

PRESS RELEASE

CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION WASTE MANAGEMENT

The urbanization, industrialization, modernization and rising population is driving the construction industry to grow at a phenomenal rate. Demolition activities are being carried out to replace old civil structures with newer, bigger and better one. Improper disposal of Construction & Demolition (C&D) waste has detrimental impact on the environment like air pollution, water pollution, soil pollution and noise pollution.

To manage the C&D waste generated in the country in a better and efficient way, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF & CC) notified the C&D Waste Management Rules, 2016, on 29th March 2016 prescribing the responsibilities/duties to all the stakeholders.

The rules apply to every waste resulting from construction, re-modeling, repair and demolition of any civil structure of individual or organisation or authority who generates C&D waste such as building materials, debris, rubble.

The C&D WM Rules, 2016, prescribes the duties of the waste generators including the following:

- Collection, Segregation, storage of wastes generated.
- Submit waste management plan and get appropriate approvals from the local authority before starting construction or demolition or remodeling work, whose waste generation is more than 20 tons or more in one day or 300 tons per project in a month.
- Deposit the wastes at collection centre so made by the local body or handover it to the authorised processing facilities of construction and demolition waste.
- Ensure no littering or deposition of construction and demolition waste so as to prevent obstruction to the traffic or the public or drains.

The TNPCB is the prescribed authority for monitoring the implementation/enforcement of the provisions of these rules.

However, it is noticed that the C&D wastes and construction material are dumped haphazardly / transported without proper coverage and necessary precautionary measures thereby contributing dust emission in the ambient air.

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has issued guidelines on Dust Mitigation measures in handling Construction material and C&D waste (Refer CPCB website

www.cpcb.nic.in) regarding the common dust management measures during transportation and storage of C&D wastes (Offsite & Onsite) like:

- Wind borne wastes shall be covered by jute, tarpaulin etc.,
- Wastes shall be damped either by water spray or aligning the waste disposal during unloading activities.
- Dispersal of dust borne particles shall be minimized by either location of dumpsite or using water sprinklers or covered jute, tarpaulin sheet etc., at the storage area.
- Provide designated areas for storing C& D wastes.

TNPCB has already issued necessary instructions to all the bulk waste generators/line departments for proper handling and disposal of C&D wastes as per the Rules.

The Greater Chennai Corporation has provided facilities for processing the C&D waste of capacity 400 Tons per Day (TPD) each at Kodungaiyur and Perungudi.

Also, the Greater Chennai Corporation through an external agency (C40 cities) has prepared a draft City Climate Action Plan (CCAP) which has identified sustainable waste management as one of the priority sector and identified action for 100% segregation of waste at source & collection coverage and to meet 100% capacity of waste processing by setting up various decentralised waste processing units.

Hence, all the stakeholders are strictly instructed to ensure proper collection, storage, transportation, recycling and disposal of C&D wastes as per the provisions of the C&D Waste Management Rules, 2016 and guidelines issued by the CPCB. Any unauthorised disposal of C&D wastes along the roads/river banks, water bodies, secluded areas etc, other than the identified / designated area by the local body, stringent action will be initiated by the TNPCB against the violators under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 as amended.

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