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ABSTRACT

08 SEP 2023

07 SEP 2023

Environment, Climate Change - Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board - Obtaining National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) accreditation for three Advanced Environmental Laboratories at Vellore, Trichy and Tirunelveli and getting recognition under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for Advanced Environmental Laboratory, Salem at a total cost of Rs. 300 lakhs from the Board's fund - Approval accorded - Orders - Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE & FOREST (EC.2) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Ms).No.132

Dated: 04.09.2023

சோபகிருது - ஆவணி-18

திருவள்ளூர் ஆண்டு -2054

Read:

From the Chairperson, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai, letter No. TNPCB/P&D/9162/2023, dated 19.07.2023.

ORDER:

Government had made the following announcement on the floor of Tamil Nadu Assembly in 2023-2024:-

"To get international recognition and to produce quality laboratory reports, to reduce the repeated works, to reduce the time and expenses; it has been proposed to obtain NABL accreditation from Quality Council of India for three Advanced Environmental Laboratories at Vellore, Trichy and Tirunelveli and getting recognition under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for the Advanced Environmental Laboratory, Salem by procurement of Instrument / equipment for creating infrastructure etc., at a total cost of Rupees Three Crores during the financial year 2023-24"

2. In the letter read above, the Chairperson, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board among other things has stated that as per the revised guidelines of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India, all the State Pollution Control Board Laboratories must acquire accreditation under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, ISO/IEC 17025:2017 (NABL Accreditation) or 180-9001 accreditation along with OHSAS ISO. 45001:2018 (Occupational Health and Safety Management System) certifications within a period of one year. Laboratory accreditation provides recognition of technical competence including quality system management of the laboratories. Such recognition is considered the first essential step towards mutual acceptance of test results and test certificate. Accreditation is a transparent and objective

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method of checking that laboratories are doing their work properly. It provides feedback to laboratories as to whether they are performing their work in accordance with international criteria for technical competence. The concept of laboratory accreditation was developed to provide third-party certification that a laboratory is competent to perform the specific test or type of tests. Laboratory accreditation is a means to improve customer confidence in the test reports issued by the laboratory

3. The Chairperson, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board has further stated that accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025:2017 for Testing and Calibration laboratories in India is granted by Quality Council of India (QCI); which is an autonomous body known as "National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL)". NABL is member to "APLAC (Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Co- operation) and as per the agreement between APLAC. member countries, Test / calibration data generated from NABL accredited laboratories are accepted by APLAC member countries for various purposes including regulatory requirements.

4. The Chairperson, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board has sent the details of expenditure involved to get accreditation for three Advanced Environmental Laboratories are as below:

Sl. No.	Description	Amount In Rs.
1.	NABL Application Fees, Overhead charges for each assessment, Honorarium for NABL Assessors, Annual Accreditation Fee to be paid to NABL through NABL web portal	5,00,000
2.	Purchase of Certified Reference Material Standards (CRM'S)	15,00,000
3.	Purchase of Class A glassware	6,00,000
4.	Charges for consultancy services for getting NABL accreditation based on ISO/IEC:17025-2017 which includes - (a) Calibration of instrument/ equipments available at the Laboratory under the scope of NABL accreditation for the validity of one year. (b) Proficiency Testing Charges during 2022-23.	9,00,000
5.	Infrastructure improvement of existing facilities of 3 Laboratories required for NABL Accreditation @ Rs.12,00,000 per Laboratory.	36,00,000
6.	Expenditure for the preparatory works to be done in the 3 Laboratories before application to NABL Accreditation.	3,90,000
7.	The total expenditure for obtaining NABL accreditation of 3 Laboratories (Sl. No.1 to 6)	74,90,000 or 75.00 lakhs.

The total expenditure for obtaining NABL accreditation of three Laboratories works out to be Rs.75.00 lakhs.

5. The Chairperson, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board has further stated that to implement the announcement made by the Hon'ble Minister (Environment and Climate Change), it is proposed to get recognition under Environment (Protection) Act 1986, for Advanced Environmental Laboratory, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Salem, various Laboratory branches such as Air Wing, Microbiology Wing, Bioassay Wing, Water Analysis Wing, Wastewater Wing, Hazardous Waste analysis Wing etc., are to be established to perform analysis in various environmental aspects and for this purpose certain laboratory Instruments/Equipments, laboratory furniture etc., are to be procured for strengthening Advanced Environmental Laboratory, Salem.

6. Thus, the total cost for obtaining NABL accreditation for 3 Advanced Environmental Laboratories and getting recognition under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for Advanced Environmental Laboratory, Salem by procuring Certified Reference Materials, Glasswares, Instruments & Equipments, is worked out as below:

Sl. No.	Description	Amount (In lakhs) Rs.
1.	Obtaining NABL accreditation for three Advanced Environmental Laboratories	75.00
2.	Getting recognition under Environment (Protection) Act 1986 for Advanced Environmental Laboratory, Salem.	225.00
	Total	300.00

The expenditure will be incurred from the Board's fund.

The above proposal has been placed before the Board in its 291st meeting to accord administrative sanction for the amount of Rs. 300 Lakhs (Rupees three hundred lakhs only) for obtaining NABL accreditation for three Advanced Environmental Laboratory's and getting recognition under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for Advanced Environmental Laboratory, Salem. The Board has resolved to approve the above proposal.

7. The Government after careful examination accept the proposal of the Chairperson, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and accord approval for obtaining NABL accreditation for three Advanced Environmental Laboratories at Vellore, Trichy and Tirunelveli and also getting recognition

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under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for Advanced Environmental Laboratory, Salem at a total cost of Rs. 300 lakhs (Rupees three hundred lakhs only) from the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board's fund.

8. This order issues with the concurrence of the Finance (BPE) Department vide its U.O. No.1522038/E.CC. & F./2023, dated 16.08.2023.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

SUPRIYA SAHU
ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To:

The Chairperson, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai-32
The Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai-32.

Copy to:

The Special/Senior Personal Assistant to the Hon'ble Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Chennai - 9.

The Private Secretary to Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Environment, Climate Change and Forest Department, Chennai-9.
Finance (BPE) Department, Chennai-9.

Environment, Climate Change and Forest (FR.7 and EC.1) Department, Secretariat, Chennai-9

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//FORWARDED / BY ORDER//

[Signature]
04/09/2023
SECTION OFFICER

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4/9/23