

PREFACE

Today the entire world is worried about the deterioration and depleting condition of environment. Industrial development is a key to economic growth and employment potential. Therefore industrialization and generation of hazardous wastes is inevitable scenarios in developing countries. Due to harmful composition of such wastes it is posing serious threat if it leaches into the ground water, thereby causing contamination of an aquifers and drinking water of the nearby areas. Our modernization sense is responsible for birth of hazardous chemicals or products. The protection and improvement of environment has become a major issue which affects the well being of the people and economic development. There is an increased focus from regulators towards the need for sustainable environment. Industrialization has increased pollution of air, water and soil. Therefore the government must take initiative to revamp concerning regulatory authorities.

The Pollution Control Board of Assam, constituted in 1975, is the main agency responsible for the administration and implementation of Acts and Rules pertaining to environment in the state of Assam. It has played pivotal and significant role in implementation of HWM Rules and provides strict glance in the activities of hazardous wastes generating industries so that ecological balance would be maintained in the region. It is found from the observation of Report no.3 of the controller and Auditor General of India, on performance audit of “Environmental Degradation in the greater Guwahati Area with special emphasis on the role of Pollution Control Board, Assam” that there are a number of anomalies in the functioning of board. Over the years the board has not in possession of total quantity of hazardous waste generation

number generating industries in Assam. The existing infrastructure requires strengthening for effective implementation of H&OWM Rules, 2016 in Assam. With this research problem the researcher intends to carry out a scientific and systematic investigation in the topic on “Role of State Pollution Control Board of Assam in implementation of the Hazardous Wastes Management Rules: A Study”. For this purpose the present research has been divided into seven chapters. *Chapter I* is an introductory one gives a brief exposure of the enormity of the problem of hazardous waste; and its impact on our environment. It also highlights our national concern and raises some of the basic issues which have come to the forefront and required immediate implementation of hazardous waste rules to protect our environment. This chapter comprises of review of relevant literature, methodology adopted for study and objectives of the study etc.

Chapter II is devoted to a discussion on International documents relating to the hazardous waste enactments at international level such as Stockholm Declaration 1972, UN Environmental Programme. Rio Declaration on Environment and Development 1992, Basel Convention 1989, Rotterdam Convention, Stockholm convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants 2001, Minamata Convention 2013. The chapter analyses all implementation and enforcement mechanism and examine the availability and adequacy of such mechanism. It has been made an attempt to give current scenario and recent developments relating to hazardous waste management system.

Chapter III is an attempt to Study National laws relating to the hazardous waste management rules in India. The study looks at the Constitutional Mandates to pollution free Environment. In India there are 62,406 nos. of hazardous waste generating industries, generating 72, 34,259 metric tons of hazardous waste every

year. The researcher emphasized and evaluated the implementing authorities, boards and agencies of the government. The study holds a critical analysis of current rules and regulations pertaining to the hazardous wastes management; role of central pollution control board and instances of violation of legal provisions by the hazardous wastes generating industries across the country. The incorporation of many provisions has added new dimension, making it obligatory on the State and the every citizen to protect and improve the environment.

Chapter IV is power and function of State Pollution Control Board of Assam that have to exercise under the respective legislation. There are two regulatory authorities i.e., Central Pollution Control Board at central level and State Pollution Control Boards at the state level to exercise power and function under the WPA for the prevention and control of pollutions in India. Accordingly the State Pollution Control Board of Assam has been constituted with wider responsibilities touching across almost every aspect of pollution such as hazardous wastes generation, handling and their safe disposal. In this chapter the researcher attempts to make a critical analysis on working of the board in respect of management of hazardous in the states.

Chapter V is an attempt to investigate the role of State Pollution Control Board of Assam to implement the hazardous waste management rules in Assam. In this chapter data regarding quantity of hazardous waste as per annual return, quantity disposed in captive SLF, quantity disposed by captive incinerator, quantity sent to recyclers of schedule IV hazardous waste, captive utilization and quantity of hazardous waste stored at occupier premises at the end of the year 2017-2018 has been analyzed. *Chapter VI* is the concluding observation and knowledge of the researcher about the unknown fact of the entire working system of the pollution control board of Assam. *Chapter VII* is a summary of the discussion and incorporates a few suggestions

for strengthening the efficacy of the existing legal mechanism to control the improper disposal of hazardous waste released from various industries.

The researcher started the study with the primary objective of investigating the role of State Pollution Control Board of Assam in implementation of Hazardous waste Management Rules. To this end, to have clear knowledge about the existing rules and regulations pertaining to the Hazardous Wastes Management in India, effective mechanisms for proper functioning of the pollution control boards in India etc. On the whole, the endeavour of this research work is to study the role played by State Pollution Control Board of Assam for implementation of the Hazardous waste management rules. It is hoped that the labour of the researcher turns out to be fruitful and the researcher adds some value to the functioning of Pollution Control Board of Assam in Implementation of Hazardous waste Management Rules.

With limited knowledge and equipment, the researcher has made a sincere effort to deal with the power and function of the Pollution Control Board of Assam under the HWM Rules 2016 as well as the issues and challenges in implementation of Hazardous waste Management Rules by the Pollution Control Board of Assam. Thus, mistakes and omissions are bound to crop up despite strenuous efforts to avoid the same. The researcher expresses her deep sense of regret for those mistakes and omissions.

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