

THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
Principal Bench, New Delhi
Original Application No. 1002/2018

Abhisht Kusum Gupta

Applicant

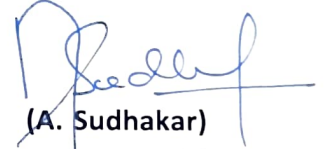
Vs.

State of Uttar Pradesh & Ors.

Respondent(s)

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(A. Sudhakar)

Scientist 'F'

Central Pollution Control Board,
Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar,
Delhi-110032.

Place: Delhi

Date: 29.07.2022

COMPLIANCE REPORT IN THE MATTER OF OA NO. 1002 TITLED ABHISHT KUSUM GUPTA VS STATE OF UTTAR PRADESH

1.0 BACKGROUND

Hon'ble NGT in the matter of OA No. 1002 titled Abhisht Kusum Gupta Vs. State of Uttar Pradesh vide order dated 23.12.2021 directed CPCB as follows:

"Coming to the remedial action in Delhi, the action taken report filed on behalf of the Delhi Government has stated that no untreated sewage is generated from Delhi and discharged into the Noida drain. This aspect may be verified by the CPCB. The treatment capacity and performance of Kondli STP also needs to be verified particularly with reference to compliance with fecal coliform and utilization of treated sewage. It further needs to be ascertained whether such waste is being discharged into Shahdara drain."

2.0 COMPLIANCE TO DIRECTIONS OF NGT

In compliance to directions of Hon'ble NGT, a team comprising of officials from CPCB, visited the site on 24.03.2022 along with the officials of Delhi Jal Board (DJB), East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) and Delhi Pollution Control Committee and inspected 3 nos. of storm water drains located at Kondli, Delhi and 4 nos. of STPs located at Kondli so as to verify the status of action plan as submitted by Government of NCT of Delhi. As per action plan submitted by DJB, infrastructure is created for diversion of wastewater flowing in storm water drains into existing sewerage network. **It means that there should not be any wastewater in storm water drain at downstream after diversion.**

Accordingly, Team inspected the Kondli drain and its adjoining drain to verify the performance of infrastructure developed by DJB. Verification status is summarized as follows :

1. DJB has created infrastructure for diversion of wastewater into Sewerage system at 03 locations (Kondli, Kondli-Delhi Border and Tri-Junction of Kondli, Khora and Gharoli Drain). Figure 1 depicts the schematic diagram of drain indicating diversion point.

2. The wastewater generated from Gharoli region flowing in storm water drain of PWD is diverted to sewerage system at Delhi-Khora border. Partial flow is flowing at downstream of said PWD drain. The remaining flow diverted to Sewerage System at Tri-Junction of Kondli, Khora and Gharoli Drain. No flow was observed at downstream of Tri –Junction. Figure 1 at Annexure-I shows the diversion of wastewater into sewerage system.
3. The wastewater generated from Kondli region flowing in Kondli drain diverted to Sewerage System and no flow was observed at downstream of Kondli drain. However, free flowing wastewater observed at 100 m downstream of Kondli diversion section (Between Red Fox hospital and New Kondli Chowk). It seems after downstream of diversion point, wastewater is flowing in drain and diversion is not successful. Sample also collected at said location for qualitative analysis. The analytical results reveals BOD-123 mg/l, COD-416 mg/l and TSS-330 mg/l. It shows that it carries untreated domestic wastewater. Figure 2 and 3 at Annexure-I shows of diversion of Kondli drain at said locations.

Figure 1: Schematic diagram of drain indicating diversion point

4. The existing sewerage system is conveying wastewater to Kondli STP. Accordingly, team also inspected Kondli STP to verify the performance. Observation made during the inspection are as follows:
 - a. Kondli STP comprises of 4 phases i.e. Phase I -10 MGD, Phase II- 25MGD, Phase III-10 MGD and Phase IV-45 MGD.
 - b. During inspection, Phase IV STP was found functional and Phase I STP is observed as under trial. STPs created under Phase II and Phase III were found as non – operational.
 - c. Kondli STP is receiving 70 MGD of wastewater whereas only Phase-IV STP of capacity 45 MGD was found as operational. Samples were collected from outlet of Phase-IV STP and Combined outlet of STPs created under Phase-IV and Phase-I. Analysis report are represented in the following table :

Location	Parameter				
	pH	TSS (mg/l)	COD (mg/l)	BOD (mg/l)	Faecal Coliform (MPN / 100 ml)
Prescribed Standards	5.5-9.0	20	50	10	10
Kondli STP Phase IV (Outlet)	7.1	73	240	95	40×10^6
Combined outlet of STPs of Phase-IV and Phase-I	6.9	249	550	214	17×10^6

- d. The treated sewage from Kondli STP is discharged into Shahdara drain which ultimately reaches river Yamuna.
- e. Analytical results of the effluents at the outlet of Phase IV STP are observed as BOD-95 mg/l, COD-240 mg/l, TSS-73 mg/l, Faecal Coliforms -40×10^6 which are in non-compliance with the notified standards. Quality of effluents at the combined Outlet of Phase-IV and Phase-I further deteriorates. ***This STP is observed as non-confirming with respect to prescribed standards.***
- f. During inspection, it was found that anaerobic conditions prevail in primary clarifier of Phase IV STP. At some sections, launder and weir of clarifier are found broken. It may be stated that operation & maintenance of STP are not up-to mark.
- g. Overflow of clarifiers is distributed into aerations tanks. No active biomass i.e. MLSS could be observed in aeration tanks.
- h. After treatment in aeration tanks, wastewater flows into secondary clarifiers. There are 04 nos. of secondary clarifiers and anaerobic conditions are observed in each of clarifiers. The weir and inlet chambers of clarifier are submerged and no clarification was taking place.

- i. Installation of Odour control system was in progress at Phase-IV unit of Kondli STP. It is pertinent to mention that odour control system will not work effectively until performance of STP improves. All units of STPs should work optimally.

3.0 Major Observations and Recommendations

Based on the inspection, following observations and recommendations are made:

DJB has created the infrastructure diversion for diversion of wastewaters generated from Kondli and Gharoli regions and same is found as operational. However, with regard to its performance, it is observed that partial flow is still flowing through Kondli-Noida drain towards NOIDA. DJB should identify the leakages and make the system full proof so that no wastewater flow towards NOIDA.

1. Tapped wastewater is diverted to existing sewerage system and same is conveyed to Kondli STP. The analytical results show that STP is non – complying with respect to prescribed norms. The quality of treated sewage at the outlet is at par with the untreated wastewater at inlet. The treated sewage is discharged to Shahdara drain which finally meets river Yamuna at downstream of Okhla Barrage.
2. *It may be concluded that the purpose of the exercise of tapping the drains & its treatment, is defeated in meeting the objective. Entire wastewater flowing through the Kondli drain should be treated at Kondli STP and quality of treated sewage must meet the prescribed standards. Only after requisite treatment, the treated sewage should be allowed to be discharged into Shahdara drain.*
3. *However, in the present case, the wastewater of Kondli drain is diverted to Kondli STP and the STP is neither having adequate capacity nor it is complying with the standards. As a result, untreated / partially treated sewage is being discharged into Shahdara drain. This untreated / partially treated wastewater of Kondli drain is finally being discharged into river Yamuna via Shahdara drain.*

Photographs of Drains diverted to Sewerage System



Figure 1: Diversion at Kondli-Delhi Border



Figure 2: Diversion at Kondli



Figure 3: Free- Flowing Wastewater observed at 100 m downstream of Kondli diversion section

Item No. 01

(Court No. 1)

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**

(By Video Conferencing)

Original Application No. 1002/2018

(With reports dated 22.11.2021, 23.11.2021,
17.11.2021 & 08.11.2021)

Abhisht Kusum Gupta

Applicant

Versus

State of Uttar Pradesh & Ors.

Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 23.12.2021

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ADARSH KUMAR GOEL, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDHIR AGARWAL, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. NAGIN NANDA, EXPERT MEMBER**

Applicant: Mr. Abhisht Kusum Gupta, Applicant in Person

Respondent(s): Mr. Satya Gopal, Additional Chief Secretary,
Mr. Sanjeev Khirwar, Principal Secretary (Env.),
Dr. K.S. Jayachandaran, Special Secretary (Env.)
with Ms. Jyoti Mendiratta, Advocate for GNCTD
Mr. Vineet Kumar, Additional DCP East Delhi

Mr. Manoj Singh, Additional Chief Secretary, (Env.), UP
Mr. Suhas LY, DM, G.B. Nagar
Mr. Praveen Kumar, IG, Meerut Range
Mr. Ganesh Prasad Saha, DCP, G.B. Nagar

Ms. Ritu Maheshwari, CEO Noida Authority with
Mr. Ravindra Kumar, Senior Advocate and Mr. Rachit Mittal, Adv.

