



# Pollution Control Board, Assam

(Department of Environment & Forests, Government of Assam)

অসম প্রদূষণ নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ পৰিষদ

(অসম চৰকাৰৰ বন আৰু পৰিৱেশ বিভাগ)

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**LIFE**  
Lifestyle for  
Environment

No. WB/GUW/T-3038/Pt-I/2018-19/424

Dated Guwahati, the 06<sup>th</sup> February, 2024

To

The Executive Director  
M/s Indian Oil Corporation Limited  
Guwahati Refinery  
Noonmati, Guwahati-781020  
Email: GR@indianoil.com



## **DIRECTIONS UNDER SECTION 33(A) OF WATER (PREVENTION & CONTROL OF POLLUTION) ACT 1974 -REG.**

**WHEREAS**, under Section 17 of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act 1974, one of the functions of the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) is to plan a comprehensive programme for prevention, control or abatement of pollution of streams and wells in the state and to secure the execution thereof;

**WHEREAS**, observing uncontrolled discharge released from the storm drain of Guwahati Refinery premises on 14.12.2023, the ETP was visited by the Member Secretary and other Senior Officials of the Board on the same day.

**WHEREAS**, it was observed that treated water from the secondary treatment system of the ETP was released to the storm drain unquantified and uncontrolled. Effluent samples was collected and concentration of **Oil and Grease (11.49 mg/l)** and **COD (535 mg/l)** was analyzed and observed above the permissible limit.

**WHEREAS**, the Unit was monitored again on 15.12.2023 by PCBA. Effluent samples were collected from the Guard Pond Discharge [**pH (7.39)**, **BOD (4.4 mg/l)**; **COD (13mg/l)**, **TSS (5mg/l)**, **Oil & Grease (0.6 mg/l)**, **Sulphide (1.6mg/l)**]; Tertiary Treatment System [**pH (8.17)**, **BOD (6.5 mg/l)**; **COD (17mg/l)**, **TSS (5mg/l)**, **Oil & Grease (1.29 mg/l)**, **Sulphide (1.6 mg/l)**] and Storm Water Drain [**pH (9.10)**, **BOD (102mg/l)**; **COD (380 mg/l)**; **TSS (40 mg/l)**, **Oil & Grease (20.19 mg/l)**, **Sulphide (58.4 mg/l)**];

**WHEREAS**, the unit was subsequently monitored on 17.01.2024 by the Board. Effluent samples were collected from the Storm Water Drain Outside the campus adjacent to the boundary wall [**pH (7.62)**, **BOD (38 mg/l)**; **COD (93.47 mg/l)**; **TSS (13 mg/l)**, **Oil & Grease (13.98 mg/l)**, **Sulphide (6.4 mg/l)**] and Storm Water Drain Outside the campus below the culvert [**pH (7.97)**, **BOD (120 mg/l)**; **COD (280.42 mg/l)**; **TSS (18 mg/l)**, **Oil & Grease (4.9 mg/l)**, **Sulphide (13.6 mg/l)**]

**WHEREAS**, the unit was monitored on 30.01.2024 by PCBA. Effluent samples were collected from the Storm Water Drain Outside the Refinery premises adjacent to the boundary wall [**pH (7.48)**, **BOD (18 mg/l)**; **COD (159 mg/l)**; **TSS (12 mg/l)**, and Storm Water Drain Outside the campus below the culvert [**pH (7.37)**, **BOD (20 mg/l)**; **COD (53 mg/l)**; **TSS (8 mg/l)**, **Oil & Grease (1.63 mg/l)**]

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**WHEREAS**, the unit has been found violating the effluent discharge standards severely in all the occasions. It was observed that the effluent were discharged into the surface drain, which led to the river Brahmaputra through Bondajan;

**WHEREAS**, the Board shared the video with the Executive Director through WhatsApp showing untreated and uncontrolled discharge from storm water drain on three different occasions, viz. January 13, January 18 and January 30, 2024. The Board has also observed discharge of effluent through pipe line from unknown sources, likely to be an unidentified source in the Refinery under the culvert near the storm discharge point and video showing such discharge was shared with the Refinery.

**WHEREAS**, Hon'ble NGT vide its order dtd. 19.02.2019 in O.A. No. 593/2017 (Paryavaran Suraksha Samiti & Anr. Vs Union of India & Ors.) directs and empowers SPCBs to collect Environmental Compensation Fine(ECF) from the defaulting units as per the formula mentioned herein under:

**Environmental Compensation Fine**

*EC (Environmental Compensation) = PI×N×R×S×LF*

*PI = Pollution Index of industrial sector (80 for Red category)*

*N = Number of days of violation took place from 13.01.2024 to 06.02.2024=25 days.*

*R = A factor in Rupees (₹) for EC (250)*

*S = Factor of scale of operation (1.5 for large units)*

*LF = Location factor (1.00)*

*Accordingly, EC to be paid by M/s IOCL, Guwahati Refinery is assessed as*

*EC = 80×25×250×1.5×1.00 = Rs. 7,50,000/-*

**NOW, THEREFORE**, under the above facts and circumstances, Pollution Control Board, Assam is constrained to inform you that since you have repeatedly violated the provisions of law in force by discharging of untreated or partially treated effluent, not conforming to the standards and in exercising of powers conferred upon it under Section 33(A) of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 as amended till date, you are directed to comply with the following:

1. IOCL, Guwahati Refinery shall pay Environmental Compensation fine of Rs. 7,50,000/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Fifty Thousand) only within fifteen (15) days to Pollution Control Board, Assam (Account Name- Pollution Control Board, Assam, A/c No. 50100159537391; IFSC Code – HDFC0004678).
2. Guwahati Refinery shall ensure that no untreated or partially treated effluent shall be discharged in the storm water drain unless it conforms to the Petroleum Oil Refinery Discharge Standards as notified by the MoEF&CC vide No. GSR.186 (E) dated 18.03.2008. The unit shall install flow meter at all the discharge points including any non-regular discharge points like discharge from guard pond, fire water line discharge etc.
3. The Unit shall ensure that the water quality parameters in the storm water drain outlet point meet with the Petroleum Oil Refinery Discharge Standards as notified by the MoEF&CC vide No. GSR.186 (E) dated 18.03.2008. The unit shall install flow meter at all the storm water discharge point in the Refinery premises.

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4. The unit shall identify the source of effluent, as discharged under the culvert near the storm discharge point and shall quantify such flow.
5. The Unit shall install online continuous effluent monitoring system at the storm water drain near the boundary wall inside the Refinery premises and monitoring data shall be sent to PCBA and CPCB server.
6. The unit shall pay Environmental Compensation at Rs.30,000 per day (Rupees Thirty Thousand per day), calculated as per above mentioned formula, starting from 07.02.2024 till compliance of all the above directions to the satisfaction of the Board.

In case the Unit fails to comply with the above directions, PCBA will be constrained to initiate further action against the Unit including initiating legal proceedings against M/s IOCL, Guwahati Refinery in accordance with provisions of Environmental Acts, without any further notice.

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**(Arup Kr. Misra)**  
**Chairman**

Memo No. WB/GUW/T-3038/Pt-I/2018-19/424-A,

Dated Guwahati, the 06<sup>th</sup> February, 2024

Copy to:

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- 1) The Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Environment & Forest Department, Dispur, Guwahati-6 for kind information.
- 2) The Regional Officer, RO-Guwahati, PCBA for information and necessary action.
- ✓ 3) The AEITO, IT Section, Head Office, PCBA-upload the letter in the Board's Website.

m/s g 93  
**(Shantanu Kr. Dutta)**  
**Member-Secretary**