



High Court Judgments / Orders

Bombay High Court stays the operation of MoEFCC office memorandum allowing ex post facto clearance under the CRZ notification

Vanashakti v. Union of India & Ors; Order dated 7 May, 2021¹

In a Public Interest Litigation filed against the Office Memorandum dated 1 February, 2021 issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change ("MoEFCC"), a bench of Chief Justice Dipankar Datta and Justice G.S. Kulkarni has restrained the MoEFCC from granting any permission / clearance on the basis of this office memorandum until 31 August, 2021 or any further orders.

The High Court noted that the office memorandum purports to lay down a procedure for grant of *post facto* clearance to industries / agencies which might have commenced construction without prior clearance under the Coastal Regulation Zone ("CRZ") Notification, 2019 and thereby seek to regularize such illegal construction. It observed that on a *prima facie* view, the contents of the office memorandum dilute the rigours of the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and other related enactments and also fail to comply with *ratio decidendi* of the Supreme Court decision in *Alembic Pharmaceutical Limited v. Rohit Prajapati*².

Delhi High Court directs MoEFCC to finalise the draft guidelines under plastic waste management

rules and restrains authorities from taking coercive actions for violation of SOP issued by CPCB until then

Cement Manufacturers Association & Ors. v. Union of India & Anr.; order dated 12 May, 2021³

A single-judge bench of the Delhi High Court has directed the MoEFCC to finalise the draft guidelines concerning the implementation and modalities of the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 ("Plastic Rules") by 31 July, 2021 after interacting with all stakeholders. The High Court has also directed the petitioner's members to submit their action plan for collection and disposal of plastic waste etc., in terms of the existing Rules and the Action Plan prepared in 2019. Such members have been directed to submit their action plans on or before 1 July, 2021 in terms of the Rules *sans* the Standard Operating Procedure ("SOP") under challenge. However, where industries have already submitted such action plans, they shall be processed for registration under the Rules without insisting on additional requirements under the SOP. Further, providing a sigh of relief to petitioners, High Court also restrained authorities from taking any coercive actions against the petitioner and its members for violation of the SOP under challenge, until the draft guidelines are finalised by the MoEFCC.

It is important to note that the draft guidelines of MoEFCC contemplate the creation of a national platform for registration of the producers,

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importers and brand owners under the Plastic Rules. It also contemplates creation of a uniform Extended Producer Responsibility framework for the entire country, which ought to be brand and geography neutral. It also provides for a graded approach for plastic waste management.

In this case, High Court was considering a challenge to the SOP issued by the Central Pollution Control Board ("CPCB") in March, 2021 for the Registration of Producers, Importers & Brand-Owners ("PIBOs") under the Plastic Rules. Besides, the notice for registration issued by CPCB to petitioner's members under the SOP had also been challenged. The SOP was brought into effect from 15 May, 2021.

Petitioner contended that the Action Plan was issued in 2019 under the Plastic Rules. There are various differences between the Action Plan of 2019 and the SOP. Moreover, for the purpose of implementing the Rules, draft guidelines were prepared by the MoEFCC which are currently under consideration of MoEFCC. Hence, it was argued that, since the draft guidelines for implementation of Rules have not yet been finalised, the issuance and implementation of the SOP by CPCB is not justified and is onerous. On the other hand, CPCB contended that the notified SOP does not provide anything new that does not already exist in the Rules.

National Green Tribunal Judgments / Orders

NGT directs MoEFCC to re-examine environmental clearance for development of modern poultry, egg market at Ghazipur

Gauri Maulekhi v. Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change; Order dated 19 May, 2021⁴

A five-judge bench of the National Green Tribunal ("NGT") has directed MoEFCC to ensure reconsideration by the Expert Appraisal Committee ("EAC") of the application for environmental clearance ("EC") for development of modern poultry and egg market in Ghazipur. Until the application is reconsidered by the EAC, NGT has directed that the EC granted for the market not be brought into effect.

NGT was hearing an appeal against the impugned EC on the grounds that EAC had considered the project as a 'construction activity', ignoring the environmental impacts of the slaughter activity and its impact on hygiene and public health. Referring to settled principles of law, NGT directed that EAC is under a legal obligation to ensure that all such issues are considered before recommending EC for such a project.

