BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 546/2025

IN THE MATTER OF:

Dr. Amit Kumar ...APPLICANT

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS. ...RESPONDENT

INDEX

THROUGH

DATE: 06.04.2026
PLACE: NEW DELHI

Gigi.C.George,Advocate
Advocate for Respondent Ch
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High Court, New Delhi

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AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF THE NATIONAL MISSION FOR CLEAN GANGA (R - 14)

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:

I, Anup Kumar Srivastava, aged about 59 years, presently working as Executive Director (Technical) in the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India, New Delhi do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under:

1. That I am presently working as Executive Director (Technical) in the NMCG, DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India, New Delhi and am fully conversant with the facts and circumstances of the present case from the records, and duly authorized to submit this affidavit on behalf of the Respondent No. 14.

2. That in the present matter the applicant is seeking intervention of the Hon'ble Tribunal in relation to the grave and continuing environmental degradation of the Katha River, a rain-fed tributary of the River Yamuna, flowing through the districts of Saharanpur and Shamli in Uttar Pradesh. The Applicant has alleged rampant discharge of untreated sewage, domestic effluents, and industrial waste into the riverbed, along with widespread illegal encroachments and unauthorized constructions along its natural course. These activities are said to have obstructed the river's natural flow, caused a collapse of its hydrological and ecological functions, and led to a significant loss of biodiversity. It is further submitted that the Katha River is a natural river system, not a

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man-made drain, as confirmed by hydrological surveys and official records. The Applicant has furnished photographs, maps, and site details indicating pollution and encroachment points and contends that continued degradation of the river ultimately flowing into the Yamuna violates Articles 21 and 48A of the Constitution of India.

3. That the present affidavit is being filed to place on record that NMCG in compliance of the Hon'ble Tribunal direction issued a letter dated 03.12.2025 to the concerned District Magistrate cum Chairman, District Ganga Committee (DGC), Saharanpur and Shamli seeking an early submission of the requisite information and action-taken report, in view of the next hearing on 3rd February 2026, to enable NMCG to act under Section 6(3) of the River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection & Management) Authorities Order, 2016 and comply with Tribunal directions. Copy of NMCG letter dated 03.12.2025 is marked and annexed herewith as ***'Annexure – R1'***.

4. That it is further submitted that NMCG deputed a team to conduct a field visit from 20.01.2026 to 22.01.2026 to inspect the river and examine the alleged grievances of the applicant and compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble Tribunal. The NMCG team examined multiple locations along the river course, including upstream, midstream, and downstream reaches, and verified the status of the river with reference to field conditions and available records.

    a. That during the site visit, it was observed that the Katha River, originating from the Shivalik foothills in Saharanpur district, Uttar Pradesh, flows through villages like Radaur and Kaula Kheri before entering Shamli district near Akapur Phusgarh and Mudet Khadar. Documented as "Katha Nadi" in Survey of India toposheets (H43R2) and revenue records across multiple villages, it serves as a rain-fed tributary of the Yamuna, historically vital for irrigation, drinking water, and groundwater recharge.

    b. The Katha river, a tributary of the Yauna River, with a total length of ~110 km (58 km in Saharanpur, and 52.3km in Shamli district) originates from Shivalik foothills and flows through Radaur and Kaula Kheri villages before entering Shamli district near Akapur, Phusgarh, and Mudet Khadar. It traverses Shamli villages including Shamla, Rasana, Rangana, Jhinjhana, Paoti Khurd, and Bibipur Reserve Forest, continuing through Dabheri Khurd, Isapur Khurgyan,

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and Nagla Rai, before merging with the Yamuna River near Haiderpur and Mawi villages in Shamli district.

Locations in Saharanpur District

c. That at Location–1 near Fundpuri Ambehta Islamnagar Road, Nakur, Saharanpur (Lat. 29.840622°, Long. 77.361999°), the site inspection revealed significant pollution in the river stretch, characterized by dense algal bloom covering the entire water surface, indicating eutrophication due to heavy organic matter accumulation. Plastic and municipal solid waste were found scattered along the river banks, and active discharge of untreated sewage through visible outfall points was observed, adversely affecting water quality and ecological conditions at the said location.

d. That at Location–2 near Titron Jalalabad Muzaffarnagar Road, Nakur, Saharanpur, including the bridge location (Lat. 29.687946°, Long. 77.302267°) and the downstream stretch (Lat. 29.686019°, Long. 77.302320°), the inspection revealed minimal to stagnant water flow with absence of active natural flow. Sparse aquatic vegetation and visible signs of pollution stress were observed along the banks, and the bridge structure was found to be acting as a physical obstruction to flow. Further downstream, the riverbed was found to be completely dried up with scattered plastic and municipal solid waste accumulated on the streambed, indicating disruption of the river's natural hydrology and degradation of the channel condition.

e. That at Location–3, namely the Municipal Waste Dumping Site near Singhkheda Road, Saharanpur (Lat. 29.869880°, Long. 77.373224°), the site inspection revealed large-scale dumping of municipal solid waste, primarily comprising domestic waste, directly into the river/drain channel. Such continuous dumping was observed to be functioning as an effective encroachment upon the river course, obstructing natural flow and contributing significantly to environmental degradation at the said location.

f. That at Location–4, being the drain section with bank stabilisation near Singhkheda Road (Lat. 29.872337°, Long. 77.406188°), it was observed that the banks have been partially stabilised with stone and brick reinforcement at

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certain stretches and are lined with dense riparian vegetation, including willow and poplar plantations. However, the water in the said stretch was found to be largely stagnant with visible algal bloom and minimal flow velocity. Informal walking paths were noticed along the drain banks, and the drain was being effectively used as a dumping ground and access pathway, constituting effective encroachment and adversely impacting the natural flow and ecological condition of the river/drain.

g. That at Location–5, being the drain stretch with lush vegetation cover near Singhkheda Road, Saharanpur (Lat. 29.864973°, Long. 77.392057°), the inspection revealed mature poplar and willow plantations on both banks. The water in the said stretch was found to be largely stagnant with a green algal layer on the surface, along with the presence of water hyacinth and other invasive aquatic weeds. The drain runs adjacent to agricultural fields and was observed to be functioning as a seasonal wetland or stagnant pond rather than a flowing river channel, indicating impairment of natural hydrological continuity.

h. That at Location–6, being the drain section with visible pollution near Singhkheda Road, Saharanpur (Lat. 29.864869°, Long. 77.392023°), the inspection revealed active discharge of untreated sewage, resulting in dark, discoloured water laden with organic debris. Riparian vegetation was found to be sparse due to pollution stress, and absence of birds and aquatic fauna was observed, indicating an ecologically degraded or dead zone. A strong odour of sewage and decomposition was also noted, and the said stretch was identified as an active pollution hotspot requiring immediate remedial and corrective measures.

i. That at Location–7, being the drain stretch at Manimau Road, Saharanpur (Lat. 29.883108°, Long. 77.440005°), the inspection revealed stagnant water with limited flow and presence of green algal bloom. The banks were found to be easily accessible from the adjoining road, with informal pathways visible along the drain. Vegetation cover was sparse, consisting mainly of ground-level aquatic plants, and minor encroachment in the form of livestock access and informal pathways was observed, contributing to localized disturbance of the river/drain environment.

