

POLICY DECISIONS OF THE BOARD

The members of the West Bengal Pollution Control Board meet at a regular interval to discuss various issues related to the different activities of the Board and the adoption of important policy decisions. Three Board meetings were held during the financial year 2005-2006. The details of the meetings are listed below.

Sl No.	Board Meeting No.	Time Period	Date	Location
1.	131	2005-2006	29.06.2005	Kolkata
2.	132	2005-2006	13.09.2005	Kolkata
3.	133	2005-2006	20.02.2006	Kolkata

During each of the Board meetings, the confirmation of the previous meeting and the follow-up actions on the resolutions taken during the past meetings were regular affairs. Moreover, a review on the progress on the various activities of the Board on issues related to Consent Administration, Cess, Waste Management, Public Grievance, Legal Matters, Awareness Programmes, Training and ongoing projects were an integral component of the agenda for discussion during the meetings. The other major policy decisions adopted by the

Board during the aforesaid Board meetings are illustrated below.

Key issues of the 131st Board Meeting held on 29.06.2005

- The members approved the new approach related to 'consent administration' of the Board. The members also approved the proposal for constitution of Technical Committee at the Head Office. The Board members further approved the purpose for

constitution of Consent-For-Establishment committee and Consent-For-Operation committee at the Head Office. The Board considered the proposal for constitution of consent committees at the Circle / Regional offices.

- The Board considered and approved the proposal for financial assistance for the Environmental Development Project in and around the water bodies in the premises at 49, Narkeldanga North Road, Kolkata -700 011 (KMC Ward No. 29, P.S. Narkeldanga).
- The Board approved the proposal of financial assistance for implementation of roof top rainwater harvesting projects in West Bengal. The project would be implemented in some identified villages in the state involving schools and Panchayats.
- The members approved the proposal for financial assistance to the waste plastic reproducers (excluding PVC manufacturers) in the Kolkata Metropolitan Area under the ICEF (India-Canada Environment Facility) project.
- The Board approved the proposal for categorisation of industries.
- The framework for the transfer / departmental work distribution policy of 2005 was approved by the Board.
- The audited accounts for the year 2002-2003 along with management's proposed reply was noted and approved by the Board.
- The members approved the proposal regarding import clearance for hazardous chemicals. The Board decided to authorise the Member Secretary to streamline the procedure in consonance with the Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals Rules, 1989 and keeping in mind the safety aspects, as stipulated in the proposal.
- The constitution and objectives of the West Bengal Solid Waste Management Mission and role of the WBPCB under the Municipal Solid Waste (Management &

Handling) Rules, 2000 was approved by the Board.

- The Board approved the development of interlocking device for controlling air pollution.

Key issues of the 132nd Board Meeting held on 13.09.2005

- The Board approved the commissioning of visible electromagnetic display boards in BBD Bag and Chingrighata in Kolkata for display of information on air pollution level etc.
- The members approved the proposal of providing financial assistance for implementation of rooftop rainwater harvesting project in the National Green Corps schools in Darjeeling district.
- The Board approved the reimbursement of medical expenditure of an employee (Group D) of WBPCB Haldia Regional Office who had met with an accident at the time of discharging his official duty.
- On humanitarian ground, the members approved the reimbursement of medical expenses of a Junior Environmental Assistant (JEA) of the Board who died in harness. The Board also considered the prayer for employment of wife of the deceased JEA on compassionate ground.
- The Board decided to provide financial assistance for the environmental improvement project in the east/west side of Beliaghata Canal.
- The procurement policy of the WBPCB was placed, and after extensive discussion, the Board approved the same. It was decided that the implementation of the Procurement Policy 2005 will be reviewed after one year.
- The Board approved the proposal of the constitution and renaming of recommendatory committees related to the new mechanism of 'consent administration' of the Board.

- The Board discussed about the implementation of the circular of the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India for post facto cases of environmental clearance related to construction projects. After careful discussion, it was resolved that the WBPCB may apply the provision of the circular, subject to confirmation of the Department of Environment. It was decided to refer the matter to the Department of Environment for issuing a suitable notification.

Key issues of the 133rd Board Meeting held on 20.02.2006

- It was informed that action is being taken for release of fund in phases for the Common Hazardous Wastes Treatment, Storage & Disposal Facilities (CHWTSDF) at Haldia. The Board approved the proposal for the third Common Biomedical Waste Treatment and Disposal Facility by a private operator. Similar facilities was proposed for the areas like Kalyani, Durgapur and Siliguri.
- Post facto approval was accorded by the Board for inclusion of Shri Arun Poddar in the Technical Committee of the Board.
- The members noted the vacancy of the post of Deputy Secretary of the Board.
- The case of voluntary retirement of a Senior Environmental Engineer was noted by the Board.
- The Board discussed matters related to cess between the time period 01.04.2005 to 31.01.2006. It was informed that the Public Health Engineering Directorate did not fully pay the assessed amount of cess. Also, cess amounts have not been fully realised from the municipalities. The Member Secretary of the Board was asked to look into the matter.
- In order to expedite the complaints received from the regional level, the Board approved the proposal of the Chairman regarding utilisation of the services of retired WBCS officers from the concerned districts.
- The members noted and appreciated the noise pollution monitoring programme of the Board. After threadbare discussion of the matter, it was decided that all efforts would be taken to minimise road traffic noise.
- The Board also noted the case of provisional reinstatement of the suspended employees of the WBPCB.
- The Board discussed the matter of utilisation of pollution cost and forfeited bank guarantee amounts realised from different polluting industries on environmental grounds. The matter was discussed in detail, and it was resolved that the fund will be appropriately allocated and placed in favour of the concerned District Planning Committee where representatives from both rural and urban sectors would attend.
- The Board approved the adoption of the revised budget estimate for the year 2005-2006 and budget estimate for the year 2006-2007.
- The Board approved the adoption of the 11th five year Plan Budget of the time period 2007-2008 to 2011-2012.
- The Board approved the reimbursement of medical expenditure under the existing reimbursement scheme for a few cases, particularly for the employees who opted for the Mediclaim Insurance Policy.