It was contended by the appellant that slaughtering of animals and processing of

meat cannot be done at the same place where marketing is done. appellant also contended that such activity will be in violation of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, Food Safety and Standard Act, 2006 and Municipal Corporation Act, 1957 and previous orders of the Supreme Court and Delhi High Court.

NGT constitutes a joint committee to prepare action plan for removal of encroachments from Banni Grassland in Kutch, Gujarat

Banni Pashu Uchherak Maldhari Sangthan v. Union of India & Ors.; Order dated 20 May, 2021⁵

A five-judge bench of the NGT has constituted a joint committee of Divisional Commissioner, Kutch and Chief Conservator of Forest, Kutch to prepare an action plan for removal of encroachments from the Banni grassland in Kutch, Gujarat. NGT observed that Banni grassland was recognised as a protected forest in 1955, but various non-forest activities have been continuing in the forest without complying with provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights), Act, 2006 and judgments of the Supreme Court.

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NGT constitutes a joint committee to ascertain non-compliances and environmental impacts caused by the operation of JSW Steel plant in Raigad, Maharashtra

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NGT puts in abeyance the EC granted to a thermal power plant in Telangana

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In this case, NGT was hearing an application filed against non-forest activities in Banni Grassland, Kutch, State of Gujarat, in violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and directions of the Supreme Court. It was noted that Banni grassland constitutes around 45% of the pasture land in Gujarat, and is the habitat of various species of plants and animals.

NGT expresses concerns over the functioning of Maharashtra SEIAA in examination of construction projects in Maharashtra

Tanaji B. Gambhire v. Chief Secretary, Government of Maharashtra & Ors.; Order dated 24 May, 2021⁶

A five-judge bench of the NGT has directed the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority ("SEIAA"), Maharashtra to review its working in the light of the judgments of the Supreme Court relating to environmental law. Besides, in order to ensure that the functioning of SEIAA is in compliance with law, NGT has also directed the MoEFCC to prepare and circulate Standard Operating Procedures to SEIAA, Maharashtra and all other SEIAAs in the country to address gaps between the law and actual practice being followed.

In this case, NGT was hearing an appeal against a real estate project of the respondents in Pune. It was contended that EC was granted to the project in 2008 but the respondent had expanded the scope of the project without seeking necessary amendments in EC. Subsequently, after carrying out multiple expansions, respondent applied for the *ex post facto* clearance from SEIAA, Maharashtra for continuing the project, which is not allowed as per previous judgments of the Supreme Court.

NGT noted the settled principle of law that if the construction project has commenced without a prior EC, the project has to be demolished. In cases where it is found that the environmental damage can be restored, the project can be permitted on payment of assessed compensation based on polluter pays principle which needs to be spent for restoration of the environment.

However, NGT observed that apart from this project, it has noted various grievances of continuing violation of environment norms in construction projects in Maharashtra. These projects are being completed without prior EC and SEIAA, Maharashtra is neither directing their demolition nor seeking payment of environmental compensation to comply with the rule of law and protection of environment.

Hence, NGT directed the SEIAA, Maharashtra to review its working in compliance with the law and also constituted a joint committee of MoEFCC, Central Pollution Control Board and Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board to look into the present matter and suggest a remedial action plan, including the quantum of compensation to be recovered within three months.

NGT directs Ministry of Defence and armed forces to initiate steps for environmental protection

In re: Air Marshal Anil Chopra (Report on Environmental Issues, Waste Management-Armed Forces, General issues of Cantonments and lists major military stations and Cantonments of all the state); Order dated 24 May, 2021⁷

A five-judge bench of the NGT was hearing an application for steps to be taken for scientific waste management in armed forces establishments, particularly on environmental issues and waste management in cantonments and military stations and ecological issues at Siachen Glacier.

After examining the report submitted by the Ministry of Defence on this aspect, NGT observed that further steps need to be taken by the concerned authorities for protection of environment at all levels, including proper management of biomedical, domestic, solid, electrical, electronic wastes as per statutory norms. Besides, the scientific management of other wastes generated during the course of operations of the armed forces like artillery and other ammunition, also needs to be ensured in the interest of public health, sanitation and environment.

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NGT directs implementation of Vishwamitri River Action Plan for rejuvenation of river Vishwamitri

Rohit Prajapati v. Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change & Ors.; Order dated 25 May, 2021⁸

A five-judge bench of the NGT has directed the Vadodara Municipal Corporation to implement Vishwamitri River Action Plan for rejuvenation of the river Vishwamitri in Vadodara.

