

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

Original Application No. 639/2022

In the matter of:

Pritipal Sharma

...Applicant

Versus

Govt. of NCT of Delhi & Others

...Respondents

AND

Original Application No. 33/2022

Ganesh Prasad

...Applicant

Versus

Government of NCT of Delhi & Ors.

...Respondents

NDOH: 06.01.2025

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Filed by:


(Satender Kumar)

Sr. Env. Engineer, DPCC

Dated: 01st/01/2025

Place: Delhi

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**ACTION TAKEN REPORT ON BEHALF OF DELHI POLLUTION
CONTROL COMMITTEE WITH RESPECT TO THE ORDER
DATED 28.08.2024.**

I, Satender Kumar, Sr. Environmental Engineer, Delhi Pollution Control Committee, 3rd Floor, Block-B, IT Park, Shastri Park, Delhi- 110053, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under:

1. That, I am working as Sr. Environmental Engineer, Delhi Pollution Control Committee and am conversant with the facts of the present case on the basis of record maintained by Delhi Pollution Control Committee in its ordinary course.

Satender Kumar



2. That, Mr. Pritipal Sharma filed the OA to seal the illegal bore wells located in the plot adjoining House No. GI-2035, Aya Nagar, New Delhi – 110047 and in the plot on the opposite side of the street in front of House No. GI-2038, Aya Nagar, New Delhi – 110047. This Hon`ble Tribunal vide order dated 18.3.2024 has pleased to direct Revenue department to close down remaining 7248 illegal borewells out of 1966, illegal borewells as reported by Delhi Jal Board (DJB) and also to recover pending EC amount.
3. That, in another case with respect to Mr. Ganesh Prasad matter this Hon`ble Tribunal constituted a Joint Committee of DM, DJB, CGWA and DPCC vide order dated 31.01.2022. The Joint Committee on 29.07.2022 inspected the site and found one borewell without permission from Competent Authority and using in Reverse Osmosis(RO) process before selling. The borewell was sealed by SDM and Environmental Compensation of Rs. 1.00 lakh imposed on the violator. The Environmental Compensation has been recovered. This Hon`ble Tribunal was also pleased to directed GNCTD to impart the training to its officers on the subject. Training to DMs/SDMs/DANICS officers was given by Union Territories Civil Services (UTCS) on 26.06.2024.
4. That this Hon`ble Tribunal took up the above two referred matters jointly and pleased to pass detailed order on 28.08.2024. In the order it was directed to all the concerned to file their respective action taken reports. In crux, following action needs to be taken by different law enforcing agencies, which are tabulated as below:

Department	Responsibility/Action to be taken
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[Handwritten Signature]



Revenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To seal all functional borewells which do not have permission. • Seal all already identified borewells and launch prosecution. • Grant of NOC be decided expeditiously preferably within three months from the date of submission. • Government of NCT of Delhi to transfer to DPCC within three months amount of Rs. 70 crores (equal to the amount of environmental compensation Imposed by DPCC for which recovery proceedings are pending with the officers of the Government of NCT of Delhi for more than three years) • Government of NCT of Delhi may thereafter recover the amount from the violators in accordance with law or waive the recovery as considered appropriate. • All the Deputy Commissioner (Revenue) of each revenue area in GNCTD to upload with link on the main page of their respective websites under heading Groundwater Management
DJB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DJB through Deputy Commissioner (Revenue) of the revenue to take action for grant of permission for borewells. • To recover appropriate charges for drawl of ground water and Impose appropriate conditions for recharge of ground water and ensure actual implementation thereof on the ground with geo-tagging for monitoring purpose. • To conduct survey from time to time for further identification of illegal borewells and take requisite action. • To upload with link on the main page of its website preferably under heading 'Groundwater Management' entire information regarding number of applications for grant of NoC/pending etc and to update the same within 7 days at the end of each month.
CGWA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To assess status of groundwater in terms of quality, quantity, availability for abstraction and recharge and

[Handwritten Signature]



