

**OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR & DISTRICT MAGISTRATE
BHARUCH**

Kanbivaga - Bharuch- 392001, Gujarat.
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No.Bhumi/Shrimp farm/vashi/5148 /2020

Date : 8/10/2020

To,

Deputy Registrar
National Green Tribunal (West Zone)
New Administrative Building
D-wing, 1st floor,
Opp.Council Hall, Camp,
Pune, Maharashtra

Subject: Original Application No.16/2020 (W.Z.)
Brackish Water Research Centre (Petitioner)
V/S
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
etc.(Respondent)

Respected Sir,

As per the order of Honorable National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi, in the matter of Brackish Water Research Centre, v/s Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change in O.A. no. 16/2020 a reply is required to be filed with regard to the complaint filed by the Applicant. An interim report is prepared on the ongoing assessment and action to be taken thereof, on the illegally operating Shrimp farms and Salt farms in the floodplains of the Kim river, District Bharuch, is prepared and being forwarded as attachment to this mail for kind perusal of Hon. The National Green Tribunal. On completion of the ongoing assessment and study work the detailed action taken report would be submitted.

Thanking You,



(Dr.M.D.Modiya)
Collector & District Magistrate
Bharuch District
Gujarat State

INTERIM REPORT

On

UNAUTHORISED/ ILLEGAL

SHRIMP FARMS & SALT PANS

LOCATED IN FLOOD PLAINS OF RIVER KIM (BHARUCH DISTRICT)

[O.A. 16/2020-WZ]

BEFORE

THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

October 2020

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1. BACKGROUND

Background of this report has its genesis to the complaint filed by M/s. Brackish Water Research Centre, Surat before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi in the O.A. No. 16/2020 (WZ) and subsequent order of the tribunal dated 24/08/2020. The application is filed under Section 18 read with Sections 14, 15 & 17 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 for the protection of the flood plain area and restoring the restituting the natural flood water drainage capacity of the Kim and Sena Rivers/creeks and to further protect the Kim and Sena River/creek ecosystems from adverse impacts of large number of unauthorized/illegal shrimp farm that have come up on its floodplains which is adversely affecting the coastal ecology.

According to the complaint the illegal shrimp farms have encroached the natural flood plain and drainage of Kim and Sena River/creek. So far as the District of the Bharuch is concerned, the area mentioned in the complaint, falling under the jurisdiction of Bharuch District, is mainly located on the Northern direction of River Kim only. Study of the area with regard to the complaint is required to be carried out for ascertaining the latest status.

2. SCOPE OF ASSESSMENT STUDY

The area pointed out in the complaint falls mostly on the northern side of river Kim with exception of lands falling in two villages of Bharuch district on the southern side of the river. Complaint with regard to Sena river/creek is not related to the district of Bharuch. In view of this, the assessment study is being carried out in the 6 villages of Hansot taluka of Bharuch district. The scope of the study includes identification of shrimp farms and salt farms, decide on status of their legal/permission, compliance of conditions under the permission, status of CRZ violation, if any, and measurement of individual ponds with respect to their size and location. Based on the study, process of demolition/ cancelling permissions in case of illegal establishments would be done under the applicable rules/acts.

The study for assessment of the extent of CRZ violation, if any, would also be done with the help of superimposed map to be prepared with the two maps, i.e., the State CRZ map and District Inspector Land Record (DILR) maps that are presently under preparation as a part of this assessment study. This work of superimposition of the two maps would be carried out through

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expert agencies like BISAG (Bhaskaracharya Institute for Space Applications and Geoinformatics), Gandhinagar or National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai. Based on the superimposed map, the violation of CRZ if any would be identified for further appropriate actions, under the applicable acts/rules.

3. STUDY CARRIED OUT - PRESENT STATUS

It is decided to carry out measurement of all the shrimp farm and salt pans located in the region, through DILR-Bharuch. The measurement work was started by DILR from 18/9/2020. This activity has been continuing till date.

The measurement activity is being carried out in the following villages of Hansot Taluka, Bharuch district, where all the shrimp farms and salt pans are located.

1. Kanitijajal village
2. Samli village
3. Aanklva village
4. Dhamrad village
5. Balota village
6. Ilav village

The measurement work is carried out and progress thereof is depicted in tabular format as per table-1 below.

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Table-1: Details showing number of permitted shrimp farm & salt pan is as below:

SN	Name of village	Total shrimp faRm & salt pans	Measurement work completed as on 06.10.2020	Pending measurement work	No. of shrimp farm	Total allotted area of shrimp farm (Area in Ha-sq-mt)	No. of salt pans	Allotted area of salt pans (Area in Ha-sq-mt)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Kanitiyajal	24	23	0	24	115-00-00	0	0	1 shrimp farm is cancelled earlier
2.	Samli	3	3	0	2	4-50-00	1	80-57-36	
3.	Aankiva	3	3	0	0	0	3	291-58-50	
4.	Dhamrad	4	0	0	4	20-00-00	0	0	
5.	Balota	32	26	6	31	97-50-00	1	72-00-00	Out of 31 shrimp farm only 8 farms are in existence
6.	Ilav	6*	6	0	6	30-00-00	0	0	

*Four shrimp farm are on government land and two farms are in private land

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It has been alleged in the complaint, that there are number of shrimp farms located in various villages, which are likely to be operating without requisite permissions. Once the DILR measurements are completed and requisite maps are prepared, the illegally operating shrimp farms, if any, would be identified and appropriate actions would be initiated by the concern authorities.

4. PENDING WORK

- The measurement work carried out by the DILR would be completed for the remaining pending locations latest by 10-10-2020.
- The measurement sheets for the entire work would be prepared and made available by DILR within 15days time i.e. 25-10-2020.
- Identification of illegal shrimp farm and salt pans, if any, would be completed by 05-11-2020 and actions against the illegally operating shrimp farms & salt pans would be initiated immediately thereafter.

5. CONCLUSION

Due to the prolonged rainy season, adverse field condition for survey work & prevailing pandemic situation, the basic work of measurement of shrimp farm and salt pans including measurements of survey numbers, spreading over a huge area of approximately 3500 hector, could not be completed in time. In view of this, the DILR measurement work and subsequent activities like identifying the illegal shrimp farms & salt pans, violation with reference to their locations & size, CRZ status and other permissions could not been completed in time. With likely completion of measurement work within next three days and submission of map by DILR in the next 15 days thereafter, the remaining work would be initiated immediately.

A complete report on the entire activity including action against the identified illegal shrimp farms & salt pans etc. would be submitted in the final report.


(Dr. M. D. Modiya)
Collector, Bharuch