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j. That at Location–8, being the drain course along Manimau Road (Naya Bans section), Saharanpur (Lat. 29.883107°, Long. 77.440007°), the inspection revealed minimal water movement with near-stagnant conditions and significant accumulation of silt and organic matter on the riverbed. Riparian vegetation was found to be restricted, with willow trees present only in scattered patches. The drain borders adjoining agricultural fields, and surface runoff from these fields was observed entering the drain, contributing to sediment load and affecting the hydrological condition of the said stretch.

k. That at Location–9, being the stretch with poplar plantation along Singhkheda and Manimau Roads, Saharanpur (Lat. 29.877045°, Long. 77.417894° to Lat. 29.880479°, Long. 77.432091°), the inspection revealed dense poplar and willow plantations developed as a riparian buffer along the drain course. The drain was found to be running through and alongside the plantation area, with water present only in certain sections and overall low water levels. The agroforestry practice was observed to have stabilised the banks while providing economic benefit to the local farmers, and no formal encroachments were noticed within the plantation stretch.

Locations in Shamli District

l. That at the Shamli district location–1, being the confluence point of the Katha River with the River Yamuna (Lat. 29.386413°, Long. 77.158207°), the inspection revealed absence of water and lack of a clearly defined river channel at the merging point. No formal encroachments were observed within the plantation area at the said location; however, the absence of a discernible channel indicates disruption of natural flow and hydrological connectivity at the confluence.

m. That at Shamli district Location–2, being the dry river channel at Titron, Jalalabad (Lat. 29.386541°, Long. 77.162161°), the inspection revealed that the channel was completely dried up, with scattered plastic and municipal solid waste accumulated on the streambed. The absence of water flow coupled with waste deposition reflects degradation of the river channel and obstruction of its natural hydrological function at the said location.

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n. That at Shamli district Location–3, being the river/drain stretch at Kairana, Ashrafpur (Lat. 29.435367°, Long. 77.161780°), the inspection revealed active discharge of untreated sewage, resulting in dark, discoloured water containing organic debris. Riparian vegetation was found to be sparse due to pollution stress, and absence of birds and aquatic fauna was observed, indicating an ecologically degraded or dead zone. A strong odour of sewage and decomposition was also noted, and the said stretch was identified as an active pollution hotspot requiring immediate remedial measures.

o. That it is submitted that at Location 4, a drain along Meerut-Karnal Road in Un (Latitude 29.519934°, Longitude 77.211039°) has been observed to carry domestic discharge from the surrounding village. Solid waste was found dumped along the drain, and the liquid waste primarily comprises domestic sewage. The drain borders agricultural fields, and runoff from these fields also enters the drain.

p. That it is submitted that at Location 5, a drain at Sirsagarh (Nai Nagla) (Latitude 29.661535°, Longitude 77.277441°) has been observed to carry untreated sewage, with dark discolored water containing organic debris. The riparian vegetation is sparse, indicative of pollution stress, and a strong odor of decomposition and sewage was noted. The drain constitutes an active pollution zone requiring immediate remediation.

q. That the inspection revealed discharge of untreated domestic sewage, dumping of municipal solid waste, accumulation of plastic waste, excessive algal blooms, invasive aquatic weeds, and heavy siltation at multiple locations. At various stretches, the water was found to be discoloured with foul odour and absence of visible aquatic life, indicating severe ecological stress and deterioration of water quality.

r. That the Team further observed that while no major permanent structural encroachments were noticed within the river course, effective encroachments in the form of waste dumping, obstruction to natural flow, altered land use patterns, and use of the river channel as a drain were prevalent at several

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locations, thereby adversely impacting the natural hydrology and ecological functioning of the river.

s. That based on the aforesaid observations, the NMCG Team recommended coordinated and time-bound action by the concerned departments, including verification of river classification in revenue and survey records, prevention and diversion of sewage and solid waste, removal of flow obstructions, restoration of natural flow, riparian plantation, and implementation of phased river rejuvenation measures under the overall supervision of the District Administration, with technical guidance and monitoring by NMCG.

Copy of the Site visit report is marked and annexed herewith as ***'Annexure – R2'***.

5. That it is respectfully submitted that, a Demi Official (DO) letter was issued jointly to the District Magistrates of Shamli and Saharanpur along with the site visit report conducted by the Team from 20.01.2026 to 22.01.2026. The DO highlighted the critical issues of pollution, siltation, encroachments, and untreated drain discharge into the Khokhari/Saindhli River and directed the District Magistrates to take immediate and coordinated action. The DO emphasized strict monitoring and coordination among all stakeholders to ensure effective implementation of the river restoration measures, in line with the observations of this Hon'ble Tribunal.

   Copy of the DO letter dated 27.01.2026 is marked and annexed herewith as '***Annexure – R3'***

6. That it is respectfully submitted that NMCG has coordinated with District Administrations to address pollution and encroachments and has provided technical guidance for river rejuvenation to restore the natural hydrology, ecological functions, and environmental quality of the river, in compliance with the directions of this Hon'ble Tribunal.

7. That the above facts are placed on record for the kind consideration of this Hon'ble Tribunal.

8. That the Respondents submit that they shall abide by any further orders or directions passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal in the instant matter.

