BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, WESTERN ZONE BENCH, PUNE

Application No. 64/2016 (WZ)
Akhil Bhartiya Mangela Samaj & Ors. V/s MPCB & Ors

CORAM: HON'BLE DR JUSTICE JAWAD RAHIM, JUDICIAL MEMBER HON'BLE DR. AJAY A. DESHPANDE, EXPERT MEMBER

Present: Applicant/Appellant : Ms. Gayatri Singh Adv a/w

Respondent No. 1

Respondent No. 2

Meenaz Kakalia Adv Mr. Manasi Joshi Adv Shyaali Gadre Adv a/w

Mr. Ankit Kulkarni Adv Ms. Dakshaja Yeolekar Adv

i/b Little Co.

Respondent No. 3 : Mr. Amit A. Agashe Adv Respondent No. 6 : Mr.Rahul Andhale, Adv.

Date and Remarks	Orders of the Tribunal
Item No. 9	
September 9, 2016	This case is for final hearing, in terms of our order dated 22 nd August,
Order No.5	2016. However, considering schedule of work of the Tribunal it is not possible
	to take up final hearing today. However, at the request of learned Counsel for
	the Applicant, we have to grant interim relief. We have also heard
U	Respondents as well.
	A <mark>mongst s</mark> everal other <mark>issues rai</mark> sed by the Applicant, a core
	contention is that Central Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP), which is being run
	by 3 rd Respondent namely; Tarapur Environment Protection Society (TEPS)
	is not functioning to its optimum capacity as a consequence of which much of
	the effluent generation of the industries is flowing into the Arabian Sea and
	nearby creeks and Nullahs, resulting in several adverse impact on the health
	of people living and environment.
	CN TRIBUTE
	Learned Counsel Ms. Gayatri Singh would contend that present CETP
	is built to deal with 20-25 MLD of effluent, whereas there is more flow of effluent
	into CETP which virtually is now polluting entire area in improper way and
	impact of discharge of untreated industrial effluent into the Arabian Sea and
	local Nullah and creeks, according her has created an alarming situation
	calling for immediate order against CETP. She would add to submit the CETP
	actually not functioning to its optimum capacity of 25MLD as there are many
	leakages and damage to the pipes. Secondly, prayer is for directing fact
	finding with regard to generation of effluent and its treatment in the area and
	to ensure protection to environment, besides safeguarding the interest of
	Applicants and the aquatic life.
Item No. 9	Responding to submissions, learned Counsel for 3 rd Respondent
September 9, 2016	TEPS, would contend though Respondents may admit that effluent is of

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excess to its treatment capacity, the 3rd Respondent has taken further plea to upgrade costs to acquire 50MLD. In this regard 65% construction is complete. He would submit that taking into consideration factual and other aspects 3rd Respondent would submit the CETP will be capable in dealing with capacity of 50MLD upto February, 2017. This will be first-phase and no doubt the other phase will be implemented.

Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) has submitted its report to the Tribunal, which shows that ETPs and CETP outlet result for the year 2015-2016, which is indicative of the fact that after discharge effluent released is not as per the standard prescribed. Further, as per MPCBs report about 35-40MLD effluent is pumped by MIDC into the sea.

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)'s affidavit is also in similar line. This has not been controverted by the Respondent No.3. We have no hesitation in concluding that CETP run by 3rd Respondent is not functioning of required capacity. Consequently, even if effluent is treated, treatment is not as per standard. This undoubtedly will have bearing on environment. Intending parties of directing establishment of CETP and treatment of effluent is being shown that effluent is not treated to meet the standard. If CETP of 3rd Respondent is shown to be not meeting required standard, which undoubtedly leads to a conclusion that even treated effluent is not safe and directly to impact adversely on environment and life of the people. In short, it will suffice to record that the CETP of 3rd Respondent is not satisfactory and there is no substantive action by MPCB to control the pollution. This leads us to decide as to what interim order would be required.

We are satisfied that to the extent possible adverse impact could be diverted restraining industries from generating effluent, which will be within treatment capacity of CETP of 3rd Respondent i.e. of 25MLD and therefore issue following directions:

- 1. The 3rd Respondent is directed to ensure forthwith treatment of effluent is its parameter and standards prescribed and effluent of treatment should be safe and in terms of standards fixed.
- 2. MPCB is further directed to ensure that it grants no fresh consent to establish or expansion of any of the industries in that area till further orders from this Tribunal.
- 3. The CEO, Zilla Parishad, district Palghar, is directed to constitute a Committee comprising of District Health Officer, Tehsildar and officials from department of Women and Child Welfare and Fisheries to inspect the area of Tarapur and surrounding for fact finding about adverse impact on environment and the health of local

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residents. After assessment of adverse impact the CEO shall ensure proper health medical facilities made available to the residents. 4. The Deputy Collector of the jurisdiction shall ensure compliance of this order by all concerned indicated herein. 5. All the industries in Tarapur areas are directed to reduce generation of effluent waste from whatever present generation is by 40%. 6. MPCB and MIDC must ensure that waste generated by industries is reduced by 40% as indicated in the above directions. 7. There shall be no discharge of effluent in other areas except in designated locations. If any industry is found doing so, MPCB is directed to take strict action forth with as is permissible in law. List it on 31st October, 2016 for further hearing. (Dr. Justice Jawad Rahim) (Dr. Ajay A. Deshpande)