

L-64/4/2022-LME NMCG-NATIONAL MIS  
Ministry of Jal Shakti  
Department of WR, RD&GR  
National Mission for Clean Ganga

Major Dhyanchand National Stadium  
Near India Gate, New Delhi  
Date: 04.07.2024

**Sub: Response of the National Mission for Clean Ganga(NMCG) in compliance of the order dated 01.04.2024 in OA no 433/2022- Pateshwari Prasad Singh Vs State of U.P & Others before the Hon'ble NGT(PB).**

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Sir,

This has a reference to the Order dated 01.04.2024, passed by the Hon'ble NGT in the above subject matter. The NMCG has been impleaded as one of the Respondents.

2. The Response on behalf of the NMCG in compliance of the order/directions dated 01.04.2024, passed by the Hon'ble NGT is attached. Therefore, it is humbly requested that the Response of the NMCG may please arranged to be placed before the Hon'ble Tribunal for consideration.

3. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Encl: As above

Anup Kumar Srivastava  
Executive Director (Tech)

To,

The Registrar, Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Copernicus Marge New Delhi

Copy for information to:

- (1) PS to the Secretary DoWR, RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti New Delhi
- (2) PS to the DG NMCG

Ministry of Jal Shakti  
DoWR, RD&GR  
National Mission for Clean Ganga

**Response of the National Mission for Clean Ganga(NMCG) in compliance of the order dated 01.04.2024 in OA no 433/2022- Pateshwari Prasad Singh Vs State of U.P & Others.**

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1. That in aforesaid matter the Hon'ble Tribunal is considering the issues arising for the rejuvenation of the River Suav which joins River Rapti, a Tributary of River Ganga. The issues, inter-alia, relate to the remedial measures for identification of flood plain zone, removal of encroachments in accordance with the law and preparation of detailed action plan with budgetary estimates and timelines for rehabilitation/rejuvenation of River Suav.
2. Earlier the Hon'ble NGT, vide order dated 18.10.2023, had directed the concerned departments of the State Government of Uttar Pradesh (UP) to take remedial measures for identification of flood plain zone, removal of encroachments etc. and preparation of detailed action plan with budgetary estimates and timelines for rehabilitation/rejuvenation of River Suav. The Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 18.10.2023 has impleaded National Mission of Cleaning Ganga(NMCG) as a one of the parties (Respondent No 6) for adjudication of the questions involved in the matter
3. In terms of the directions passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal, a Report had been submitted by the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Balrampur (UP) on 28.03.2024 on behalf of the District Ganga Committee, Balrampur. The Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 01.04.2024, directed the NMCG to submit their response to the recommendations made in the report filed by the DFO, Balrampur.
4. That a proposal for an amount of about Rs 270.31 Crore (Rupees two hundred Seventy crores) was submitted to the NMCG by the State Government of UP vide letter dated 23.03.2024. The proposal was duly considered /examined for the rejuvenation of Suav River which covers a total of 320.61 square kilometer area in Devipatan Mandal, Gonda, Janpad- Balrampur. The Rive Suav is having a length of 120 km in Janpad Balrampur.
5. That the following is submitted:
  - a) A substantial cost of the proposal prepared for rejuvenation of River Suav which joins River Rapti, a Tributary of River Ganga, is kept for land acquisitions for river rejuvenation, for construction of STP/FSTP, channel deepening, etc. The total cost on this account itself is reported Rs 210 Crs which is about 78% of the estimated cost of the proposal;

- b) About the matter of the pollution caused in the river due to the Balrampur and Bajaj Sugar mills (its compliance status etc.), it is required to be looked into by the U.P State Pollution Control Board and District Administration and take as necessary actions to ensure that these Mills take requisite measures to ensure compliance of the environmental norms ;
  - c) The proposal for the construction of STPs/FSTP is eligible for funding under Namami Gange funding provided that Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the same is submitted to the NMCG through UP-SMCG provided further that the land for siting STP is available with the State Govt;
  - d) The Land acquisition is the first requisite step for Suav river revival which is to be taken up by the State Government of UP from their own resources.
6. That a copy of the letter dated 0-2.07.2024 sent by the NMCG to the Divisional Forest Officer, Wild life Division Balrampur (U.P) in this regard is enclosed as **Annexure.**



Anup Kumar Srivastava  
Executive Director (Technical)



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Annexure  
राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन  
National Mission for Clean Ganga

File No.:L-64/4/2022-LME NMCG

Date: 02.07.2024

**Subject:** OA no 433/2022 –Pateshwari Prasad Singh vs State of Uttar Pradesh in the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal.

