

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

O.A. NO. 537 OF 2023

In re: News report published in The Times of India dated 22.08.2023 titled "Why Flooding Has Forced DDA'S Master Plan Rethink"

N.D.O.H.: 16.01.2025


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DATED: 15.01.2025
PLACE: NEW DELHI

RESPONDENT/ DDA

THROUGH



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Enrol.No.D/1154/2008

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
PRINCIPAL BENCH AT NEW DELHI

O.A. NO. 537 OF 2023

In re: News report published in The Times of India dated 22.08.2023 titled "*Why Flooding Has Forced DDA'S Master Plan Rethink*"

PROGRESS REPORT ON BEHALF OF DELHI
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY IN TERMS OF THE
ORDER DATED 19.09.2024.

1. The it is submitted that the fourth meeting of the High Level Committee (HLC) constituted in compliance with the Order dated 17.10.2023, passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal (for the demarcation of Yamuna flood plains in Delhi and removal of encroachments from the flood plains with proper marking on the maps digitally), was convened on 04.11.2024, under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, Delhi. Thereafter, the fifth meeting, under the Chairmanship of Principal Secretary (Env. & Forests), GNCTD, was convened on 07.01.2025.
2. The observations made by the HLC under the minutes of the meeting held on 04.11.2024 along with the action taken by the Delhi Development Authority ("DDA") are submitted for the information of this Hon'ble Tribunal.
3. *Under paragraph 3 of the minutes of meeting held on 04.11.2024*, the work of defining the flood plain zone with flood level of once in 100 years has been given by the Irrigation & Flood Control Department (I&FC) to Central

Water and Power Research Station, Pune (**CWPRS**). I&FC informed that level of 1:100 as certified by ewe have been overlaid in a map by Geospatial Delhi Limited (**GSDL**) and the same has been emailed to the DDA on 04.11.2024. It was directed that I&FC should share the 1:100 flood frequency map certified by CWC with the Environment Department as well. It was decided that demarcation is to be done jointly by the Revenue Department, DDA, I&FC, and GSDL as per the map and also to provide a timeline for the completion of the study for flood frequency 1:100 Years.

4. Pursuant thereto, a detailed study of the map shared by the I&FC was conducted by DDA and some glaring discrepancies were found in the map and the same were conveyed to GSDL in an online meeting. However, GSDL mentioned that the matter needs to be taken up with I&FC. It has been submitted that the demarcation exercise can be carried out, only after the joint committee constituted by the Chief Secretary in the meeting held on 04.11.2024, studies the map and the geo-coordinates for the relevant markings are generated and shared with all concerned authorities.
5. Progress on the subject was discussed in the subsequent meeting held on 07.01.2025, wherein it was submitted that meetings have been held under District Magistrates of Central, South East and North districts with DDA, GSDL and I&FC, wherein it has been decided that a schedule will be prepared and shared by the Revenue department, for carrying out joint inspection of geo-coordinates of 1:100 on the ground and discrepancy, if any will be brought to the notice of I&FC

and Environment department.

6. *Under paragraph 4 of the minutes of meeting held on 04.11.2024*, the Chief Secretary directed that a joint team for the study of the 1:100 map & demarcation of the 1:100 flood plain on the ground be constituted with the following Senior Officers; namely, Deputy Commissioner, Revenue Department; Commissioner (Land Management), Delhi Development Authority; Chief Engineer, I&FC; Representative of GSDL.
7. It is submitted that in view of the constitution of the abovementioned joint team by the Chief Secretary for the study of the 1:100 map & demarcation of the 1:100 flood plain on the ground, there is no action pending or required from the DDA, presently.
8. *Under paragraph 5 of the minutes of meeting held on 04.11.2024*, the Chief Secretary, Delhi had directed the DDA that the area of the floodplain of 1:25 flood frequency where there are discrepancies in data regarding the area between submissions of DDA and GSDL be reconciled. GSDL had to provide the maps to DDA within a day.
9. Progress on the subject was discussed in the subsequent meeting held on 07.01.2025, wherein it was submitted that the abovementioned issue was discussed in detail at the fourth meeting of the HLC wherein the Chief Secretary further mentioned that he does not wish to ask the DDA to reconcile. Since reconciliation of the discrepancies in the peripheries of Zone O are pending with the Revenue Department, as such

the area of 1:25 could not be confirmed by the DDA.