Mr. Aman Bhalla, Advocate for CPCB
Mr. Pradeep Misra & Mr. Daleep Dhyani, Advocates for UPPCB
Mr. Narender Pal Singh, Advocate for DPCC
Mr. Balendu Shekhar, Advocate for EDMC
Ms. Sakshi Popli, Advocate for DJB

ORDER

1. The issue for consideration is the remedial action for preventing untreated sewage going to the "irrigation canal" in Sector 137, NOIDA.

Sources of such discharge include non-functional/deficient STPs in 95 high rise buildings in Noida, industries as well waste water from upstream from Delhi and Ghaziabad. The said canal joins Yamuna and then Ganga. NOIDA, Ghaziabad Nagar Nigam, Delhi Jal Board (DJB), East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) and Nagar Palika Parishad, Khoda Makanpur are the identified authorities required to take the remedial action, based on the verification report to which reference will be made hereafter. It is established that there is huge amount of water pollution much beyond prescribed norms to the detriment of environment and public health. Needless to say that the said water is used by living beings and for irrigation and pollution is source of deaths and diseases which are criminal offences under the law of the land and there are designated authorities entrusted with the task of stopping it. However, it is failure of the said authorities which has been matter of consideration in the matter.

2. The matter has been dealt with by various orders in the last more than two years, in the light of the reports of the Committee appointed by the Tribunal to ascertain the factual status. In the report of CPCB dated 01.11.2019, steps to be taken by NOIDA, Ghaziabad Nagar Nigam, Delhi Jal Board (DJB), East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) and Nagar Palika Parishad, Khoda Makanpur were recommended as follows:-

Sl. No	Department	Directions issued u/s 5 of EPA, 1986
1.	NOIDA	<i>i. To develop time bound action plan to stop discharge of untreated wastewater to 30 drains.</i> <i>ii. To intercept all drains and channelize wastewater to STPs so that no untreated wastewater is discharged to Noida drain.</i> <i>iii. To deposit an Interim Environmental Compensation of Z 1,00,00,000</i>

2.	Ghaziabad Nagar Nigam	<i>i. To establish sewerage network and treatment facility to treat sewage generated from Khoda village.</i> <i>ii. To Deposit an Interim Environmental Compensation of 1,00,00,000</i>
3.	DJB	<i>i. To initiate legal proceedings against the residents of GD colony, Gharauli village and Kondli village, Delhi having failed to take sewer connections.</i> <i>ii. To ensure that each building under their jurisdiction shall have sewer connection so that current practice of discharge of untreated sewage into storm water drainage system should be stopped.</i>
4.	EDMC	<i>i. To direct dairy farms to develop decentralized treatment facility so that their untreated waste shall not be discharged to DDA drainage system</i> <i>ii. To ensure that untreated dairy waste including animal dungs from Gharuli village should not be discharged into storm water drain. Challan / Legal action shall be initiated against such violators.</i>
5.	Nagar Palika Parishad Khoda Makanpur	<i>Show cause notice issued to explain the reasons as to why action should not be taken against Nagar Palika Parishad Khoda including levying of Environmental Compensation for discharge of untreated sewage to drainage system of Delhi. Copy of directions is attached as Annexure-I</i>

3. The report further stated that CPCB called a meeting of the concerned Authorities and conducted inspection noticing high level of water pollution in the drains as follows:-

Table 1: Analytical Results of Drain

Si. No.	Sample Location	Physico-Chemical Parameters				Bacteriological Parameters	
		pH	COD	BOD	TSS	Total Coliform (MPN/100m 1)	Fecal Coliform (MPN/100m 1)
Water Quality of Noida Drain at different locations							
1	Budh Vihar, Sector-11, Noida	7.56	444	219	330	13 X10 ⁶	79 X10 ⁵
2	S-14, New Kondli Road, Sector-11, Noida.	7.55	433	217	352	23 X10 ⁶	23 X10 ⁶
3	Sector-50, Noida Link Road.	7.72	169	68	84	11 X10 ⁶	68 X10 ⁵
4	Sector-137, India TV Metro Station, Noida.	7.78	186	71	65	13 X10 ⁶	13 X10 ⁶

5	Noida drain at regulator	7.84	145	60	89	-	-
6	Noida drain at before Confluence with river Yamuna	7.82	163	46	83	78 $\times 10^5$	78 $\times 10^5$
Water Quality of adjoining drains of Noida Drain							
7	Khoda village	7.54	314	107	194	78	20 $\times 10^5$
8	Drain merges with Noida drain at Sector-142, Advant Navis Buisness IT Park, Noida.	7.70	182	100	63	46 $\times 10^6$	46 $\times 10^6$
Note: All units are measured in mg/l except Fecal Coliform and pH.							

BOD concentration at entrance of NOIDA, U.P is 219 mg/l whereas Fecal coliform count is 20 X 10⁵. However, concentration of BOD before confluence point is 46 mg/l and Fecal coliform count is 78 X 10⁵ MPN/100 ml. The results indicate that although there is marginal improvement in water quality as the drain travels through NOIDA but still concentration level of BOD and Fecal Coliform at the confluence point of drain with Yamuna is quite high.”

4. The action taken report and recommended further action were in the form of following table:-

“4.0 SUMMARY OF ACTION TAKEN BY CONCERNED AGENCIES

Based on the inspection made, analytical results of the samples collected from drains and action taken report of concerned agencies, summarized report is placed below:

Si. No	Department	Directions of CPCB and NGT	Status report	Recommendations
1.	NOIDA	i. To develop time bound action plan to stop discharge of ii. To intercept all drains and channelize wastewater to STPs so that no untreated wastewater is discharged to Noida drain. iii. To deposit an Interim Environmental Compensation of Rs. 1,00,00,000 iv. Hon'ble NGT directed to submit furnish performance guarantees in the sum of Rs. 1 crore each to the satisfaction of CPCB undertaking to take remedial actions in terms of the directions of the CPCB, failing which the said amount will be forfeited	i. Noida authority made representation against the direction and EC imposed by CPCB on 01/07/2019. Copy attached as Annexure-V . ii. Reply of representation was made on 19/07/2019 and hearing was conducted on 23/07/2019 and Noida authority was further directed to ensure compliance of CPCB directions. iii. Representative of NOIDA has informed during the meeting on 01.10.2019 that committees being constituted for identification and taking action on high rise buildings discharging untreated waste and to identify villages which are discharging waste into drain iv. Action plan in compliance to direction issued not submitted till date v. Environment Compensation was not submitted till date. vi. Performance Bank Guarantee not submitted till date.	Noida authority shall prepare time bound action plan either to discharge of untreated waste throughaforesaid 30 drains. Alternatively, all such drains be intercepted and taken to STPs so that no untreated wastewater flows to Noida drain.

