



ગુજરાત વેપારી મહામંડળ

# Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry



**Pathik Patwari**

President

**Ajay Patel**

Sr. Vice President

**Yogesh Parikh**

Vice President

**Anil Jain**

Hon. Secretary

**Dilip Padhya**

Hon. Secretary (R)

**Apurva Shah**

Hon. Treasurer

31<sup>st</sup> October, 2022

| 28367

To,

**Shri Arun Baroka, IAS**

Secretary

Chemicals & Petrochemicals Department

Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers,

A-wing, 2nd floor,

Shastri Bhawan,

New Delhi-110001

**Sub: Suggestions related to Chemical industry for Atmanirbhar Bharat and achieving \$5 Trillion Economy**

Respected Sir,

Greetings from Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI).

Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry (GCCI) works to create and sustain an environment conducive to the growth of industry and trade in Gujarat, partnering both of them through advisory processes with 4500 direct members and over 200 Trade and Industry Associations and leading Chambers of Commerce of the State leading to more than 2.5 lakh indirect members.

In order to achieve five trillion-dollar economy by 2025 as envisaged by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendrabhai Modi, environmental clearance must be immediately and positively provided and delays in the process need to be addressed. Following are important suggestions we would like to represent for your kind perusal.

## 1. Tailor made Norms:

SPCB/PCC should be practical in giving norms to different industry differently. Norms should not be tailor made for dyes intermediates, food, textiles etc. Norms should be on reduction in percentage of pollutants. You can never expect 98% reduction of COD in dyes intermediates, pharmaceuticals etc. which is well in the knowledge of authorities. However, they are not working in this direction and as a result Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) by using spray dryer, Multi Effect Evaporator (MEE) etc are recommended which in turn generates huge air pollution due to consumption of fossil fuel and energy which is also increasing Global Warming. CETP should be given norms as per the technology adopted and no tailor-made fixed norms should be directed by SPCB to the respective CETP.



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## 2. CTE-Amendment for change in product-mix:

Where the pollution load is not increasing and if the unit is a member of CETP and CETP has No Objection then it should be permitted. However, the unit has to give undertaking to the CETP & SPCB, that there will be no increase in liquid or air pollution by changing the product mix.

## 3. E.C. Amendment:

If any member unit is **Increasing the Production**, same product with adopting new technology/process and whereby no pollution load is increasing, then EC amendment should be renewed. The unit is required to file undertaking to CETP & SPCB that there will be no increase in pollution load either liquid or air.

## 4. Untreated Sewage Effluent to CETP/Industry:

Where the **CETP/Industry is able to get untreated sewage**, then it shall be permitted by SPCB to allow CETP for treating their industrial effluent along with untreated sewage for efficient biological treatment. This will minimize the use of Spray Dryer/MEE where fossil fuel like coal and electrical power is used which contributes to Global Warming. This will bring Techno/eco/feasible compliance.

## 5. Public Hearing to establish Common Infrastructure like CETP/TSDF etc.:

As per EPA 1986, the State government should provide notified land for the Common facility. Our request is to provide notified land for common facilities like CETP and TSDF site to avoid public consultation as several projects are held up because of public agitation though technically approved by SPCB and MoEF & CPCB. The NGOs sponsored by developed countries hinder the growth & development of developing countries like India. This also leads to lot of corruption & escalation of project cost due to delay in approval. Hence, we strongly request that public consultation for common infrastructure projects should be stopped forth with which is once, already approved, by Special Expert Committee having renowned environmental experts appointed by Government.

## 6. CEPI Score:

With regards to calculation of CEPI score there is huge discrepancy observed. *We strongly recommend to keep the score in abeyance and MoEF should initiate revising the CEPI formula, the same should be implemented thereafter at the earliest.* Even the working of Environment Damage Compensation (EDC) such score is arbitrary on which huge penalty is imposed to the concerned unit. Hence the working penalty / EDC is very faulty and there is a need of working out correct new formula to calculate the same. This formula should be worked out in consultation with stakeholders by following principle of natural justice.

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## 7. SPCB, CETP & R-17 Category Industries to install OEMS at their outlet as directed by CPCB/SPCB:

CPCB & SPCB has directed CETP & R-17 category industries to install OEMS at their outlets and the same shall be procured ONLY from the vendors specified by CPCB. All have complied the same and every 15–30 minutes effluent discharge quality data is being transmitted on CPCB/SPCB platform. If the discharge is not complying norms coloured "alert" is being sent by CPCB to the concerned unit.

Unfortunately, whenever there is a legal matter CPCB/SPCB/NGO are showing the manual sampling results which is arbitrary and not transparent practice as the testing is not done jointly.

We strongly recommend that OEMSs data should be considered and no manual data be taken into consideration for any legal action.

The OEMS are being validated time and again and the same is validated only and only by SPCB.

## 8. Deep-Sea Discharge:

As most of CETP of Gujarat state is meeting Deep-Sea discharge norms we request strongly for deep sea discharge pipeline as it will survive thousands of Chemicals, Pharma, Pesticides, Textiles industries etc. These industries are giving direct or indirect employment to crores of people and giving huge exchequer to State and Central Government.

This will reduce pollution in river, water bodies and unnecessary litigation & lead to reduction in global warming through reduction in use of fossil fuel, electricity and chemicals. This type of facility is commonly used in developed Countries.

## 9. Environment Damage Compensation (E.D.C.):

This weapon should be sparingly used, but nowadays SPCB is using for each & every non-compliance.

E.D.C. should be used ONLY for willful default. Unfortunately, small units are directed to pay more than Rs. 25 lacs & until they pay the E.D.C. their manufacturing activities are also NOT resumed,

Many a time E.D.C. amount is equal to the working capital of such unit. So there has to be a practical guideline that for non-compliance of norms ONLY closure for 15 days may be enforced. Of course, for surreptitious discharge BOTH closure & E.D.C. should be imposed.



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## 10. Education Desk by SPCB/PCC & Help Desk by Associations/CETP's:

SPCB/PCC have encouraged all associations/CETPs to establish Help Desk for their member industries to inform the rules & regulations to comply the policies & know the rules & regulations of SPCB/PCC. In turn this will help MSME industries avail the knowledge & information to comply the rules & regulations of SPCB/PCC. At the same time, we strongly believe that SPCB/PCC should also have similar type of Education Desk which will be more techno legal for compliance of rules & regulations of SPCB/PCC. As many a times policy is misinterpreted by different officers which creates a lot of damage to the industries.

## 11. Environmental Audit: -

ONLY Gujarat based industries are legally mandated to submit their annual audit report prepared by GPCB approved Schedule-I & II environmental auditors who charge hefty fees which is fixed by GPCB & even which auditors will make the annual audit will be allotted by GPCB which is against law & natural justice. It is proposed that units be allowed to select auditors from empaneled list and fees should be decided by GPCB.

## 12. Accident in Industry should NOT be trialed under IPC-Section: -

Any accident whether industrial OR vehicular OR any other type is an Act of GOD, hence all accidents should be the same & all the industrial accidents should NOT be covered under IPC-Section as they are already registered under Factories ACT.

As our Hon'ble Prime Minister's commitment is to bring Ease of Doing Business and it's our duty to reduce imports, hence above all points are of vital importance by which we can fulfill the dream of Hon'ble Prime Minister to create Atmanirbhar Bharat. Further our recommendations are not increasing the pollution but it is suggested for transparent compliance for both regulatory authorities and industries to achieve Five Trillion Dollars Economy by 2025.

With warm regards,

**Pathik Patwari**  
President.