10. *Under paragraph 6 of the said minutes of meeting*, the HLC had previously directed joint physical verification by DDA and Revenue Department of the 591 Bollards, apart from existing bunds installed by the Department of Agriculture, for demarcation of 1:25 years flood plain of River Yamuna as per Hon'ble NGT order in 2015. Chief Secretary directed the DDA to erect the missing bollards and GSDL to provide coordinates of the concerned contour line relevant to the 1:25 years flood frequency and to digitally fix the bollards with their geo- location/geo-fencing. DDA was asked to share the geo-coordinates with GSDL.
11. In response thereto, it was submitted that the geo-coordinates of the bollards have already been shared with GSDL on 2nd August, 2024, by the DDA. The marking of the bollards on the latest 1:25 map by the GSDL, will pave the way for DDA to erect the missing bollards.
12. Progress on the subject was discussed in the subsequent meeting held on 07.01.2025, wherein it has been submitted that 591 Bollards were initially installed by DDA to demarcate 1:25 Flood Plains. However, several Bollards are not traceable due to theft, dense grasses and damage. As on date 521 Bollards are in place as per record. At 22 locations it is not feasible to install Bollards. 48 Bollards were not reachable due to dense grasses, soil etc. DDA has recently installed 106 new Bollards which were completely damaged/ missing due to theft. Further, 147 Bollards which were partially damaged, have been repaired. If any further

Bollards are found damaged, the same will be installed by 31.03.2025.

13. *Under paragraph 7 of the said minutes of meeting*, the second mandate of the HLC as directed by the Hon'ble NGT, to suggest measures to prevent and remove encroachment and unauthorized constructions falling within flood plains, was discussed. The DDA informed that a drone survey of 97 km² has been completed and data for 50 km² has been received. GSDL was to provide the shape files with the Khasra numbers to the DDA which will further help in fixing geo coordinates of encroachment in floodplain with clear demarcation of government and private land.
14. In this regard it is submitted that, Drone Survey of 'O' Zone has been completed and the data for complete 'O' zone has also been received by the DDA from the Survey of India (SoI). It is further submitted that the GSDL has also provided the data with respect to the contour layer relevant to flood frequency 1:25 years in shape/kml format; PDF map of Geo-coordinates generated at 50 m spacing for placement of bollards on the boundaries on the contour line relevant to the 1:25 years flood frequency map (in four parts); and the Khasra numbers of villages falling in Zone "O" in shape/kml format. The khasra layers provided by GSDL have been superimposed and marking of Government and Private khasras has also been carried out. The said data is being analysed by the DDA for further action.
15. Even otherwise, encroachments are being continuously removed from the floodplain on a regular basis and so far,

1536 acres of floodplain have been freed from encroachment during the period of 26 months (May 2022 to October 2024) and possession of the same has been taken over by the DDA. The details for the removal of encroachments have been shared with the Environment Department on 6th November 2024 and 3rd January, 2025 via email by the office of the Superintendent Engineer (HCC-3). It has also been submitted that there is no further change in the encroachments data shared.

A copy of the Minutes of Meeting dated 12.11.2024 of the 4th High Level Committee convened on 04.11.2024 and the Minutes of Meeting dated 09.01.2025 of the 5th High Level Committee convened on 07.01.2025 are annexed hereto as **Annexure R-1** and **Annexure R-2**, respectively.

RESPONDENT/ DDA

THROUGH



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F.No. F.DPCC/(10)/(86)/Leg-2023/ pt.file-I 5284-5306

Dated: 12/11/2024

Minutes of Meeting

The fourth meeting of the High Level Committee (HLC) constituted vide order dated 02.11.2023 in compliance to Order dated 17.10.2023 in OA No. 537/2023 titled In re: News report published in The Times of India dated 22.08.2023 titled "**Why Flooding Has Forced DDA's Master Plan Rethink,**" was convened under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Delhi on 04.11.2024 at Delhi Secretariat.

1. The meeting was attended by the members of High Level Committee (HLC) and senior officers of various departments including District Magistrates of districts whose jurisdiction falls within the Yamuna floodplains. Record of attendance is at **Annexure A.**
2. At the outset, the Chief Secretary welcomed all the officers and thereafter, with due permission of the Chair, Director (Environment), GNCTD gave a brief presentation about the constitution of the HLC, its mandate and Hon'ble NGT's directions. The last order of Hon'ble NGT dated 19.09.2024 was appraised to the members that

.....By subsequent order, DDA and NCT Delhi were granted time to place on record steps taken for demarcation of flood plain zone in stretch under consideration in terms of clause 3(l) of Ganga Rejuvenation Order 2016. No report by DDA has been filed.

