

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

OA No. 523/2019

IN THE MATTER OF:

Vaishali Rana Chandra & Ors.

..... Applicant

Versus

Union of India & others

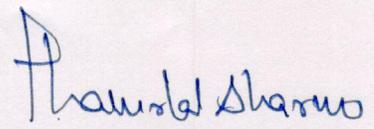
..... Respondents

INDEX

S.No.	Particulars	Page No.
1.	SUBMISSIONS ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT No. 3 i.e. MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF GURUGRAM	1 to 4
2.	Annexure-R/1 (Colly): Photographs of corridor	5 to 15

PLACE: Gurugram
DATED:

FILED BY:



**T.L. Sharma,
Chief Engineer,
Municipal Corporation, Gurugram**

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SUBMISSIONS ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT NO.

3 i.e. MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF GURUGRAM

Most Respectfully Showeth:

1. That the present application has been filed alleging that the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG) has permitted the concretization of the KOSHT-Badshahpur Drain and its ecologically fragile flood plain/buffer zone by the Haryana Shahri Vikas Pradhikaran (HSVP), Town & Country Planning Department & the Gurugram Metropolitan Development Authority (GMDA).

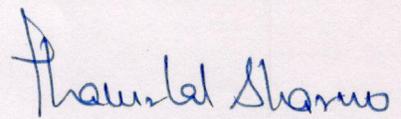
It has been further stated that around 18 km of the total 29 Km stretch of the Badshahpur drain has already been concretised by the HSVP. It has been further stated in OA that on 6 km of the already concretised KOSHT-Badshapur Drain, the MCG has approved the construction of a recreation hub.

2. That so far as contention of applicants alleging recreational hub is concerned, following submissions may kindly be considered:
- (a) That concretised Badshahpur Drain covered with debris and mud was giving filthy & shabby look. Part of box drain was under threat of encroachment. Therefore, to protect the area from encroachment and to give aesthetic look, the MCG planned to create a rich green space with facilities like jogging, walking, cycle track etc on 6 km. stretch. Accordingly, a NGO namely 'I am Gurgaon' has been entrusted with this public interest project on 4.5 km. long stretch to increase the biodiversity and improve the livability of the city. This project is undertaken in CSR mode, where the NGO itself raises support for the restoration work from voluntary contributions from citizens and corporate without any expenditure from MCG.
- (b) Contrary to article in the newspaper filed by applicant, the Badshahpur Corridor is not designed as a leisure hub with fountains, tennis and basketball courts, food courts or lawns, rather, it is designed as a green cover with pedestrian and cycling trails for movement only on the existing box drain.
- (c) That no concretization is being done by the MCG. Infact, project in question is being carried out to avoid dumping of

waste (C&D and solid waste) and encroachment over the already concretised drain.

- (d) To resolve the issue of illegal dumping and temporary encroachment, MCG has been taken preventive steps including fencing of the drain area. The fencing work of drain area is being undertaken to protect the surface of drain and its adjoining area from illegal C&D waste and soil dumping.
- (e) An attempt has been to increase the groundwater recharge capacity in the open space/green belt alongside the Badshahpur Drain. This has been done by channelizing storm water into numerous shallow recharge pits and shallow water holding zones.
- (f) The project specifically promotes natural ecosystem habitat and human health through a series of walking, jogging, cycling trails and loops, and rest areas. It is pertinent to mention here that the walking tracks has been constructed over the existing concrete top of the existing master Storm Water Drain without disturbing the manholes provided for cleaning.
- (h) Most of construction materials used is from recycled content, construction and demolition waste found across Gurugram. The 2.3 Km stretch has been developed into an active innovative, resource, conscious, and ecologically rich community resource.