**Ref.:** Letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2024 regarding rejuvenation of Suav river in Balrampur, Uttar Pradesh at a cost of Rs 270.31 Cr

This has reference to your above mentioned letter vide which proposal containing ways for rejuvenation of the Suav river (from RD 0.00km to 120 KM) for a cost of about Rs 270 Cr has been sent to the NMCG for necessary action. On perusal of the proposal received following is observed:

1. A substantial cost of the proposal prepared for rejuvenation of River Suav which joins River Rapti, a Tributary of River Ganga is kept for land acquisitions for river rejuvenation, for construction of STP/FSTP, channel deepening, etc. The total cost on this account itself is reported Rs 210 Crs which is about 78% of the estimated cost of the proposal;
2. About the matter of the pollution caused in the river due to the Balrampur and Bajaj Sugar mills (its compliance status etc.) may be looked into by the State Pollution Control Board and District Administration and take as necessary actions as required to make these Mills complaint.
3. Proposal for the construction of STPs/FSTP is eligible for funding under Namami Gange funding provided that DPR for the same be sent to the NMCG through UP SMCG, and provided further that land for siting STP is available with the State Govt;
4. Land acquisition as proposed is the first step for river revival which is to be taken up by the State from their own resources.
5. It is further informed that the projects for rejuvenation of the river will be undertaken on the basis of the priority list of the State and also availability of funds in NMCG.

Detailed comments of NMCG is enclosed herewith.

Encl: As above.

02-7-2024

(Anup Kumar Srivastava)  
Executive Director (Technical)

To,

**Dr. Semparan M.**  
**The Divisional Forest Officer,**  
Wildlife Division, Belrampur

एन.एम.सी.जी., (जल शक्ति मंत्रालय, जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण विभाग, भारत सरकार)  
प्रथम तल, मेजर ध्यान चन्द नेशनल स्टेडियम, इन्डिया गेट, नई दिल्ली-110002

NMCG, (Ministry of Jal Shakti, Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India)  
First Floor, Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, India Gate, New Delhi-110002

Ph : 011 23072000, 23072001

**Copy for information and necessary action to:**

1. The District Magistrate, Chairperson, District Ganga Committee, Balrampur, Uttar Pradesh
2. The Project Director, SMCG, Uttar Pradesh

## Comments on Suav river upgradation proposal, Balarampur

### Project Area:

The project/ catchment area for the Suav River rejuvenation covers a total of 320.61 square kilometers in Devipatan Mandal, Gonda, Janpad - Balrampur. River Suav having length 120 kms in Janpad Balrampur. Suav River originates from a lake situated at Janpad Balrampur & village Gopiapur in border area of Sraswasti. It is a major tributary of River Rapti.

### Project Objectives:

The objectives of the Suav River rejuvenation project are as follows:

1. Hydrological Improvement:  
Enhancing the river flow and reducing sedimentation to restore natural hydrological cycles.
2. Ecological Restoration:  
Revitalizing the river's ecosystem by improving water quality and re-establishing native flora and fauna.
3. Flood Control:  
Implementing measures to mitigate flooding risks, thereby protecting surrounding communities and agricultural lands by increasing carrying capacity of river.
4. Community Engagement:  
Involving local communities in the project to ensure sustainable and inclusive development.
5. Economic Development:  
Promoting activities that boost the local economy, such as eco-tourism and sustainable agriculture.
6. Climate Resilience:  
Strengthening the region's resilience to climate change impacts through adaptive strategies and infrastructure improvements

### Issues:

The major issues with the Suav River identified in the rejuvenation project are:

1. Hydrological Problems:  
The river faces significant hydrological issues, including reduced flow and sedimentation, which disrupt the natural water cycle and reduce water availability.
2. Pollution:  
The river suffers from various forms of pollution, including industrial discharge, agricultural runoff, and domestic waste, leading to deteriorated water quality.
3. Ecosystem Degradation:  
The degradation of the river's ecosystem is evident with a decline in biodiversity, loss of native species, and an increase in invasive species.
4. Flooding:  
Frequent and severe flooding affects the surrounding communities, agricultural lands, and infrastructure, causing economic and social disruptions.
5. Erosion:

Riverbank erosion is a major issue, leading to the loss of land and habitats, and contributing to the sedimentation problem in the river.

