

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

EA No 28/2024

IN

OA No 128 of 2021

IN THE MATTER OF:

Saurabh Tiwari Vs Union of India & Ors

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Respondent NMCG

Date: 14-11-2024

Place: New Delhi

Through Counsel

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

Execution Application No. 28/2024

in

OA No. 128/2021

In the matter of: Saurabh Tiwari Vs Union of India & Or

Reply Affidavit on behalf of Respondent National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Ministry of Jal Shakti, New Delhi

Most Respectfully, I, Anup Kumar Srivastava, aged 57 years, working as Executive Director (Technical) in the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), D/o WR, RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti do hereby solemnly affirm, and declare as under:

1. That I, the deponent is working as Executive Director (Technical) in NMCG and is well conversant with the facts and circumstances of the present case on the basis of information derived from the official records, and am competent to submit this affidavit on behalf of the answering Respondent NMCG.

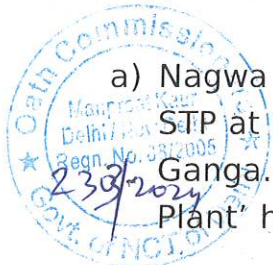
2. That as regards the status of the steps being taken for abatement of pollution in rivers Varuna and Assi in Varanasi the status is as under:

A. Status of Drains in Varanasi

1. Drains in Ganga (Left Bank)-

There are 23 drains directly out falling into Ganga (Left Bank) in Varanasi out of which 21 drains are fully tapped to arrest dry-weather flows. Two drains namely **Nakkhi and Nagwa/Assi** drains are partially tapped.

a) Nagwa / Assi Drain - After conveying 50 MLD waste water to 50 MLD STP at Ramana, about 20 MLD waste water earlier overflowed to river Ganga. In order to address the same an initiative 'Advance Oxidation Plant' has been taken under Namami Gange programme to treat this



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जल संवर्धन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण विभाग
Dept. of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation
जल शक्ति मंत्रालय / Ministry of Jal Shakti
एन.डी. बिल्डिंग, नई दिल्ली / Govt. of India New Delhi

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overflow waste water before discharge to river Ganga costing Rs. 40 Cr for three Years.

- b) In order to address the overflow from **Nakkhi drain, Nagwa drain/Assi river** and future sewage generation in Assi-BHU sewerage district, a project for 55 MLD STP at Bhagwanpur has been taken up under Namami Gange programme. The project has been awarded and is under implementation at a sanctioned cost of Rs. 308.09 Cr.

2. Drains in Ganga (Right Bank)-

There are 5 drains from the Ramnagar area carrying sewage. These 5 drains have been tapped

- a) There is 1 drain from Sujabad area carrying about 4.5 MLD sewage. The state has taken up a project for development of 7 MLD STP for the same under AMRUT 2.0.
- b) Apart from the above, there is a Ghuraha drain which is a kachha drain which is a channel of Narayanpur pump canal and meets river Ganga near multi model terminal. This drain also carries industrial waste water along with minor quantities of municipal sewage. UP Jal Nigam (Urban) is reportedly preparing action plan for this drain.

3. Drains in Varuna -

There are 24 drains out falling into river Varuna, 12 each on either bank, which then joins river Ganga downstream of Varanasi.

- a) Out of these 24 drains, 13 drains (7 on left bank and 6 on right bank) have been intercepted through an interceptor sewer laid by Irrigation department to collect and convey the sewage to 140 MLD Dinapur STP via Chaukaghat SPS. This interceptor sewer is not fully functional reportedly due to design issues and the same is being examined by UPJN-Urban and Irrigation Department for rectification.
- b) There are 4 untapped and 1 partially tapped drain (Narokhar) on the left bank while 6 untapped drains on the right bank.

B. Cleaning / Rejuvenation of river Varuna and Assi-

1. **River Varuna** - State Government has been directed to prepare a comprehensive sewerage management action plan for the cleaning and rejuvenation of the river Varuna. The action plan is being prepared by the State Government. In this reference, a DO letter was issued by Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti dated 16.08.2024 (**Annexure- I**). Further, in a meeting held on 10.09.2024 of Empowered Task Force under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti, Govt of India, the matter was again discussed and the State Govt was asked- '*State would submit comprehensive action plan for addressing pollution in Varuna River from Bhadohi to Varanasi by 30th Sept, 2024 including a clear decision on interceptors.*' [(Para 5.1 (A) (II) (d) of **Annexure-II**]. Central Monitoring Committee meeting held on 30.09.2024 also flagged this matter and requested to submit all the DPRs collectively for further actions. (Para 17.5 of the Minutes) (**Annexure-III**).

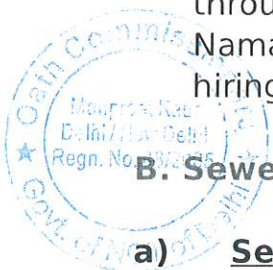
2. **River Assi** -

- a) Assi river flowing through Nagwa drain has been intercepted at Nagwa. From the interception point 50 MLD waste water is being diverted through Nagwa pumping station to 50 MLD STP at Ramana, Varanasi. The treated waste water from the STP is discharged to river Ganga.
- b) For the remaining waste water of the order of 25 MLD at Nagwa drain, a project for 55 MLD STP at Bhagwanpur, Varanasi has been sanctioned under Namami Gange programme. The STP is currently under construction at a sanctioned cost of Rs. 308.9 Cr
- c) In consideration of the remaining untreated waste water discharge of the order of 25 MLD in river Ganga through Nagwa drain, right at the upstream of Varanasi and the ghats, for the interim period till 55 MLD Bhagwanpur STP is completed and commissioned the remaining waste water of the order of 25 MLD at Nagwa drain is being treated through 30 MLD Advance Oxidation Plant (AOP) sanctioned under Namami Gange programme. This AOP based treatment is on service hiring model