- (i) As a result of the restoration work, there have been numerous improvements to the ecology and recreational value and groundwater recharge potential of that section of the Badshahpur corridor. These benefits include:
- i. Increase in storm water retention and groundwater recharge capacity of the drain due to creation of shallow channels, recharge pits and shallow water holding areas.
 - ii. Recycling of waste material generated in the city by use in paving over the surface of box drain and fencing to protect the area.
 - iii. Non-motorized corridor used for conveyance and recreation – walking, jogging, cycling.
 - iv. Linear Green corridor created with additional planting of over 20,000 saplings of over 15 native tree species.
 - v. Till now 2.3 Km stretch has been completed. For comparison of before and after situation over existed corridor photographs are attached as **Annexure R/1 (Colly)**.
- (3) Thus, no cause of action has ever arose to file the present OA against the answering respondent and same is liable to be dismissed qua the answering respondent.
- (4) That after transfer of the Badshahpur Drain to GMDA, monitoring of the present project in being done by the GMDA.



**Chief Engineer,
Municipal Corporation, Gurugram**

BADSHAHPUR LAST YEAR...

Annexure R/1 Colly



Physical infrastructure HT lines & gas pipeline and sewage overflow



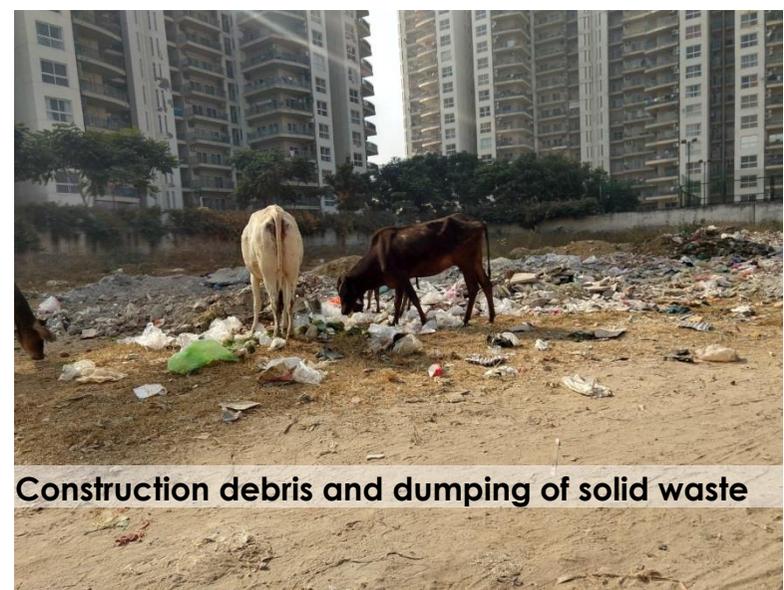
Partially open drains with polluted water going



Concrete drain had standing water. No groundwater recharge alongside



Encroachments all along on the stretch



Construction debris and dumping of solid waste



Continuous dumping of construction & demolition waste raised the site level

BADSHAHPUR TODAY...ONGOING WORKS



Arrival area-Peepal point court



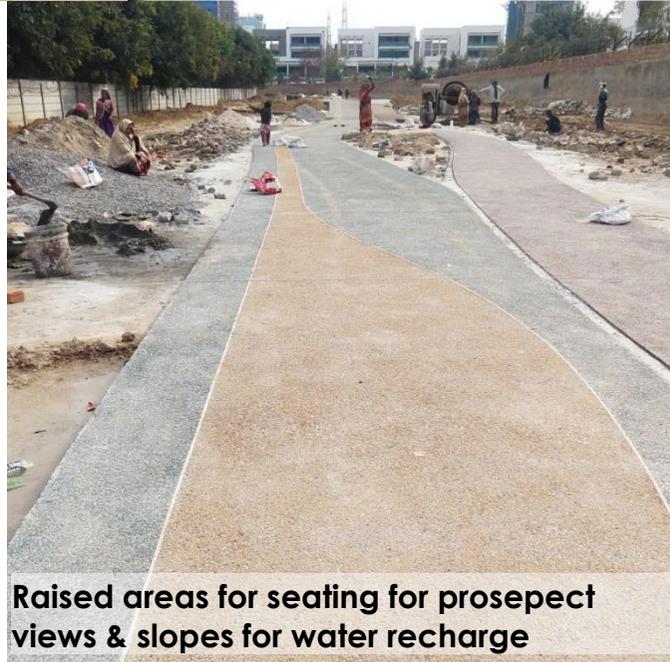
Pedestrian pathway & Cycle tracks on box drain



Kala court seating



Intermediate entry into stretch



Raised areas for seating for prospect views & slopes for water recharge



Entrance walls at arrival area from concrete waste

THE CIRCLE OF WASTE...WHAT WE ARE REINVENTING?



