

CHIRAG BHIMANI

ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONAL

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Chirag Bhimani worked with Gujarat Pollution Control Board (GPCB) more than 23 years and was lastly working at GPCB Head Office in Gandhinagar. He was the Divisional Head of Bhavnagar, Junagadh, Palanpur and Porbandar Areas. He was the Nodal Officer for Preparation of Best Available Techniques Reference (BREF) Document at GPCB and Ease of Doing Business Initiative of Government of India. He was the Convener for Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS) & Pilot Emissions Trading Scheme.

His last assignment at GPCB was to advise and implement strategies for the management of environmental issues impacting land, air, water and people including air pollution, water pollution, noise pollution and wastes. His work included to review, to make recommendations and to decide on the applications for statutory approvals such as Consent To Establish, Consent To Operate, Hazardous Waste Authorisation etc. and, where appropriate, to recommend conditions to be applied to the statutory approvals. He also reviewed, made recommendations and decided on the reports regarding environmental compliances and, where appropriate, recommended and initiated legal actions and/or punitive actions against the defaulters. He was responsible to evaluate, suggest solution and strategies for specific environmental problems.

His work as Convener for CEMS was to strategise, develop and implement Continuous Emissions & Effluent Monitoring Systems in Gujarat including the necessary infrastructure for Water Emissions, Air Emissions & Ambient Air Quality and the usage of this data for the pilot project on ETS. The major contributions have been for the preparation and development of CEMS Guidelines and Design of Format of Baseline Survey and its implementation. His major interest in the project was Market Design of ETS.

The BREF Document is being prepared in collaboration with German Federal Environment Agency (UBA) and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH which is first of its kind of effort in India for which Chirag was the Nodal Officer. He had independently created and was managing the BREF Information System (BIS) which has been applauded by the German counterparts.

Chirag now works as a Environmental, Sustainability & Climate Change Professional in areas such as Climate Change Mitigation Initiatives, Enviro-Legal matters, BREF, CEMS and other similar innovative approaches for pollution control and environment conservation. He is currently associated with global companies like Project Vesta (USA), Adelphi (Germany) as well as with Gujarat Cleaner Production Centre (GCPC), Gandhinagar. His major areas of interests are:

1. Environmental and Climate Change Policy, Planning, Data Analytics and Innovative Methods
2. Air Quality Management using innovative tools like Satellite Based Measurements, Market Based Instruments like Emissions Trading Scheme etc.
3. Environmental Management using innovative technologies like Remote Sensing, UAVs & Drones, Artificial Intelligence etc.
4. Best Available Techniques Reference Documents
5. Contaminated Sites Remediation and Management
6. Coastal & Marine Pollution Management