B. Sewerage Infrastructure Projects

a) **Sewage Treatment Capacity at Varanasi**

The estimated sewage generation is 250 MLD from the Varanasi town (including Ramnagar & Suzabad). There are 6 STPs in Varanasi and 1



(4)

STP at Ramnagar (on the right bank of river Ganga opposite Assi Ghat) having total installed capacity of capacity of 422 MLD as per below mentioned details:

SI	STP Location	Installed Capacity (MLD)	Operating Agency	Remark
1	Bhagwanpur	9.8	UP Jal Nigam (Rural)	Under Ganga Action Plan (GAP)
2	Banaras Locomotive Works	12	Banaras Locomotive Works	
3	Dinapur (Old)	80	UP Jal Nigam (Urban)	Under Ganga Action Plan (GAP)
4	Goitha STP (JNNURM)	120	Larsen & Toubro (L&T)	Under JnNURM Scheme
5	Dinapur STP (New)	140	VA Tech Wabag Ltd.	Under Namami Gange
6	Ramana	50	Varanasi STP Project Pvt. Ltd. (SPV of Essel Infra Projects Ltd.)	Under Namami Gange
7	Ramnagar	10	Nand & Sons	Under Namami Gange
	Total	421.8		
	Nagawa/ Assi Drain (Advance Oxidation Process STP)*	30*	Ozone Research & Applications (India) Pvt. Ltd	Under Namami Gange

Note - * This STP is on service hiring model for 3 years.

Recently, 2 more projects have been undertaken as per details below:-

- 'Development of 55 MLD STP at Bhagwanpur Varanasi' has been sanctioned at the cost of Rs. 308 Crore under Namami Gange Programme. The project is under Construction.
- "Development of 7 MLD STP at Sujabad' has been sanctioned under AMRUT 2.0. The project is currently under tendering stage.

That it is submitted that with the new projects sanctioned, the installed STP capacity shall increase to 484 MLD.

Anup Kumar Srivastava
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जल शक्ति विभाग / Ministry of Jal Shakti
नगर, नई दिल्ली / Govt. of India, New Delhi

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[Signature]

Deponent



अनूप कुमार आवास्तव/Anup Kumar Srivastava
कार्यकारी निदेशक (तकनीकी) / Executive Director (Technical)
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जल शक्ति मंत्रालय / Ministry of Jal Shakti
भारत सरकार, नई दिल्ली / Govt. of India, New Delhi

VERIFICATION:

14/11

Verified at New Delhi on ---November, 2024 that the contents of the above affidavit are true and correct to my knowledge based on official record and no part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed therein.

[Signature]

Deponent

[Signature]
I IDENTIFY THE DEPONENT



CERTIFIED THAT THE DEPONENT

Shri / Smt. Anup Kumar Srivastava
S/o, w/o Executive Director
Identified by Sh. Ishwar Singh Adv.
have solemnly sworn before me at Delhi
on 14/11/2024 at serial no. 2303
that the contents of the affidavit which have
been read over and explained to him/her
are true and correct to his / her knowledge.

Date, Commission at
Govt. of India, New Delhi

[Signature]
14/11/2024

अनूप कुमार आवास्तव/Anup Kumar Srivastava
कार्यकारी निदेशक (तकनीकी) / Executive Director (Technical)
राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन / National Mission for Clean Ganga
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जल शक्ति मंत्रालय / Ministry of Jal Shakti
भारत सरकार, नई दिल्ली / Govt. of India, New Delhi

देवश्री मुखर्जी
Debashree Mukherjee
सचिव
SECRETARY



D.O. No. Pr-12012/20/2022-TECH1-NMCG

16th August, 2024

Dear Sir,

"Namami Gange Program" in mission mode is a unique initiative launched by the Government of India with the prime focus on cleaning and rejuvenating the Ganges River & its tributaries. Under the Namami Gange program, NMCG has sanctioned pollution abatement projects worth Rs. 14,110 crores for the State of Uttar Pradesh.

The interventions for river-focused pollution abatement are primarily based on identified **polluted river stretches (PRS)** by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). I would like to draw your attention to the latest published report of CPCB (2022) wherein River Varuna has been classified under **priority I** (BOD>30 mg/l). River Varuna is one of the main tributaries of River Ganga and the confluence is located in the holy city of Varanasi.

Previous, pollution abatement measures like laying of the 'Interceptor sewer on both banks of the river Varuna' have not yielded the desired results.

Director General, NMCG visited Varanasi in June 2024 and reviewed the matter with the State Government officials wherein it was decided to take a comprehensive view of the River Varuna and develop a comprehensive action plan. It was envisaged that a comprehensive Varuna Action Plan will be prepared by the State through a survey of the River Varuna while identifying all pollution sources/drains, measurement of flows & characterization of wastewater of drains, analysis of river water quality at critical points and development of the required interventions for the rejuvenation of the river Varuna in a holistic manner.

In this regard, a request letter (D.O. No.: Pr-23025/15/2024 dated 24th June 2024) was also sent by NMCG to UP Government. However, the envisaged comprehensive River Varuna Action Plan is still awaited. I am hopeful that your intervention in this matter will help achieve the cherished goal of making River Ganga and its tributaries pollution-free (Nirmal Dhara).

Looking forward to an early action at your end, please.

With Regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Debashree Mukherjee)

Shri Manoj Kumar Singh
Chief Secretary,
Government of Uttar Pradesh,
Lal Bahadur Shastri Bhawan,
Uttar Pradesh Secretariat,
Lucknow-226001.