	<p>aid and advise DJB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue appropriate directions/making appropriate recommendations to DJB and the concerned Deputy Commissioner (Revenue) and submit action taken report within three months. • To upload with link on the main page of its website.
DPCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To finalize the proceedings already initiated for imposition of EC. • Make references for recovery of EC from all the violators on whom EC has already been imposed in accordance with law within three months. • To upload with link on the main page of its website preferably under heading Groundwater Management • To prepare and implement Action Plan, in consultation with DJB, concerned Deputy Commissioner (Revenue)/DM and District Advisory Committee for utilization of EC.
SDM (Dwarka)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To file status report regarding recovery of environmental compensation from the violators in Chanakya Place, Delhi.
DCF (South)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To file report as to the person who is alleged to have encroached upon the forest land on which the borewell in question was found by the Joint Committee to be operational.

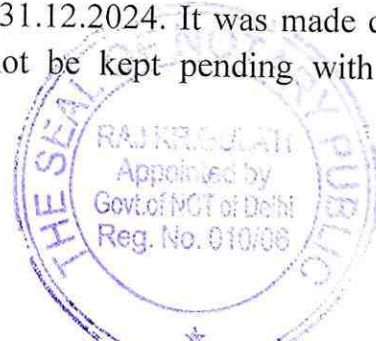
5. That in compliance to the order, DPCC issued letters to all concerned agencies to comply with the order in letter and spirit. Copies of the letters issued to various agencies are enclosed herewith as **Annexure-1 (Colly)**.

6. That, in pursuance of this Hon'ble Tribunal order a meeting was convened under Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Delhi alongwith the Officers of Revenue Department, DJB, CGWA and DPCC on 17.12.2024. During the meeting the Hon'ble Supreme Court order, Hon'ble National Green Tribunal orders on the issue. provisions of the



GNCTD - Ground Water Regulation & Management Notification, 2010, and the Standard Operating Procedure in respect of prevention and control of illegal ground water extraction in NCT of Delhi-2020 was apprised. Minutes of the meeting dated 17.12.2024 is enclosed herewith as Annexure-2. In the meeting it was decided:

- a. Delhi Jal Board will verify the locations of all illegal borewells, which the Revenue Department is not able to locate/trace subsequent to which the Revenue Department will seal these borewells. Geo-tagging needs to be done whenever any illegal borewell is identified/sealed for maintaining proper record.
- b. Delhi Jal Board and District Magistrates may issue permissions for borewells as per norms wherever water table is shallow. DJB may obtain the list of such areas from CGWA wherein the ground water levels are shallow.
- c. Delhi Jal Board shall take necessary steps to levy charges for extraction of ground water as per the Notification of Ministry of Jal Shakti of 2020. Delhi Jal Board will take necessary approval from Competent Authority in this regard at the earliest. Monitoring through geo-tagging of borewells is a must and should be ensured.
- d. Link of webpage where all information is uploaded as per directions of Hon'ble NGT developed by Delhi Jal Board shall be shared with Revenue Department and DPCC for continuous effective action against the violators of illegal ground water extraction.
- e. Delhi Jal Board will continue the survey for identification of illegal ground water extraction and the illegal borewells so identified be sealed through SDM concerned. List of such sealed illegal borewells may be provided with all the necessary details to DPCC in order to levy the EDC as per CPCB formula/guidelines.
- f. The Concerned District Magistrate shall make all necessary arrangement for sealing of remaining illegal borewells by 31.12.2024 positively. The prosecutions shall be filed by Revenue department against the offenders under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- g. The Concerned District Magistrate shall make all arrangements for recovery of Environmental Compensation from the offenders and shall transfer the same to DPCC by 31.12.2024. It was made clear that recovery proceedings should not be kept pending with the



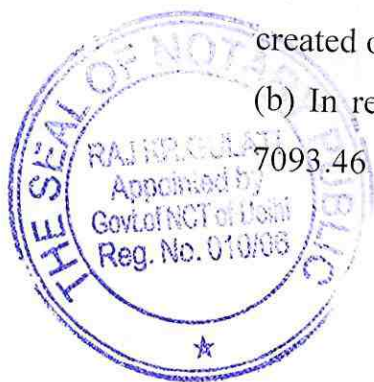
District Magistrates. The Daily reports (enclosed Format as per Annexure-B) in respect of sealing of illegal borewells, recovery of Environmental compensation, number of prosecutions launched etc. shall also be sent to Delhi Pollution Control Committee. (email: chdpcc@nic.in)