6. Socio-economic Impact:

The deteriorating condition of the river negatively impacts local communities, reducing their livelihood opportunities, quality of life and negative growth on per capita income.

**Proposal:**

The Suav River Rejuvenation project aims to restore the ecological health, improve water quality, and enhance the overall sustainability of the Suav River. This initiative seeks to address the multifaceted issues that have led to the degradation of the river over the years.

**Proposed Activities:**

1. Encroachment Removal
2. Demarcation of River Boundary & construction of boundary pillar at regular interval for 120 km
3. River widening of narrower section at throughout river stretch
4. De-silting & de- weeding (cleaning of water hyacinth & emergent weeds) for 120 km
5. Afforestation for river bank protection in 120 km
6. Construction of check dam on major nallas & construction of STP & FSTP
7. Complete removal of waste coming from Baralrampur and Bajaj Sugar mills into the river
8. Construction of ghats on river bank
9. Landscaping & beautification works
10. Solid waste management activities

**Expected Impacts as per the proposal:**

- a) Improve Water Quality:  
Reduce pollution and contaminants in the river through effective wastewater treatment and pollution control measures.
- b) Restore Natural Flow Regimes:  
Implement measures to ensure the river maintains its natural flow patterns, which are critical for the health of aquatic ecosystems.
- c) Enhance Biodiversity:  
Create habitats and conditions that support a diverse range of flora and fauna.
- d) Mitigate Flood Risks:  
Develop infrastructure and implement strategies to reduce the risk of flooding in surrounding communities.
- e) Control Erosion:  
Stabilize riverbanks and prevent further erosion to protect both the river and adjacent lands.
- f) Improve Livelihoods:  
Engage local communities in sustainable practices and provide them with economic opportunities related to the rejuvenation efforts.

## Cost Estimates:

S. No.	Description of Works	Nos.	Amount	Total in Lakhs
1	<b>Revenue Department Balrampur</b>			
i)	Purchasing of land for rejuvenation of Suwav river	Tehsil Balrampur	1091781200	14328
		Tehsil Utaula	341008800	
2	<b>Irrigation department</b>			
i)	Earth work in excavation of chanelization and clearance with partial dressing including all lead and lift.	1	135412107.7	1354
ii)	Construction of VRB including cost of material, labour T&p etc.for complition of work.	18	18328483.64	3299
iii)	Removing Sewar & Jal Kumbhi for main Canal, branches, Dy. escape and drains & its disposal at the toe of bank and destroying it & burning	1	1916852	19
iv)	Construction of RCC boundry piller including cost of material, labour T&p etc.for complition of work.	1	10329246.94	103
	<b>Sub Total</b>			<b>4776</b>
3	<b>Municipal Corporation Department (EO Nagar Palika/ Nagar Nigam)</b>			
i)	Land Purchasing for construction of STP and FSTP by Nagar Palika (Urban)	1	689000000	689
ii)	Cost of construction of STP & FSTP by Nagar Nigam (Urban)	1	499400000	4994
4	<b>Forest Department</b>			
i)	General Plantation	Approx. 50 Hec.	826900.00 (1 Hec.)	413
ii)	Miyawaki Plantation	Approx.1000 Square meters	287575 (100 Sp. mt.)	2876
iii)	Phytoremediation			462.8
	<b>Total</b>			<b>28539</b>

Note: Land purchasing cost is four times of circle rate.

**Comments:**

Key findings, remarks, observations and comments as a result of the Review-cum-Technical-Examination are following:

1. That, the report does not contain any (even the basic) information pertaining to the hydrological, environmental, ecological, and scientific details consumed for decision making for various proposed interventions considered in this report.
2. That, the catchment area of river and its map delineating the same in order to define the spatial limits (and extent) of the River is not presented in the report; the exact area of the catchment to the upstream of the project site is not measured [*or sourced from any reliable secondary source*] and the same is neither described nor explained in the report.
3. That, the Ground water data and Hydrogeological details studied for this area by 'Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) is missing and no Secondary or primary data is taken into consideration pertaining to the interaction between River and the Aquifer present in within the project influence area considered for the intervention and upgradation in this report.
4. That, the Geological Data and maps are nonexistent therefore the report is bereft of the facts and figures pertaining to the interaction(s) of River and the local geological factors, which otherwise govern the success or failure of the proposed intervention measures in the report.
5. That, there is no detailed topographic map either in form of primary data collected as a result of detailed topographic survey or of secondary origin in case if it was existing before the commencement of the envisaged interventions in this report.
6. That, the rainfall data of a relevant time period (not less than 40 years) collected by India Meteorological Department (IMD) has not taken into account to establish the basis of estimating the water availability in River after the recommended intervention in this report.
7. That, the report mentions eutrophication, nevertheless it has not reported the primary test results of this polluted water as per the standards of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).
8. That, the report has neither produced any laboratory test results of water quality (eutrophicated water) nor has conclusively recommended the reason how and why the water will not get subjected to eutrophication after implementation of the recommended interventions in the report. Further it is nowhere mentioned that by which technology or engineering or bio-engineering water quality will improve in River.