In this case, NGT was hearing an application against the proposal of construction of Vishwamitri Riverfront Development Project in Vadodara, Gujarat. It was contended that requisite clearances had not been obtained by the municipal corporation for this project. Besides, the application also highlighted the issues like dumping of the solid waste, illegal constructions, etc. which are polluting the river.

NGT observed that Vadodara Municipal Corporation has not yet finalised the proposal and its application to obtain the environmental clearance has already been withdrawn. Hence, this issue need not be adjudicated. Besides, with respect to other issues like pollution and encroachment, it was noted that Vishwamitri River is one of the 351 polluted river stretches in India, as identified by the Central Pollution Control Board. To rejuvenate such rivers, NGT had earlier directed the constitution of a River Rejuvenation Committee in each state and union territory of India for preparing an action plan.

Accordingly, to rejuvenate this river, NGT reiterated its direction for implementation of the Vishwamitri River Action Plan including the steps for removal of unauthorised structures, demarcation and protection of flood plain zone and other action points as per the river restoration plan.

NGT constitutes a joint committee to ascertain non-compliances and environmental impacts caused by the operation of JSW Steel plant in Raigad, Maharashtra

Samita Rajendra Patil v. Jindal Steel Works Ltd. & Ors.; Order dated 27 May, 2021⁹

A five-judge bench of the NGT has constituted a five members joint committee to ascertain the compliances by a plant operated by Jindal Steel Works Ltd. in Raigad, Maharashtra under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Hazardous Waste Management Rules, 2016. NGT has also directed the committee to assess impacts caused by this plant on mangroves and agriculture in the region and also to determine the status of scientific disposal of the solid waste by the plant. Based on its assessment, the committee may also estimate the extent of environmental damage, the amount of compensation required in case of non-compliance and the restitution plan.

In this case, NGT was hearing an application filed by residents of villages located near the plant alleging that the operation of the plant has caused environmental damage in the region, namely, damage to the mangroves, pollution of air, water and soil and adverse impacts on agriculture and human health. However, the respondent contended that the plant was being operated after obtaining and in compliance with relevant consents, approvals and clearances from government authorities.

NGT upholds closure orders issued by the municipal corporation against dairy farms for violation of environmental norms

Abhisht Kusum Gupta v. State of Uttar Pradesh & Ors.; Order dated 27 May, 2021¹⁰

A five-judge bench of the NGT dismissed the application filed by dairy operators against closure orders issued by East Delhi Municipal Corporation, thus effectively upholding these closure orders. NGT observed that dairies could operate only after obtaining requisite consents and approvals from government authorities and had to be closed down if compliances are not ensured.

In this case, NGT was hearing an application filed by dairy operators against the closure

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orders issued against them by the East Delhi Municipal Corporation on grounds of violation of environmental norms and for causing pollution due to dumping of waste. The corporation contended that issue of closure orders was due to consistent violation of environmental norms by these dairies.

NGT observed that this issue had also been dealt with by the Delhi High Court earlier. Based on High Court's orders, corporation had framed the policy concerning operation of dairies. For non-compliance with these policies, corporation has issued closure orders against them. Hence, NGT directed that these dairies cannot operate without complying with relevant environmental norms at the cost of public hygiene and health.

NGT puts in abeyance the EC granted to a thermal power plant in Telangana

Uma Maheshwar Dahagama v. Union of India & Ors.; Judgment dated 27 May, 2021¹¹

A division bench of the NGT has suspended the EC granted to a new coal-based thermal power plant in Telangana on the ground of lack of significant scientific analysis in the Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") report submitted to MoEFCC. Project proponent has been directed to conduct such studies and re-submit the EIA report to MoEFCC. MoEFCC has been directed to decide on the EC after re-appraisal of the revised EIA report by the EAC.

In this case, NGT was considering an appeal against the EC granted for a new thermal power plant in Telangana. NGT observed that project proponent had not provided significant

scientific studies in its EIA report and therefore such aspects could not be considered by the EAC for its decision. It observed that, the location of the plant being in an industrial area containing several polluting industries and mines, the assessment of the cumulative impact of these industries on the air quality was required to be done. However, the assessment done by the project proponent was non-compliant with Terms of Reference issued to it by the EAC. Besides, NGT also observed that scientific studies and data on aspects like potential radio-activity caused by the type of coal to be used in the plant, heavy metal study on the type of coal to be used, disposal and management of fly ash and disposal of waste water / effluents from the plant have not been provided in the EIA report.

