

**Central Pollution Control Board
Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar
Delhi-110032**

**Protocol for the Environmental Laboratories desirous of seeking Recognition
under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986**

In compliance to the Gazette Notification No. S.O.2340 (E) dated 16th June, 2021 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Govt. of India with respect to the delegation of powers to Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to recognize Private environmental laboratories as well as Government sector Environmental laboratories, the Web-portal to receive the online applications from Environmental laboratories desirous to seek Recognition under the Environment (Protection) Act 1986, has been developed and the laboratories are required to follow the below instructions;

- The existing Guidelines for Recognition of Environmental laboratories under the Environment (Protection) Act 1986 (LATS/9/2008-09), are under thorough active revision, and likely to be ready for implementation shortly. The revised guidelines thus finalized and adopted by CPCB / MoEF&CC will replace the existing guidelines LATS/9/2008-09. The procedure thus amended in the new guidelines shall be liable to be adopted by all the recognized as well as new applicant Environmental laboratories. The scheduled date for such change will be notified/informed through Public Notice on CPCB website.
- All environmental laboratories seeking recognition under the Environment (Protection) Act 1986 shall mandatorily obtain accreditation from the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) for (ISO 17025:2017) for all the criteria testing parameters as given below and also participate in Proficiency Testing programme for all the Criteria parameters through accredited National/International PT provider organizations, and provide the information with the application (Fresh/ Renew/ other);
 - Physical Test: Conductivity, pH, Total Dissolved Solid, Total Suspended Solid and Turbidity
 - Inorganic (i) General: Alkalinity, Ammoniacal Nitrogen, Chloride, Fluoride, Total Hardness, Nitrate Nitrogen, Nitrite Nitrogen, Phosphate and Sulphates

- **Inorganic (ii) Metals: Arsenic, Boron, Cadmium, Calcium, Total Chromium, Hexavalent Chromium, Copper, Iron, Lead, Magnesium, Mercury, Nickel, Sodium, Potassium and Zinc**
 - **Organics (General and Trace Organics): Bio-Chemical Oxygen Demand, Chemical Oxygen Demand, OCP (BHC, DDT, Aldrin & Endosulphan) and OPPs (Malathion, Methyl parathion and Chloropyriphos)**
 - **Microbiology Tests: Total and Faecal Coliform**
 - **Ambient Air: Nitrogen Dioxide as NO₂, Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂) and Total Suspended Particulate Matter.**
 - **Source Emission: Particulate Matter, Sulphur Dioxide and Oxides of Nitrogen**
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- **The environmental laboratories shall be granted recognition (Fresh/ renewal) under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 only upto the last validity date of NABL Accreditation (ISO 17025:2017) having valid certification for Occupational Health and Safety Management System (IS/ISO 45001:2018), under the provisions of the said Act, for-**
 - (i) Fresh or renewal of recognition of laboratory;**
 - (ii) Changes in the name of Government Analysts; and**
 - (iii) Shifting of laboratory premises.**
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- **All the Environmental laboratories whether having valid recognition or applying for the recognition are required to register in the web-portal and generate their username and password for future reference and thereafter fill and submit the complete application for fresh/ renewal of recognition by depositing the prescribed fee**
 - **In case of any changes in the location/ address/ name of the laboratory the concerned laboratory has to apply afresh with valid ISO:17025 and ISO:45001 accreditation/ certifications with changed location/ address/ name and for addition/ substitution of Government Analyst, laboratory has to apply as a renewal of recognition and fee shall be applicable accordingly for both the cases.**
 - **The Laboratories applying for the Changes in the name of Government Analysts, shifting of laboratory premises or changing the name of laboratory are required to submit their request separately through email and the access will be provided**

by CPCB to the laboratory to edit the already submitted application and re-submit the request through web-portal only.

- Any application submitted for New/Fresh recognition with major shortcoming based on existing Guidelines for recognition (LATS/9/2008-2009) will be rejected and half of the application fee (as submitted by the concerned laboratory) will be refunded back to the laboratory.
- Applications for New/fresh Recognition from Private sector as well as Govt. sector laboratories having ISO: 9001 along with ISO 45001: 2018 or OHSAS: 18001 certification shall not be accepted henceforth.
- The laboratories seeking renewal of recognition based on ISO:9001 certification as per the existing guidelines and its addendum will be considered only upto 31st December, 2022, their next recognition shall be considered as Fresh recognition on submission of application, 3 months prior to the said date, fulfilling the mandatory criteria of valid ISO 17025:2017 (NABL accreditation) and ISO 45001:2018 accreditation.
- Laboratories presently with valid recognition, are advised to apply for renewal of recognition atleast 3 months before the expiry of their existing recognition with valid ISO:17025 and IS/ISO 45001:2018 to avoid discontinuation of recognition. The applications submitted after the expiry of recognition shall be treated as a fresh recognition.
- The Laboratories having the validity of NABL Accreditation less than six months at the time of approval for recognition shall be granted provisional certificate only, which shall be extended after producing renewal of accreditation and valid ISO 45001 within the expiry period and Gazette Notification shall be issued thereafter.
- Laboratories are also required to install the Bio-Metric System at the main entrance of the Laboratory and the details of analysts/ employees and their regular attendance shall be recorded regularly. The information of the same shall be provided by the laboratory whenever asked by CPCB/ Inspection team (during surveillance/ inspection).

- **Laboratory should willingly ready and affirm any surprise surveillance/inspection either physically or virtually, by the joint inspection team comprising representatives of MoEF&CC, CPCB and SPCB, any time during the period of recognition. In case joint inspection team find/observe any major shortcomings, hiding of facts by laboratory, inadequate supporting documents for respective analytical work undertaken, or laboratory reportedly indulged in gross manipulation of analytical data may lead to revoking/withdrawal of recognition granted.**

Note: If any applicant Environmental laboratory has any doubt/query, please submit your query through email on epa.cpcb@gmail.com/ epa.cpcb@gov.in. The query raised through Phone calls, either on landline or mobile shall not be entertained.