.....Report filed by GNCTD also reveals that till now not even a single effective step has been taken at ground level for demarcation of flood plain in 22 km long stretch considering highest flood level 1:100 years and actual exercise at ground level to demarcate it has not even commenced till now. This position is not disputed by Counsel for any of respondents

.....Chief Engineer, IFCD appearing virtually has stated that I&FCD is required to prepare and supply map marking flood plains in reference to highest flood level 1:100 years mentioning Geo-coordinates with 1 meter contour. He has submitted that this map for entire 22-kilometre stretch under consideration will be prepared, finalised and supplied within 6 months. He has given cut off date for this purpose as 31st March 2025.

.....We require DDA, NCT Delhi and I&FCD to furnish further progress reports at least one week before next date of hearing by way of an affidavit through e-filing.

3. The work of defining the flood plain zone with flood level of once in 100 years has been given by IFCD to CWPRS (Central Water and Power Research Station, Pune).IFCD informed that level of 1:100 as certified by CWC have been overlayed in a map by GSDL and the same has been emailed to DDA today (04.11.2024). It was directed that IFCD should share the 1:100

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flood frequency map certified by CWC with Environment Department as well. It was decided that demarcation is to be done jointly by Revenue Department, DDA, IFCD and GSDL as per the map and also to provide timeline for the completion of study for flood frequency 1:100 years. Additionally, it was briefed that partial payment has been made to CWPRS, Pune for the scope of works assigned to them. IFCD was directed that timelines for completion of projects should be informed to Environment Department.

(Action: Revenue Department, DDA, IFCD, Finance Department and GSDL)

4. Chief Secretary directed that a joint team for study of the 1:100 map & demarcation of the 1:100 floodplain on the ground be constituted with the following Senior Officers :

- Deputy Commissioner, Revenue Department
- Commissioner (Land Management), Delhi Development Authority
- Chief Engineer, IFCD
- Representative of GSDL

(Action: Revenue Department, DDA, IFCD and GSDL)

5. Chief Secretary, Delhi directed DDA, the area of the floodplain of 1:25 flood frequency where there are discrepancies in data regarding the area between submissions of DDA and GSDL be reconciled. GSDL to provide the maps to DDA within a day.

(Action: DDA, GSDL)

6. The HLC had previously directed joint physical verification by DDA and Revenue Department of the 591 Bollards, apart from existing bunds installed by DDA for demarcation of 1:25 year's flood plain of River Yamuna as per Hon'ble NGT order in 2015. Chief Secretary directed the DDA to erect the missing bollards and GSDL to provide coordinates of the concerned contour line relevant to the 1:25 years flood frequency and to digitally fix the bollards with their geo-location/ geo- fencing. DDA was asked to share the geo-coordinates with GSDL.

(Action: DDA, Revenue Department and GSDL)

7. The second mandate of the HLC as directed by the Hon'ble NGT was to suggest measures to prevent and remove encroachment and unauthorized constructions falling within flood plains. DDA informed that drone survey of 97km² have been completed and data for 50 km² has been received. GSDL to provide the shape files with Khasra numbers to DDA which will further help in fixing geo coordinates of encroachment in floodplain with clear demarcation of government and private land.

(Action: DDA, GSDL)

8. DDA informed that encroachments are being continuously removed from floodplain on regular basis and so far 1536 acres of floodplain have been freed from encroachment during the period of 26 months (May 2022 to October 2024) and possession of the same has been taken over by DDA. The HLC directed that information on the quantum of encroachment removed from floodplain may be communicated to the Environment Department as well.

(Action: DDA and Environment Department)

9. Further, the Chief Secretary directed that fortnightly review of the issues involved be done by Principal Secretary (Env.) and ATR in the form of affidavit be filed before Hon'ble NGT well before next date of hearing i.e. 16.01.2025

(Action: Environment Department)

Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Nigam Agarwal
12-11-2024
(Nigam Agarwal)
Director (Environment)

To

1. Divisional Commissioner, GNCTD
2. Additional Chief Secretary, Irrigation Flood and Control Department, GNCTD
3. Director General, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), Govt. of India
4. Principal Secretary, Finance Department, GNCTD
5. Pr. Secretary, Environment & Forests, GNCTD
6. Vice Chairman, Delhi Development Authority
7. Secretary (IT), GNCTD
8. Managing Director, GSDL.
9. District Magistrates ((North-East, Shahdara, East, Central, North and South-East), Revenue Department, GNCTD

Copy for kind information to:

1. Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS), Govt. of India
2. Secretary, Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, Govt. of India
3. Addl. Chief Secretary, Urban Development Department, GNCTD
4. Addl. Chief Secretary, Industries Department, GNCTD
5. Commissioner, Municipal Corporation of Delhi
6. Chairman, Delhi Pollution Control Committee.
7. Executive Director, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), Govt. of India

8. Land & Development Office (L&DO), Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, Govt. of India
9. Principal Secretary, Services Department, GNCTD
10. Commissioner of Police, Delhi Police
11. MD, DSIIDC
12. Staff Officer to Chief Secretary, GNCTD
13. Addl. Director (WMC-II), Delhi Pollution Control Committee
14. Guard file, Department of Environment

Nigam Agarwal
12-11-17

(Nigam Agarwal)
Director (Environment)

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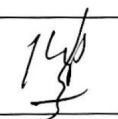
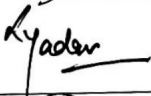

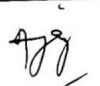
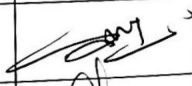

Department of Environment, Government of NCT of Delhi
6th Level, C-Wing, Delhi Secretariat, I.P. Estate, New Delhi- 110002
Phone: 23392306, Fax: 23392029

Attendance Sheet

Sub: A meeting has been convened under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary (Env) GNCTD on 04.11.2024 at 03:00 pM to discuss the News report Published in the Times of India dated 22.08.2023 titled, "Why Flooding has forced DDA's Master Plan Rethink"- reg.

<u>S. No</u>	<u>Name/Designation</u>	<u>Organization/Department</u>	<u>Contact No.</u>	<u>E-mail</u>	<u>Signature</u>
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2.	Krishan Ahuja Consultant	-d-	9891597439	Krishnahija63@gmail.com	Kanju
3.	RN Nanda, Consultant	GSDL	9868447597	randarn@yahoo.com	RN Nanda
4.	P. S. Acharya, CTO	Do	9818879402	psa@nec.in	PSA
5.	Pallavi Tomar - Executive	GSDL	8700429947	gSDL.pallavi@gmail.com	Pallavi
6.	Rudra Pratap Singh AG.	L&DO	9555929769	rudrprsi.21121990@gov.in	R

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No	Name/Designation	Organization/Department	Contact No.	E-mail	Signature
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8.	Anil Banka	DM (South-East)	9717677177		
9.	Sunil Patthal	Addl. DCP/East Delhi Police	8750870603		
10.	Rishita Gupta	DM Shahdara	9821627409		
11	D.C. GOEL	Exec, DS/DC	9971722521		
12	K.P. Singh	Exec MCD	8130892288		
13.	JITENDER YADAV	Addl. Comm. MCD	—		
14.	P. Dinesh	CTP, MCD	977786889		
15	Ajay Kumar	DM (NE)	9871522030		
16	Anoop Srivastava	DM (E)			
17	Ankur Meshram	ADM (NSA)	8746981004	ankur-meshram@ nic	

F.No. F.DPCC/(10)/(86)/Leg-2023/ pt.file-I 6701-13

Dated: 09-01-2025

Minutes of Meeting

A meeting was convened under the Chairmanship of Pr. Secretary (Env. & Forests), GNCTD on 07.01.2025 at 11:00 AM in his Conference Hall, at Level 6", C-Wing, Delhi Secretariat, IP Estate, New Delhi to review the pending issues emanating from **compliance of directions of HLC constituted by Hon'ble NGT in OA No. 5372023 vide order dated 02.11.2023 on demarcation of Yamuna flood plains in Delhi and removal of encroachments from the flood plains with proper marking on the maps digitally.**

Officers from DDA, GSDL, Revenue Districts (North-East, Shahdara, East, Central, North and South-East), MCD, CWC, NMCG, L&DO (MOHUA) and IFCD attended the meeting. **Record of attendance is at Annexure-I.**

1. At the outset, Principal Secretary (E&F), GNCTD welcomed all the participants and thereafter, Special Secretary (Environment) gave a brief presentation regarding crucial issues requiring attention towards complying with timelines decided by the HLC to fulfil the mandate of the Committee. It was appraised that the mandate of committee is to get spot inspections and demarcation of flood plains of Yamuna in the area concerned and suggest measures to prevent and remove the encroachments and unauthorized constructions falling within the flood plains.
2. It was also apprised that next date of hearing is 16.01.2024 and a fresh report needs to be filed keeping in view the observations of Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 19.09.2024.
3. All participants were also appraised that the Hon'ble NGT directions vide order dated 19.09.2024 encompasses the following:

.....By subsequent order, DDA and NCT Delhi were granted time to place on record steps taken for demarcation of flood plain zone in stretch under consideration in terms of clause 3(I) of Ganga Rejuvenation Order 2016. No report by DDA has been filed.