Further, NGT observed that appraisal of this project by the EAC without requiring project proponent to complete such scientific studies, despite several precedents of NGT in this regard, reflects the lack of application of mind by the EAC in appraising and recommending this project. In this respect, NGT held that project proponent is required to conduct a wider study of probable impacts of its activities on the environment and suggest appropriate mitigation measures for such impacts. These studies and mitigation measures are thereafter required to be considered by the EAC before recommendation.

Hence, NGT directed that there was no reason to set aside the EC. However, it suspended the operation of the EC for 7 months or till the time its re-appraisal is done by the EAC (based on fresh EIA report covering above-mentioned scientific studies), whichever is earlier.

Regulatory and Policy Developments

SEBI issues circular on Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting by listed entities; 10 May, 2021¹²

Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI") has released a circular finalising the Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report ("BRSR") format for listed entities in India. Simultaneously, an amendment has been made

to regulation 34(2)(f) of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, by which the filing of the BRSR has been made mandatory for the top 1000 listed companies of India (by market capitalization) with effect from the financial year 2022-2023 and shall replace the existing Business Responsibility Report. The filing of the BRSR is voluntary for such entities in the financial year 2021-22.

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Karnataka amends EV policy to offer 15 per cent capital subsidy to investors; 28 May, 2021

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The filing of BRSR mandates companies to report on various ESG related parameters. The BRSR format has been issued along with a guidance note to enable the companies to interpret the scope of disclosures required to be made.

Union Cabinet approves the Production Linked Incentive Scheme for manufacturing of electric storage equipment; 12 May, 2021¹³

The Union Government has approved the Production Linked Incentive Scheme 'National Programme on Advanced Chemistry Cell ("ACC") Battery Storage' for achieving manufacturing capacity of fifty Giga Watt Hour ("GWh") of ACC and 5 GWh of "Niche" ACC with an outlay of Rs.18,100 crore.

The objective of the scheme is to boost domestic manufacturing of ACC devices that can store electric energy either as electrochemical or as chemical energy and convert it back to electric energy as and when required. This scheme is expected to reduce India's dependence on imports of such equipments which are required for sectors like consumer electronics, electric vehicles, advanced electricity grids, solar rooftop etc. Due to increasing network of renewable energy in India, Government expects demand for electric storage in the battery to grow in future.

Among other objectives, the scheme provides to: (i) setup a cumulative 50 GWh of ACC manufacturing facilities in India; (ii) ensure direct investment of around Rs.45,000 crore in ACC Battery storage manufacturing projects; and (iii) facilitate demand creation for battery storage in India.

Union Government constitutes SEIAA and SEAC for Andhra Pradesh; 12 May, 2021¹⁴

The Union Government has notified the constitution of the SEIAA and State Level Expert Appraisal Committee ("SEAC") for the State of Andhra Pradesh as required under the EIA Notification, 2006. As per the notification, the Chairman and Members of both SEIAA and SEAC shall hold office for a term of three years from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette.

MoEFCC issues new guidelines for forest clearance for security / defence related projects; 12 May, 2021¹⁵

MoEFCC has issued guidelines amending the process for obtaining forest clearance for different projects in border areas and left-wing extremism ("LWE") affected districts of the country. Through these guidelines, MoEFCC has withdrawn the process of forest clearance for projects in these areas as provided in paras 4.4 and 4.5 of Chapter-4 of Handbook of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

As per these guidelines, MoEFCC has allowed Integrated Regional Offices ("IROs") of the MoEFCC to consider and take decision on proposals concerning all such critical public infrastructure projects by Government agencies in LWE districts and defence and security related infrastructure in the border areas.

It also provides that decision on Stage-I approval for a proposal (involving forest land up to 5 ha) will be taken within 15 days of the receipt of the proposal from the State Government by the IRO. Besides, complete proposals involving forest land of more than 5 ha will be placed before the Regional Empowered Committee within 15 days of the receipt. Further, the decision on final approval will be taken by the IRO within one week of receipt of complete compliance of Stage-I conditions from the State/UT. MoEFCC has also specified certain principles / conditions to be followed by IROs while considering these proposals.