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DEPONENT

VERIFICATION

Verified at New Delhi on this day of April 2026 that the contents of the aforesaid affidavit are true and correct to my knowledge and belief and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

Date: April 6, 2026
Place: New Delhi

DEPONENT

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ATTESTED
NOTARY PUBLIC
06 APR 2026

राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन
National Mission for Clean Ganga

(COURT MATTER: PRIORITY)

File No.: L-25012(11)/25/2025-O/o ED(TECH) NMCG **Date: 03.12.2025**

Subject: Request for Action and Submission of Status Report in Original Application No. 546/2025; Dr. Amit Kumar Applicant Versus Union of India & Ors. Respondent(s); before NGT (PB)

Ref.: 1. OA No. 546/2025 – Dr. Amit Kumar Versus Union of India & Ors. listed before the NGT (PB)
2. Notice dated 11.11.2025 of NGT
3. Order dated 03.11.2025 of the Hon'ble Tribunal.

This is with reference to the ongoing proceedings before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) in Original Application titled Dr. Amit Kumar vs. Union of India & Ors. The Applicant has sought the intervention of the Hon'ble Tribunal regarding the grave and continuing environmental degradation of the Katha River, a rain-fed tributary of the Yamuna flowing through the districts of Saharanpur and Shamli in Uttar Pradesh.

2. The Applicant has alleged rampant discharge of untreated sewage, domestic effluents, and industrial waste into the riverbed, along with widespread illegal encroachments and unauthorized constructions along its natural course. These activities are stated to have obstructed the river's natural flow, resulted in the collapse of its hydrological and ecological functions, and caused substantial loss of biodiversity. It is further submitted that the Katha River is a natural river system and not a man-made drain, as confirmed by hydrological surveys and official records. The Applicant has also placed on record photographs, maps, and site-specific details indicating various pollution and encroachment points, contending that the continued degradation of the river which ultimately drains into the Yamuna violates Articles 21 and 48A of the Constitution of India.

3. The Applicant has sought directions from the Hon'ble Tribunal for effective protection, restoration, and rejuvenation of the Katha River. The key reliefs prayed for include: preparation and implementation of a comprehensive time-bound action plan for revival of the river, including removal of encroachments, desiltation, restoration of natural flow, and prevention of further pollution; identification and stoppage of all sources of untreated sewage, domestic wastewater, and industrial effluents entering the river; joint demarcation of the original river

land and removal of illegal encroachments; desiltation and channel restoration under technical supervision of the Irrigation Department; ensuring that no untreated wastewater or solid waste is discharged into the river; scientific removal of waste dumped in the riverbed, along with community awareness and afforestation along the riverbanks; and award of costs and any other order deemed appropriate in the interest of justice and environmental protection.

3. The matter was listed before the Hon'ble Tribunal on 03.11.2025 (copy of order enclosed). During the proceedings, the Tribunal noted the seriousness of the grievance concerning pollution of the Katha River. The Tribunal took note of the river's origin in Saharanpur, its passage through Shamli, and its confluence with the Yamuna, as well as the allegations of untreated sewage discharge and encroachments along its course. The Applicant, appearing virtually, relied on photographs and river maps filed with the OA. Observing that the OA raises substantial issues relating to compliance with environmental norms, the Tribunal issued notice to all respondents including National Mission for Clean Ganga as Respondent no.14.

4. In view of the above, it is requested to kindly get the allegations verified to the extent and nature of violations committed within the designated area and a comprehensive and updated report may be submitted categorically indicating the action initiated or proposed against in violation of applicable environmental norms / flood plain encroachments. The report should specifically include details of the number and type of illegal constructions and encroachments identified. This information is essential to ensure effective regulatory compliance and further necessary action.

5. The matter being sub judice before the Hon'ble NGT and the next date of hearing being 1st February, 2026, it is requested that the necessary information and action taken report be furnished to the undersigned at earliest, to enable NMCG to act as per the provisions of Section 6(3) of the River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities Order, 2016 and ensure compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble Tribunal.

5. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

Anup Kumar Srivastava

Executive Director (Technical)

To,

1. The District Magistrate,
District Ganga Committee,
Office of the District Magistrate
Sarai Bazar
Shamli, Uttar Pradesh – 247776
Email: dmshm@nic.in

2. The District Magistrate,
District Ganga Committee,
Collectorate Compound, Delhi Road
Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh – 247001
Email: dmsah@nic.in

Copy for information and necessary action to:

1. PS to DG, NMCG, ps.dg@nmcg.nic.in

Item No. 05 Court No. 1

BEFORE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

Original Application No. 546/2025

Dr. Amit Kumar Applicant

Versus

Union of India & Ors. Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 03.11.2025

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRAKASH SHRIVASTAVA, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE DR. AFROZ AHMAD, EXPERT MEMBER

Applicant: Dr. Amit Kumar, Applicant in Person (Through VC)
Respondent: Ms. Priyanka Swami & Mr. Damanpreet Singh, Advs. for R - 5 & 9 to 13

ORDER

1. In this Original Application (OA), applicant has raised a grievance against the pollution caused to Katha river which is a tributary of river Yamuna.

2. The applicant states that this river originates in Saharanpur District passes through Shamli District and ultimately merges with river Yamuna within the Shamli District, UP.

3. Applicant has alleged that there is rampant discharge of untreated sewage and effluents in the river bed and there are wide-spread unlawful encroachments along the natural course of the river.

4. The applicant appearing virtually has referred to the photographs from page 26 onwards in support of his submission and has also referred to the map of the river which has been filed as annexure-1 (page 24).

5. OA raises substantial issue relating to the compliance of the environmental norms.

6. Issue notice to the respondents.

7. Mr. Priyanka Swami, Advocate accepts notice on behalf of respondents no. 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13 and seeks four weeks' time to file the reply.

8. Applicant is directed to serve the other respondents and file affidavit of service atleast one week before the next date of hearing.

9. List on 03.02.2026.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Dr. Afroz Ahmad, EM

November 03, 2025
Original Application No. 546/2025
JG.