2	Ghaziabad Nagar Nigam	i. To establish sewerage network and treatment facility to treat sewage generated from Khoda village. ii. To Deposit an Interim Environmental Compensation of 1,00,00,000 iii. Hon'ble NGT directed to submit furnish performance guarantees in the sum of Rs. 1 crore each to the satisfaction of CPCB undertaking to take remedial actions in terms of the directions of the CPCB, failing which the said amount will be forfeited	i. Ghaziabad Nagar Nigam vide letter dated 24.06.2019 clarified that the Khora village falls under the jurisdiction of Nagar Palika Parishad Khoda Makanpur. Copy attached as Annexure-VI. ii. Accordingly, show cause notice issued to Nagar Palika Parishad Khoda Makanpur vide letter dated 24.09.2019.	
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3.	DJB	i. To initiate legal proceedings against the residents of GD colony, Gharauli village and Kondli village, Delhi having failed to take sewer connections. ii. To ensure that each building under their jurisdiction shall have sewer connection so that current practice of discharge of untreated sewage into storm water drainage system should be stopped. iii. Hon'ble NGT directed to submit furnish performance guarantees in the sum of Rs. 1 crore each to the satisfaction of CPCB undertaking to take remedial actions in terms of the directions of the CPCB, failing which the said amount will be forfeited	i. Action plan of DJB was received vide letter dated 22/07/2019. Copy of letter is attached as Annexure-VII. ii. Representative of Delhi Jal Board informed that special camps were organized residents to take sewer connection. iii. 732 number of notice issued to residents of Kondli and Gharauli. It was also informed that 3 drains of PWD carrying wastewater shall be tapped and conveyed to Kondli STPs for treatment. Interception of drains will be finished by December, 2019. v. Performance Bank Guarantee not submitted till date	i. DJB shall expedite and complete the interception of 03 adjoining drain in Delhi segment by December, 2019. ii. DJB should initiate legal proceedings against residents of GD colony, Gharauli village and Kondli village on account of their reluctance and failure to take sewerage connections. iii. DJB shall ensure that each building under their jurisdiction shall have sewer connection so that current practice of discharge of untreated sewage into storm water drainage system should be stopped.
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4.	EDMC	i. To direct dairy farms to develop decentralized treatment facility so that their untreated waste shall not be discharged to DDA drainage system. ii. To ensure that untreated dairy waste including animal dungs from Gharuli village should not be discharged into storm water drain. Challan/Legal action shall be initiated against such violators. iii. Hon'ble NGT directed to submit furnish performance guarantees in the sum of Rs. 1 crore each to the satisfaction of CPCB undertaking to take remedial actions in the terms of the directions of the CPCB, failing which the said amount will be forfeited.	i. EDMC has informed during the meeting that 591 Challan issued to residents of Kondli and Gharauli for disposing their wastewater into drain and Show-Cause notice is also issued to illegal dairies for discharging waste in drain. ii. East Delhi Municipal Corporation Veterinary Services Department Vide email dated 31/10/2019 provided the action taken report indicating action taken against the illegal dairy farms at Gharoli colony. Copy attached as Annexure-VIII. iii. Performance Bank Guarantee was not submitted. However, it was informed that same was approved by Competent Authority and will be submitted in one week time.	i. EDMC should ensure that untreated dairy waste including animal dungs from Gharuli village should not be discharged into storm water drain. Challan / Legal action shall be initiated against such violators. ii. The dairy farms be shifted to outskirts of the
5.	Nagar Palika Parishad Khoda Makanpur	Show cause notice issued to explain the reasons as to why action should not be taken against Nagar Palika Parishad Khoda including levying of Environmental Compensation for discharge of untreated sewage to drainage system of Delhi.	i. Executive officer of Khoda Nagar Parishad has informed during the meeting that at present there is no infrastructure facility to treat and tap waste from Khoda colony. ii. Further, no reply received till date.	i. Khoda Nagar Palika should developed facility to tap untreated water of Khoda village and should discharge only treated water to drainage system of Delhi. ii. Directions for submission of performance guarantee in the sum of Rs. 1 crore by Ghaziabad Nagar Nigam to CPCB may refer to Nagar Palika Parishad Khoda Makanpur.

5. The Tribunal directed action to be taken by the concerned authorities accordingly and further observed as follows:-

“5. The CPCB has further recommended as follows:

“Based on observation made by the inspection team including Dr. C.R. Babu, it is further recommended that in-situ treatment of Noida drain in Noida stretch be carried out as immediate measure for treatment of wastewater of NOIDA drain.

As, the Noida drain falls under the jurisdiction of UP Irrigation Flood Control Department and it is suggested that in-situ treatment may be carried out jointly by NOIDA authority and UP Irrigation Flood Control Department in consultation with Dr. C.R. Babu.”

6. In view of above, UP Irrigation Flood Control Department and NOIDA Authority may take further remedial action expeditiously which may be overseen by the Principal Secretary, UP Irrigation and Flood Control Department and the Chairman, NOIDA Authority. The Chairman, NOIDA Authority will act as a nodal agency for coordination and compliance which may be further overseen and coordinated by the CPCB.

7. The CPCB may furnish a status report in the matter before the next date by e-mail at judicial-ngt@gov.in.”

6. The matter was then reviewed on 06.11.2020 in the light of the reports of the NOIDA Authority and CPCB. The Tribunal, noticing serious deficiencies and statutory violations, directed remedial action within three months. Operative part of the order is reproduced below:-

“1to5.....xxx.....xxx.....xxx

6. In pursuance of above, NOIDA has filed reports dated 15.09.2020 and 05.11.2020 while CPCB reports are dated 15.05.2020 and 29.10.2020. It will be suffice to refer to the last reports of NOIDA and CPCB. The report of the CPCB dated 29.10.2020 is as follows:-

“ACTION TAKEN BY CPCB

In compliance to the directions of Hon'ble NGT, CPCB has taken following action:

- 1. Directions of Hon'ble NGT communicated to CEO, NOIDA vide letters dated 19/03/2020, 12/05/2020 and*

13/08/2020 to provide progress report in the matter. Copy of letter is attached as Annexure-I.

2. NOIDA vide letter dated 15/09/2020 has submitted updated action taken report and future action plan to CPCB for abatement of pollution of NOIDA drain. Copy of letter is attached as Annexure II
3. Further, CPCB has examined the proposed action plan and observations communicated to NOIDA authority vide letter dated 28/09/2020. Copy of letter is attached as Annexure-III.
4. CPCB communicated to Principal Secretary, Urban Development, Uttar Pradesh vide letter dated 28/09/2020 for submission of action plan for treatment of wastewater discharging from Khora Nagar Palika. Copy of letter is attached as Annexure-IV. Reply is still awaited.
5. CPCB also requested Delhi Jal Board (DJB) and East Delhi Municipal Corporation vide letter dated 28/09/2020 to submit the status report on action plan of untreated sewage of Kondli and Gharoli area (Delhi Catchment area) into Kondli drain. Copy of letter is attached as Annexure-V
6. **Delhi Jal Board vide letter dated 15/10/2020 informed that as per action plan trapping of drains contributing wastewater discharge into Kondli drain from Delhi catchment was completed in January, 2020. Copy of letter is attached as Annexure-VI."**

7.xxx.....xxx.....xxx

8. Learned counsel for the NOIDA stated that only 57 societies have been inspected out of 95 and the remaining societies are to be inspected. Wherever deficiencies have been found, action has been initiated and reference has also been made to the State PCB. Learned counsel for the DJB states that action has been taken on its part. However, there is no response from the EDMC and the Secretary Urban Development, UP in respect of action at Khoda Nagar Parishad, Makanpur.

9. Learned counsel for EDMC, on instructions says, that there is a proposal to shift the dairies but that is not possible in absence of land. We find this excuse untenable only to avoid responsibility. The plea raised is not a justification for permitting violation of law by the dairies to the detriment of the rights of the citizens. To enforce rule of law and prevent the causing of pollution and hazard to the health of the inhabitants, activities operating in violation must be forthwith stopped and compensation recovered for the violations. Prosecution may be initiated and source of pollution may be closed. DPCC must also take necessary action on its part. If the EDMC remains non-compliant, the Commissioner will be personally held responsible. Let the compliance report be file within two months by e-mail at judicial-ngt@gov.in preferably in the form of searchable PDF/ OCR Support PDF and not in the form of Image PDF.

10 With regard to the action against erring high-rise buildings in Noida, further steps be taken expeditiously and compensation

assessed by a joint Committee of CPCB, State PCB, NOIDA and District Magistrate, NOIDA within three months.