Brick bats



Concrete debris



Concrete blocks



Stone chips



Broken stones



Tree guards



Grit pathway on box drain



Waste concrete converted into walls for seating & entrance walls



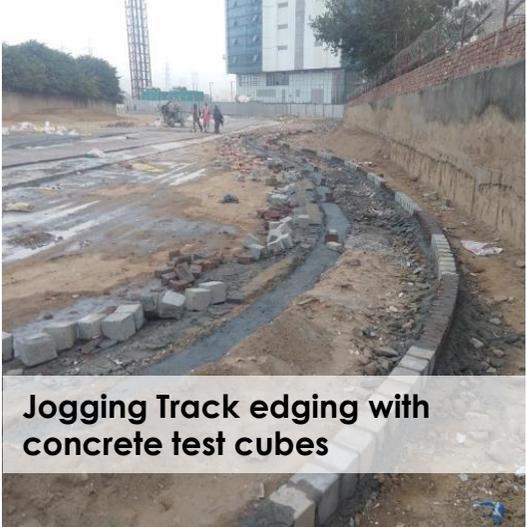
Edging with concrete test cubes



Paving bands with broken stone pieces



Gabion wall module from tree guards



Jogging Track edging with concrete test cubes



Broken stone pieces to make seating surface/coping



TRANSFORMING WASTE...INTO SITE ELEMENTS

GABION WALLS



Waste tree guard



Fabrication on site



Frames & Modules



C&D waste filled in modules

BROKEN CONCRETE WALLS



Broken concrete waste from site and other construction sites of Gurugram



Construction of broken concrete walls

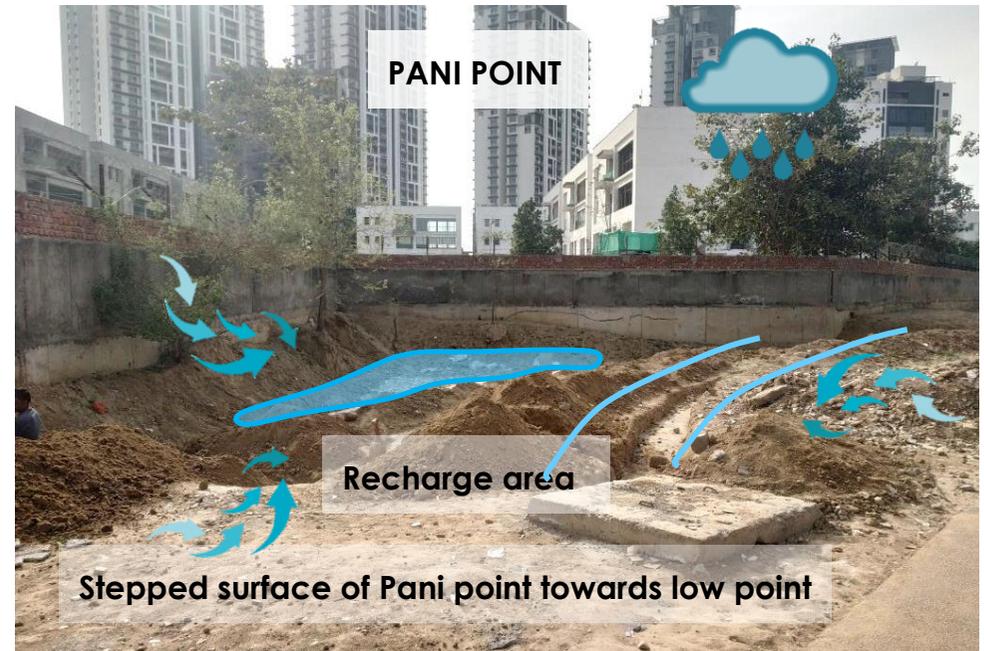
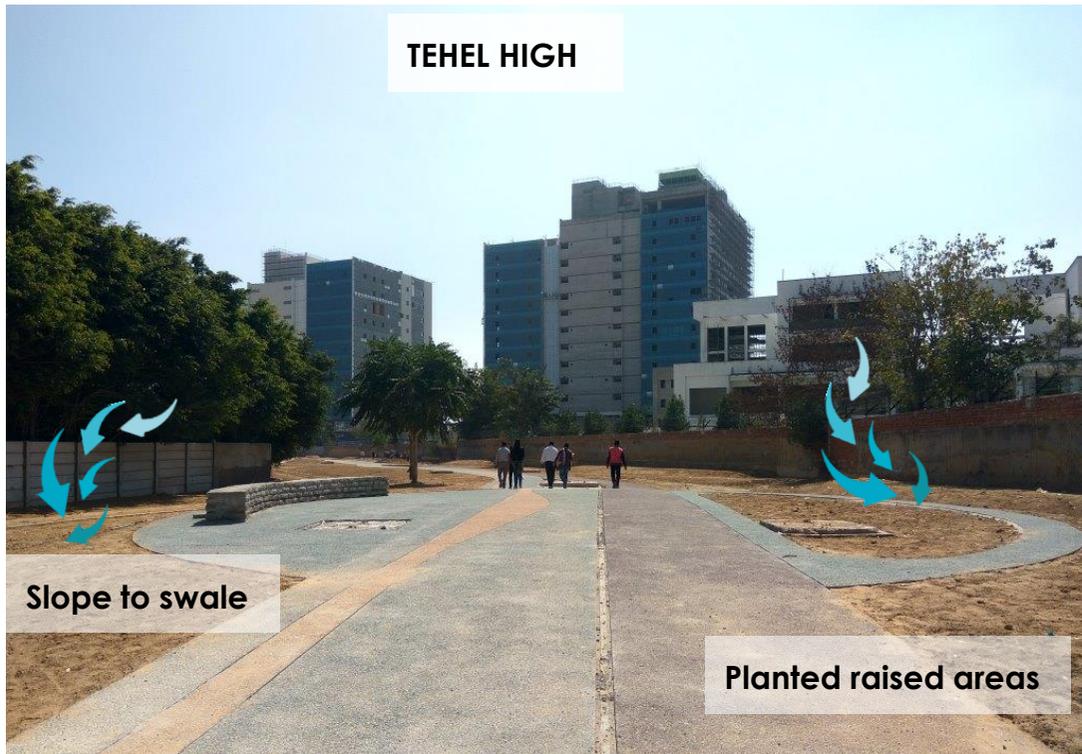
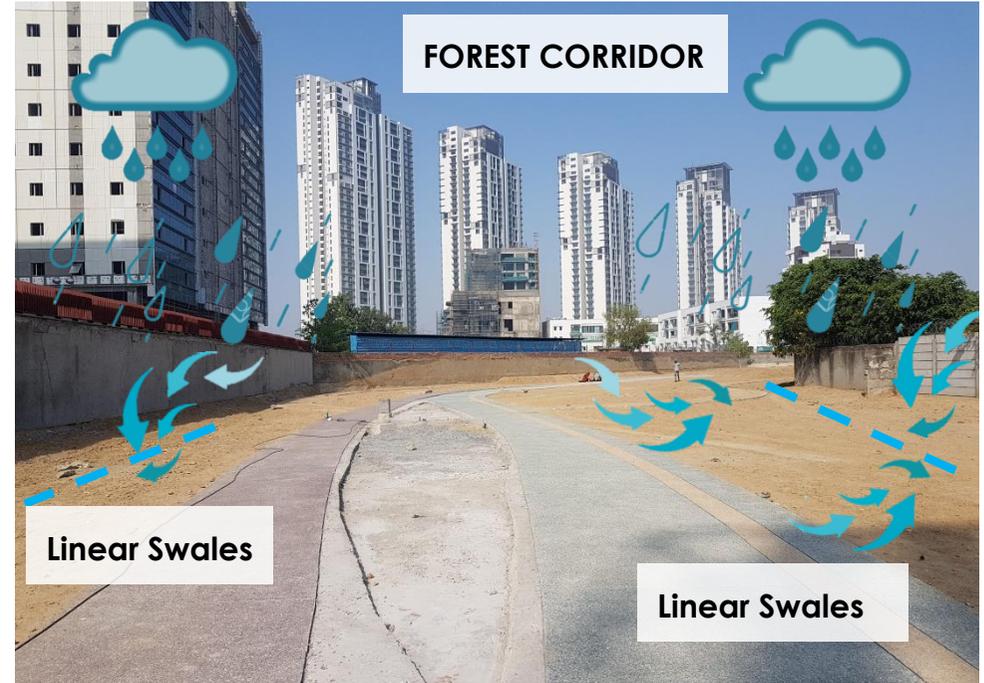