- h. DPCC was directed to transfer immediately the EC received so far under groundwater violations (around Rs. 79 lakhs) and 25% of EC lying with DPCC unutilized in General head to the DMs for expeditious utilization on restoration of water bodies.
- i. DPCC will allocate the above said EC funds to the concerned DMs for allocation to concerned land owning agencies (DDA/MCD etc.) for restoration of water bodies in their respective areas/ jurisdiction, subject to the condition that the concerned water bodies are not being restored under Gramodaya scheme. The expenditure shall be in accordance with the area of the water body and in accordance with guidelines of Government of India.
- j. Delhi Jal Board and District Magistrates shall comply with the directions of Central Ground Water Authority dated 05.12.2024 and send the Action Taken Report in this regard in time bound manner. The direction is at Annexure C.
- k. It was reiterated that all departments shall comply with the SOP for regulation of extraction of groundwater, closure, prohibition of illegal activities relating to use of borewells/ tubewells dated 20.07.2020 issued with the approval of Chief Secretary, Delhi, where clear departmental responsibilities are laid down.
- l. All concerned Departments i.e. Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA), Revenue Department, Delhi Jal Board (DJB) and Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) shall file complete affidavit/ status reports in compliance with the Hon'ble NGT directions dated 28.08.2024 in OA 639/2022 before Hon'ble NGT without fail.

7. That in compliance with the order DPCC has taken following actions:

(a) The web page under Heading "Ground Water Management" has been created on DPCC website, as directed.

(b) In respect of illegal ground water extraction, an amount of EC Rs. 7093.46 Lakhs (Rs. Seventy Crores Ninety-Three Lakhs forty Six



Thousands only) was levied on the illegal borewells. The Environmental Compensation amount was levied in lumpsum, based on the end use purpose as no details of the borewells were provided by Delhi Jal Board (DJB)/Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) for calculating the EC as per CPCB guidelines.

(c) Out of Rs. 7093.46 Lakhs Environmental Compensation, Rs. 79,70,000/- (Rs. Seventy-Nine lakhs and Seventy Thousand only), has been received.

(d) DPCC has proposed that the said amount may be utilized for rejuvenation of water bodies in NCT of Delhi.

8. That, in view of the above, the present action taken report may kindly be taken on record.


DEPONENT


VERIFICATION

I, the above-named deponent, declare the contents of the present affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge based upon the documents and records available in the office and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.


Verified at New Delhi on this **11** JAN 2025 day of December, 2024.


DEPONENT



ATTESTED

NOTARY PUBLIC
GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI

11 JAN 2025

	DELHI POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, (GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI) 5TH FLOOR, ISBT BUILDING, KASHMERE GATE, DELHI-6 visit us at : http://dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in
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F. No. DPCC/CMC-III/Pritipal/GW/ 2892-93

Dated: 06-11-2024

To

1. The Divisional Commissioner,
5, Sham Nath Marg, Prema Kunj,
Civil Lines, New Delhi- 110054
2. The Chief Executive Officer,
Delhi Jal Board, (HQ)
Varunalaya Phase-II,
Jhandewalan, Karol Bagh,
New Delhi-110005.

Annexure-1 (Copy)

Sub : Compliance of Hon'ble NGT order dated 28.08.2024

Sir,

This has reference to the Hon'ble NGT order dated 28.08.2024 (copy enclosed) wherein compliance report in respect of the following decisions is ordered :

- (i) DPCC is directed to prepare and implement Action Plan, in consultation with DJB, concerned Deputy Commissioner (Revenue)/DM and District Advisory Committee for utilization of;
 - amount equal to the amount of Environment Compensation imposed on and to be recovered from the violators by drawing the same from the amount of environment compensation lying deposited with it; and
 - amount transferred by Government of NCT of Delhi in lieu of the amount of environmental compensation to be recovered by its officers from the violators, for remediation of environmental damage caused immediately as such remediation ought not to be deferred for long periods of time likely to be taken in recovering the amount of environmental compensation from the violators and the amount so drawn or transferred may be reimbursed on recovery of the amount from the violators.

