

IN THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL PRINCIPAL BENCH AT
NEW DELHI

O. A. NO. 627 OF 2022

Prakash Yadav

...Applicants

VERSUS

State of Haryana and Others

...Respondents

Submission of report of the Committee constituted by the Engineer-in-Chief, Irrigation and Water Resources Department, Haryana vide the EIC, I&WRD, LCU letter No. 2885 dated 11.05.2023

Respectfully showeth :-

1. That it is submitted that the present original application is pending before this Hon'ble Tribunal for dated 07.02.2024.
2. That in para no. 5 of the order dated 9-11-2023 passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal in the above titled original application based case it is mentioned that the report of the committee constituted by Engineer-in-Chief, Irrigation and Water Resources Department, Haryana has also not been filed.
3. That the respondent no. 5 had filed the additional reply dated 13-9-2023 in the above titled case. In para no. 8 of the additional reply, it is stated that a committee has already been constituted vide EIC, I&WRD, LCU letter No. 2885 dated 11.05.2023 to study the revenue record, identify the land of Sahibi River to prepare plans to operate Sahibi River during rains etc. Furthermore, the said committee was also directed by EIC, I&WRD, LCU

vide letter No. 5150-51 dated 01.08.2023 to submit the report. Subsequently letter no. 5892-93 dated 11.09.2023 is issued by EIC, I&WRD, LCU to submit the report by 20.09.2023. Accordingly the committee constituted by Engineer-in-Chief, Irrigation and Water Resources Department, Haryana vide EIC, I&WRD, LCU letter No. 2885 dated 11.05.2023, has submitted the report **Annexure -1.**

4. Therefore this Hon'ble Principal Bench of NGT, is most respectfully prayed that in the interest of justice, the committee report (**Annexure-1**) may please be considered as part of the additional reply already filed on 13-9-2023 by the respondent no. 5.

Date : 05-02-2024

Place: Rewari



Superintending Engineer JLN Water Services Circle, Rewari on behalf of Respondent No. 5, Principal Secretary Irrigation and Water Resources Department, Government of Haryana

A Committee of the following officers was constituted vide worthy Engineer-In-Chief, LCU office order no. 2885 XEN-W/EIC/LCU dated 11/05/2023 with an objective to revive Sahibi River;

1. Sh. Satish Kumar, Superintending Engineer,
Jhajjar Water Services Circle Jhajjar - Chairman
2. Sh. Khivlesh, Executive Engineer,
RLI Water Services Division, Jhajjar - Member
3. Sh. Kuljeet Singh, Executive Engineer,
MICAD Division, Faridabad - Member
4. Sh. J.P. Tanwar, Executive Engineer,
Water Services Division No. II, Rewari - Member Secretary

To accomplish the broad objective of revival of Sahibi river, the following 3 activities were identified and the study was undertaken on the basis of these activities.

1. Study the revenue record and to identify the land of Sahibi River.
2. Prepare plans to operate Sahibi River during rains.
3. Prepare irrigation schemes based on water available in Sahibi River Creek.

Brief Introduction of this River system:

(A) Sahibi River:

The Sahibi River originates from the eastern slopes of the Saiwar Protected Forest hills in Aravali Range near Ajitgarh and Manoharpur in District Sikar of Rajasthan state. It flows for around 303 km (total), out of which 153 km is in Rajasthan, 92 km is in Haryana and 58 km in Delhi. Basically it is a rain-fed river flowing through Rajasthan, Haryana and Delhi states in India.

Sahibi River, originating near Ajitgarh and Manoharpur in District Sikar flows through Haryana, along with its following tributaries:

- Dohan River (Kotkasim drain), tributary of Sahibi river, originates near Neem ka Thana in Sikar district.
- Sota River is a major tributary of Sahibi river, merges with Sahibi river at Behror in Alwar district.

- Narainpur Nala carries the drainage of north-west of Bansur Tehsil and drains into Sahibi.
- Surakh Nali from babariya bund in Bansur drains into Sahibi at Sodawas
- Khar Nali drains at Sodawas.
- Kasaoti Nala in Behror drains into Sahibi River.
- Indori River is also a tributary of Sahibi river.

The catchment area of the Sahibi River encompasses the following cities and towns:

Sikar, Jaipur, and Alwar (North-Eastern Rajasthan),
Bawal, Rewari, Pataudi and Jhajjar District (Southern Haryana),
and Delhi state.