Concrete debris or Delhi Quarzite wall?

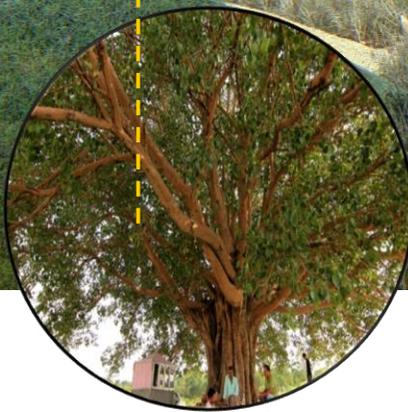
RECHARGING WATER...THROUGH SWALES, RETENTION AND RECHARGE AREAS



RECHARGING WATER...THROUGH SWALES, RETENTION AND RECHARGE AREAS



NEXT STEPS – NATIVE PLANTING IN THE MONSOON...



LARGE FOLIAGE TREES



SMALL UNDERSTOREY TREES



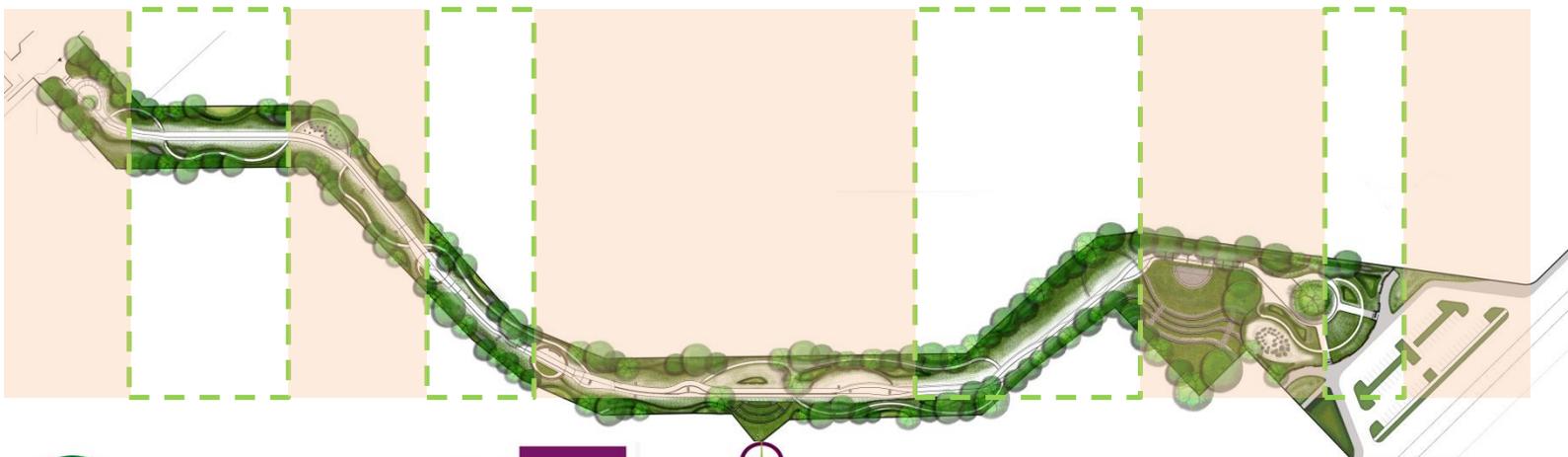
WILD FLOWERING SHRUBS



GROUND COVERS



NATIVE GRASSES



 Dense Vegetation

 Light vegetation

Native planting palette to achieve a mature tree canopy in some parts, and structured large, understory and low planting in others to mimic a forest trail.

Photograph of Water Recharge Point



Photograph of Water Recharge Point



MCG to set up recreational areas along city's drains

MAKEOVER Recycled products were used in the Badshahpur corridor walkway. MCG officials say they identified Gwal Pahari and Jharsa drains as potential sites

Kartik Kumar
kartik.kumar@htlive.com

GURUGRAM: The Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG) has initiated a citywide assessment survey to identify drains that can potentially be converted into a recreational area, officials said on Thursday.

