





<b>To:</b>	Dr. Shailesh Yadav Project Director/ Chief Executive Officer, Agartala Smart City Limited, Government of Tripura	<b>Date:</b>	25 September 2023
		<b>E-mail:</b>	agartalasmartcityltd@gmail.com drshaileshkyadav@gmail.com
<b>Originator:</b> 	Bhavesh Kumar Urban Specialist, INRM 	<b>Approved by:</b>	Takeo Konishi Country Director

**Subject: Loan 4133-IND: Agartala City Urban Development Project  
— Environmental Monitoring Report (January - June 2023)**

Dear Dr. Yadav:

1. We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of semi-annual environmental monitoring report (EMR) for the reporting period from January to June 2022 submitted by the Agartala Smart City Limited, Government of Tripura under Loan 4133-IND. The EMR covers three sub-projects being implemented with respect to their status of (i) compliance with statutory environmental requirements of India and environmental loan covenants; (ii) implementation of ADB-cleared environmental management and monitoring plans (EMMP); and (iii) institutional capacity for management of environmental safeguards. We note that out of three civil works contract packages, the overall physical progress varies from 1.0 % to 25 % as of 30 June 2023. The EMR has adequately captured the status of the aspects referred to above.

2. As a mean to assist in establishing prudential environmental management system of high standard, ADB’s environment policy requires that the sub-projects financed under ADB loans must comply with the environmental regulations of the host country at the national, state and local levels. We note that the EMR has confirmed compliance with the applicable environmental regulations of India. Please ensure that the (a) requisite statutory permissions, clearances, consents, and approvals are obtained and renewed in timely manner; (b) terms and conditions stipulated in the regulatory permissions are complied with; and (c) construction materials are sourced only from quarries, borrow areas, mines, and construction plants that are compliant with environmental regulations of India. Please also ensure that all labor licenses obtained in accordance with the labor laws of India are valid and the project personnel including construction laborers in unskilled, semi-skilled, and skilled categories are adequately insured by the contractors and their sub-contractors, and the insurance policies continue to remain valid till completion of their respective contracts.

3. We appreciate the good practice of (a) testing of environmental parameters (such as the ambient air quality, ambient noise level, and water qualities); and (b) conducting public consultations (PC) along the sub-projects. We request the continuation of testing of environmental parameters in line with ADB-cleared environmental monitoring plans, and PC till closure of the Project. We note certain shortcomings such as lack of proper barricading, and safe working conditions maintained at construction sites etc. along the sub-project. We further note from some of the tables (such as, the table number 8B, and 22) that the ratings for EMMPs implementation are reported “partially satisfactory” and corrective actions have been recommended for some of

the sub-project to address the identified shortcomings and to further improve the overall environmental performance. Also, certain follow-up actions have been proposed under table 23. Please ensure to address these issues and include an update on the actions taken in the subsequent EMR. We note that no complaints on the environmental aspects have been reported for the activities undertaken during the reporting period.

4. This EMR will be disclosed on ADB website in accordance with ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement, 2009 and Access to Information Policy, 2018. Please ensure to retain all supporting documents to respond to any queries on this report.

Sincerely,

  
for Takeo Konishi  
Country Director