For utilization of the Environmental Compensation received, a centralized Committee under the Chairmanship of Member Secretary is constituted and functioning in DPCC. For compliance of the above mentioned Hon'ble NGT order, it is requested to nominate a member in the said Committee, well aware with the matter, for compliance of the above said order of Hon'ble NGT. Name, designation and contact number of the nominated member may be communicated to DPCC within 3 days of the receipt of this letter to Sh. Satender Kumar, SEE (Ph. No. 9717593519)

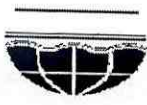
It may be treated as MOST URGENT.

Yours sincerely

Encl : as above

Ajeeta
(Ajeeta Dayal Agrawal)
Addl. Director-III

By Speed Post

	DELHI POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, (GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI) 5TH FLOOR, ISBT BUILDING, KASHMERE GATE, DELHI-6 visit us at : http://dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in
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F. No. DPCC/CMC-III/Pritipal/GW/2891

Dated: 06-11-2024

To

The Chief Executive Officer,
Delhi Jal Board, (HQ)
Varunalaya Phase-II,
Jhandewalan, Karol Bagh,
New Delhi-110005.

Sub: Compliance of Hon'ble NGT order dated 28.08.2024

Sir,

This has reference to the hon'ble NGT order dated 28.08.2024(copy enclosed) wherein compliance report in respect of the following decisions have been asked for :

- (i) DJB through Deputy Commissioner (Revenue) of the revenue area in question is directed to take requisite action for grant of permission for borewells in accordance with recommendations of the concerned Executive Engineer and Advisory Committee in accordance with groundwater level notifications, environmental norms/guidelines and directions issued by Hon'ble Supreme Court and this Tribunal, recover appropriate charges for drawl of ground water and impose appropriate conditions for recharge of ground water and ensure actual implementation thereof on the ground with geo-tagging for monitoring purpose.
- (ii) DJB is directed to conduct survey from time to time for further identification of illegal borewells and take requisite action in respect of illegal borewells identified by further survey in accordance with environmental laws/SOP/directions issued by Hon'ble Supreme Court/this Tribunal.
- (iii) DJB is directed to upload with link on the main page of its website preferably under heading 'Groundwater Management' entire information regarding number of applications for grant of NOC, number of such applications filed/pending for decision, number of such applications allowed and NOCs granted, number of applications rejected, number of borewells which have been granted NOC, illegal borewells which have been closed/sealed and illegal borewells which are yet to be closed/sealed, procedure for processing of the application for grant of NOC for abstraction of ground water, the charges to be levied for abstraction of ground water, the penal provisions for punishing illegal abstraction of groundwater and liability to pay environmental compensation for illegal abstraction of ground water on its web site and to update the same within 7 days at the end of each month.

It is therefore requested to direct the concerned officer for taking necessary action immediately and send the Action Taken Report to DPCC within 15 days so that the same may be apprised to Hon'ble National Green Tribunal.


It may be treated as MOST URGENT.

Yours sincerely

Encl : as above


(Ajeeta Dayal Aggarwal)
Addl. Director-III

By Speed Post

	DELHI POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, (GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI) 5TH FLOOR, ISBT BUILDING, KASHMERE GATE, DELHI-6 visit us at : http://dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in
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F. No. DPCC/CMC-III/Pritipal/GW/ 2890

Dated: 06-11-2024

To

The Divisional Commissioner,
 5, Sham Nath Marg,
 Prema Kunj, Civil Lines,
 New Delhi- 110054

Sub : Compliance of Hon'ble NGT order dated 28.08.2024

Sir,

This has reference to the hon'ble NGT order dated 28.08.2024(copy enclosed) wherein compliance report in respect of the following decisions have been asked for :