11. The Secretary, Urban UP may also ensure compliance of action by the Nagar Palika Parishad, Khoda Makanpur.”

7. The matter was last considered on 30.07.2021 in the light of report of the NOIDA Authority dated 29.07.2021 and report of EDMC dated 08.07.2021. The report of NOIDA Authority gave follow up action. In the report of EDMC action taken against the dairies was mentioned. The Tribunal found that the action taken was hardly adequate inspite of rampant violations in Noida as well as in Delhi in breach of constitutional obligations of the statutory authorities, including the Police Authorities to the detriment of public health and the environment. Accordingly, the Tribunal directed the statutory authorities to hold inhouse meeting, plan remedial action and file action taken report. CPCB was also directed inter-alia to file a separate report about the standards applicable to discharge in drains/canals and status of sewage management in Khoda area. The operative part of the order is reproduced below:

*“9. We have heard learned counsel for the parties and considered the reports. It is clear from the report of the NOIDA Authority that inspection has been carried out only on 12 more high rise societies out of 95, even though more than eight months have passed after the last order when this Tribunal was informed that 57 societies had been inspected. **The report clearly shows that serious violation of law is continuing in the form of discharge of untreated sewage in open drain by many of the societies - some have not constructed STPs and some have not functional STPs. Thus, the Irrigation canal in question which is coming from Delhi (Kondli) and joining river Yamuna after crossing from Village Khoda and NOIDA, continues to be polluted due to sewage disposal. As per action taken report in Delhi, Dairies causing disposal of waste water and dung have been sealed. Impact of such action on recipient drains is not mentioned in absence of which claim of sealing of dairies is difficult to be accepted. There is no statement that the drains in question have been intercepted and diverted to STP and that no waste water is being discharged from Delhi. This needs to be ensured by the DJB/EDMC/DPCC. In case of Khoda Parishad, the waste water in the area needs to be collected and diverted to the STP. In Noida, treatment of sewage generated by the Societies has to be ensured and treated effluents utilised for secondary***

purposes. Standards for disposal of sewage into irrigation or storm water canal have to be of fresh water to give effect to the mandate of the Water Act. Noida drain joins river Yamuna and thus untreated sewage cannot be discharged therein.

10. There is no meaningful action of registering criminal cases and arresting concerned violators, blacklisting the entities, withdrawing statutory consents, recovering compensation for restoration measures. Many industries are discharging untreated sewage with impunity as if law of the land does not exist and crime is free. **As already mentioned, such pollution is criminal offence not only under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 but also under Chapter XIV of the IPC. Adverse effect in terms of deaths and diseases is well known. The violations are not only of statutory provisions but also judgments of the Hon'ble Supreme Court inter-alia in Paryavaran Suraksha case¹ prescribing timeline within which water treatment plant have to be in place as also direction of this Tribunal requiring coercive measures against violators in the form of stopping the polluting activities, initiating prosecution and recovering of compensation. Unfortunately, not a single person is shown to have been prosecuted inspite of categorical observations in the reports of the statutory regulators.** There is no dearth of statutory powers of NOIDA Authority, District Magistrates, SEIAA, UP and State PCB as well as UP Police. Surprisingly, counsel for NOIDA stated that NOIDA is helpless as it has no power. There is, thus, clear failure of constitutional obligation of the said authorities, rendering the heads of such institutions personally accountable for such failure for the punishable crime. The said authorities have failed to realise that they are occupying the position of high trust and are meant to protect the public health and environment and not to just enjoy position and perks at the cost of miseries of the innocent citizens. **By their own showing they have continued to be mute spectators of serious crimes against humanity. Sufferers are helpless citizens whose constitutional right to clean environment remain on paper. We alert the higher authorities of the State to remedy the situation by action against failing heads of statutory authorities in performing their responsibility in the interest of protection of environment and public health and constitution rights of the citizens and as a measure of good governance.**

11. In view of above grim situation, **we direct Additional Chief Secretary, Forest and Environment, UP, Secretary, Urban Development, UP, CEO, NOIDA Authority, District Magistrate, NOIDA, Vice Chairman, GDA, Police Commissioner, NOIDA, IG, Meerut (with regard to area falling in UP) and Chief Secretary, Delhi and Special Commissioner of Police, East Delhi (for area in Delhi) to hold in house meeting in coordination with concerned departments within fifteen days to take stock of the situation and plan remedial action. Action should include accountability of the erring officers, preventing discharge of pollution in the drain, coercive measures against violators - housing societies or others by registering criminal cases, initiating prosecution, assessment and recovery of**

¹ (2017) 5 SCC 326

compensation for the past violations, black listing of the concerned entities such as construction companies, in exercise of their statutory powers, following due process of law. The Tribunal expects meaningful improvement in the situation to prevent serious violations affecting the right to life, which violations have been continuing since long, without any meaningful action. In Delhi, claim of EDMC/DPCC of sealing of Dairies needs to be verified with reference to destination of effluents. DJB needs to confirm that due to interceptions of drains, no sewage or any other effluent is discharged into drain entering Noida. Water quality of drain/ irrigation canal before entry in UP needs to be checked. In UP, it needs to be verified whether management of sewage by the Societies and by the Noida Authority and its utilization in quantifiable terms is as per norms and if not, what is remedial action and coercive measures against the violators. The efficacy of treatment may be assessed in terms of Fecal Coliform also. UP PCB has to clarify whether permission has been granted by Irrigation Department for discharge of sewage and industrial effluents into the drain and on what conditions. If so, how such conditions are being enforced. Noida has to explain Sewage management status for the area including the sewage generated by the Societies. CPCB has to file a separate report on standards applicable to discharge in drains/canals and whether standards of fresh water/ flood water apply to such situation in the light of the Water Act. Further, status of sewage management in Khoda area is also to be verified.

12. The Additional Chief Secretary, Forest and Environment, UP, Secretary, Urban Development, UP, CEO, NOIDA Authority, District Magistrate, NOIDA, Vice Chairman, GDA, Police Commissioner, NOIDA, IG, Meerut and Chief Secretary, Delhi and Special Commissioner of Police, East Delhi may remain present in person by video conference along with their action taken reports.”

8. In pursuance of above, an ‘Action Plan’ has been filed by the NOIDA Authority on 22.11.2021. ‘Compliance report’ dated 23.11.2021 has been filed by UP State PCB. ‘Status report’ dated 17.11.2021 has been filed by the Delhi Government and two reports dated 08.11.2021 have been filed by CPCB on standards for water quality of drains and sewage management in Khoda area. We proceed to discuss the same and issue further directions.

Action Plan of NOIDA Authority dated 22.11.2021

9. Action Plan filed by the NOIDA Authority mentions constitution of a Committee to inspect STPs, strengthening sewerage network, setting up

of more STPs, community toilets, de-sludging points, in situ treatment of drains, removing encroachments from embankment of drains, interception of sewer scheme. The plan in tabulated form is reproduced below:

“

Sr. No.	Action Plan with Proposed Timeline as submitted before	Follow up Action																																								
1	A committee has been constituted to inspect high rise building's STP and to evaluate the performance of every STP. The Committee will examine whether the STP to perform standard parameter. It operates in a compliance manner and discharges only the treated effluent in the passing drain, post utilizing the treated waste-water at their end. The defaulters are to be identified and recommended for environment compensation for non-compliance of GT orders. More stringent action will be taken against the builders as per Noida Authority rules. (Time Required – 1 year).	There are total 95 nos. of Group Housing Societies, Total inspection has been carried out, as per this position as follows:- <table><tr><td>1</td><td colspan="2">Nos of Group housing with fully functional STPs</td><td colspan="2">72</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td colspan="2">Environment Clearance cleared & U.P. Pollution Control Board has issued CTO. Their sewage connected to the Central Sewage Treatment Plant (CSTP) of Noida.</td><td colspan="2">04</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td colspan="2">Connected in Noida sewer line and at present their sewer is treated in Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) (Noida) as per Occupancy Certificate</td><td colspan="2">07</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td colspan="2">Issue regarding completion of these 4 projects of Amrapali is being monitored by Hon'ble Supreme Court.</td><td colspan="2">04</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td colspan="2">Under Construction project. At present no sewage is generated.</td><td colspan="2">01</td></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">6</td><td rowspan="2">Undertaking given by Builder with timeline for operationalization of STP.</td><td>STP constructed but not functional</td><td>04</td><td rowspan="2">07</td></tr><tr><td>STP not constructed</td><td>03</td></tr><tr><td></td><td colspan="3">Total Nos. of Group Housing Societies</td><td>95</td></tr></table> Note: - NBCC has been deputed as the working agency to complete the 4 nos. of construction of the societies. Sewer line of Group Housing Society connected to Noida Main Sewage line for treatment at the STP. - Criminal case filed against these 08 nos. of promoter builders. Sealing in 07 done by Noida. 05 nos. GH have committed is their respective undertaking to comply by 10.01.22 and 02 nos. GH to comply by end of Nov.-2021. At present their sewer is connected is Noida sewer line and treated is STP (Noida), therefore, no discharge of sewage in open. Details as per Annexure-A				1	Nos of Group housing with fully functional STPs		72		2	Environment Clearance cleared & U.P. Pollution Control Board has issued CTO. Their sewage connected to the Central Sewage Treatment Plant (CSTP) of Noida.		04		3	Connected in Noida sewer line and at present their sewer is treated in Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) (Noida) as per Occupancy Certificate		07		4	Issue regarding completion of these 4 projects of Amrapali is being monitored by Hon'ble Supreme Court.		04		5	Under Construction project. At present no sewage is generated.		01		6	Undertaking given by Builder with timeline for operationalization of STP.	STP constructed but not functional	04	07	STP not constructed	03		Total Nos. of Group Housing Societies			95
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2	In compliance with Hon'ble NGT directions and Water Prevention Act-1976, joint inspections with UPPCB team will be conducted at different	Action taken against defaulters. Action in Progress- Industry																																								

