

ITMA/11 /2019

CIRCULAR NO. 237/2019

28th March 2019

To All Members,

Sub: National Interaction Meet on "Sectors-Specific Initial Assessment of Mercury in India"

during April 5-6, 2019 in Kolkata

Reg: Improvement of Mercury Management in India

Dear Member,

The Minamata Convention on Mercury is a legally-binding multilateral environmental agreement under the aegis of the United Nations that aims to protect human health and environment from anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds. This Minamata Convention has come in to force from September 2018. One of the obligations under the Convention is that the member countries to submit an inventory of mercury in order to frame a national policy. In the transformer industry, mercury is being used in Bouchloz relay in a mercury switch.

Director, CSIR- NEERI vide mail dated 28th March 2019 (copy attached) has requested participation of the delegates from ITMA in this National interaction meet that is aimed to deliberate on the initial findings of the sector-specific mercury assessments (level 1 of the UN tool kit for inventory) for factoring in ultimate design of the National Action Plan for Mercury Management.

ITMA members of Easter region in particular are requested to participate in the subject interaction meet to be held in Kolkata during April 5-6, 2019.

Thanking You

With best regards

[B.LAL] DIRECTOR GENERAL

Encl: As Above

From: Mudunuri, Anand Raju [mailto:AnandRaju.Mudunuri@mottmac.com]

Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 1:13 PM

To: itma 2006@itma.org.in

Subject: Invite: National Mercury Inventory Workshop

Importance: High

Dear Mr. Ashok Kumar Kaul

The Government of India ratified the Minamata Convention on Mercury, and the same is effective from September 16, 2018. UNDP India with GEF funding, is implementing a project on "**Improvement of Mercury Management in India**' for the MoEF&CC, Government of India, the Nodal Ministry for the Minamata Convention related matters.

UNDP has taken-up the task of national inventory of Mercury by availing the UN tool kit, and many Institutes are working on the Project, which include IITM, NEERI, CIMFR and Mott McDonald. Under the programme, many national Workshops/ Interaction Meets have been planned at different stages of the project implementation to factor-in the inputs of the stakeholders for the Mercury Management in India.

NEERI has been engaged by UNDP for organizing National Level Workshops. NEERI organized the First Workshop on "Minamata Convention and Inventorisation of Mercury in India" during December 4-5, 2018 at IITM, Chennai.

The UNDP through NEERI is now organizing the **National Interaction Meet on "Sectors-Specific Initial Assessment of Mercury in India" during April 5-6, 2019 in Kolkata**". Please find enclosed 'Concept Note on the Interaction Meet', that outlines brainstorming sessions on thematic areas/sectors for arriving at the activity rates & the mercury levels besides challenges and opportunities for effective management of Mercury in India.

On behalf of the Director, CSIR-NEERI, I hereby request your participation in this important national interaction Meet that is aimed to deliberate on the initial findings of the sector-specific mercury assessments (level 1 of the UN tool kit for inventory) for factoring in ultimate design of the National Action Plan for Mercury Management.

Your kind confirmation/nomination by March 30, 2019, is requested.

Best Regards,

(S.K. Goyal)

Encl.: 'Concept Note on the National Interaction Meet'