Since last year, the MCG has been working on setting up jogging, cycling and pedestrian tracks on a five-kilometre stretch of the Badshahpur drain, between Vatika Chowk and Hero Honda Chowk, while also setting up dedicated spaces for an open-air theatre and other cultural activities.

In addition, the tracks along the corridor are being established in an elevated manner and designed in a way to ensure rainwater flows down and recharges the groundwater table.

As per a multimedia presentation released by the district administration on February 14, work on around 1.3 kilometres of the five-kilometre stretch has been completed by the MCG and Iamgurgaon, a non-government organisation.

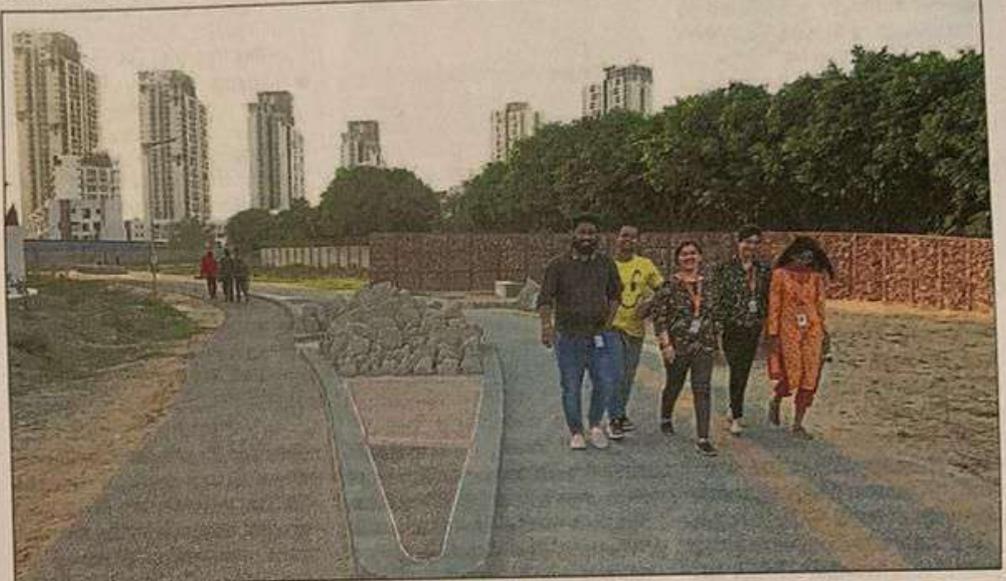
The presentation further highlighted that the 1.3-kilometre area has the capacity of holding 324,303.912 MLD (million of litres per day) of water, while 175 tonnes of concrete waste was recycled from the site and used in constructing the pavement, cycle, jogging tracks and seating areas.