	sections/ location and violators to be appropriately prosecuted. Committee shall also check untapped sewer lines of individuals/ builders/ villagers and same shall be informed to concerned department for necessary action. (Time Required 1 year)	<table><tr><td>Inspected Industry</td><td>Operational</td><td>Closed</td><td>ETP Installed</td><td>Compliance</td><td>Show Cause Issued/ E.C. Imposed/ Prosecution</td><td>Closure Order Issued</td></tr><tr><td>85</td><td>60</td><td>25</td><td>60</td><td>50</td><td>10 Rs. 79,45,000/-</td><td>0</td></tr></table>	Inspected Industry	Operational	Closed	ETP Installed	Compliance	Show Cause Issued/ E.C. Imposed/ Prosecution	Closure Order Issued	85	60	25	60	50	10 Rs. 79,45,000/-	0
Inspected Industry	Operational	Closed	ETP Installed	Compliance	Show Cause Issued/ E.C. Imposed/ Prosecution	Closure Order Issued										
85	60	25	60	50	10 Rs. 79,45,000/-	0										
3	Proposals for strengthening of existing sewerage network amounting to Rs. 19.77 Cr. have been submitted and same are to be executed on priority basis. (Time Required – 2 Years)	10 Projects with estimate of 24.50 Cr. were identified to strengthen the existing sewage network. 8 projects worth Rs. 20.48 Cr completed. 2 projects worth Rs. 4.02 Cr. are in progress. Expected to be completed by March-2022. Details as per Annexure-B														
4	Noida Authority in anticipation of future projected load has already planned to put more STPs of capacity 180MLD as planned by WAPCOS in place to accommodate the future load of sewerage effluent discharge of city. (Time Required-4 years)	Noida has fully functional 6 nos. of Sewage Treatment Plants (STP) Existing Capacity of STPs is 231 MLD. Sewage generation on an average is 215 MLD. Two new STP are under construction. <table><tr><th rowspan="2">STP</th><th colspan="2">Physical Progress (%)</th><th rowspan="2">Total cost of Project (in Cr.)</th></tr><tr><th>Civil</th><th>Mechanical/ Electrical</th></tr><tr><td>80 MLD</td><td>73%</td><td>In procurement</td><td>Rs. 115.44</td></tr><tr><td>100 MLD</td><td>76%</td><td>22%</td><td>Rs. 143.58</td></tr></table> Date of Completion as per Contract Bond 02.09.2022 Trial of STP will start in March-2022. Details of progress are as per Annexure-C	STP	Physical Progress (%)		Total cost of Project (in Cr.)	Civil	Mechanical/ Electrical	80 MLD	73%	In procurement	Rs. 115.44	100 MLD	76%	22%	Rs. 143.58
STP	Physical Progress (%)			Total cost of Project (in Cr.)												
	Civil	Mechanical/ Electrical														
80 MLD	73%	In procurement	Rs. 115.44													
100 MLD	76%	22%	Rs. 143.58													
5	100 Nos of Public Toilets and 56 Nos. of community toilets have been constructed. In addition to that mobile toilets have been installed at slum/remote areas under ODF scheme of Govt. of India. All Toilets are regularly monitored for proper functioning and maintenance. All the community /Public Toilets are connected with the existing sewerage network. (Work completed)	(Work Completed) Nos. of Public Toilets : 101 Nos. of Pink Toilets : 16 (for Ladies specially) Nos. of Community Toilets : 69 Nos. of Urinals : 120 The inspection of these public and community toilets is conducted on a regular basis. All the toilets are fully functional and operational in a compliance manner.														
6	Total 22 Nos of desludging points	Work Completed.														

	have been constructed at last sewer manhole near SPW (Sewage Pumping Station). Sewage from different Public Toilets/slum areas is collected and discharged in these decanting points by registered sewage decanters heavy vehicles fitted with GPS. (Work completed)	Total 22 nos. required as per site during desludging points have been constructed at last sewer manhole near SPS (Sewage Pumping Station). Sewage from different Public Toilets/slum areas is collected and discharged in these decanting points by registered sewage decanters. Note:- Presently no further desludging is required for network. Details of 22 nos. of de-sludging point are as per Annexure-D.
7	We are in process of developing in situ treatment using constructed wetland technique for Noida drain in consultation with Prof. C.R. Babu (CEMDE, University of Delhi). Six constructed wetland system each covering a stretch of 500 meter length have been proposed for abatement of organic load of Noida drain. (Time Required 1.5years)	Action Plan for the In-situ remediation and rejuvenation of Noida drain using Constructed Wetland System and by development of biodiversity park has been submitted by Dr. C.R. Babu (CEMDE, University of Delhi). Six constructed wetland system each covering a stretch of 500 meter length have been proposed. (Time Required-1.5 years) One nos. such wetland work has been awarded to U.P. Irrigation department on dated 18.02.2021 (as per MOU) and it is expected that work will be completed within one year. i.e 17.02.2022 (as per MOU) as pilot project. Physical progress of 50 %. Further two nos. In-situ remediation wetlands have been suggested on 01/11/2021 downstream by Prof. C.R. Babu in Kondli drains and plantation on the embankment of drain to reduce air pollution. Execution would be initiated in time bound manner. Timeline-March, 2023 Photographs showing construction in progress are enclosed as Annexure-E
8	Special drives have been carried out against encroachers on embankment of drains and same has been maintained. So disposal of untreated waste water into drains has been stopped. All encroachments on the embankment of these 30 drains will be removed within next one year. (Time Required- 1 year)	Special drives to check the embankment for the encroachment of all the 30 drains carried out by respective work circle regularly. Presently there is no encroachment on embankment of drains. Reports. Report related to concerned Work Circle(s) and photographs are enclosed as Annexure-F.
9	Noida will arrange further study by WAPCOS/EIL to evaluate feasibility of Intercepting sewer	Total 30 drains are merging in Kondli, UP, Irrigation drain Guidance of Professor C.R Babu, Department of Environment, Delhi University has been sought to suggest remedial measure.

	scheme as a long-term remedial measure based on the study report further action will be taken accordingly. (Time Required-3 years)	• Professor C.R Babu inspected 15 major drains along with Noida officials & has submitted preliminary report, highlights of the same is as below :- ◦ Drains are classified into 3 types based on its width as major, medium & minor. ◦ Bio Remediation method has been proposed for major & medium drains. Construction of In-Setu Wetland & Plantation has also been proposed. ◦ Construction of sump well has been proposed for Minor drains which would connect them to STP. • Detailed design, estimate & financial proposal is in preparation by the consultant, which once submitted would be examined & execution would be initiated in a time bound manner. • For the complete implementation of the proposed solution target of June 2023 has been set. Report of Prof. C.R. Babu is enclosed as Annexure-G.
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Compliance Report of UP State PCB dated 23.11.2021

10. UP State PCB has mentioned review meeting with concerned departments, including NOIDA, inspection of 95 STPs of the group housing societies, inspection of water polluting industries, status of discharge in irrigation canal/drains, quality of water in irrigation canal/drain and status of water treatment at Nagar Palika Parishad, Khoda Makanpur. The relevant extracts from the report are reproduced below:

“Group Housing Societies

All 95 group housing societies as listed by NOIDA Authority have been inspected jointly by officers of NOIDA Authority and UPPCB. Out of 95, STPs were found established in 72 societies, samples of treated effluent from all operational STPs have been drawn and analysed at NABL accredited laboratories of Board.

Status of compliance with regards to discharge standards for Fecal Coliform and other parameters for STPs of group housing societies and status of installation with regards to all 95 group housing societies has been detailed in Table 1.

No. of GHP	STP Installed	STP Not Installed	STP Under Installation	Complying STP	Not Complying STP	Report Awaited
95 (94+1 Under construction)	72	19	3	12	55	4

Table 1 (The Discharge of all GH Societies is being tapped & treated at terminal STPs of Noida Authority)

As is evident from above table, only 12 STPs were found to be complying with regards to discharge standards for Fecal Coliform, BOD, COD and pH among others.