भारत सरकार/ Government of India
 जल शक्ति मंत्रालय/ Ministry of Jal Shakti
 जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण विभाग
 Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation
 राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन/ National Mission for Clean Ganga

1st Floor,
 Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium,
 India Gate, New Delhi-110002
 Dated: 15th October, 2024

Sub: Minutes of 12th Meeting of the Empowered Task Force (ETF) on River Ganga held on 10th September, 2024

A copy of the minutes of 12th meeting of the Empowered Task Force on River Ganga held on 10th September 2024 at 11.30 A.M. through hybrid mode under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti is enclosed herewith for your kind information and necessary action.

2. It is requested to furnish the latest status on action points pertaining to your Ministry/Department/State.

Satya Prakash
 15/10/24
 (Satya Prakash Vashishth)
 Executive Director (Admin.)
 Tel: 011-23049512

To

1. The Chief Executive Officer, NITI Aayog
2. The Secretary, Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti
3. The Secretary, Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti
4. The Secretary, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance
5. The Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
6. The Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
7. The Secretary, Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs
8. The Secretary, Ministry of Tourism
9. The Secretary, Ministry of Power
10. The Chief Secretary, Govt. of Uttarakhand
11. The Chief Secretary, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh
12. The Chief Secretary, Govt. of Bihar
13. The Chief Secretary, Govt. of Jharkhand
14. The Chief Secretary, Govt. of West Bengal

Copy to:

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti
2. PS to Hon'ble Minister of State for Jal Shakti
3. PS to DG, NMCG
4. PS to all Executive Directors/DDG, NMCG



Minutes of the 12th meeting of Empowered Task Force (ETF) on River Ganga held on 10th September 2024 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti

The 12th meeting of the Empowered Task Force (ETF) on River Ganga was held on 10th September 2024 under the Chairmanship of Shri C. R. Paatil, Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti and in presence of Shri Raj Bhushan Choudhary, Hon'ble Minister of State, Shri Rakesh Kumar Verma, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Shri Rajeev Kumar Mittal, Director General, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), Senior Officers from Ministries/Departments of Government of India and from five Ganga State Governments, who joined the meeting through video conferencing.

2. The list of participants is at **Annexure-I**.
3. Shri Rajeev Kumar Mittal, Director General, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) welcomed Shri C. R. Paatil, Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti for chairing the meeting. DG, NMCG also welcomed the Additional Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti and Senior Officers from various Central Government Departments and from State Governments who were present in virtual mode.
4. Shri Rajeev Kumar Mittal, Director General, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), then proceeded to make a presentation on the agenda items, Action Taken Report (ATR) received from various Ministries/Departments and State Governments, Ministry and State wise progress on various projects and interventions taken up for rejuvenation of river Ganga. All participating members were requested to give further updates of projects pertaining to their Ministries/Departments/States during presentation and discussion on specific issues.

Agenda No. 1: Confirmation of the Minutes of 11th meeting of Empowered Task Force (ETF) held on 20th April, 2023.

The DG mentioned that the Minutes of 11th meeting of Empowered Task Force, held on 20th April 2023, were circulated among the members. He stated that no comments/suggestions were received from any of the members, therefore the minutes may be treated as confirmed.

Agenda No. 2: Action Taken Note on the decisions taken in 11th meeting of the Empowered Task Force

The DG mentioned that the Action Taken Note(ATN) on the decisions taken in the 11th meeting of ETF held on 20th April 2023 was enclosed in the Annexure to the agenda note.

After discussions on certain ATNs, the following actionable points came out of the meeting for further action:

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- Pending UCs for construction of IHHL-
 - Uttarakhand, UP & Jharkhand have promised to submit revised UCs by mid of September, 2024, West Bengal by 1st week of October, and Bihar to DoDW&S by end of October 2024.
- On issue of another Dolphin Sanctuary – MoEF&CC has to submit a report on identified area of River Chambal, agreement among UP, MP and Rajasthan state governments; along with timelines for establishing sanctuary.
- On issue of Hilsa Repair of fish lock at Farraka barrage- Farraka Barrage Authority (FBA) has to take it up on priority and expedite it.

Agenda No. 3: Activities Conducted by NMCG post 11th Meeting of the Empowered Task Force

The key activities conducted by NMCG *post* 11th meeting of ETF were shown in the PPT made and noted.

Agenda No. 4: Project status under Namami Gange

The status of projects under *Namami Gange* as on 31.8.2024 was shown in the PPT made and noted.

Agenda No. 5

5.1 Sewage Infrastructure

Bihar: DG, NMCG mentioned that in respect of three locations (Jamui, Motihari & Daudnagar), the NMCG has asked the State to award the tender(LoA) but no action has been taken. The State replied that the State Govt. has decided to take up sewerage network along with STP at Motihari & Daudnagar and the cost of sewerage network would be funded under a different scheme. DG, NMCG added that since the sewerage network would take a longer time to complete than the I&D & STP, at this stage the works of I&D & STP should be delinked from the Sewerage network and the State should allow the work of I&D & STP to proceed ahead as the matter has been on hold since November 2023. The State was asked to seek necessary approval from the State Govt. on this and convey the same to NMCG urgently.

Jharkhand: The State mentioned that it has already completed Projects located on the main stem of River Ganga. The State desired to take up some Projects on Deoghar, Palamu and Bokaro located on the tributaries of River Ganga. DG, NMCG clarified that at present NMCG is prioritizing the locations along the main stem of Ganga and Priority-I/II stretches and once these stretches are addressed, then Projects on the tributaries could be considered.

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West Bengal: The State mentioned that the 520km stretch of Ganga in West Bengal is in PRS-V i.e. BOD is less than 3, so the State is focusing on the construction of FSTPs (Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants) and STPs are not needed. DG, NMCG responded that as per CPCB (Year 2022), the stretch of Ganga in West Bengal is in PRS-IV i.e. BOD is above 6 and the State would require STPs to address the pollution. The State agreed to this and assured to complete all the DPRs by December 2024.