- (i) Concerned Deputy Commissioner (Revenue) of each revenue area in GNCTD are directed to take action for closing/sealing of illegal borewells already identified and also initiate proceedings for the prosecution of the violators within three months.
- (ii) The concerned Project Proponents of new or existing borewells sealed by the Deputy Commissioner (Revenue) of each revenue area in GNCTD may submit application for grant of NOC to DJB and such applications for grant of NOC be decided expeditiously preferably within three months from the date of submission.
- (iii) Government NCT of Delhi is directed to transfer to DPCC within three months amount of Rs. 70 crores (equal to the amount of environmental compensation imposed by DPCC for which recovery proceedings are pending with the officers of the Government of NCT of Delhi for more than three years) for utilization by DPCC for revival/restoration/rejuvenation /creation of water bodies, rain water harvesting pits etc. and for conservation and recharge of ground water as remediation of environmental damage caused by illegal drawal of ground water cannot be deferred for long periods of time to be taken by the authorities in effecting the recovery and Government of NCT of Delhi may thereafter recover the amount from the violators in accordance with law or waive the recovery as considered appropriate.
- (iv) All the Deputy Commissioner (Revenue) of each revenue area in GNCTD are directed to upload with link on the main page of their respective websites under heading 'Groundwater Management' complete information regarding
 - Complaints received regarding illegal borewells and action taken on the same, Minutes of the Meeting and recommendations of the District Advisory Committee regarding the same,
 - References received for realization of environmental compensation and action taken for realization of the same and
 - Remedial measures taken for remediating environmental damage caused on the respective website of the District Administration and to update the same within 7 days at the end of each quarter thereafter.

It is therefore requested to direct the concerned Deputy Commissioner/District Magistrate for taking necessary action immediately and send the Action Taken Report to DPCC within 15 days so that the same may be apprised to Hon'ble National Green Tribunal.

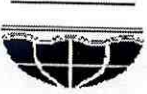
It may be treated as MOST URGENT.

Yours sincerely

Encl : as above


 (Ajeeta Dayal Agrawal)
 Addl. Director-III

By Speed Post

	<p style="text-align: center;">DELHI POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, (GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI) 5TH FLOOR, ISBT BUILDING, KASHMERE GATE, DELHI-6 visit us at : http://dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in</p>
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F. No. DPCC/CMC-III/Pritipal/GW/ 2889

Dated: 06-11-2024

To

The Member Secretary
Central Ground Water Board
18/11, Jamnagar House
Man Singh Road Area,
New Delhi- 110001

Sub : Compliance of Hon'ble NGT order dated 28.08.2024

Sir,

This has reference to the hon'ble NGT order dated 28.08.2024(copy enclosed) wherein compliance report in respect of the following decisions have been asked for :

- (i) CGWA is directed to own the responsibility of *assessing* status of groundwater in terms of quality, quantity, availability for abstraction and recharge and aid and advise DJB in regulating drawl of ground water assessment unit wise in NCT of Delhi by carrying out requisite scientific studies and issuing appropriate directions/making appropriate recommendations to DJB and the concerned Deputy Commissioner (Revenue), who also has the designation and powers of District Magistrate in NCT of Delhi and is referred to in this order at some places as District Magistrate and hereafter as Deputy Commissioner (Revenue), of each revenue area in GNCTD and submit action taken report within three months.
- (ii) CGWA is directed to upload, with link, on the main page of its website the information regarding the status of groundwater, the necessity for regulation and management of groundwater abstraction, the copies of public notices issued by CGWA and measures taken for regulation, management, conservation and recharge of groundwater.



It is therefore requested to direct the concerned Deputy Commissioner/District Magistrate for taking necessary action immediately and send the Action Taken Report to DPCC within 15 days so that the same may be apprised to Hon'ble National Green Tribunal.

It may be treated as MOST URGENT.

