



## Editor's Note

A report was submitted to the National Green Tribunal on April 15, 2025, by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) on the monitoring and compliance of Waste to Energy (WTE) incinerators in the country. The report has shown that in none of the 21 WTE facilities that incinerate Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), all the emission criteria mandated in the Solid Waste Management rules, 2016, are being monitored. In particular, the most dangerous chemicals emitted from waste-to-energy facilities, including dioxins, furans, and heavy metals, were not monitored properly.

This development comes in the light of a new category of industries introduced by the CPCB called the "blue category" for industries that provide "essential environmental services". Ironically, WTE industries, which were categorised as "red" and having a Pollution Index (PI) of 97.6, have now been moved to the "blue" category to give them an additional consent to operate for two years. The CPCB's notification also updated the PI score used for classifying industries into white, green, orange, and red categories. Earlier, industries with a score of 60 points or higher were categorised as red, while now it has been revised to a PI of 80 or higher. According to the notification, the revisions were made after receiving 161 representations. These representations were majorly dominated by industry and industry associations, with just 1% of representations coming from civil society organisations. By changing the goalpost of the classification of industrial pollution to benefit the industries, even severely polluting industries will now attract less monitoring and compliance.

The contradictions between the government's climate and environmental commitments and its continued dilution of environmental laws exacerbate the environmental and climate crises.

— Energy Team at CFA



### Dear govt, you can't burn your way out of a plastic crisis

As part of the 2025-26 budget, the state govt announced two waste-to-energy (WTE) incineration plants in Kodungaiyur and Tambaram with a capacity of 21MW and 15-18MW electricity generation from solid waste.

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### 3200 MW Adani Anuppur Project: A Threat to Tiger Corridors and Local Livelihoods

Adani Group is planning to build a 3,200 (4 × 800) MW ultra-supercritical coal-fired power plant at Chhatai in Kotma block of Anuppur district, Madhya Pradesh. This project is also known as the Welspun Energy, Anuppur TPP.

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### Blue washing: New categorisation by CPCB promotes highly polluting incineration industry

Recently, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has carved a new category of industries called the 'blue category' industries based on the Essential Environmental Services (EES) for managing the pollution due to anthropogenic activities. [Read More.](#)



### NGT takes suo-motu action against Manali waste incinerator, slams TNPCB, GCC

The NGT- Southern Zone has initiated a Suo Moto case based on the joint fact-finding report, which found that the 10-ton/day waste incinerator in Manali was operating illegally for more than 5 years and releasing alarming levels of hazardous heavy metals. [Read More.](#)



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