Annexure - R2

Site Visit Report

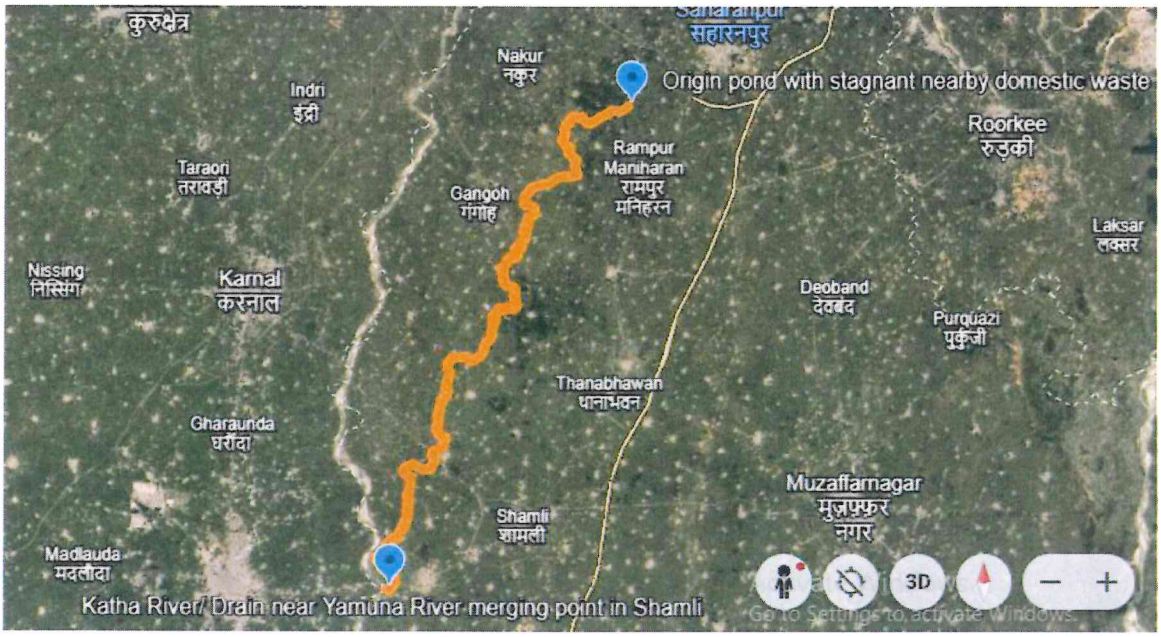
for

Katha River in Saharanpur and Shamli, Uttar Pradesh

Date of visit– 20.01.2026 to 22.01.2026

Executive Summary

The Katha River, originating from the Shivalik foothills in Saharanpur district, Uttar Pradesh, flows through villages like Radaur and Kaula Kheri before entering Shamli district near Akapur Phusgarh and Mudet Khadar. Documented as "Katha Nadi" in Survey of India toposheets (H43R2) and revenue records across multiple villages, it serves as a rain-fed tributary of the Yamuna, historically vital for irrigation, drinking water, and groundwater recharge. The Honorable National Green Tribunal, in Original Application No. 546/2025, vide order dated 03.11.2025, directed concerned departments to take note of the environmental degradation, encroachment, and pollution issues in the river.



1. Site Visit Report Details

Visiting Team

S. No.	Organization/Department	Designation	Name
1	NMCG	Project Officer	Dr. Kriti Varma
2	NMCG	Small River Rejuvenation Expert	Mr. Harish Kumar Mahavar
3	UPPCB, Saharanpur	Regional Officer	Mr. Yogender
4	Irrigation Division, Saharanpur	Assistant Engineer	Mr. Vinod Kumar
5	Irrigation Division, Saharanpur	Junior Engineer	Mr. Satya Kumar
6	Irrigation Division, Saharanpur	Junior Engineer	Mr. Gurdeep Singh
7	Irrigation Division, Saharanpur	Junior Engineer	Mr. Udham Singh
8	Panchayat Raj Vibhag	Consulting Engineer	Mr. Vinay Sharma

9	DGC, Saharanpur	DPO	Mr. Pranav
10	DGC, Shamli	DPO	Mr. Sonu kumar
11	PCB, Shamli	Assistant Engineer	Mr. Santosh Kumar
12	Drainage, Shamli	Assistant Engineer	Mr. Sanjay Kumar Mittal
13	Development Block, Kairana	Assistant BDO	Mr. Rahul kumar
14	PCB, Shamli	JRF	Mr. Diwaker Gehlot

2. Introduction

Background and Purpose of the Visit

The Katha River, a tributary of the Yauna River, with a total length of ~110 km (58 km in Saharanpur, and 52.3km in Shamli district) originates from Shivalik foothills and flows through Radaur and Kaula Kheri villages before entering Shamli district near Akapur, Phusgarh, and Mudet Khadar. It traverses Shamli villages including Shamla, Rasana, Rangana, Jhinjhana, Paoti Khurd, and Bibipur Reserve Forest, continuing through Dabheri Khurd, Isapur Khurgyan, and Nagla Rai, before merging with the Yamuna River near Haiderpur and Mawi villages in Shamli district.

3. Objectives of the Site Visit:

The site visit was undertaken to:

a) Assess existing pollution (sewage discharge, MSW dumping, algal proliferation) and encroachments at geotagged coordinates in Saharanpur-Shamli stretch.

b) Assess hydrological degradation extent and natural flow obstruction causes for NGT OA 546/2025 compliance.

c) Verify Katha watercourse classification through revenue records, historical gazetteers, and Survey of India toposheets, resolving storm drain vs. river discrepancy.

d) Coordinate inter-departmental action matrix (District Administration, Irrigation, Revenue, UPPCB, Municipal Corporations) for immediate remediation.

e) Recommend scientific restoration measures including bed demarcation, sewage diversion, and stormwater flow revival.

4. Key Observations During the Visit Saharanpur

Location 1: Fundpuri Ambehta Islamnagar Road, Nakur, Saharanpur

Coordinates: Lat 29.840622°, Long 77.361999°

Observations:

i. **Visible Pollution:** Dense algal bloom covering entire water surface (green aquatic vegetation layer)

ii. **Solid Waste:** Plastic and municipal waste scattered on banks

iii. **Primary Issue:** Water eutrophication with heavy organic matter accumulation

iv. **Status:** Active sewage inflow (visible discharge points)

Location 1: Stagnant nearby domestic waste at Fundpuri Ambehta Islamnagar Road, Nakur, Saharanpur

Location 2: Titron Jalalabad Muzaffarnagar Road, Nakur, Saharanpur

Coordinates:

i). Bridge location: Lat 29.687946°, Long 77.302267°

ii). Downstream site: Lat 29.686019°, Long 77.302320°

Observations at Bridge:

i). **Hydraulic Status:** Minimal water flow observed; stagnant conditions

ii). **Vegetation:** Sparse aquatic vegetation on banks; signs of pollution stress

iii). **Access:** Bridge partially provides access over the drain

iv). **Status:** No active natural flow; bridge serving as physical obstruction

Location 2: Titron Jalalabad Muzaffarnagar Road, Nakur, Saharanpur (Bridge Location)

