

# Successful implementation of Sound Meters in Tripura state Pollution Control Board.

## Introduction to Sound Pollution

Exposure to different types of sound is a very common experience in our life. But regular proximity with unwanted sound (noise) can damage our physiological health. These unwanted noises are considered as noise pollution which is often defined as the propagation of noise with harmful impactor regular exposure to elevated sound levels that may lead to adverse effects in humans, wildlife or other living organisms. The hazardous effects of noise pollution can lead to headaches, hypertension, sleep deprivation or even hearing losses. Some of the common origin sources of noise pollution may include loud music, road traffic, airports, railway stations, industrial sounds like mills, excessive fireworks, construction sites, generators, explosions etc. It is difficult to determine or distinguish the level of sounds and identify the harmful noises through observation or hearing. Hence the need for an instrument like testo 816-1 sound level meter, to record the sound levels becomes obligatory.

## Objectives of sound level monitoring

Sound levels differ in different situation and require proper monitoring. Like temperature, noise is also perceived subjectively. For instance, someone complaining about his neighbor feels bothered by the loud music coming from his home: however, after measuring the actual volume in decibels, it might turn out that this subjective disturbance cannot be classified as noise. Or, may be a noisy work-space, out of regular habit does not seem worrisome can turn out to be polluting in nature after dB measurement. As a result of which testo sound level meters are needed in the workplace to determine whether an employee needs special hearing protection or whether the existing sound level is reasonable and not injurious.



Testo sound meter comes with a whole host of technical features and benefits designed to allow you to carry out professional sound level measurements as a part of health and safety inspections and pollution control. The instrument complies with all requirements related to the execution of non-conform sound level measurements according to IEC 61672-1 Class 2 and ANSI S1.4 Type 2. Testo Sound level meters are designed to help measure sound levels in decibels, both in the workplace and in the private sphere.

## Important Trivia

- According to the World Health Organization, sound levels less than 70 dB are not damaging to living organisms, regardless of how long or consistent the exposure is.
- Exposure for more than 8 hours to constant noise beyond 85 dB may be hazardous.

### Application area

Very recently Tripura State Pollution Control Board, Agartala released a tender for the procurement of Sound Meters along with Calibrator and Printers. The tender quantity was 50 nos. The sound meters with GPS enabled dot matrix printer were to be procured by Tripura State Pollution control Board and then handed over to each Police Station in the state.

The application of these instruments includes the measurement of sound level at various strategic locations during festival time and at heavy traffic areas, by the police personals. The instrument can easily indicate the increase in sound levels beyond the specified limits given by the Central Pollution Control Board & would enable the police to take necessary action as per High Court directives. The authorities can also provide the print of the measurement reports on site with GPS co-ordinates so that the exact location & time can also be referred. The sound level measurements can also be useful to prepare and implement action plan to reduce the noise pollution levels at various places specified by CPCB.



Sound level meter testo 816-1 with printer

Testo India participated in the tender with the challenge of winning the bid over other local & overseas competitors. Testo discussed technical advantages and demonstrated them to the authorities. Testo India bagged the order for Sound Meters with Calibrators, GPS based dot matrix printers as a complete set of 50 nos. This is probably the single largest & first bulk order for sound meters.

The application is very important and crucial for the society as unknowingly everyone is prone to a hazardous atmosphere which is difficult to curb. State Pollution Control Board taking such an initiative and implementing measures by using testo Sound level meters, to put a check on the sound levels is a great step forward.

### Some features of Sound meter

- The testo 816-1 comes with a practical all-in-one carry bag
- Feature to change the measuring rate from slow (one measurement per second) to fast (one measurement every 125 milliseconds) depending on the type of measurement
- Optional sound calibrator to re-calibrate your testo 816-1 dB meter on site
- dB meter also has a backlit display for use in all lighting conditions
- The instrument has an internal data logger that can save up to 31000 measurements
- Comes with a USB cable which allows you to transfer the data directly to a PC and
- Dedicated PC software designed to help you manage and analyse the data you have collected



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### More Information

For more information please write to us on [info@testo.in](mailto:info@testo.in) or visit [www.testo.com](http://www.testo.com).

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