Further, the State added that the State needed funds to prepare the DPRs for the Projects. DG, NMCG clarified that cost of preparing DPRs is embedded in the centage of 4% of Project cost and would be available to the State after the approval of the Projects by NMCG.

After discussions, the following actionable points emerged from the meeting for further action:

5.1 A. Sewerage Infrastructure for cities

I. Uttarakhand:

- a) State has earmarked alternate land for Gauri Kund STP (Johkasou) beside the small existing functional STP. NMCG officials would make a field visit to see the suitability of new location urgently.
- b) State to expedite the execution of projects located on the tributaries Bhela, Dhela (PRS-I), Suswa and Kalyani (PRS-II) and ensure the completion of Udham Singh Nagar I&D and STP Projects by 31st December 2024.

II. Uttar Pradesh:

- a) State mentioned that it has already submitted the DPR for STP at Manikpur and Pandit DDU Nagar to NMCG to expedite approvals to these DPR's.
- b) The DPR for Kanpur, Prayagraj and Agra for mopping up of untapped drains would also be submitted to NMCG by 30th September 2024.
- c) Drone survey of all the Nallas flowing through Kanpur is complete while survey of nallahs flowing through Prayagraj would be completed soon. A report shall be submitted within a month's time.
- d) State would submit comprehensive action plan for addressing pollution in Varuna River from Bhadohi to Varanasi by 30th September 2024 including a clear decision on interceptors.
- e) State would provide electricity connection to Farrukhabad and Fatehgarh STPs by 15th September 2024.
- f) State would procure land for Deobandh and Guloathi STPs by coordinating by Urban Development Department, Uttar Pradesh by 30 Nov 2024.

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III. Bihar

- a) State would submit DPRs for STPs at Arah, Barauni and Buxar by 30th September 2024.
- b) State has decided to take up the Jamalpur I&D & STP along with network under a different scheme- AMRUT and would communicate this decision to NMCG shortly.
- c) Power connection to Hajipur STP would be provided within a week.
- d) The State is yet to obtain the NOC from the Railways for Mokama STP. The State would share the communication made with the Railways with NMCG for seeking intervention of the Ministry of Railway.
- e) The land for STP at Kahalgaon has been acquired and issue of acquiring the access path/road to the STP remains to be resolved. The district administration is working on the issue.
- f) State would resolve the issue of land acquisition for STP at Dehri-on-Sone within a month.
- g) State would issue LoA for Jamui STP immediately.
- h) Further, the State would delink the Sewerage work (to be taken up under a different scheme) from the I&D & STP work (under Namami Gange) in case of Motihari and Daudnagar and take necessary approval from the State Govt.

IV. Jharkhand: NIL

V. West Bengal:

- a) State would submit the DPRs for Srirampur, Siliguri and Shantipur STPs by 30th September 2024.
- b) Further, the DPRs of remaining STPs at (English Bazar, Haldia, Raiganj, Rishia, Uluberia, Dhullian, Jaigunj-Azimganj, Konnaagar, Diamond Harbour, Howrah, Champadani & Khardah) would be submitted by 31st December 2024.
- c) Regarding the land acquisition for North Barrackpore STP, the State has taken up the matter with the Cantonment Board as the site is located in the Defence Area. The State would share the communication made with the Cantonment Board with NMCG for pursuing the matter with Ministry of Defence.

B. Sanitation Status in Ganga Villages

I. Uttarakhand:

- a) State to complete verification of 184 ODF plus villages by 31st October 2024.
- b) Further, the State would conduct, through DGCs, the survey and mapping of nallas flowing from 07 districts (located on the main stem of river Ganga) and discharging directly into Ganga by 31st October 2024.

II. Uttar Pradesh:

- a) State to take urgent steps for declaration of one village as ODF plus.

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- b) State to complete verification of 1581 ODF plus villages through Panchayati Raj & Rural Development.
- c) Further, the State would conduct, through DGCs, the survey and mapping of nallas flowing from 27 districts (located on the main stem of river Ganga) and discharging directly into Ganga by 31st October 2024.

III. Bihar:

- a) State to take urgent steps for declaration of 07 villages as ODF plus.
- b) Further, verification of 431 ODF villages would be completed by 31st December 2024 through Rural Development Deptt.
- c) Further, the State would conduct, through DGCs, the survey and mapping of nallas flowing from 10 districts (located on the main stem of river Ganga) and discharging directly into Ganga by 31st October 2024.

IV. Jharkhand:

- a) State to complete verification of all ODF plus villages by 15th December 2024 and upload the report on the portal.
- b) Further, the State would conduct, through DGCs, the survey and mapping of nallas flowing from 01 districts (located on the main stem of river Ganga) and discharging directly into Ganga by 31st October 2024.

V. West Bengal:

- a) The State to take urgent steps for declaration of 67 villages as ODF plus.
- b) State to complete verification of all ODF plus villages by February 2025.
- c) Further, the State would conduct, through DGCs, the survey and mapping of nallas flowing from 12 districts (located on the main stem of river Ganga) and discharging directly into Ganga by 31st October 2024.

VI. Workshop on Ganga Village Sanitation: In the meeting it was also decided that a workshop with DCs of all 57 Main Stem Ganga Districts shall be convened for tackling pollution abatement in rural areas of the Ganga basin.

C. **Need for Improvement in compliance of STPs and River Quality with respect to Faecal Coliform perimeter**

- a) All States to focus on O&M of functional STPs esp the 45 STPs (UP-14, UK-17, Bihar-01, JH-01 and WB-12) which are not compliant in terms of Faecal Coliform(FC) to control the faecal coliform by using adequate disinfection through chlorination.
- b) In Bihar & West Bengal SPMG along with SPCB to take necessary measures to deal with FC issue in Ganga main stem and submit mitigation plan.

