

Item No. 03

(Bhopal Bench)

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**

(By Video Conferencing)

Original Application No. 01/2021(CZ)
(I.A. No. 04/2021)

Himanshu Dutt Sharma

Applicant

Versus

Director General, CSIR, New Delhi & Anr.

Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 23.03.2021

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ADARSH KUMAR GOEL, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SHEO KUMAR SINGH, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. NAGIN NANDA, EXPERT MEMBER**

Applicant: Mr. Himanshu Dutt Sharma, Applicant in Person

ORDER

1. Grievance in this application is against violation of Hazardous and other Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016 by Central Electronics Engineering Research Institute, (CEERI) Pilani.

2. Case set out in the application is that the applicant is a Scientist in the respondent organization, CEERI. Hazardous chemicals such as acetone, isopropyl alcohol, chromic acid, hydrogen fluoride, trichloroethylene (TCE), photoresist and many more are used in the organisation for research projects in semiconductor device manufacturing, optoelectronics device development, and Micro Electro Mechanical System (MEMS) device manufacturing. Thereafter, wastes of these chemicals are stored in open areas in bottles around the laboratory campus, without taking any precautionary measures. For the last 10

years, these wastes are being stored like this. During the research work, these toxic hazardous chemicals discharge vapours through exhausts which are placed on roof top at the height of less than 6 feet, which is less than an average human height. The chemical vapours, coming out of exhausts, are heavier than air. They spread across the office corridors and sitting areas of the staff as well as neighbouring areas, close to the respondent's laboratory. This is causing threat to health of the residents. Hazardous chemical wastes are reactive, toxic, inflammable, explosive or corrosive in character. They have potential to cause danger to health and environment. Open storage or disposal or mishandling of these hazardous chemical wastes may lead to disease such as loss of immunity, allergies, skin diseases, cancer, neurological disorders, loss to eye sight, physical disorder, cognitive function disorders, birth defects and many more diseases which will harm to life as well. On 12.02.2019, a major fire broke out in the lab which caused injury to two scientists. Previously, various such minor incidents had already happened.

3. The above issue, having been raised by a Scientist of the respondent organisation with all the detailed particulars, needs to be looked into and remedial action taken by the respondent organization CEERI, Pilani. This may be overseen by a joint Committee of CPCB and State PCB for which State PCB will be nodal agency. The applicant may also be associated in the process. Remedial measures may include stabilization of waste, transportation to TSDF, recycling through authorised recyclers and ETP for waste effluent. CPCB in coordination with Department of Science and Technology, GoI may issue guidelines for management of similar waste in other similar establishments and laboratories.

A copy of this order be forwarded to the CPCB, State PCB, CEERI Pilani and Department of Science and Technology, GoI by e-mail for compliance.

The application is disposed of.

In view of order in the main matter, I.A. No. 04/2021 also stands disposed of.

Adarsh Kumar Goel, CP

S.K. Singh, JM

Dr. Nagin Nanda, EM

March 23, 2021
Original Application No. 01/2021(CZ)
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