9. That, the report is silent about the flora and fauna existing within the catchment of the river and particularly within the Project Influence Area of the recommendations made in this report.
10. That, the technology and its implementation methodology (along with its operational mechanism and lifecycle of the said infrastructure) for said upgradation is not mentioned in the report.
11. That, the report does not mention any impact on local flora and fauna or impact on trees in the areas where the interventions are recommended. A clarification of this matter must be given in the report.
12. That, nowhere this report satisfies the mandatory process of stakeholder consultation/public consultation.
13. For afforestation works NMCG already paid to State Forest Department, so it can be done by local state department.
14. De-silting & de- weeding is not coming under NMCG mandate, so it can be done by convergence through another government schemes like MNREGA etc.
15. Capacity of STP, FSTP has not been assessed and location is not yet decided. Proposal is not clear from the submitted document.
16. Discharge, cross-section, HFL, etc., survey data based on authentic bench mark may be considered. Existing and proposed carrying capacity of the river.
17. Pollution abatement issue for the Sugar mills may be considered.
18. Buffer zone by plantation is good proposal for stability of river banks and to avoid human intervention in the water body but maintenance of plantation has not been mentioned in the proposal.
19. Cross drainage works across the river after widening and arrangement of water escape from the agriculture field to river through embankment has not been proposed.
20. Cutting of river bed and filling for embankment construction may be considered, instead of construction of embankment by borrowed earth. It may reduce cost of the project.
21. Cost for purchasing of land for the proposal may be revisited and NOC may be required before finalization of DPR proposals.
22. O & M cost is not included in Phytoremediation works proposal.

23. Total cost as per proposal is Rs.270.31 Cr, while as per PMC's estimated cost of the project is Rs.285.39 Cr. The cost may be revisited.

Therefore, the report is required to be looked into afresh to make it a techno-economically viable proposal.

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

(Through Physical Hearing with Hybrid VC Option)

Original Application No. 433/2022

Pateshwari Prasad Singh

...Applicant

Versus

State of Uttar Pradesh & Ors.

...Respondents

Date of hearing: 01.04.2024

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR TYAGI, JUDICIAL MEMBER.  
HON'BLE DR. AFROZ AHMAD, EXPERT MEMBER.**

Applicant: None for the Applicant.

Respondents: Mr. Gi. Gi. C. George Advocate for Respondents no. 1, 2, 4 & 5.  
Mr. Pradeep Misra and Mr. Daleep Dhyani Advocates for respondent no. 3. (Through VC).  
Mr. Abhishek Yadav Advocate for Nagar Palika Parishad, Balrampur.  
Mr. Pramod Kumar ADM J Balrampur , Mr. Anil Kumar Exn Irrigation Department Balrampur, Mr. Raj Mani Verma EO Balrampur , Mr. Jiaull Hak Exn Jal nigam Balrampur and Mr. Manoj Kumar SDO Forest Balrampur (through VC).

**Application is registered based on a letter petition received by Post.**

**ORDER**

1. Report has been filed by Dr. Semmaran M, DFO, Balrampur on behalf of the District Ganga Committee, Balrampur vide email dated 28.03.2024.
2. We appreciate the efforts made in preparing of detailed report for rejuvenation/restoration of river Suav.
3. We consider it appropriate to seek response of NMCG to the recommendations made in the above said report.

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4. Accordingly, response to the same be filed by NMCG at [judicial-ngt@gov.in](mailto:judicial-ngt@gov.in) preferably in the form of searchable PDF/OCR Supported PDF and not in the form of Image PDF at least one week before the date hereby fixed.
5. List for further consideration on 10.07.2024.

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. Afroz Ahmad, EM

April 01<sup>st</sup>, 2024  
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