Yours sincerely

Encl : as above


(Ajeeta Dayal Agrawal)
Addl. Director-III

	<p style="text-align: center;">DELHI POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, (GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI) 5th FLOOR, ISBT BUILDING, KASHMERE GATE, DELHI-6 visit us at : http://dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in</p>	
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DPCC/CFC-III/NGT/OA NO.639/2022 / 3097

Dated: 27.12.2024

Minutes of the Meeting

1. In pursuance of order of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal dated 28.08.2024 in O.A. No. 639/2022 titled as "Pritpal Sharma Vs Govt. of NCT of Delhi & Ors." and MA Number 24/2023 in OA number 33/2022 titled as, "Ganesh Prasad Vs Govt. of NCT of Delhi & Ors.", a meeting was convened under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Government of NCT of Delhi along with officers of all concerned departments namely Revenue Department, DJB, CGWA and DPCC on 17.12.2024 in the Conference Hall on 5th Level at Delhi Secretariat. The list of the participants who attended the meeting is enclosed as **Annexure-A**.
2. All the officers of the concerned departments were apprised about the directions of Hon'ble Tribunal as mentioned in the order dated 28.08.2024 and compliances required in matters related to illegal ground water extraction. All the participants were also apprised about Hon'ble Supreme Court order, Hon'ble National Green Tribunal orders on the issue, provisions of the GNCTD - Ground Water Regulation & Management Notification, 2010, as amended to date and the Standard Operating Procedure in respect of prevention and control of illegal ground water extraction in NCT of Delhi-2020, which was submitted before the Hon'ble Green Tribunal in OA 685/2019.
3. **Regional Director, Central Ground Water Authority** informed that in compliance of Hon'ble NGT order dated 28.08.2024 and on the basis of scientific techniques/study and the methodology recommended by Inter departmental Ground water Resource Estimation Committee (GEC), CGWB is carrying out Ground Water Resource Assessment annually. Further, they informed that the said report has already been shared with Delhi Jal Board and Revenue Department (concerned District Magistrate). CGWA had issued directions under section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act directed Delhi Jal Board vide letter dated 22.11.2024, which are as under:
 - a. To comply with the recommendation given in Annexure-I and to make policies following the scientific data provided by CGWA for sustainable development of Ground water in NCT of Delhi.
 - b. To take immediate action against illegal borewells/tubewells functioning without valid NOC from DJB and also provide a list of closed/sealed illegal borewells/tubewells to CGWA

4. **CEO, Delhi Jal Board** present during the meeting apprised about the actions taken by Delhi Jal Board in respect of permissions to borewells. On enquiry from Chief Secretary, it was apprised that the actions taken against the illegal borewells were based on the survey carried out by Delhi Jal Board. CEO further informed that the DJB has created a web link under heading "Ground Water Management" and the said link has also been uploaded. The web page contains the following information:
- Number of applications for Grant of NOC.
 - Number of pending applications.
 - NOC granted/Rejected
 - Procedure for processing of applications for grant of NOC for abstraction of ground water
 - Penal Provisions for punishing illegal abstraction of ground water
5. **District Magistrates, Revenue Department** informed that they are taking action for sealing of illegal borewells as per list provided by Delhi Jal Board. They also stated that facing difficulties with respect to location/ identification of some of the illegal borewells. However, they are in the process of tracing the locations with the help of Delhi Jal Board officials. For recovery of Environmental Compensation and sealing of the borewells, District Magistrates informed that problems are being faced due to public resistance in some cases as the addresses not complete in some of the cases. During the meeting they asked DJB Officials to depute their representative for identification of such addresses and particulars of the offender as the basic survey was carried out by Delhi Jal Board.
6. **Member Secretary, DPCC** informed that in compliance of Hon'ble NGT order dated 28.08.2024, that web page under Heading "Ground Water Management" has been created on DPCC website, which consist of the following information :
- Proceedings initiated for imposition of Environmental Compensation on the violators
 - Proceedings finalized for imposition of Environmental Compensation on the violators
 - References made for recovery of Environmental Compensation from the violators
 - Amount of Environmental Compensation recovered from the violators
 - Amount of Environmental Compensation to be recovered from the violators
 - Amount of Environmental Compensation utilized
 - Amount of Environmental Compensation to be utilized
 - Activities carried out for utilization of the amount of Environmental Compensation
 - Activities proposed to be carried out for utilization of the amount of Environmental Compensation
7. DPCC also informed the Chair that in respect of illegal ground water extraction, an amount of EC Rs. 7093.46 Lakhs (Rs. Seventy Crores Ninety Three Lakhs forty Six Thousands only) was levied on the illegal borewells. The Environmental Compensation