Observations Downstream (Lat 29.686019°):

i). **Waste Accumulation:** Scattered plastic and solid waste on streambed

ii). **Water Level:** Completely dried-up

Location 2: Titron Jalalabad Muzaffarnagar Road, Nakur, Saharanpur (Downstream)

Location 3: Municipal Waste Dumping Site – Singhkheda Road, Saharanpur

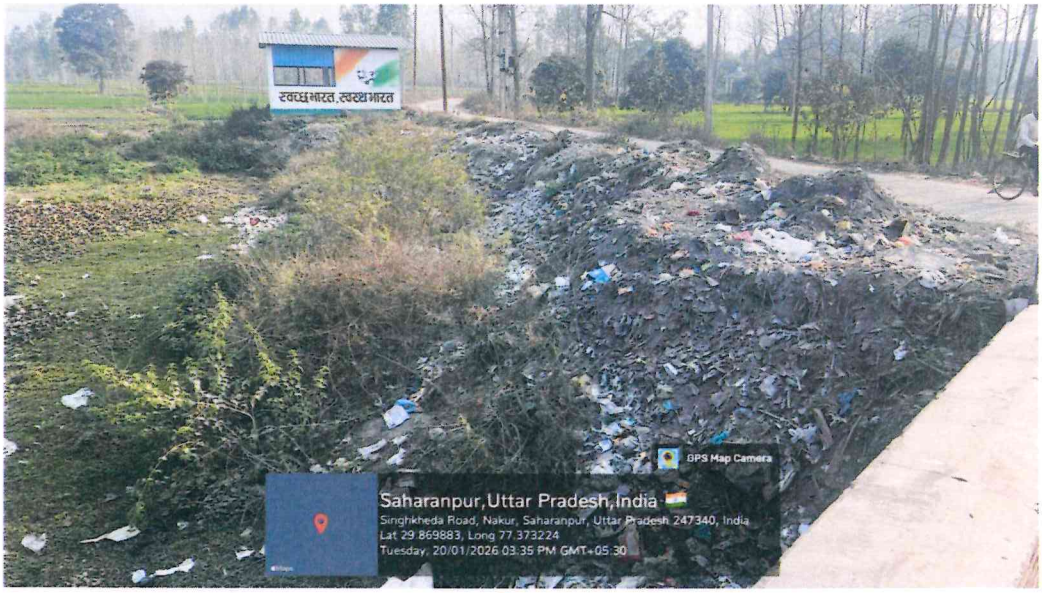
Coordinates: Lat 29.869880°, Long 77.373224°

Observations:

i). **Primary Issue:** Large-scale municipal solid waste (MSW) dumping directly into drain

ii). **Waste Types:** Domestic waste

iii). **Encroachment Status:** Effective encroachment through waste dumping



Location 3: Municipal Waste Dumping Site – Singhkheda Road, Saharanpur

Location 4: Drain Section with Bank Stabilization

Coordinates: Lat 29.872337°, Long 77.406188°

Observations:

i). **Bank Conditions:** Partially stabilized banks with stone/brick reinforcement at certain points

ii). **Vegetation:** Dense riparian vegetation (willows, poplars) planted along banks

iii). **Access:** Walking paths visible along drain banks

iv). **Water Presence:** Stagnant water with algal bloom; minimal flow velocity

v). **Encroachment Form:** Effective use of drain as dumping ground and access path rather than formal encroachment structures

Location 4: Drain Section with Bank Stabilization & stagnant nearby domestic waste

Location 5: Drain with Lush Vegetation Cover – Singhkheda Road

Coordinates: Lat 29.864973°, Long 77.392057°

Observations:

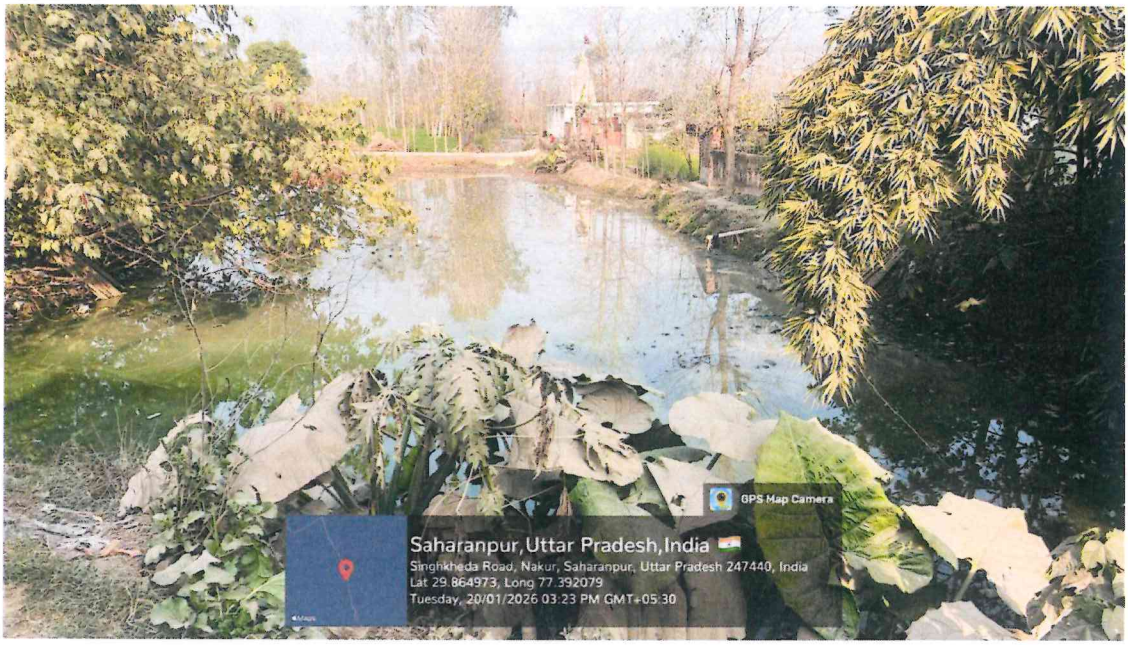
i). **Vegetation Type:** Mature poplar and willow plantations on both banks

ii). **Water Presence:** Visible stagnant water body with green algal surface

iii). **Aquatic Plants:** Water hyacinth and other invasive aquatic weeds present

iv). **Adjacent Land Use:** Agricultural areas visible

v). **Status:** Drain functions as seasonal wetland/stagnant pond rather than flowing water body