(B) Masani Barrage:

The flood in Sahibi River caused heavy damage to the Human life and Resources during year 1957, 1964 and 1977 in the state Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi.

In the meeting convened on 10.08.1977 by the then Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Morarji Desai with the State Chief Ministers of Haryana & Rajasthan and Lt. Governor of Delhi it was decided that a master plan for the entire Sahibi River Basin should be prepared for flood control as well as optimum utilization of flood water. A team under the chairmanship of the Chairman, Central Water Commission and a working group presided over by the Member Flood Central Water Commission was also formed by the Central Government for this project.

Accordingly the work of Masani Barrage at NH-8 (Now NH-48 Delhi Jaipur Road) was started in February, 1979. But due to construction of various check dams on Sahibi River by State of Rajasthan in the meantime, the work of Masani Barrage was stopped in the year 1986 without installation of gates on the weir. Since, the late 1980s the basin of Masani Barrage remained dry except during the monsoon season of 1995 when flood water passed through it. In 1996 the weir storage was created with walls in the bays at a level of 242.20 meters on the crest level of barrage which is @ 240.00 meter.

(C) Outfall Drain No. 8:

Sahibi River, in its journey towards Yamuna River, falls in outfall drain no. 8 at RD 17.5 KM (of the Drain), which terminates at Dhansa Regulator (i.e. RD 42.59 km) to ultimately fall in the Najafgarh Drain (In Delhi Territory). The Outfall Drain no. 8 has a capacity of 4000 Cs. A peak flow of 5000 Cs., however, was observed at Dhansa Regulator in monsoon, 2022. Hence,

Sahibi River is in existence in this portion, (i.e. a stretch of almost 25 Km) in the land acquired by the dept. for outfall Drain no. 8.

Findings of the Committee:

The committee under the Chairmanship of Sh. Satish Kumar, S.E. JWS Circle Jhajjar conducted several field visit of Sahibi catchment in Haryana State, Collected data from government agencies and also interacted with local communities to find out the details as below:

1. Revenue record of District Rewari was studied by the committee to identify the land of Sahibi River wherein it was found that Sahibi River enters the state of Haryana near village Pawti (Tehsil Bawal District Rewari). It flows for around 5 Km length in Village Pawti and village Panwar of Tehsil Bawal District Rewari. This land is under the jurisdiction of Gram Panchyat/Government.

Thereafter it re-enters Rajasthan state near village Ahir Baghola. After covering around 34 km length in Rajasthan territory, it re-enters into Haryana near village Jarthal. Around 2.50 Km land of Sahibi River belongs to Private land owner of Village Jarthal as per revenue record. Thereafter Sahibi River flows for around 6.50 Km length through village Jarthal, Pachgaon, Raliawas, Niganiyawas, Bhatasana, Nikhri, Dungarwas, Rasgan and Khaliyawas before reaching to Masani Barrage near NH-48, Delhi- Jaipur Highway. This land has already been acquired by Irrigation and Water Resources Department for Construction of Masani Barrage.

But on the downstream of the Masani Barrage, for about 11.00 Km length, there is no flow of water because the land of Sahibi River creek (downstream of Masani Barrage to the land boundary of District Gurugarm) belongs to Private land owner and there is no land, particularly, marked for Sahibi River in Revenue Record. Same has also been verified by Naib Tehsildar Dharuhera. The land owners have reclaimed the land for agricultural purposes. Hence Sahibi River does not exist on ground, downstream of the Masani Barrage, specifically, in District Rewari.

2. Revival of Sahibi River is possible only if Rajasthan cooperates and ensures release of water in Sahibi River. After construction of several check dams throughout the hills of Rajasthan territory, flow of water in the Sahibi River has altogether stopped. However Haryana has started revival of Sahibi

river in some stretches where land is in the name of Government mainly with a view to utilise good quality TWW (tertiary treated waste water from STP's) and water available in Canal system during monsoon season. Since 2017, more than 100000 acre-foot water has been released into Masani Barrage through LBS (Lal Bahadur Shastri) channel having designed capacity of 316 Cs. offtaking from JLN Canal at Km 35.700. Further it is submitted that Sahibi River is being revived in a stretch of 8.22Km with bed width ranging from 5.0 to 7.0 feet near Pataudi of District Gurugram, where 43.26 Cs water will be released from Pataudi Distributary. An expenditure of Rs. 5.26 Crores is being incurred for revival.

