

Establishment of J&K SPCB

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J&K SPCB was established in 1987 under the water (Prevention & control of pollution) Act, 1974 & the Air (prevention & control of pollution) Act, 1981.

Water (prevention & control of pollution) Act, 1974:- An act to provide for the prevention & control of water pollution & the maintaining or restoring of wholesomeness of water, for the establishment with a view to carrying out the purpose aforesaid, of boards for the prevention and control of water pollution and for conferring on and assigning to such boards powers and functions relating thereto.

Function of state board:- Subject to the provisions of this act, the functions of state board are:-

- (a) To plan a comprehensive programme for the prevention, control or abatement of pollution of streams & wells in the state & to secure the execution thereof.
- (b) To advise the state Govt. on any matter concerning, the prevention, control of water pollution.
- (c) To collect & disseminate information relating to water pollution & the prevention, control thereof,
- (d) To encourage, conduct & participate in investigations & research relating to problems of water pollution & prevention, control of water pollution.
- (e) To inspect sewage or trade effluents for treatment of sewage & trade effluents & to review plans.
- (f) To evolve methods for utilization of sewage & suitable trade effluents in agriculture.
- (g) To evolve efficient methods for disposal of sewage & trade effluents on land.
- (h) To prevent, control discharge of waste into streams or wells.
- (i) To advise state Govt. w.r.t. the location of any industry the carrying out of which is likely to pollute a stream or well.

The Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981:- An Act to provide for the prevention, control and abatement of air pollution, prevention of natural resources of the earth which among other things, include the prevention of the quality of air & control of air pollution.

Functions of state board: Subject to the provisions of this Act, under the water Act, 1974, the function of state board are:

- (a) To plan a comprehensive programme for the prevention, control or abatement of air pollution & secure the execution thereof,
- (b) To advise the state Govt. on any matter concerning the prevention, control or abatement of air pollution.
- (c) To collect & disseminate information relating to air pollution.
- (d) To inspect any industrial plant & to give, by order, such direction to such persons as it may consider necessary to take steps for the prevention, control or abatement of air pollution.
- (e) To advise the state Govt. w.r.t the suitability of any premises or location for carrying on any industry is likely to cause air pollution.

- Board grants consent to Establish/ consent to operate to industrial unites pertaining to either Red category (Most pollution), orange category (Moderate polluting) or Green category (least polluting) primarily under the water (prevention & control of pollution) 1974 & the Air (Prevention & control of pollution) Act, 1981. It is mandatory for every industrial unit to seek mandatory authorization of the Board for establishment/ operation of the unit.

The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986:- An act to provide for the protection and improvement of environment & for matters connected therewith. Objects of the Act include.

- (a) Planning & execution of a nationwide programme for the prevention, control & abatement of environmental pollution.
- (b) Laying down standards for the quality of environment in its various aspects.
- (c) Laying down statements for emission or discharge of environmental pollutants from various sources what so ever.
- (d) Laying down ^{Procedures} & safeguards for the handling of hazardous substances.
- (e) Carrying out & sponsoring investigations & research to prevention, control & abatement of environment pollution.

Many rules/ Acts were framed from time to time under the EPA, 1986. J&K SPCB functions under these rules/ Acts besides the water Act, 1974 & the Air Act, 1981 these rules/Act are:-

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- 1) The Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1989.
- 2) The Bio-Medical Waste (Management & handling) Rules, 1998
- 3) The Municipal Solid Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 2000
- 4) The Batteries (Management & handling) Rules, 2001
- 5) The Noise Pollution (Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000
- 6) The Non-Bio degradable Material(Management Handling & Disposal) Act, 2007

Structure of J&K SPCB :- The Chairman heads the Board. There are two Regional Directorate offices of the Board one each at Jammu & Srinagar respectively. Each Regional Directorate office is headed by the Regional Director. Central office of the Board functions at Srinagar from May- October & at Jammu from November- April.

Water lab / Air Lab are operational at both the Regional Directorate offices respectively. District office SPCB kupwara is functioning in a rented building at Salkoot Kupwara since its establishment, (Year 1999) headed by District officer. Besides District officer, one Research Asstt and one field Asstt. are posted at District office.

Consent Cases (Under Uniform consent Mechanism), complaints are properly received at District office and after inspection submitted to the regional Director for disposal. Regional Director is empowered to grant consent to Green category Units, Member Secretary to orange category units and the Chairman to Red category units.

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