amount was levied on lumpsum based on the end use purpose as no details of the borewells were provided for calculating the EC as per CPCB guidelines. Out of Rs. 7093.46 Lakhs (Rs. Seventy Crores Ninety Three Lakhs forty Six Thousands only) Environmental Compensation , Rs. 79,70,000/- (Rs. Seventy Nine lakhs and Seventy Thousand only), has been received and it is proposed that the said amount may be utilized for rejuvenation of water bodies in NCT of Delhi, as part of an action plan to utilize the EC.

8. After detailed discussions in respect of all the directions contained in the order dated 28.08.2024 and above actions taken by the various departments in respect of the directions passed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, following decisions were taken:
- a. Delhi Jal Board will verify the locations of all illegal borewells, which the Revenue Department is not able to locate/trace subsequent to which the Revenue Department will seal these borewells. Geo-tagging needs to be done whenever any illegal borewell is identified/ sealed for maintaining proper record.
 - b. Delhi Jal Board and District Magistrates may issue permissions for borewells as per norms wherever water table is shallow. DJB may obtain the list of such areas from CGWA wherein the ground water levels are shallow.
 - c. Delhi Jal Board shall take necessary steps to levy charges for extraction of ground water as per the Notification of Ministry of Jal Shakti of 2020. Delhi Jal Board will take necessary approval from Competent Authority in this regard at the earliest. Monitoring through geo-tagging of borewells is a must and should be ensured.
 - d. Link of webpage where all information is uploaded as per directions of Hon'ble NGT developed by Delhi Jal Board shall be shared with Revenue Department and DPCC for continuous effective action against the violators of illegal ground water extraction.
 - e. Delhi Jal Board will continue the survey for identification of illegal ground water extraction and the illegal borewells so identified be sealed through SDM concerned. List of such sealed illegal borewells may be provided with all the necessary details to DPCC in order to levy the EDC as per CPCB formula/guidelines.
 - f. The Concerned District Magistrate shall make all necessary arrangement for sealing of remaining illegal borewells by 31.12.2024 positively. The prosecutions shall be filed by Revenue department against the offenders under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
 - g. The Concerned District Magistrate shall make all arrangements for recovery of Environmental Compensation from the offenders and shall transfer the same to

DPCC by 31.12.2024. It was made clear that recovery proceedings should not be kept pending with the District Magistrates. The Daily reports (enclosed Format as per **Annexure-B**) in respect of sealing of illegal borewells, recovery of Environmental compensation, number of prosecutions launched etc. shall also be sent to Delhi Pollution Control Committee. (email: chdpcc@nic.in)

- h. DPCC was directed to transfer immediately the EC received so far under groundwater violations (around Rs. 79 lakhs) and 25% of EC lying with DPCC unutilized in General head to the DMs for expeditious utilization on restoration of water bodies.
- i. DPCC will allocate the above said EC funds to the concerned DMs for allocation to concerned land owning agencies (DDA/MCD etc.) for restoration of water bodies in their respective areas/ jurisdiction, subject to the condition that the concerned water bodies are not been restored under Gramodaya scheme. The expenditure shall be in accordance with the area of the water body and in accordance with guidelines of Government of India.
- j. Delhi Jal Board and District Magistrates shall comply with the directions of Central Ground Water Authority dated 05.12.2024 and send the Action Taken Report in this regard in time bound manner. The direction is at **Annexure C**.
- k. It was reiterated that all departments shall comply with the SOP for regulation of extraction of groundwater, closure, prohibition of illegal activities relating to use of borewells/ tubewells dated 20.07.2020 issued with the approval of Chief Secretary, Delhi, where clear departmental responsibilities are laid down.
- l. All concerned Departments i.e. Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA), Revenue Department, Delhi Jal Board (DJB) and Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) shall file complete affidavit/ status reports in compliance with the Hon'ble NGT directions dated 28.08.2024 in OA 639/2022 before Hon'ble NGT without fail.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