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- c) All the States via DGC to tag the villages with the FSTPs (Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant) and STP's.

5.2 Prayag (Platform for real time analysis of Yamuna & Ganga & their tributaries)

The STPs above 01 MLD capacity number about 250. Out of these, 90 (UP-11, WB-40, UK-18, Bihar-8, JK-13) STPs are to be connected through OCEMS. All the States to operationalize OCEMS in remaining STPs by 31st December 2024.

5.3 Safe Reuse of Treated Wastewater

I. Ministry of Power

- a) Ministry of Power to consider the cost of fresh water in the calculation of power tariff to understand the impact of cost of treated water in power tariff calculations while making comparisons and share analysis within one month.
- b) No fresh exemption (from using the treated wastewater) is to be given to any Thermal Power Plants(TPPs).
- c) Analysis of old exemption cases (17) to be shared with NMCG urgently within one month.
- d) 61 Thermal Power plants to use STP treated water with in a fix time frame and action plan to be shared within one month.

II. All states

- a) All States to update/formulate the policy on Safe Reuse of Treated Wastewater and align it with the National Framework on Reuse of Treated Wastewater (released by NMCG in November 2022) by 31st December 2024. In case, any State wants deviation from the NMCG framework, it may consult NMCG.
- b) All States to prioritize use of treated wastewater with city wise action plans.

5.4 River Cities Alliances (RCR)/URMP

The State of UP to notify the committee for implementation for Kanpur and Ayodhya URMPs.

5.5 Smart Laboratory on Clean Rivers (SLCR).

The State of UP to extend support for the establishment of SLCR & facilitate in the implementation of Projects sanctioned under SLCR.

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5.6 Tourism

a) All States

I. All States to conduct feasibility studies of identified tourist circuits.

II. Ministry of Tourism

- a) Ministry of Tourism to conduct workshop with the tourism operators and tourist guides.
- b) Ministry of Tourism would also conduct training for tourist guides to make the experience of tourists a memorable one.
- c) Ministry of Tourism to draw up action plan for undertaking further actions in this regards.
- d) D.O. to all State Tourism Secretary on [Green Leaf Rating] to be done for Ganga basin.

5.7 Natural Farming:

Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare (MoA&FW)

- a) MoA&FW would continue to provide resource persons for NF workshops conducted by NMCG
- b) MoA&FW should take the lead in setting up model NF farms in the Ganga basin to motivate the farmers to opt for natural farming.
- c) MoA&FW would support NMCG in certification, branding & linkage of NF produce with the markets.
- d) MoA&FW would continue to promote NF through its KVKs (Krishi Vigyan Kendras) & Agricultural Universities

5.8 Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) in Ganga Basin

- a) The State of UP would submit the DPR for Gorakhpur CETP within a month.
- b) The State of UP would also ensure the agreement for Unnao CETP is signed within a month.

In the end, Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti addressed all the participants and directed that henceforth the ETF meetings would be held regularly and next meeting of ETF would be held in December 2024.

- He mentioned that use of treated waste water in the Thermal Power Plants after tertiary treatment must be made compulsory as decided & discussed in the meeting. No exemption should be given to any TPP from using the treated waste water.
- All states need to make an action plan for each district to promote Ganga based tourism so that tourism provides benefits for the livelihood of local communities.

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- Further, all States must make concerted efforts to make the River Ganga a clean river and ensure expeditious action.
- He further emphasized that all the tasks be completed within the timeline as decided in today's meeting.

DG, NMCG, in his concluding remarks, thanked the Hon'ble Minister, Secretary and other participants and ended the meeting with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

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Annexure-IList of Participants

1. Shri C. R. Paatil, Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti
2. Shri Raj Bhushan Chaudhary, Hon'ble Minister of State for Jal Shakti
3. Shri Ashok K K Meena, OSD, DDWS
4. Shri Rakesh Kumar Verma, Additional Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR
5. Shri Rajeev Kumar Mittal, Director General, NMCG
6. Shri Nalin Kumar Srivastava, Deputy Director General, NMCG
7. Shri S.P. Vashishth, ED (Admin.), NMCG
8. Shri Anup Kumar Srivastava, ED (Technical), NMCG
9. Shri Bhaskar Dasgupta, ED (Finance), NMCG
10. Shri Brijendra Swaroop, ED (Projects), NMCG
11. Shri Sh. A. Muralidharan - Deputy Adviser (WR&LR), Niti Aayog
12. Smt. Yogita Rana, Joint Secretary, M/o Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
13. Shri V K Chaurasia, Advisor (CPHEEO), M/o Urban Affairs
14. Shri Ved Prakash Mishra, Director, MoEF&CC
15. Shri M R Synrem, Joint Secretary, M/o Tourism
16. Shri Piyush Singh, JS (Thermal), M/o Power
17. Shri Praveen Gupta, Member (CEA), M/o Power
18. Shri Shailesh Bagauli, Secretary, Drinking Water & Sanitation, Govt. of Uttarakhand
19. Shri Ranvir Singh Chauhan, Program Director, SMCG, Govt. of Uttarakhand
20. Shri Anurag Srivastava, Principal Secretary (UD), Govt. of Uttar Pradesh
21. Shri Arun Kumar, Addl. Project Director, SMCG, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh
22. Shri Sunil Kumar Yadav, Addl. Secretary (UD&HD), Govt. of Bihar
23. Shri Yogesh Kumar Sagar, MD, BUIDCO, Govt. of Bihar
24. Shri Sunil Kumar, Principal Secretary (UD&HD), Govt of Jharkhand
25. Shri Amit Kumar, Project Director, SPMG, Jharkhand
26. Smt. Nandini Ghosh, Project Director, SPMG, Govt. of West Bengal

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Legal/OA673/2018/NMCG/2019
National Mission for Clean Ganga
Department of Water Resources, River Development
& Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti

1st Floor,
Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium
India Gate, New Delhi-110002
Dated: 8th November, 2024

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Minutes of the 19th meeting of Central Monitoring Committee in the NGT Matter OA No.673 of 2018 held on 30.09.2024 from 10.00 AM on-wards

A copy of Minutes of the 19th Meeting of Central Monitoring Committee in the NGT matter O.A. No. 673 of 2018 held through Video Conferencing on 30.09.2024 from 10.00 AM on-wards, under the Chairmanship of Secretary, DoWR, RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti is forwarded herewith for information/ necessary action.