Location 5: Drain with Lush Vegetation Cover & stagnant nearby domestic waste – Singhkheda Road

Location 6: Drain Section with Visible Pollution – Singhkheda Road

Coordinates: Lat 29.864869°, Long 77.392023°

Observations:

i). **Pollution Type:** Untreated sewage evident; dark discolored water with organic debris

ii). **Riparian Vegetation:** Sparse due to pollution stress

iii). **Animal Activity:** Birds and aquatic fauna absent (indicating ecological dead zone)

iv). **Smell/Odor:** Strong odor of decomposition and sewage

v). **Status:** Active pollution zone requiring immediate remediation

Location 6: Drain Section with Visible Pollution – Singhkheda Road

Location 7: Drain at Manimau Road, Saharanpur

Coordinates: Lat 29.883108°, Long 77.440005°

Observations:

i). **Water Condition:** Stagnant water with limited flow

ii). **Algal Status:** Green algae bloom present

iii). **Bank Access:** Accessible from road; informal pathways visible

iv). **Vegetation:** Sparse vegetation; ground-level aquatic plants

v). **Encroachment Pattern:** Minor – primarily from livestock access and informal pathways

Location 7: Drain at Manimau Road, Saharanpur

Location 8: Drain Course – Manimau Road Section (Naya Bans)

Coordinates: Lat 29.883107°, Long 77.440007°

Observations:

i). **Flow Status:** Minimal water movement; nearly stagnant conditions

ii). **Sediment Deposition:** Significant silt and organic matter accumulation on bed

iii). **Vegetation Pattern:** Riparian vegetation restricted; willows in scattered patches

iv). **Agricultural Interface:** Drain borders agricultural fields; runoff from fields enters drain

Location 8: Origin Pond & stagnant nearby domestic waste – Manimau Road Section (Naya Bans)

Location 9: Poplar Plantation with Drain – Singhkheda and Manimau Roads

Coordinates: Lat 29.877045°, Long 77.417894° to Lat 29.880479°, Long 77.432091°

Observations:

i). **Agroforestry Integration:** Dense poplar/willow plantation established as riparian buffer

ii). **Drain Accessibility:** Drain runs through/alongside plantation area

iii). **Water Level:** Low; visible only in certain sections

iv). **Agricultural Benefit:** Banks stabilized; agroforestry provides economic benefit while protecting drain margins

v). **Encroachment Status:** No formal encroachment in plantation area

Location 9: Poplar Plantation with Drain – Singhkheda and Manimau Roads

Shamli

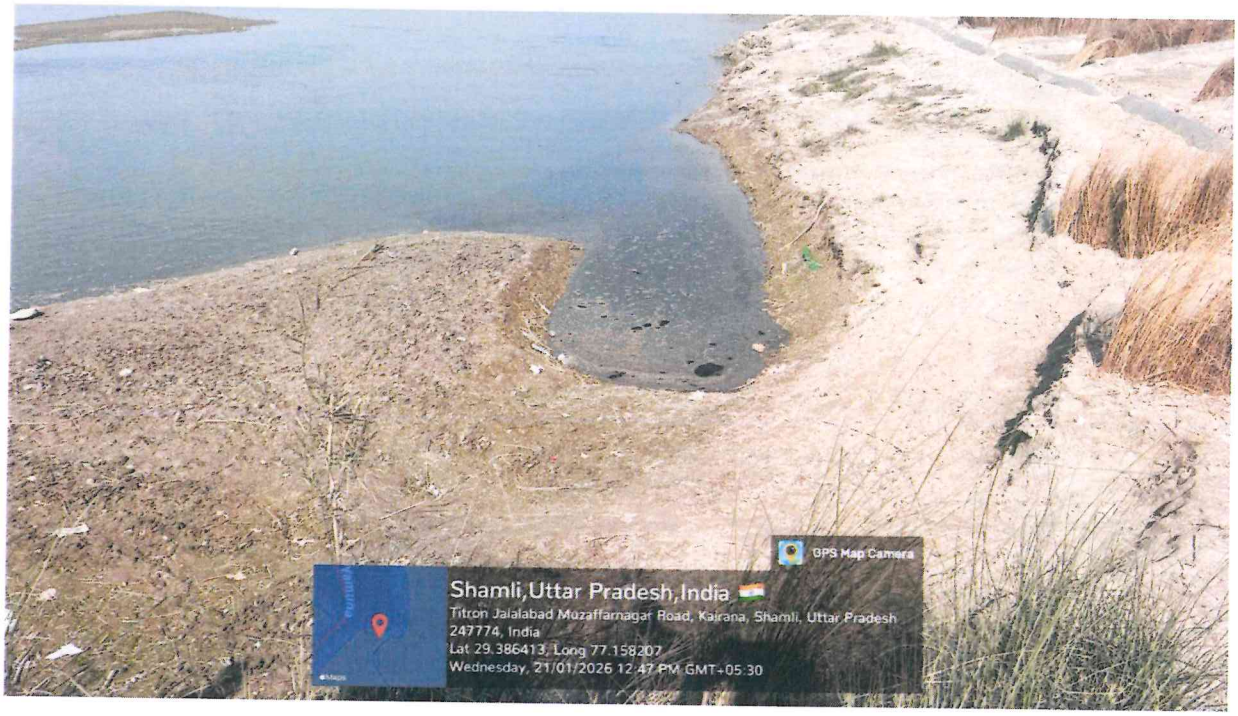
Location 1: Merging point of Katha with Yamuna

Coordinates: Lat 29.386413°, Long 77.158207° **Observations:**

i). **Water Level:** No water

ii). **Channel:** No proper channel evident

iii). **Encroachment Status:** No formal encroachment in plantation area



Location 1: Merging point of Katha with Yamuna

Location 2: Dry channel at Titron, Jalalabad

Coordinates: Lat 29.386541°, Long 77.162161°

Observations:

i). **Waste Accumulation:** Scattered plastic and solid waste on streambed

ii). **Water Level:** Completely dried-up

Location 2: Dry channel at Titron, Jalalabad

Location 3: Kairana, Ashrafpur

Coordinates: Lat 29.435367°, Long 77.161780°

Observations:

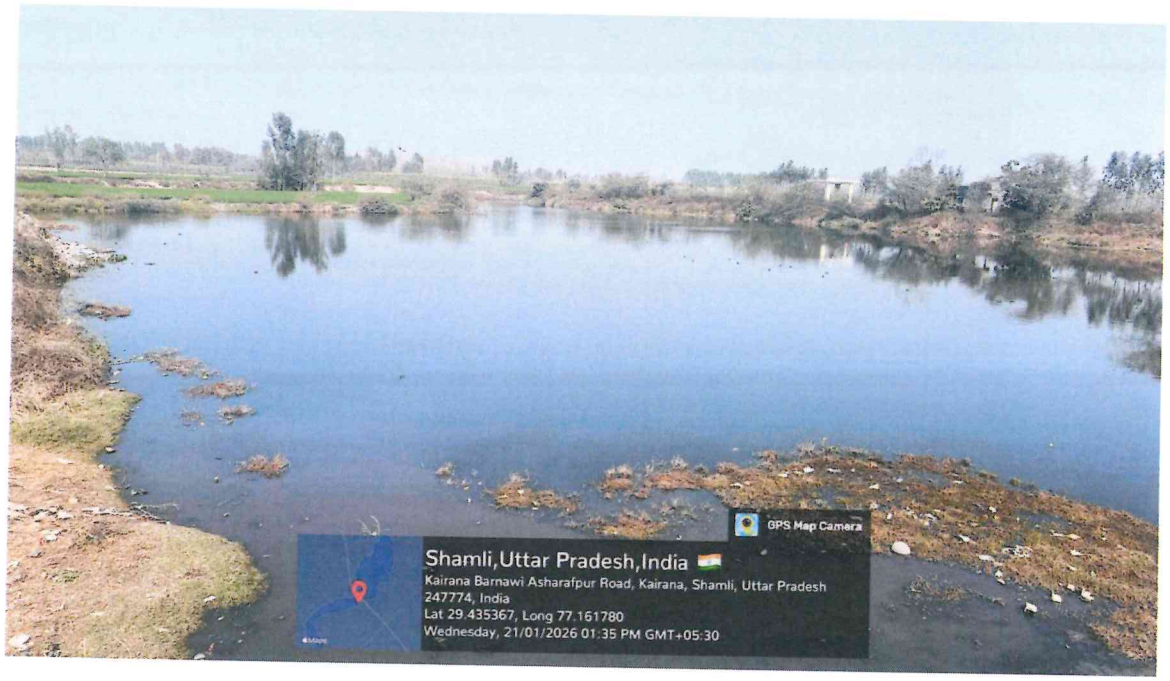
i). **Pollution Type:** Untreated sewage evident; dark discolored water with organic debris

ii). **Riparian Vegetation:** Sparse due to pollution stress

iii). **Animal Activity:** Birds and aquatic fauna absent (indicating ecological dead zone)

iv). **Smell/Odor:** Strong odor of decomposition and sewage

v). **Status:** Active pollution zone requiring immediate remediation



Location 3: Stagnant nearby domestic waste at Kairana, Ashrafpur

Location 4: Drain at Un, Meerut-Karnal Road

Coordinates: Lat 29.519934°, Long 77.211039°

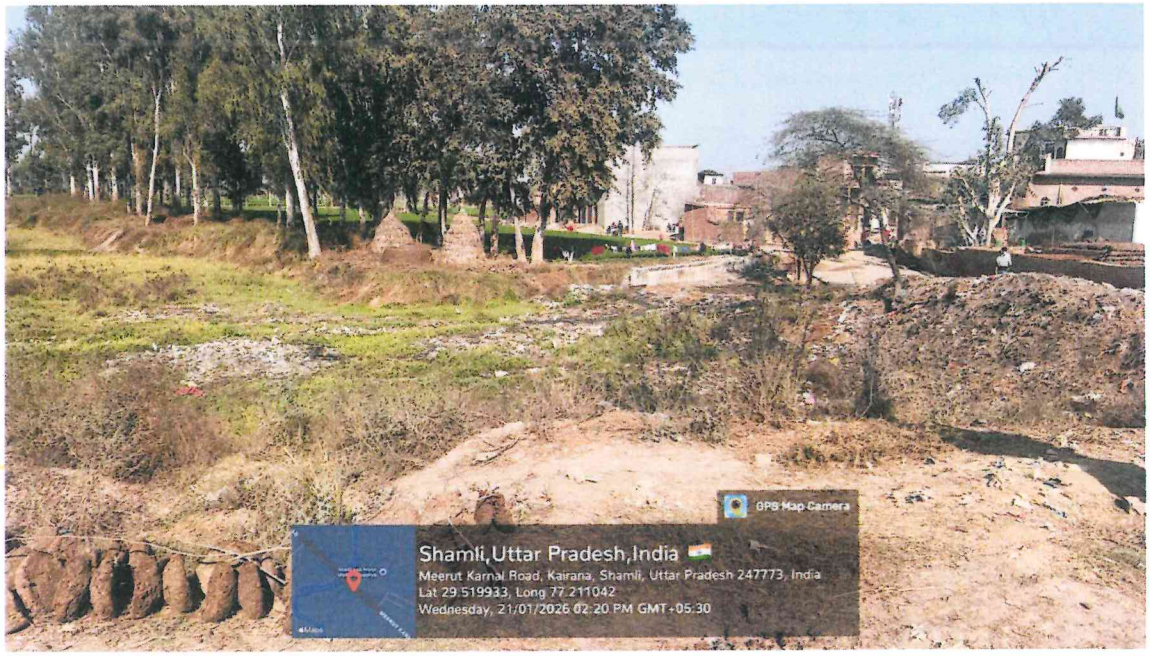
Observations:

i). **Flow Status:** Domestic discharge from the surrounding village

ii). **Solid waste:** Found dumped along the drain

iii). **Liquid waste:** Domestic sewage

iv). **Agricultural Interface:** Drain borders agricultural fields; runoff from fields enters drain



Location 4: Stagnant nearby domestic waste in drain at Un, Meerut-Karnal Road

Location 5: Drain at Sirsagarh (Nai Nagla)