Government considering to release Indian Standards for Low-cost AC Charge Point; 12 May, 2021¹⁶

The Department of Science and Technology, Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India, in close co-ordination with NITI Aayog, have developed specifications and prototype products of the proposed standards for an innovative low-cost Electric Vehicle ("EV") charge point. This Low-Cost AC Charge point ("LAC") allows up to 3 kW of power to be drawn for charging e-scooters and e-auto rickshaws. The LAC device is intended to be highly scalable and can be deployed in any place where a 220V 15A single phase line

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is available – mainly targeting parking lots of metro and railway stations, shopping malls, hospitals, office complexes, apartments and even kirana and other shops.

This draft standard is being finalised by Bureau of Indian Standards Committee on Electromobility Standards. The formal release of the standards is expected to be done within the next two months, after completion of field and durability trials of sample products.

Cities, towns and villages in India are expected to benefit from such low-cost EV charge points that can accelerate the adoption of two-wheeler and three-wheeler EVs in India. This will allow a rapid scale up of EV charging infrastructure in the country.

MeitY releases the draft policy paper on Circular Economy in Electronics and Electrical sector; 14 May, 2021¹⁷

With the purpose of dealing with e-waste as a part of the larger plan of the Indian government to encourage circular economy and ensure zero to minimal wastage in the electronics and electrical sector, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology ("MeitY") has formulated a draft policy paper titled "Circular Economy in Electronics and Electrical Sector - A Policy Paper and Action Plan" ("Paper").

The Paper emphasises on the life cycle of electronics and electric products including stages of raw material acquisition, design, manufacturing / production stage, consumption to end of life (e-waste) management and secondary raw materials utilisation. It further makes various short, medium and long-term suggestions to ensure the circular economy in the sector.

The Paper notes that manufacturing of electronic and electrical equipment is dependent on high material consumption of metals like iron, copper, silver, gold, aluminium, manganese, chromium and zinc along with various rare earth elements. Given that the rate of extraction of these abiotic resources is significantly higher than the rate of their formation in nature, the circular

economy approach will be imperative to fulfil the resource needs for India.

The focus areas of the Paper include eleven end-of-life products / recyclable materials / wastes that either continue to pose considerable challenges or are emerging as new challenge areas that must be addressed in a holistic manner.

CPCB extends the date for submission of registration application by PIBOs under the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016; 14 May, 2021¹⁸

In view of current surge in COVID-19 pandemic, the CPCB has extended to 1 July, 2021 the last date for submission of complete application by PIBOs, operating in more than two States or Union Territories, who have not yet applied for registration under the provisions of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016.

MoEFCC modifies the ESZ around the Band Baretha Wildlife Sanctuary in Rajasthan; 18 May, 2021¹⁹

MoEFCC has notified the amendment in the Eco-Sensitive Zone ("ESZ") around the Band Baretha Wildlife Sanctuary in Rajasthan. The reason for this amendment is the denotification of two standalone blocks namely Bansī Pahadpur-A and Bansī Pahadpur-B around the wildlife sanctuary in March, 2021. Pursuant to two blocks being denotified from the wildlife sanctuary, ESZ around these two blocks was also sought to be denotified by the State of Rajasthan. Consequently, ESZ around the Band Baretha Wildlife Sanctuary has now been reduced.

MoEFCC rescinds the notification of draft amendments to the fly ash notification; 24 May, 2021²⁰

Through a notification dated 25 February, 2019, Central Government had proposed amendments to the principal notification on fly ash dated 14 September, 1999. In this draft notification, Government invited objections or suggestions on various aspects like prohibition of new red clay brick kilns within 300 kilometres from coal or lignite based thermal power plants, prescription of minimum percentage of fly ash in different

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products, availability of fly ash free of cost by thermal power plants, etc. However, through a notification dated 24 May, 2021, the Government has rescinded the notification of these draft amendments.

Technology to convert CO₂ into chemicals and fuels receives TDB National Award 2021; 24 May, 2021²¹

Technology Development Board (TDB) of Ministry of Science and Technology has awarded the National Award 2021 to a Bangalore based start-up for developing a commercial solution for conversion of CO₂ to chemicals and fuels.

Breathe Applied Sciences, a start-up incubated at Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research developed efficient catalysts and methodologies for the conversion of CO₂ to methanol and other chemicals. It has led to improvisation of process engineering to enhance the production of chemicals and fuels from anthropogenic CO₂ generated from various sources including coal and natural gas power generation sectors, steel industry and in integrating multiple components involved in the carbon capture, utilization and sequestration to develop a complete solution for the environmental issues due to global warming.