(Anup Kumar Srivastava)
Executive Director-Technical, NMCG
ed-technical@nmcg.nic.in

Encl: As above.

To,

1. Chief Secretary, Government of Andhra Pradesh, 1st Block, A.P Secretariat Office, Velagapudi – 522503
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3. Chief Secretary, Government of Bihar, Main Secretariat, Patna – 800015
4. Chief Secretary, Government of Chhattisgarh, Mahanadi Bhawan, Mantralaya, Naya, Raipur – 492002
5. Chief Secretary, Government of Goa, Secretariat, Porvrom, Bardez, Goa – 403521
6. Chief Secretary, Government of Gujarat, 1st Block, 5th Floor, Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar – 382010
7. Chief Secretary, Government of Haryana, 4th Floor, Haryana Civil Secretariat, Sector-1, Chandigarh – 160019
8. Chief Secretary, Government of Himachal Pradesh, H P Secretariat, Shimla –171002
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21. Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan, Secretariat, Jaipur – 302005
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30. Chief Secretary, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Delhi Secretariat, IP Estate, New Delhi – 110002
31. Chief Secretary, Govt. of Puducherry, Main Building, Chief Secretariat, Puducherry-605001
32. Chief Secretary, Andaman & Nicobar, Secretariat, Port Blair
33. Administrator, Lakshadweep

Copy To:

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20. Principal Secretary, Chief Project Director (SBFP-JICA), Forests, Environment & Wildlife Management Department, Government of Sikkim
21. Principal Secretary, Namakkal Kavignar Maaligai, Fort St. George, Chennai 600 009
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25. Deputy Conservator of Forests, (Territorial Division), Van Bhavan, Dadra and Nagar Haveli
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35. The Member Secretary, Bihar State Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, Plot No. NS-B/2 Paliputra Industrial Area, Patliputra, Patna (Bihar) - 800 010
36. The Member Secretary, Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board, Paryavas Bhavan, North Block Sector-19, Atal Nagar Dist- Raipur (C.G.) 492002
37. The Member Secretary, Delhi Pollution Control Committee, Government of N.C.T. Delhi 4th Floor, ISBT Building, Kashmere Gate, Delhi-110006
38. The Member Secretary, Daman, Diu & Dadra Nagar Haveli Pollution Control Committee, Office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Fort Area, Court Compound, Moti Daman, Daman – 396220
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43. The Member Secretary, Jammu & Kashmir State Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, Forest Complex, Gladni, Narwal, transport Nagar, Jammu, Jammu and Kashmir 180004
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50. The Member Secretary, Nagaland Pollution Control Board, Signal Point, Dimapur Nagaland – 797112
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58. The Member Secretary, Sikkim State Pollution Control Board, Department of Forest, Environment & Wildlife Management Government of Sikkim, Deorali, Gangtok, - 737102
59. The Member Secretary, Telangana State Pollution Control Board, Paryavaran Bhawan, A-3, I.E. Sanath Nagar, Hyderabad-500 018
60. The Member Secretary, Tripura Pollution Control Board, Vigyan Bhawan, Pandit Nehru Complex, Gorkhabasti, PO: Kunjaban Agartala – 799006
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65. The Member Secretary, Andaman & Nicobar Islands Pollution Control Committee, Department of Science & Technology, Dollygunj Van Sadan, Haddo P.O., Port Blair – 744102

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66. The Member Secretary, Lakshadweep Pollution Control Committee, Department of Science, Technology & Environment, Kavarati-682555

Copy for kind information:

1. PPS to Secretary, Department of Water Resources, RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Shram Shakti Bhavan, Rafi Marg, Sansad Marg Area, New Delhi- 110001
2. PS to Director General, NMCG cum Project Director NRCD
3. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Nirman Bhawan, Maulana Azad Road, New Delhi – 110011.
4. Special Secretary (SBM & CVO), Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Government of India, 4th Floor, Pt. Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi – 110003.
5. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jorbagh Road, New Delhi – 110003
6. Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032
7. PS to DDG, NMCG
8. PS to ED (Projects), NMCG
9. Joint Secretary, NRCD

Minutes of the 19th meeting of the Central Monitoring Committee held on 30.09.2024 through Video Conferencing regarding 351 polluted river stretches based on the directions of Hon'ble NGT in the matter OA No. 673 of 2018

The 19th meeting of the Central Monitoring Committee (CMC) constituted by Hon'ble NGT in the matter OA No. 673 of 2018 was held in hybrid mode with States on 30.09.2024 in Conference Room, NMCG under the Chairmanship of Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS). The list of participants is at ***Annexure-I***.

To begin with, a brief presentation was made by ED (T), NMCG about the mandates of CMC following the Hon'ble NGT Order in 2019. He further informed the Committee regarding activities completed/under process as part of directions given by the Chair in 18th CMC meeting held in Jan, 2024 including the conduct of two-day workshop on "New technologies for Decentralized Treatment of Sewage and Sludge Management" on 23rd & 24th September, 2024 at IIT Roorkee which was attended by 75 plus officers/technocrats from Central and State Govts Deptts.