Action by means of issuing show cause notice, imposition of Environmental compensation and initiating prosecution under relevant sections of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 has been initiated against group housing societies where STPs have been found to functional but not achieving norms, not installed or not operational during joint inspection, summary is as below-

No. of GH Project	No. of Defaulter identified	No. of Prosecution initiated/EC/showcase
95 (94+1 Under construction)	77	77

List of group housing societies along with their compliance status is annexed as **Annexure II** of the report. Besides above-mentioned action, Environmental compensation of Rs. 8,39,93,000/- has already been imposed on group housing societies for past violation and status of same has been submitted in Hon'ble Tribunal.

Industries

Presently, 85 water polluting industries are established in NOIDA and all 85 units have been re-inspected by officers of Board in September, 2021. During inspection, 25 units were found closed, out of 60 operational units samples collected from final outlet of ETPs of 10 units were found to be violating discharge standards. Action by means of issuing show cause notice, imposition of Environmental compensation and initiating prosecution under relevant sections of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. Summary of status of compliance of industries and action taken against violating industries has been detailed in Table 3.

Inspected Industry	Operational	Closed	ETP Installed	Compliance	Show cause issued/EC Imposed/ Prosecution	Remark
85	60	25	60	50	10	EC imposed after Hon'ble NGT order –

						Rs. 4.25 lac against 01 unit, Rs. 8,000/- per day against 05 units, Rs. 7.500/- per day against 01 unit and Rs. 5000 per day against 03 units
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Table 3: Summary of Status of Compliance and Action Taken against Industries

Besides above-mentioned action, Environmental compensation of Rs. 79,45,000/- has already been imposed on industries for past violation and status of same has been submitted in Hon'ble Tribunal.

Permission for Discharge in Irrigation Canal/Drain

In compliance of directions of Hon'ble Tribunal, Board vide letter dated 28.08.2021 had sought information from Irrigation department to ascertain whether any permission has been given to NOIDA for discharge of overflow and treated effluents into the irrigation canal, as per reply received from Irrigation department vide its letter dated 18.09.2021 has informed that no permission for discharge of effluents has been given by them to NOIDA or any other agency, copy of same is annexed as Annexure III of the report. Further, **NOIDA** Authority has furnished a copy of letter dated 2.11.2021 by means of which they have requested irrigation department to issue them permission for discharging treated effluent of five STPs meeting discharge standards in irrigation drain, copy of same is annexed as Annexure IV of the report.

Quality of Irrigation Canal/Drain

Regional Laboratory, NOIDA, UPPCB has been carrying out monthly monitoring of Kondli irrigation drain for general parameters only, however, in view of orders passed by Hon'ble Tribunal, monitoring has been carried out along the drain for Fecal Coliform as well besides other general parameters. Results have been presented in Table 4.

Sl. No.	Sample Location	Date	Physico-Chemical Parameters				Bacteriological Parameters	
			pH 6.5 - 9.0	BOD (mg/l) <30	COD (mg/l) <250	TSS (mg/l) <100	Total Coliform (MPN/ 100 ml)	Fecal Coliform (MPN/100 ml) < 1000
Water Quality of Kondli Drain at upstream and downstream								
September 2021								
	U/S Kondli Drain Entry point Sector-11 (Near Hari Darshan Police Chowki) Noida	03-09-21	7.44	48.0	320.0	157.0	35 X 10 ⁵	14 X 10 ⁵
	D/S Kondli Drain Before Meeting of Yamuna River (Vill-Chak Mangaraula), Noida	09-09-21	7.65	33.0	232.0	112.0	28 X 10 ⁵	11 X 10 ⁵
October 2021								
	U/S Kondli Drain	21-10-21	7.42	66.0	336.0	164.0	22X 10 ⁴	26X 10 ³

Entry point Sector-11 (Near Hari Darshan Police Chowki) Noida							
D/S Kondli Drain Before Meeting of Yamuna River (Vill-Chak Mangaraula), Noida	21-10-21	7.44	54.0	288.0	122.0	47X 103	21 X 103

Table 4: Water Quality of Kondli Irrigation Canal at Entry and Exit Point of NOIDA

As is evident from the above results, though beyond standards, quality of drain with regards to general parameters as well as Fecal Coliform is better at confluence point of River Yamuna at Sector 168, NOIDA compared to its quality at Sector 11, NOIDA where it enters the geographical boundary of NOIDA. These results are in coherence with report submitted by Central Pollution Control Board, New Delhi with regards to water quality of the drain. Besides this, monitoring has also been carried out on all 30 drains from where untreated effluents enter Kondli irrigation canal in NOIDA area, during inspection 6 of these drains were found dry. Analysis results for remaining 24 drains have been presented in Table 5 below.

S. No.	Sampling Point Collection	Date	Physico-Chemical Parameters						Bacteriological Parameters	
			Colour	Odour	pH	BOD (mg/l)	COD (mg/l)	TSS (mg/l)	Total Coliform (MPN/100 ml)	Fecal Coliform (MPN/100 ml)
1	Samerville School, Sector-22, Noida	08.10.21	Turbid	Unpleasant	7.39	384	102	146	33x10 ⁶	12x10 ⁵
2	In front of Gate Near Police Chowki, Sector-23, Noida	08-10-21	Colourless	Slightly	7.45	368	96	138	39 x 10 ⁶	20x10 ⁵
3	Sector-23. Police Chowki Side, Noida	08-10-21	Turbid	Faint	7.39	360	72	131	33 x 10 ⁶	21 x 10 ⁵
4.	Kribhco Society, Sector-35, Noida	08-10-21	Slightly Blackish	Unpleasant	7.36	160	48	121	11 x 10 ⁷	14 x 10 ⁵
5	Kribhco Society, Sector-35, In front of Hariom Sweets, Noida	08-10-21	Colourless	Unpleasant	7.16	216	57	132	41 x 10 ⁵	27 x 10 ⁵
6.	Brijwasi Caters, Near Harijan Basti, Sector-35, Noida	08-10-21		Unpleasant	7.43	224	54	110	11 x 10 ⁶	20 x 10 ⁵
7.	Surabhi Hospital, Service Road, Sector-35, Noida	08-10-21	Blackish	Unpleasant	7.37	320	81	140	39 x 10 ⁶	26 x 10 ⁶
8.	Surabhi Hospital,	08-10-21	Turbid	Unpleasant	7.39	328	72	145	24 x 10 ⁵	14 x 10 ⁵

	Sector-35, Noida									
9.	Kendriya Vihar, Sector- 51, Noida	08-10-21	Turbid	Slightly Unplea sant	7.32	312	66	138	17×10^7	12×10^6
10.	Neelgiri F1, Kendriya Vihar, Gole Chakkar, Noida	08-10-21	Turbid	Odourle ss	7.51	248	42	118	42×10^6	40×10^6
11.	Sector-50, Beech Road, Sector-51, Gole Chakkar, Noida	08-10-21	Colourless	Slightly Unplea sant	7.22	256	45	112	79×10^5	22×10^5
12.	7X, Sector-76, Near Metro Station, Noida	08-10-21	Turbid	Slightly Unplea sant	7.46	320	78	142	46×10^6	33×10^5
13.	Bhrampal Market, Bhati Dairy, Village- Barola, Sector-49, Noida	08-10-21	Turbid	Slightly Unplea sant	7.48	392	90	172	54×10^6	17×10^6
14.	Barola Shamshan Ghat, Sector- 49, Noida	08-10-21	Turbid	Slightly Unplea sant	7.51	240	42	118	25×10^5	15×10^3
15.	UGR, Barola, Sector-50, Noida	08-10-21	Blackish	Unplea sant	7.35	360	54	140	24×10^6	17×10^6
16.	Kajal Dairy, Samudayik Sauchalya, Sector- 50, Noida	08-10-21	Turbid	Slightly Unplea sant	7.44	312	48	124	47×10^6	14×10^6
17.	SMG Public School, Rajeev Colony, Bhangel, Noida	11-10-21	Colourless	Slightly Unplea sant	7.32	296	72	112	63×10^6	46×10^6
18.	Satnaam Kirana Store, Bhangel, Noida	11-10-21	Muddish	Slightly Unplea sant	7.39	344	102	138	26×10^6	22×10^5
19.	NSEZ, Metro Statton, Noida	11-10-21	Slightly Blackish	Unplea sant	7.41	304	75	136	38×10^5	32×10^5
20.	Bhangel Drain, Noida	11-10-21	Slightly Blackish	Unplea sant	7.59	288	54	142	28×10^7	22×10^6
21.	Hosiery Drain, Noida	11-10-21	Slightly Blackish	Unplea sant	7.46	360	84	168	15×10^6	12×10^6
22.	Advant' Sector-142, Noida	11.10-21	Turbid	Slightly Unplea sant	7.36	256	51	128	17×10^5	13×10^4
23.	Sector-135, Near Accentur Accenture Pvt. Ltd., Noida	11-10-21	Turbid	Slightly Unplea sant	7.52	248	42	110	38×10^6	24×10^5
24.	Near Sector- 82, Noida	11-10-21	Turbid	Slightly Unplea sant	7.54	256	45	116	47×10^6	33×10^6

Table 5: Water Quality of Drains meeting Kondli Irrigation Canal within NOIDA region.

