

Note: - Various books of **Environmental Economics and other subjects** also available **free of cost** on **Libgen**. Students can download.

## **M.Com (Applied Economics)**

### **Semester- IV**

Paper- Environment and Resource Economics

### **Topic: Central Pollution Control Board**

#### **Introduction:**

Under the provisions of The Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Central Government constituted the '**Central Board for the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution**' on September 23, 1974. The name of the Central Board was amended to **Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)** under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Amendment Act, 1988 (No. 53 of 1988). The Central Pollution Control Board has been entrusted with the added responsibilities of Air Pollution Control since May, 1981 under the provisions of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. The enactment of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, which is umbrella legislation for enforcement of measures for protection of environment and several notifications of Rules under the Act widened the scope of activities of the Central Board.

Air Quality Monitoring is an important part of the air quality management. The National Air Monitoring Programme (NAMP) has been established with objectives to determine the present air quality status and trends and to control and regulate pollution from industries and other source to meet the air quality standards. It also provides background air quality data needed for industrial siting and towns planning. Besides this, CPCB has an automatic monitoring station at ITO Intersection in New Delhi. At this station Resirable Suspended Particulate Matter (RSPM), Carbon Monoxide (CO), Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), Sulphur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM) are being monitored regularly. This information on Air Quality at ITO is updated every week.

Fresh water is a finite resource essential for use in agriculture, industry, propagation of wildlife & fisheries and for human existence. India is a riverine country. It has 14 major rivers, 44 medium rivers and 55 minor rivers besides numerous lakes, ponds and wells which are used as primary source of drinking water even without treatment. Most of the rivers being fed by monsoon rains, which is limited to only three months of the year, run dry throughout the rest of the year often carrying wastewater discharges from industries or cities/towns endangering the quality of our scarce water resources. The parliament of India in its wisdom enacted the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 with a view to maintaining and restoring wholesomeness of our water bodies. One of the mandates of CPCB is to collect, collate and

disseminate technical and statistical data relating to water pollution. Hence, Water Quality Monitoring (WQM) and Surveillance are of utmost importance.

The CPCB has been continuously playing a key role in abatement and control of pollution in the country by generating, compiling and collating data, providing scientific information, rendering technical inputs for formation of national policies and programmes, training and development of manpower and through activities for promoting awareness at different levels of the Government and Public at large.

### **Functions of the central board:**

The main functions of CPCB, as spelt out in The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, are:

- (i) To promote cleanliness of streams and wells in different areas of the States through prevention, control and abatement of water pollution; and,
- (ii) To improve the quality of air and to prevent, control or abate air pollution in the country.

In addition to the main functions of promoting cleanliness of streams and wells, improving the quality of air and to prevent, control or abate air pollution, CPCB has been assigned following National Level functions:

- Advise the Central Government on any matter concerning prevention and control of water and air pollution and improvement of the quality of air;
- Plan and cause to be executed a nation wide programme for the prevention, control or abatement of water and air pollution;
- Co ordinate the activities of the State Boards and resolve disputes among them;
- Provide technical assistance and guidance to the State Boards, carry out and sponsor investigations and research relating to problems of water and air pollution, and for their prevention, control or abatement;
- Plan and organise training of persons engaged in programmes for prevention, control or abatement of water and air pollution;
- Organise through mass media, a comprehensive mass awareness programme on prevention, control or abatement of water and air pollution;
- Collect, compile and publish technical and statistical data relating to water and air pollution and the measures devised for their effective prevention, control or abatement;

- Prepare manuals, codes and guidelines relating to treatment and disposal of sewage and trade effluents as well as for stack gas cleaning devices, stacks and ducts; Disseminate information in respect of matters relating to water and air pollution and their prevention and control;
- Lay down, modify or annul, in consultation with the State Governments concerned, the standards for stream or well, and lay down standards for the quality of air;
- Establish or recognize laboratories to enable the Board to perform, and;
- Perform such other functions as and when prescribed by the Government of India.

### **Functions of the central board as state board for the union territories**

- Advise the Governments of Union Territories with respect to the suitability of any premises or location for carrying on any industry which is likely to pollute a stream or well or cause air pollution;
- Lay down standards for treatment of sewage and trade effluents and for emissions from automobiles, industrial plants, and any other polluting source;
- Evolve efficient methods for disposal of sewage and trade effluents on land;
- Develop reliable and economically viable methods for treatment of sewage, trade effluents and air pollution control equipment;
- Identify any area or areas within Union Territories as air pollution control area or areas to be notified under The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981; and
- Assess the quality of ambient air and water, and inspect wastewater treatment installations, air pollution control equipments, industrial plants or manufacturing processes to evaluate their performance and to take steps for the prevention, control and abatement of air and water pollution.

### **Delegation of powers by central pollution control board**

As per the policy decision of the Government of India, the Central Pollution Control Board, delegated its powers and functions from time to time under Section 4, Sub Section 4 of The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Section 6 of The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 with respect to various Union Territories to respective Pollution Control Committees under the administrative control of local Administration.