In her opening remarks, the Chair, among other things, informed that the Central Govt has circulated Draft Revised Technical Guidelines on Flood Plain Zones. *She urged all States/ UTs to offer their comments/ inputs to the Ministry at the earliest. The same after finalization needs to be implemented in States to mitigate flood related risks.*

[All States/ UTs]

Subsequently, State-wise discussions were held reflecting the progress by individual States on host of issues, such as sewage, industrial and solid waste management, etc.

1. Tamil Nadu

1.1 NRCD reported that incremental progress of the 29 under construction STPs reported to be in the range of 1 to 6% in the MPR. Some of the under construction STPs are still not completed as per the timelines indicated. State to regularly monitor the progress of the ongoing STP works.

[Action: State of TN]

1.2 10 CETPs of 41 MLD are reported to be at proposal stage since last 2 years.

It was informed by the State that the industries are functioning at residential areas, and therefore, it is proposed to relocate the industries at a different location. All the industrial units are ZLD. DPRs for CETPs have been prepared and the same was submitted to Ministry of Textiles for financial assistance. Funds are also requested in Nandanthal Vaazhi Cauvery project from State Water Resources Department, Ministry of Jal Shakti.

[Action: Ministry of Textiles/ NRCD]

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1.3 State to prepare Action plan for restoration of newly identified polluted river stretches - Palar, Amravathu, Cooum, and Adyar.

[Action: State of TN]

1.4 The Chair suggested the State and CPCB to reconcile sewage generation data. Efforts are also required by the State to enhance the utilization capacity of the existing sewerage infrastructure. Chief Secretary, TN was requested to review the implementation of the River Action Plans.

[Action: State of TN/ CPCB]

1.5 A study of ecological assessment of Cauvery River was carried out by NRCDC and Wildlife Institute of India (WII). The findings of the study may be presented by WII to Chief Secretary, Tamil Nadu.

[Action: NRCDC]

1.6 Principal Secretary (Environment, Climate Change & Forests Department), Tamil Nadu informed that river stretches of Sarabanga and Cauvery have improved and have shifted to lower priorities. With regard to the quantity of sewage generation in the State, Chief Secretary, Tamil Nadu is reviewing the matter in consultation with the Directorate of Municipal Administration, Directorate of Town Panchayat, Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage and a meeting with CPCB and concerned Line Departments will be conducted to sort out the issues. Further, details with regard to alternate technology for sewage treatment, generally in rural areas FSTPs, septic tanks of soak pits, horizontal/vertical filters etc., will be shared in the MPR submissions. A clean Tamil Nadu company limited is proposed by Government of Tamil Nadu to ensure bio-mining of legacy waste at urban areas and day to day treatment and disposal at rural areas. One sewage outfall of Cooum River and 21 numbers outfalls at Adyar River have been plugged. Adyar and Cooum Polluted River Stretches are given top priority for improvement of water quality. Compound wall/ retention walls are being provided for floodplain protection.

2. Karnataka

2.1 Gap in sewage treatment capacity remains 663 MLD. 14 existing STPs of 39 MLD are reported to be non-operational. Out of the 74 under construction STPs, 33 STPs having completion timeline of April/ May, 2024 are yet to be completed. State may expedite the progress and indicate revised timelines in the MPRs.

[Action: State of Karnataka]

2.2 State to take appropriate action to bridge the gap in solid waste management of 5500 TPD.

[Action: State of Karnataka]

2.3 State to submit river action plan for 3 new polluted river stretches - Arkavathi, Dakshinak Pinakini and Thenpennai falling under Priority-I. Status in this regard may be indicated in the MPR.

[Action: State of Karnataka]

2.4 Principal Secretary (Environment), Karnataka informed that slow progress of STP at Kaggadasapura was due to land dispute, which has now been resolved and shall be completed by March, 2025. Work of STP at Varthur was held up due to Court Matter. Corrected measures being taken for non-complying 2 STPs and house sewer connections are pending due to which 12 STPs are reported to be non-operational, this is being taken up in a phased wise manner. Further, it was informed that a World Bank assisted project is being taken up involving rural and urban development bodies for three coastal districts. As per the State, only 10 river stretches are polluted, therefore a joint inspection is proposed to be held in January to ascertain the number of polluted river stretches. Arkavathi and Dakshina Penakini are high priority polluted river stretches, for which STPs are being constructed under BBMP to cater to the sewage generated from Bangalore city.

2.5 Further, it was highlighted that Thenpennai river is in Tamil Nadu and not in Karnataka and CPCB may take a note of it.

[Action: CPCB]

2.6 The Chair suggested the State to review the progress of implementation of the River Action Plans and to expedite the progress of on-going STP projects. It was suggested that the non-operational STPs may be utilized else the STP quality shall deteriorate till the house sewer network connections are completed.

[Action: State of Karnataka]

2.7 A separate session may be held with the Coastal States wherein Karnataka can give brief about the works done for Coastal Pollution Management.

[Action: NRCD]

2.8 A separate meeting to be held for discussion with regard to pollution in River Arkavathi and the mitigation action proposed by State.

[Action: NRCD]

2.9 Scientist E, CPCB informed that the Action Plan for Coastal Pollution Management submitted by the States/ UTs are reviewed at CPCB and comments on the same are sent. However the Action Plans are to be approved by the Coastal Zone Regulation Committee.

3. Punjab

3.1 State to take appropriate action against the following issues:

- i. 28 non-compliant STPs out of the 91 monitored STPs
- ii. 14 ongoing STP works are having land issues.
- iii. 2 major non-compliant CETPs of capacity 40 & 15 MLD at Ludhiana.

[Action: State of Punjab]

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3.2 The Chair suggested that online monitoring of all the existing STPs in the State may be taken up in order to ensure that the existing STPs are operational at their optimum capacity.

