

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL INTER MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE MEETING CONSTITUTED FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE CASES RELATING TO IMPORT OF LEAD BATTERY SCRAP UNDER RESTRICTED CATEGORY.

Date : 12.02.2013
Venue : Room No.9, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi
Time : 2.30 p.m.

Members present:

- (i) Shri D.K. Singh, IAS, Addl. DGFT
- (ii) Smt. Chhanda Choudhury, Director, MOEF
- (iii) Shri R.B. Lal, Dy. Director, MOEF
- (iv) Shri Rajesh Malhotra, Dy.DGFT
- (v) Shri D.C. Katoch, FTDO

The Chairman welcomed the members of the Committee and informed that in the last EFC meeting held on 21.1.2013, the Committee observed that MOEF has recommended import of Lead Battery Scrap whereas DIPP is not supporting the request on environmental ground. Therefore, this special meeting has been called to ascertain the actual reasons for not recommending the cases by DIPP as the environmental concern are the domain of MOEF.

2. The representative of MOEF informed the following:-

- (a) Ministry of Environment & Forests has notified the Hazardous Wastes Management, (Handling and Trans-boundary Movement) rules 2008 for environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes.
- (b) As per Rule 12 of the Import and Export (Trans-Boundary Movement) of Hazardous wastes, the MOEF shall be the nodal Ministry to deal with the trans-boundary movement of hazardous wastes and to grant permission for transit of the hazardous wastes through any part of India. As per the Rule, the MOEF has constituted a Technical Review Committee (TRC) to resolve matters of dispute. An Expert Committee, sub- committee of the TRC, has been constituted to review the applications of import/export. The Expert Committee is Chaired by a Technical Expert (Ex-Director, Ministry of Earth Science) and other members include Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board, representatives from DGFT, Deptt. of Customs and MoEF. As per Rule 13, no import of the hazardous wastes from any country to India for disposal is permitted. The import of Hazardous Waste from any country is permitted only for the recycling or recovery or reuse.

(c) As per Rule 16, any person intending to import or transit for trans-boundary movement of hazardous wastes specified in Schedule-III is required to apply in Form 7 and Form 8 to MOEF, together with the Prior Informed Consent, whichever applicable and also required to send a copy of the application, simultaneously, to the concerned State Pollution Control Board to enable them to send their comments and observations, to the MOEF, within a period of 30 days. On receipt of the application in complete, MOEF examines the application considering the comments and observations, if any, received from SPCB, and may grant the permission for import within a period of 60 days subject to conditions (i) The environmentally sound recycling, recovery or reuse facilities; (ii) Adequate facilities and arrangement for treatment and disposal of wastes generated; and (iii) a valid registration from the CPCB and a proof of being an actual user, if required under these rules.

(d) In case of Import of Lead Scrap/ drained Batteries, the Committee also reviews the concentration of Lead – (i) in ambient air (ii) stack emission (iii) in water (iv) in the blood of workers.

3. The representative of MOEF also informed that they recommend only 30% of their installed capacity indicated in SPCB registration Certificate and for the rest, the importers has to obtain from local market. On this, Chairman enquired from the representative of DIPP whether they are satisfied with the quantity allowed by MOEF. The representatives of DIPP informed that the criterion of 30% of installed capacity is very low and it should be increased to at least 60-70%. The Chairman requested DIPP to carefully examine this matter and take a considered view for industries on actual user basis. **(Action: DIPP)**

4. After the approval of the minutes by the Secretary (E&F), the Ministry of Environment and Forests forward a copy of the permission granted to the Central Pollution Control Board, the concerned State Pollution Control Board and the concerned Port and Customs authorities for ensuring compliance of the conditions of imports and safe handling of the hazardous waste. The Ministry of Environment and Forests also communicates the permission to the importer. In all cases listed under agenda except 02 cases, Ministry has recommended import permission.

5. The Committee after due deliberations took following decisions in the pending applications:-

Sl. No	Name of the firm / File Number	Date	Item of import / Quantity	Decision
1.	Kavita Overseas (P) Ltd., Delhi 01/53/8/596/AM12/K-26/IC	22.2.2012	10,000 MTs Lead Battery Scrap	Approved 4500 MTs as recommended by MOEF vide OM No.23-16/2010-HSMD dated 1.1.2013.
2.	Jarson Metal, Thane 01/53/8/63/AM13/J-7/IC	2.5. 2012	2000 MTs Lead Battery Plates covered by ISRI Rails	Approved 2000 MTs as recommended by MOEF vide vide O.M. No.23-40/2009-HSMD dated 18.12.2012.

Sl. No	Name of the firm / File Number	Date	Item of import / Quantity	Decision
3.	Bindal Smelting P Ltd., New Delhi 01/53/8/77/AM13/B-6/IC	9.5.12012	Lead Scrap as per ISRI - 350 MTs	Deferred for want of comments from MOEF / DIPP.
4.	Soham Industries, Indore 01/53/162/444/AM13/S-41/IC	24.7. 2012	400 MTs Lead Battery covered by ISRI Code work Rains and Rono	Deferred for want of comments from MOEF / DIPP.
5.	SRI Balaji Smelters, Chandigarh 01/53/8/435/AM13/S-84/IC	5.12. 2012	Lead Scrap - 2000 MTs	Approved 2000 MTs as recommended by MOEF conveyed vide letter No.23- 240/2012-HSMD dated 2.11.2012.
6.	Payal Industries, Indore 01/53/8/456/AM13/P-35/IC	1.12. 2012	800 MTs Lead Scrap	Approved 800 MTs as recommended by MOEF vide No.23-29/2012/HSMD dated 2.11.2012.
7.	HBL Power System, Hyderabad 01/53/8/8/H01/AM11/IC	7.11. 2012	30,000 MTs Spent Batteries Lead Acid Batteries Scrap (as per ISRI Code Rains)	Approved 20,000 MTs as recommended by MOEF vide O.M. No.5-30/2010- HSMD dated 1.1.2013.

6. The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the Chair.

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