Coordinates: Lat 29.661535°, Long 77.277441°

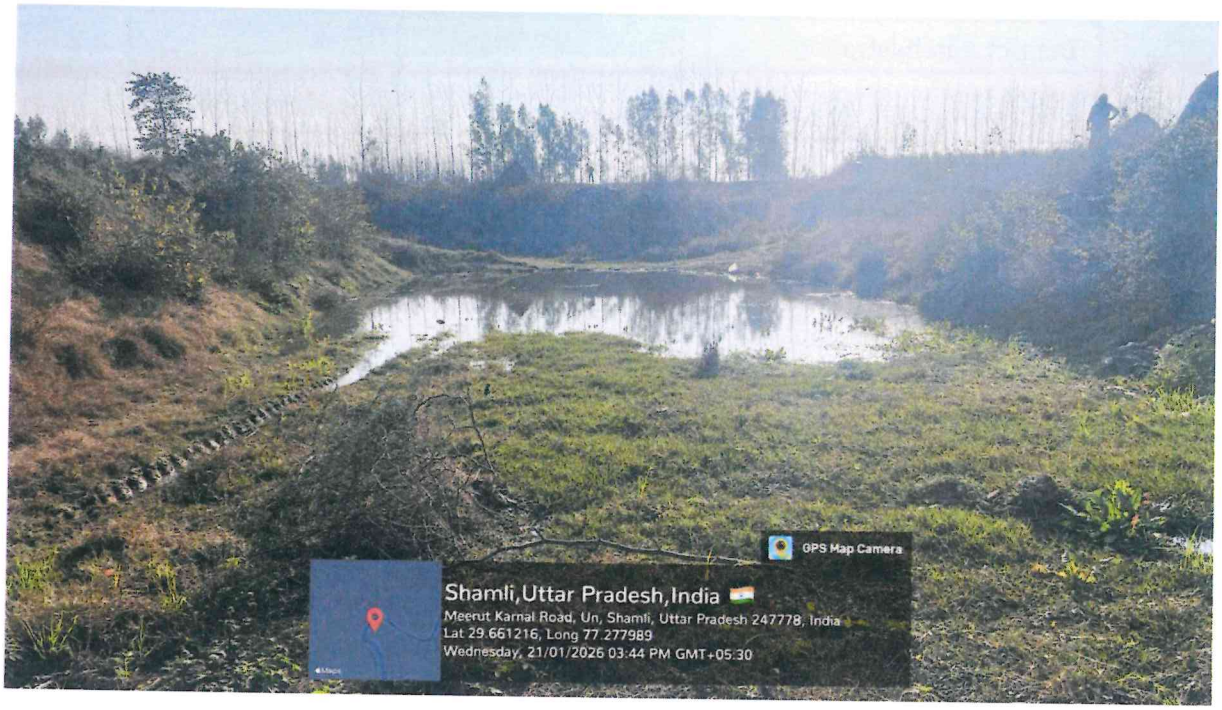
Observations:

i). **Pollution Type:** Untreated sewage evident; dark discolored water with organic debris

ii). **Riparian Vegetation:** Sparse due to pollution stress

iii). **Smell/Odor:** Strong odor of decomposition and sewage

iv). **Status:** Active pollution zone requiring immediate remediation



Location 5: Stagnant nearby domestic waste at Sirsagarh (Nai Nagla)

5. Action Plan for rejuvenation of Katha River at Saharanpur and Shamli, UP

Department/Agency	Responsibility	Action Items	Timeline
District Administration/ District Revenue Officer/ Panchayati Raj, Saharanpur/ Shamli	Classification verification; encroachment removal	Revenue records review; legal notices	3-6 months
State Irrigation Department	Hydrological assessment; technical certification	Water body classification; flow data	2-3 months
UPPCB Regional Office, Saharanpur	Water quality monitoring; pollution control	Baseline assessment; enforcement	2-3 months
NMCG	Sewage management through NbS; MSW handling; River restoration oversight	Sewage treatment; waste diversion; Project planning; fund coordination	3-6 months
Forest Department	Plantation	Riparian buffers	3-6 months

District Administration	Overall coordination; enforcement	Inter-departmental meetings; action	2-3 months
Survey of India	Topographic confirmation	Map archival review; verification	2-3 months

राजीव कुमार मित्तल, भा.प्र.से.
महानिदेशक
राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन

Rajeev Kumar Mital, IAS
DIRECTOR GENERAL
NATIONAL MISSION FOR CLEAN GANGA

सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार
जल शक्ति मंत्रालय
जल संसाधन,
नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण विभाग
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

D O No : L-25012(11)/25/2025-O/o ED(TECH) NMCG **Date: 27.01.2026**

Subject: Site Visit to Katha River in Saharanpur and Shamli Districts under Namami Gange Programme – Recommendations and Request for Action Plan

Dear Arvind,

This refers to the site visit by NMCG team to the Katha River in Saharanpur and Shamli Districts from 20.01.2026 to 22.01.2026. The visit was aimed to assess the status of the above-mentioned rivers for existing issues/problems, and foresee the possible interventions to ameliorate the issues related to referred rivers.

The team consisting of experts from NMCG and District Administration officials assessed river stretches, structures, and challenges. The key findings and probable broad interventions have been indicated in the report and the same is enclosed as Annexure-I. I would like that the identified interventions are converted into a cohesive and comprehensive Action Plan that provides for detailed timelines, responsible departments, convergence of resources, coordination and monitoring mechanism for the rejuvenation of the river. A framework for Small River Rejuvenation is attached for your reference as Annexure-II.

The Small River Rejuvenation closely aligns with the objectives of the Namami Gange program and we will be very happy to extend cooperation to you in this endeavour.

Yours sincerely,

(Rajeev Kumar Mital)

Shri Arvind Kumar Chauhan
District Magistrate
District Shamli, Uttar Pradesh

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Sd/-
(Rajeev Kumar Mital)

Shri Arvind Kumar Chauhan
District Magistrate, District Shamli, Uttar Pradesh

Copy to:

1. Project Director, SMCG-UP, Lucknow
2. Chief Engineer, Irrigation Department, Lucknow

(Rajeev Kumar Mital)

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Yours sincerely,

(Rajeev Kumar Mital)

Shri Manish Bansal
District Magistrate
District Saharanpur,
Uttar Pradesh

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