Ministry of Power decides to set up a National Mission on use of Biomass in coal based thermal power plants; 25 May, 2021²²

In order to address the issue of air pollution due to farm stubble burning and to reduce carbon footprint of thermal power generation, Ministry of Power has decided to set up a National Mission on use of Biomass in coal based thermal power plants. This would further support the energy transition in the country and Government's targets to move towards cleaner energy sources.

The National Mission will have the following objectives: (a) to increase the level of co-firing from present 5% to higher levels to have a larger share of carbon neutral power generation from the thermal power plants; (b) to take up R&D activity in boiler design to handle the higher amount of silica, alkalis in the biomass pellets; (c) to facilitate overcoming

the constraints in supply chain of bio mass pellets and agro-residue and its transport to the power plants and (d) to consider regulatory issues in biomass co-firing.

The duration of the proposed National Mission will be a minimum 5 years and various sub-groups have been formed under the Mission. The proposed Mission will also contribute in the National Clean Air Programme.

MoEFCC advises project proponents to register their complaints online through PARIVESH portal; 28 May, 2021²³

Through an Office Memorandum dated 28 May, 2021, MoEFCC has advised that project proponents need to submit complaints to MoEFCC regarding issues concerning submission of applications for clearances administered by MoEFCC, reply to essential or additional details sought by MoEFCC, issues related to software etc. through PARIVESH portal only. The complaints submitted through modes other than PARIVESH will not be entertained hereafter.

Karnataka amends EV policy to offer 15 per cent capital subsidy to investors; 28 May, 2021²⁴

The Karnataka State Cabinet has decided to provide 15% capital subsidy to investors in the EV sector after the state came under immense pressure due to few states which offered better incentives. The Cabinet has decided to amend the Karnataka Electric Vehicle & Storage Policy, 2017 to improve upon its existing policy. With this amendment, the government will provide a 15% capital subsidy on the value of fixed assets over five equal annual payments. The sops will apply to plots of up to 50 acres. The government will also provide a production-linked incentive of 1% of turnover for a period of five years from the first year of commercial operations. The government is also looking to create an EV cluster in Ramanagar district, near Bengaluru.

Maharashtra intends to lead other states in the EV category; 29 May, 2021²⁵

The Maharashtra government has announced that in the next five years it plans to ensure at least 10% of the newly registered vehicles in its major cities would be electric. Addressing a

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virtual town hall organised by 'Climate Voices' on Thursday, state transport secretary Ashish Kumar Singh also mentioned that Maharashtra has intended to be the top battery- operated vehicle producer in the country.

Speaking on key highlights of the draft EV Policy 2021, State Transport Commissioner Avinash Dhakane said that the government

is targeting Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur, Nashik and Aurangabad to achieve 25 per cent electrification of intra-city public transport as well as last-mile delivery vehicles by 2025. He mentioned that along with the EV policy, the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board is also undertaking a parallel exercise to build draft rules on recycling lithium ion batteries and associated electronic waste.

Endnotes

- 1 Public Interest Litigation (L) No. 8540 of 2021, order dated 7 May, 2021.
- 2 2020 SCC OnLine SC 347.
- 3 W.P.(C) 5191 of 2021 & CM APPL. 15949 of 2021.
- 4 Appeal No. 11 of 2021.
- 5 Original Application No. 366 of 2018.
- 6 Appeal No. 34 of 2020 (WZ).
- 7 Original Application No. 451 of 2019.
- 8 Original Application No. 228 of 2020.
- 9 Original Application No. 165 of 2020.
- 10 Original Application No. 1002 of 2018.
- 11 Appeal No. 46 of 2016 (SZ).
- 12 https://www.sebi.gov.in/legal/circulars/may-2021/business-responsibility-and-sustainability-reporting-by-listed-entities_50096.html
- 13 <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1717938>
- 14 <https://egazette.nic.in/WriteReadData/2021/226977.pdf>
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- 23 http://environmentclearance.nic.in/writereaddata/OMs-2004-2021/255_OM_28_04_2021.pdf
- 24 <https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/power/karnataka-tweaks-ev-policy-to-offer-15-per-cent-capital-subsidy-to-investors/83026435>
- 25 <https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/power/maharashtra-intends-to-lead-other-states-in-ev-category-say-officials/83061817>

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