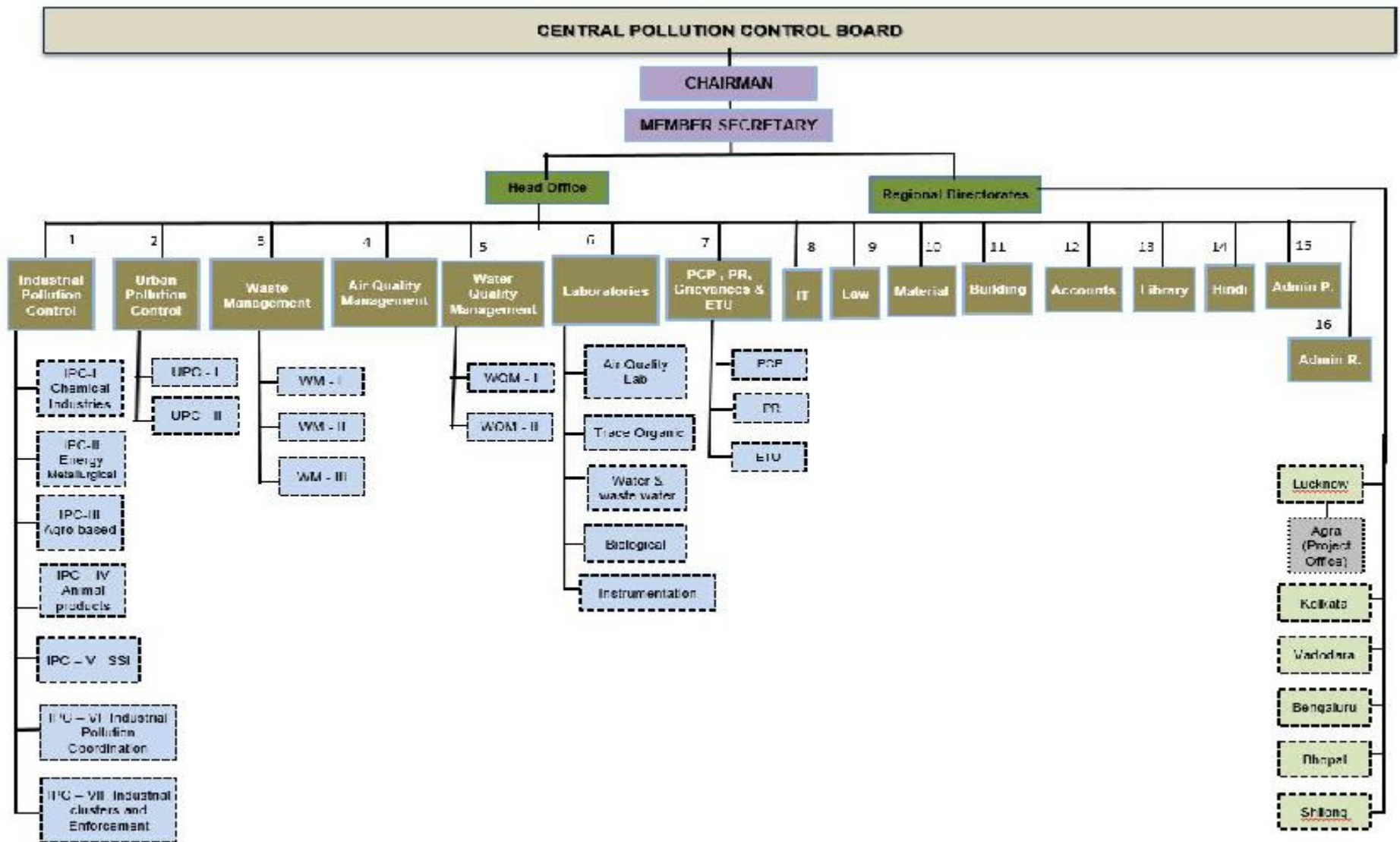
### **Constitution and Structure of the Central Board**

According to the provisions of The Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Central Board consists of the following members:

- A full time Chairman, being a person having special knowledge or practical experience in respect of matters relating to environmental protection or a person having knowledge and experience in administering institutions dealing with the matters aforesaid, to be nominated by the Central Government;
- such number of officials, not exceeding five, to be nominated by the Central Government to represent Government;
- such number of persons, not exceeding five, to be nominated by the Central Government, from amongst the members of the State Boards, of whom not exceeding two shall be from amongst the members of the local authorities;
- such number of non officials, not exceeding three to be nominated by the Central Government, to represent the interest of agriculture, fishery or industry or trade or any other interest which, in the opinion of the Central Government, ought to be represented;
- who persons to represent the companies or corporations owned, controlled or managed by the Central Government, to be nominated by the Government; and A full time Member Secretary, possessing qualifications, knowledge and experience of scientific, engineering or management aspects of pollution control, to be appointed by the Central Government.

Reference:

<https://cpcb.nic.in/Introduction/>



Picture Link:

<https://cpcb.nic.in/organizational-structure/>