.....Report filed by GNCTD also reveals that till now not even a single effective step has been taken at ground level for demarcation of flood plain in 22 km long stretch considering highest flood level 1:100 years and actual exercise at ground level to demarcate it has not even commenced till now. This position is not disputed by Counsel for any of respondents

.....Chief Engineer, IFCD appearing virtually has stated that I&FCD is required to prepare and supply map marking flood plains in reference to highest flood level 1:100 years mentioning Geo-coordinates with 1 meter contour. He has submitted that this map for entire 22-kilometre stretch under consideration will be prepared, finalised and supplied within 6 months. He has given cut off date for this purpose as 31st March 2025.

.....We require DDA, NCT Delhi and I&FCD to furnish further progress reports at least one week before next date of hearing by way of an affidavit through e-filing.

4. Discussing the directions of HLC on 04.11.24, IFCD informed that level of 1:100 as certified by CWC have been overlaid in a map by GSDL and the same has been provided to DDA. As the joint teams for the purpose of the study of 1:100 map and demarcation of 1:100 flood plain is already been constituted as per para 4 of the minute of the HLC meeting held on 04.11.2024, Principal

Secretary directed Deputy Commissioners (Revenue Department) to hold a meeting with Commissioner (Land Management, DDA), ¹⁴⁹ District Engineer (IFCD) and representative from GSDL ¹⁵ to resolve the issues jointly regarding demarcation of 1:100 year floodplain and start demarcation of the 1:100 floodplains as per the map.

Pr. Secretary also directed the joint teams to define the timelines for the respective districts and also share the updated ATRs/ status as on 10.01.2025 to Environment Department for inclusion in the Affidavit, along with details of the meetings held under DM's.

(Action: Revenue Department, DDA, IFCD and GSDL)

5. Additionally, IFCD was asked to pursue the project with CWPRS, Pune and ensure completion at earliest. IFCD was directed that timelines for completion of projects should be informed to Environment Department and technical inputs from CWPRS for the affidavit be shared before 10th Jan, 2025.

(Action: IFCD)

6. The HLC had directed DDA to erect the missing bollards of 1:25 year's flood plain of River Yamuna. DDA was also asked to provide the timelines to complete the exercise. And share the updated status/ ATR till 10.01.2025 with Environment Department for inclusion in the Affidavit.

(Action: DDA)

7. The second mandate of the HLC as directed by the Hon'ble NGT was to suggest measures to prevent and remove encroachment and unauthorized constructions falling within flood plains. DDA informed that drone survey of zone 'O' have been completed. GSDL have provided the shape files with Khasra numbers to DDA which will help in fixing geo coordinates of encroachment in floodplain with clear demarcation of government and private land. DDA informed that encroachments are being continuously removed from floodplain on regular basis and so far **1537.11 acres** of floodplain have been freed from encroachment during the period of **31 months (May 2022 to December 2024)** and possession of the same has been taken over by DDA. It was directed that total area under encroachment to be removed from floodplain may be communicated to the Environment Department as well.

(Action: DDA)

8. Lastly, the Principal Secretary (Env.) directed that ATR in the form of affidavit be filed before Hon'ble NGT well before next date of hearing i.e. 16.01.2025 and to ensure this all concerned Departments/ agencies were directed to submit the latest status by 10.01.2024.

(Action: DDA, Revenue Department, IFCD and Environment Department)

Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.


Nigam Agarwal
Director (Environment)

To

1. Divisional Commissioner, GNCTD
2. Principal Secretary, Irrigation Flood and Control Department, GNCTD
3. Vice Chairman, Delhi Development Authority
4. Commissioner, Municipal Corporation of Delhi

5. Secretary (IT), GNCTD
6. Managing Director, GSDL.

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7. District Magistrates ((North-East, Shahdara, East, Central, North and South-East), Revenue Department, GNCTD

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Copy for information to:

1. Addl. Chief Secretary, Urban Development Department, GNCTD
2. Executive Director, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), Govt. of India
3. Land & Development Office (L&DO), Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, Govt. of India
4. Commissioner of Police, Delhi Police
5. Staff Officer to Chief Secretary, GNCTD,
6. PPS to Pr. Secretary, Environment & Forests, GNCTD



(Nigam Agarwal)
Director (Environment)