Similarly, Indori River (one of the tributaries of Sahibi River) is being revived in a stretch of 29.50 Km with bed width ranging from 2.0 to 5.0 feet in District Gurugram, where 49.61 Cs water will be released from Pataudi Distributary. An expenditure of Rs. 22.80 Crores is being incurred for revival.

3. The available water in the Masani Barrage consist of fresh canal water, rain water and treated effluent of various Sewage Treatment plants of Rewari city and Dharuhera city. All the parameters of water accumulated in Masani Barrage were found within the limits/norms prescribed by the Haryana State Pollution Control Board. This water can be used for irrigation and agricultural purposes. A lift irrigation scheme can be an effective way to utilize water from the Masani Barrage for agricultural purposes, in nearby areas, for which farmers are ready to use this barrage water. In view of this, a lift irrigation scheme is proposed by Executive Engineer, **MICAD Division, Faridabad** wherein the water will be lifted through pumps and supplied to the fields of Tauru block, District Nuh through pipe line proposed to be laid along the NH-48. Primarily the water will be collected in the reservoir tanks proposed to be constructed at village – Uton, Rathiwas and Rangala and thereafter it will be supplied through community based Micro Irrigation scheme to the interested farmers as there is no Canal Command Area in Tauru block. Also it is proposed to augment the Indori river near village –Sidhrawali on NH-48 and small water bodies may be developed in the Panchayat land of several villages of Block-Tauru, District Nuh located at higher elevations compared to the river's natural flow. Areas like Tauru Block of Nuh- District, have water scarcity that impedes the growth, resultantly Nuh District is lagging behind others. Therefore, there is need, not only to bring water but also to adopt efficient use of water by micro irrigation and advance farming methods in order to achieve sustainable development of the entire region. There is a need on supply side management solution and demand side solution (advanced agriculture and efficient MI systems), that can be adopted across Haryana.

Efficient Irrigation is a key to increase the production of staple crops, required to reduce the gap between agricultural production and need of the expanding population. Community Micro Irrigation (CMI) is a system where Government develops irrigation infrastructure for benefiting large number of small farm holders or voluntarily, farmers themselves come together, pull resources in developing irrigation infrastructure, commonly operate & maintain it for scientific cultivation for better farm produce and returns on investment. However, it is required to conduct a comprehensive feasibility study or detailed survey to assess the water availability from the Masani Barrage and the irrigation requirements of the targeted agricultural land. It is also required to evaluate the terrain elevation differences, distance between the Sahibi River/ Masani Barrage and the intended irrigation sites. The suitable locations for pumping stations must be identified. These pumping stations will lift water from the river/barrage and will further pump into the distribution network.

Recommendations of Committee:

Based on the findings, the committee proposes the following recommendations for the revival of the Sahibi River:

Creation of Water Bodies:

The committee has advised the Executive Engineer Water Services Division No. 2 Rewari to explore the feasibility of creating water bodies on Sahibi River land near village Pawti, village Kishanpur and village Pranpura of Tehsil Bawal District Rewari.

Legislation and Enforcement:

Implement strict regulations to control industrial effluents, agricultural runoff, and untreated sewage discharge into the river. Encourage industries to adopt cleaner production methods and enforce penalties for violators. Ensure strict enforcement of Environmental laws and regulations related to water management and pollution control to deter illegal activities harming the river.

Community Awareness:

Educate local communities about the importance of preserving the river's health. Encourage responsible waste disposal and community-led efforts for river clean-up and conservation.

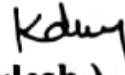
Afforestation:

Plantation should be done to stabilize the banks, reduce erosion and enhance the river's ecosystem.



(Kuljeet Singh)

Member-cum- Executive Engineer,
MICAD Division, Faridabad



(Khivlesh)

Member-cum- Executive Engineer
R.L.I. Division, Jhajjar



(Jai Prakash Tanwar)

Member Secretary-cum-Executive Engineer,
Water Services Division No. II, Rewari



(Satish Kumar)

Chariman-cum-Superintending Engineer,
J.W.S. Circle, Jhajjar
Irrigation & W.R. Department