



**Department of Environment
Government of West Bengal
Writers' Buildings, "G" Block, (2nd. Floor),
Kolkata-700 001.**

No. EN/3170/T-IV-7/001/2009

Dated: December 10th, 2009.

D I R E C T I O N

WHEREAS, Department of Environment, Govt. of West Bengal is entrusted to look after the execution of the different environmental laws within the territorial jurisdiction of West Bengal and also responsible for maintaining pollution free environment and also responsible for restraining different environment hazardous activities which are causing serious impact on human beings, other living creatures, plant, micro-organism, property or the environment ;

AND WHEREAS, Department of Environment has already taken different steps for controlling air pollution in the atmosphere generated from the different sources i.e. industrial source, vehicular source and burning of bio-mass;

AND WHEREAS, Department of Environment in exercising the power conferred under section 19 of the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, has already declared entire West Bengal as `Air Pollution Control Area`;

AND WHEREAS, West Bengal Pollution Control Board conducted a study with the help of the Asian Development Bank and it is revealed that the contribution of the construction activities is one of the source of air pollution in Kolkata and its surroundings ;

AND WHEREAS, it is further revealed that burning of old tyres in hot mix plant as a fuel during construction and repairs of road for melting coal tar contributes significant obnoxious element into the air which cause a serious problem of the human beings ;

HENCE, in view of the above and in consultation with the West Bengal Pollution Control Board and in exercise of the power conferred under Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, all the municipalities, local authorities and all other concerned Govt. Departments within the State of West Bengal, are now directed to take immediate steps to implement the following norms which need to be strictly followed by the developers, contractors or any other infrastructure developers ;

- Preventive measures need to be taken: -
 - a) Wrap construction area/buildings with geotextile fabric, installing dust barriers, or other actions, as appropriate for the location,
 - b) Apply water and maintain soils in a visible damp or crusted condition for temporary stabilization,
 - c) Apply water prior to levelling or any other earth moving activity to keep the soil moist throughout the process;
 - d) Limit vehicle speeds to 15 mph on the work site.
 - e) Clean wheels and undercarriage of haul trucks prior to leaving construction site.
 - f) Apply and maintain dust suppressant on haul routes.
 - g) Apply a cover or screen to stockpiles and stabilize stockpiles at completion of activity by water and maintain a dust palliative to all outer surfaces of the stockpiles;
 - h) Stabilize surface soils where loaders, support equipment and vehicles will operate by using water and maintain surface soils in a stabilized condition where loaders, support equipment and vehicles will operate;
 - i) Stabilize adjacent disturbed soils following paving activities with immediate landscaping activity or installation of vegetative or rock cover.
 - j) Maintain dust control during working hours and clean track out from paved surfaces at the end of the work shift/day. Track out must now extend 50 feet or more and must be cleaned daily, at the minimum.
 - k) Stabilize sloping surfaces using soil binders until vegetation or ground cover can effectively stabilize the slope,
 - l) Disposal of debris in consultation with the local authorities following proper environmental management practice.
 - m) During construction work, including cutting of marbles, ambient noise level should not exceed more than 65 dB(A).

- Practices to be discarded: -
 - a) Don't dispose of debris indiscriminately,
 - b) Don't allow the vehicles to run at high speed within the work site.
 - c) Don't cut materials without proper dust control/noise control facility.
 - d) Don't keep materials without effective cover.
 - e) Don't allow access in the work area except workers to limit soil disturbance and prevent access by fencing, ditches, vegetation, berms or other suitable barrier.
 - f) Don't leave the soil, sand and cement stack uncovered.
 - g) Don't keep materials or debris on the roads or pavements.
 - h) Burning of old tyres in hot mix plant as a fuel during construction and repair of the roads for melting coal tar should be discarded ;

NOW THEREFORE, it is made clear that any developers, contractors or infrastructure developers either Govt. or Private failed to comply with the aforementioned statutory norms, Department of Environment and West Bengal Pollution Control Board will take necessary action under Air (Prevention & Control of pollution) Act, 1981 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 which may lead to stoppage and prohibition of the work including closure and other legal action as warranted under the law including imposition of the 'Pollution Cost'.

It is further directed that all Municipal Corporations, Municipalities and Panchayats should also be at liberty to take necessary action against the violators under the Municipal Laws and Panchayat Law.

But it is made clear that Local Authorities i.e. Municipal Corporations, Municipalities and Panchayats are responsible to implement the aforementioned guidelines meticulously for the purpose of curbing air pollution and other environmental hazards of their respective jurisdiction.

Local Police Station is also directed to render all necessary help to the Local Authorities to implement the aforementioned direction in a befitting manner.

This order will take effect from 01-01-2010 through out the State of West Bengal.

By Order,
Sd/-
(M. L. Meena)
Principal Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal.
Department of Environment.