In addition, native trees, shrubs and grass cover have been planted in 65% of the area.

Recycled products used in the Badshahpur corridor include concrete blocks, kerbstones, steel bars, glass bottles, gravel, stones, metal roads, tyres, ropes, wires, tiles and bricks.

MCG officials said that they have identified the Gwal Pahari and Jharsa drains as potential sites for undertaking a similar venture. Assessment surveys of the two locations are underway.

"We are undertaking a feasibility study of the six-kilometre drain in Gwal Pahari, which can



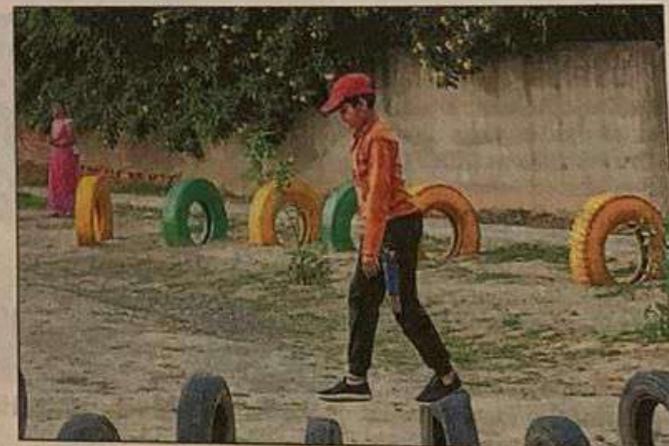
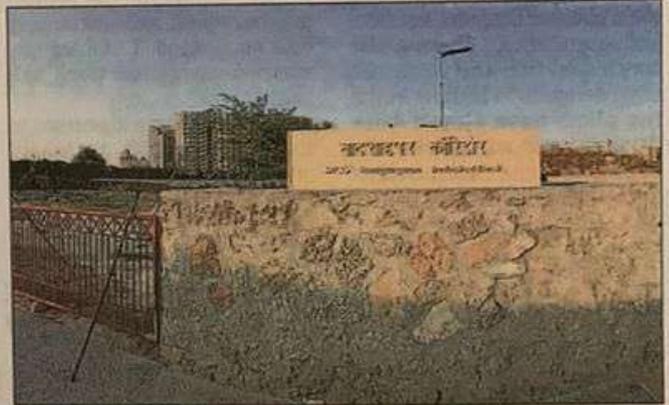
People walk along the Badshahpur corridor near Vatika City Chowk in Gurugram on Thursday. The 5.5-kilometre-long corridor starts from Badshahpur and ends at Subhash Chowk. PARVEEN KUMAR/HT PHOTOS

be converted into a similar project on the lines of the Badshahpur corridor," said Raman Sharma, chief engineer, MCG.

"The survey was initiated last week and we will conceptualise the project in such a manner that the corridor is built upon the parts of the drain that are concretised and in no way hinders groundwater recharge through seeping of drain or rainwater during monsoon. Depending on the outcome of the survey report, we will take a final call on it. We are also looking at other potential sites for the project," he said.

MCG officials said that a survey of drains along Jharsa is also underway, albeit at a nascent stage in comparison to the one at Gwal Pahari.

Environmentalists said that the MCG should treat the Gwal Pahari and Jharsa drains differently from the Badshahpur drain. "The Badshahpur drain was already heavily concretized. In comparison, the drains at Gwal Pahari and Jharsa are completely open, barring a few encroachments. It should ideally be left in its present state as the National Green Tribunal (NGT) directions already state the floodwater drains cannot be



concretised in any manner. The MCG should not consider these two drains as potential sites for rejuvenation," said Vaishali Rana Chandra, an environmentalist.

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