Further, in order to monitor the water quality of drain at entry and exit point of NOIDA region, Board has initiated process of procuring

and installing an Online Drain Monitoring System at both locations as directed in the meeting chaired by Additional Chief Secretary, Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Uttar Pradesh.

Status of Water Treatment at Nagar Palika Parishad, Khoda Makanpur

Nagar Palika Parishad, Khoda Makanpur comes under administrative jurisdiction of district Ghaziabad. The said area was classified as Gram Sabha area until 2016 and was accorded the status of Nagar Palika Parishad in the year 2016. The said area was inspected by the joint team of Central Pollution Control Board and U.P. Pollution Control Board on 14.09.2021 to ascertain the status of progress made and steps taken so as to treat domestic effluent generated from the region.

Executive Officer, Khoda Makanpur had informed the joint team that efforts have been made to get land for establishing a STP from NOIDA Authority as well as Ghaziabad Development Authority as there is no land available within geographical boundaries of NPP for new infrastructure, however, same has not materialized and presently no plan is in place for treatment of domestic effluent generated from the region. In view of said non-compliance, show cause for imposing environmental compensation of Rs. 70,00,000/- has been given to Executive Officer, NPP, Khoda Makanpur by Board vide its letter dated 01.11.2021, copy of same is annexed as Annexure V of the report. Prosecution against Executive Officer, Nagar Palika Parishad, Khoda Makanpur, Ghaziabad is initiated.”

Status Report of Delhi Government dated 17.11.2021

11. Report filed by Delhi Government mentions the meeting held by the Chief Secretary on 07.09.2021 with the concerned departments to consider the issues of (i) disposal of sewer wastes in Noida drains from Kondli, Gharoli and Khoda (Ghaziabad) causing pollution in Yamuna and (ii) Sewage discharge from GD Colony, Gharauli village and Kondli village in Delhi to the drainage system of PWD, contributing to pollution to NOIDA drain. Thereafter, status of action against illegal dairies and other entities as well as operation of borewells, discharge of effluents is mentioned as follows:

“A. Operation of illegal Industries:

- *Two illegal industrial units (Jeans factory in Gharoli village and one car washing unit) were found which have been closed.*

B. Operation of illegal dairies:

- A total of 67 dairies were sealed down in colonies of Gharoli Dairy Colony, Gharoli village and Kondli village.

C. Operation of illegal godowns in residential area:

- 04 sealing show cause notices were issued under DMC Act, 1957 issued for violation of provision of MPD-2021 to defaulters of Gharoli Dairy colony, Mayur Vihar for misusing the said residential / non-conforming premises.

D. Throwing of solid waste/C&D waste/other material on drain:

- 591 Challans were issued to residents of Kondli and Gharauli for disposing their wastewater into drain
- EDMC started door to door collection of MSW and has been processing the same in compost plant, WTE plant and malba is sent to C&D waste processing plant at Shastri Park.

E. Operation of illegal borewells:

- DJB has found 94 illegal borewells. List of the same have already been sent to DM (East) for further sealing action of borewells. The action taken report w.r.t. sealing received from DM (East). The ATR is enclosed as Annexure-3. DPCC has also issued show cause notice for imposition of EDC on all these illegal borewells.

F. Discharging of effluent in open drain w/o sewer line:

- Special camps were organized for sensitizing residents to take sewer connection. DJB has provided 6938 sewer connections in houses.
- 732 notices were issued to residents of Kondli and Gharauli.
- All effluent/ sewage of Delhi in drains have been trapped into sewer line at 3 locations. The sewage of the sewer line is ultimately carried to Kondli STP for treatment. At present no untreated sewage of Delhi is out falling into Kondli drain.
- All these 3 locations have been checked by members of task force during joint inspections till 14 Oct, 21 and on 18 Oct, 21 by Commissioner - EDMC.
- The task force during inspections on 13.10.2021 and 14.10.2021 observed that no waste water generated from Delhi is being discharged in Noida Drain

- *DJB informed that all the sewer connections have been laid down and additional 108 new sewer connections have been provided in the area.*

G. Water quality sampling:

- *Water quality analysis was done by DPCC on 14 and 18 Oct, 21. The waste water quality of all the samples drawn from the trapping points of DJB is meeting the general standards for sewer w.r.t **PH, TSS & BOD** (5.5-9-0.6mg.1 & 350mg/1). Sampling report is annexed herewith as Annexure -4.*

H. Aerial photography:

- *Aerial drone survey was done on 23.10.2021 to locate illegal units/dairies through drone. No such units were found.*
- *Three points where **DJB** has trapped the wastewater was also video graphed, in which it is amply clear that no wastewater is being sent to Noida drain from Delhi.*

Photographs taken during aerial survey are annexed herewith as Annexure -5.”

CPCB Reports both dated 08.11.2021

12. The first report of CPCB deals with the standards of water quality of drains but there is no mention of such standards either laid down or proposed. The report simply mentions the water quality criteria for surface water courses (for bathing waters) and the general standards for effluents. The Tribunal had asked for the standards for disposal of treated effluents, to be permitted in storm water drains or irrigation canals to maintain the water quality of drains laid down or proposed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986/the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. Let the Chairman and Member Secretary, CPCB look into this aspect and ensure that appropriate standards are laid down on the subject within one month from today.

The second report is about the status of sewage management in Khoda area. The reports mentioned that there is no infrastructure in the area and waste water is flowing in the drain. UP Jal Nigam needs to

prepare appropriate DPR and Nagar Palika needs to provide land for the purpose. The extracts from the report are as follows:

- “1. Presently, there is no infrastructure in the area for management of sewage which include sewerage network and sewage treatment plant.
- 2. During inspection, CPCB team observed that waste-water discharges from Khoda- Makanpur Nagar Palika flows towards Delhi which finally merge with Kondli drain. Photographs depicting discharge from Khoda drain are attached as Annexure-I. Samples of waste-water of Khoda drain were also collected on 14.10.2021 and analysis report is presented in the following Table:

Location	Parameter					
	pH	TSS (mg/l)	COD (mg/l)	BOD (mg/l)	PO ₄ -P (mg/l)	NH ₃ -N (mg/l)
Khoda drain in front of temple on Delhi Noida border.	7.4	257	463	200	1.17	10

Analytical results indicate that the values of the parameters namely BOD-200 mg/l, COD-463 mg/l and TSS-257 mg/l are much on the higher side. It is obvious from the characteristics of the waste-water flowing through Khoda drain that it is untreated.

- 3. At present, septage wastes as collected from septic tanks of households, are disposed of into STPs at Noida, Sector 62 for treatment and rest sullage wastes are discharged into drains.
- 4. Khoda- Makanpur Nagar Palika has requested UP Jal Nigam to prepare DPR on sewage management of the area. As per DPR report, Nagar Palika is divided into 07 zones and planned to install IPS (Intermediate Pumping Station) for each zone and 01 tail end STP.
- 5. Nagar Palika has requested NOIDA Authority to provide vacant land for installation of STP and decision on said matter is still pending. Copy of communication made with CPCB on the matter is attached as Annexure-II.”

