Rural development, Education, Police, Finance etc shall identify their nodal officers dealing with this matter and shall intimate the same to the Member Secretary of this Committee before 20th February 2019.

25. The State Level Committee shall hold its next meeting in the first week of March, 2019 and will review the progress of implementation of Directions of NGT in the matter of Compliance of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and other major environmental issues of the State. **[ACTION: Urban Development Department]**

The meeting ended with thanks to all.

\[\text{(L.K.Gupta)}\]
Chief Secretary &
Chairman, State Level Committee