Discussion and directions

13. We have interacted with the officers present. It has come out during interaction with the CEO, NOIDA that as against claim of STPs of 72 out of 95 group housing societies being functional, the stand of State PCB is that only 12 were compliant. There is also contradiction in the narrative in the

report of the NOIDA Authority on the one hand and details mentioned in the annexures to the report. By way of illustration, in one of the charts at serial no. 77, STP is said to be working at Air Force Naval Housing Board (Jalvayu Tower), while in another annexure at serial no. 9 against the same complex, status of STP is mentioned as not constructed. The report of the NOIDA Authority mentions that sewer of complexes where STP were non-compliant have been connected to NOIDA sewer line. Number of such complexes is mentioned as 07, while it should have been 83, if only 12 out of 95 are functional and compliant. The impact of connecting sewers of group housing societies, which were required under the law to set up their STPs, will increase the load of NOIDA sewer line. It is not clear how such load will be sustained. From Annexure B, it is shown that various sewer lines are lying choked or/are overflowing which obviously results in water pollution. This situation can hardly be held to be satisfactory though colour of compliance has been given which on scrutiny can hardly be called compliance. On the other hand, this amounts to absolving the non-compliant Project Proponents (PPs) of statutory obligations under the EC/Consents and profiteer by law violation which inter-alia amounts to an offence under Section 3 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA Act, 2002) read with paragraphs 25 and 26 of Part A of the Schedule to the Act. This will also be against the 'Polluter Pays' principle as the PP has to be held accountable to meet the cost of restoration for the damage caused in violation of statutory mandate. Compensation in this regard has to be as per principles laid down in *M. C. Mehta & Anr. v. Union of India*, (1987) 1 SCC 395, *Sterlite Industries (India) Ltd. v. Union of India*, (2013) 4 SCC 575 and *Goel Ganga Developers India Pvt. Ltd. v UOI*, (2018) 18 SCC 257. Compensation has to have deterrent element having regard to financial capacity so that the law violation is not encouraged. Compensation amount needs to be credited to a separate amount for restoration and improvement of the environment. NOIDA Authority needs to take further remedial action in the matter.

14. In view of huge load of untreated sewage of group housing societies, the CSTP of Noida sewer line will have to be properly maintained and its compliance status monitored. The fact that even without STPs being installed/functional/compliant, sewer is being generated shows that the buildings have been occupied even before setting up of functional and compliant STP, in violation of EC/consent conditions. We are informed that partial occupancy certificates are issued to facilitate the builders to sell the flats which prima facie amount to offence. This policy will have to be reviewed to effectuate the mandate under the EC/Consent conditions read with Water and EP Acts. Though STPs were required to be functional before occupancy, they are either not installed or are non-functional or non-compliant. Compliance is proposed in distant future extending upto four years, without specifying the accountability/liability of the PP responsible for the situation for continuing violation in the meantime.

15. Though learned CEO has stated that she will personally monitor compliances, it may not be practical unless there is a dedicated monitoring cell manned by qualified environmental professionals, taking of performance guarantees/deposits for performance from PPs before permitting commencement of the project and also before giving occupancy certificate, engagement of accredited agencies to assist such monitoring, and effective community involvement. The Inspector General of Police, Meerut Range submitted that IPC offences are not registered due to provisions of special law – EP Act. This can be no excuse as IPC offence are also committee and taking of such action does not violate the special law. Further, Section 133 Cr.P.C. can be also invoked wherever necessary. Since earning money by committing offences under Air, Water, EP Acts amounts to offence under Section 3 of the PMLA Act, 2002, the Enforcement Directorate needs to look into the matter to proceed against violators and colluders in such offences, as per the mandate of law.

16. With regard to pollution of Kondli Irrigation drain, table 5 in the report of the State PCB shows that water quality is highly polluted. The State PCB has merely proposed procuring and installing online drain monitoring systems. The NOIDA Authority has proposed undertaking a study by WAPCOS/EIL for feasibility for intercepting sewer scheme and in situ treatment. In that regard work is said to have been allotted for one wetland. Strengthening of existing sewerage network and termination to STPs has to be properly executed. As per information given in table 3 by Noida, out of 10 projects, 8 have been completed and two are under execution. Still, 30 sewage drains are to be properly sewered terminating to preplanned STPs of 180 MLD and the utilization of treated effluents needs to be planned. Action taken in this regard is patently inadequate. Further remedial action needs to be taken. The inspection report annexed to the report of the NOIDA Authority shows that so far no treatment of waste discharged in the said drain is taking place. The discharge of effluents in the drains is without permission of the Irrigation Department. In fact, such permission was refused. The report of NOIDA Authority and State PCB has not mentioned the performance of six STPs and mode of disposal of treated effluents and their utilization.

17. With regard to preventing untreated effluents generated at Khoda Makanpur, according to State PCB affidavit, there is no plan for treatment of domestic effluents for which environmental compensation of Rs. 70 lakhs has been levied. The Additional Chief Secretary, (Env.), UP submitted that the remedial action is to be taken by the Urban Development Department and he will take up the matter with the said department. Let the Urban Development Department, UP take remedial action in the present matter and further to ensure framing and executing an appropriate policy at all locations in the State in discharge of public trust doctrine obligating the State to prevent water pollution.

18. Coming to the remedial action in Delhi, the action taken report filed on behalf of the Delhi Government has stated that no untreated sewage is generated from Delhi and discharged into the Noida drain. This aspect may be verified by the CPCB. The treatment capacity and performance of Kondli STP also needs to be verified particularly with reference to compliance with fecal coliform and utilization of treated sewage. It further needs to be ascertained whether such waste is being discharged into Shahdara drain. Though it is stated that dairies have been closed, impact of such closure on improvement of environment has not been indicated and ensuring that such dairies do not operate illegally. In case of their operation, the environmental compliance needs to be adhered. With regard to borewells, though 16 borewells are said to have been sealed, there is no information about remedial action against the remaining. Compensation needs to be assessed and recovered against persons who have illegally operated the borewells.

19. In view of above, let the NOIDA Authority, Urban Development Department, UP and Chief Secretary, Delhi and CPCB take further follow up action and file compliance status within three months by e-mail at judicial-ngt@gov.in preferably in the form of searchable PDF/OCR Support PDF and not in the form of Image PDF. NOIDA Authority may not grant any partial or completion certificates in future without ensuring compliance of EC/Consent conditions and requirements of the EP and Water Acts. UP and Delhi Police and ED may also take such action as may be found appropriate in the light of above observations.

20. We sum up our directions as follows:

NOIDA

- i. Discrepancies pointed out in para 13 regarding functional status of STPs, their compliance and connectivity to sewers to be addressed and clarified considering desludging and maintenance of sewer lines.

- ii. Action against violators and colluders under Section 3 of PMLA Act, 2002, IPC as well as under Section 133 of Cr. PC to be looked into.
- iii. Granting partial or completion certificates must be compliant with EC/Consent conditions.
- iv. Completion of ongoing sewerage network to be ensured and steps taken in respect of 30 drains and their termination to respective existing or new STPs.
- v. Mode of disposal of 6 existing STPs to be compliant with standards, including fecal coliform and utilization of treated effluents to be ensured.

UP State PCB/Irrigation Department/Urban Development, UP

- vi. Maintaining water quality of irrigation canal (Kondli drain) as per Water Act. STPs to be consented accordingly and regular monitoring of performance of terminal STPs as well as of group housing societies required.
- vii. Khoda Nagar Palika to set up required STP and State of UP to frame and execute policy as directed in Para 17 above.

GNCTD (EDMC/DJB/DPCC)

- viii. Ensuring no waste water enters from Kondli drain to Noida.
- ix. Kondli STP should comply with standards and adequately cater to the need of designed capacity with proper utilization and disposal of effluents.

CPCB

- x. To evolve standards and formulate policy for maintaining and restoring water quality of storm water drains/irrigation canals and other “streams” as per the Water Act, 1974.

List for further consideration on 12.04.2022.

A copy of this order be forwarded to CPCB, Chief Secretary, Delhi, Additional Chief Secretary, (Env.), UP, Secretary, Urban Development Department, UP, CEO NOIDA Authority, Vice Chairman, GDA, District Magistrate, Gautam Budh Nagar, Police Commissioner, NOIDA, I.G. Meerut, UP State PCB, UP Jal Nigam, Nagar Palika Parishad, UP, Special Commissioner of Police, East Delhi, DPCC, EDMC, DJB and Director, ED by e-mail for compliance.

Adarsh Kumar Goel, CP

Sudhir Agarwal, JM

Dr. Nagin Nanda, EM

December 23, 2021
Original Application No. 1002/2018
AVT & DV