[Action: State of Punjab]

3.3. DG, NMCG suggested that a Control Room may be established, where all the online monitoring data is displayed and analyzed.

[Action: State of Punjab]

3.4 Secretary (Environment), Punjab informed that river Sirsa is predominantly in the State of Haryana with only one village in Punjab in its catchment which adds no pollution in the river. As per the decisions of CMC, the matter has been taken up with CPCB and the State of Haryana, and the final decision is awaited. It was further informed that river Ghaggar enters the State at Mubarakpur with water quality of BOD > 30 mg/l (Priority-I) and continues to flow in the State with the same status. However, adequate sewage treatment capacity has been planned in different towns in its catchment to improve river water quality. The matter has been monitored at the highest level in the State and also with the State of Haryana to ensure improvement in river water quality.

[Action: CPCB/ NRCD]

3.5 With regard to Buddha Nallah rejuvenation project, it was informed that regular monitoring has been conducted at appropriate level to adhere to the respective timelines for different components being executed through PWS&SB, PEDDA and Ludhiana Municipal Corporation. In order to ensure compliance of the CETPs with respect to the prescribed discharge norms, corrective measures are being taken in consultation with all stakeholders, along with the action against erring industrial units by Punjab Pollution Control Board under the statutory provisions.

3.5.1 JS, NRCD informed that water quality monitoring was carried out after completion of the Buddha Nallah Rejuvenation Project, however as per the results, the water quality is observed to be deteriorated in 2024 as compared to 2023 prior to execution of the project. **The Chair expressed serious concerns over the deterioration of water quality of Buddha nallah and river Satluj even after completion of all the components under the project involving huge expenditure to the tune of Rs.500 crore.**

3.5.2 ACS (LSG), Punjab informed that there prevails enforcement issue – (i) cow dung being discharged into the sewer networks choking the system and affecting the performance of the STPs, (ii) industrial discharge – though strict action is being taken by the State PCB. A comprehensive plan needs to be implemented for addressing the issues and requested a separate meeting for further discussion.

3.5.3 The Chair directed NRCD to convene a separate meeting with the State officials and JS (Swachh Bharat dealing with Gobardhan) to resolve the issue of Buddha Nallah Pollution. Further, CPCB was directed to resolve the issue of River Sirsa in consultation with the State Government of Punjab and Himachal Pradesh.

[Action: NRCD/CPCB]

4. Himachal Pradesh

4.1 The Chair raised concern over the deterioration of water quality in the rivers in the State. In May 2024, BOD of 22 mg/l was observed in River Sirsa and River Sukhna had a BOD of 280 mg/l.

4.2 As per the submissions made by Punjab, the industrial activities in Baddi, Himachal is responsible for pollution in Sirsa river in Punjab stretch. Industrial pollution management remains an issue in the State of HP and as per the MPR of May 2024, 35 ETPs were reported to be non-compliant.

[Action: State of HP]

4.2.1 Member Secretary, HPPCB informed that a joint inspection of River Sirsa was carried out by officials from Himachal Pradesh & Punjab and the BOD & DO values were found to be within permissible limits in both the States. The CETP at Baddi is complying with the standards. As per the latest monitoring reports, State had requested CPCB to put River Sirsa and Ashwani in Priority-V. CPCB to review the same.

[Action: CPCB]

4.2.2 Further it was informed that works for pollution abatement completed in the catchment area of River Sirsa and the water quality reported in August, 2024 has BOD within permissible limits. Similarly, one STP is operational and another STP is under construction in the catchment area of River Sukhna. The sewer network works have been completed and the households are now connected with the operational STP and improvement in water quality of River Sukhna observed in August, 2024.

4.2.3 The Chair directed that a meeting to resolve the Baddi issue may be convened by NRCD with Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and CPCB, after submission of the final inspection report by CPCB.

[Action: NRCD]

4.3 State needs to ensure that all the Hydro-Electric projects release the mandated minimum environment flow. It was remarked that rivers of Himachal are an asset to the country and therefore Chief Secretary, Himachal Pradesh may review – (a) whether the sewage is reaching to the STPs, (b) whether the STPs are functioning effectively, (c) why river stretches are deteriorating, & (d) Action Plans for River Rejuvenation may be reviewed and if required may be updated.

[Action: State of HP]

4.4 Special Secretary (Jal Shakti Vibhag) informed that the matter is regularly being reviewed by Chief Secretary, Himachal Pradesh. 3 STPs in Shimla were under upgradation.

5. Maharashtra

5.1 State to re-concile the sewage generation data with CPCB.

[Action: State of Maharashtra/ CPCB]

5.2 Out of the existing 154 STPs, 6 STPs of total capacity 101 MLD are non-operational and 61 STPs are reported to be non-compliant, including major STPs of 757 MLD at Worli & 797 MLD at Bandra in Mumbai. The ongoing STP works are having slow progress. State to take appropriate action.

[Action: State of Maharashtra]

5.3 As many as 87 STPs of total capacity 4200 MLD are proposed in the State including 7 major STPs of 2464 MLD in Mumbai undertaken by Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai. The State Govt is required to look into the details in terms of STPs under tendering process, awaiting administrative/technical sanction and/or proposal yet under formulation.

[Action: State of Maharashtra]

5.4 Principal Secretary (Environment), Maharashtra informed that 25 STPs of 308 MLD are under construction and 87 STPs of total capacity 4200 MLD are proposed to bridge the gap in sewage treatment. Present status of these STPs would be sought from Urban Development Department and MPRs shall be updated accordingly. After completion of the house sewer connections, utilization capacity of the existing STPs shall improve within two years.

5.5 The Chair noted that the State has maximum polluted river stretches and no perceptible improvement has been observed since long. State was directed to submit within a month, interim measures proposed to improve the utilization capacity of the STPs till the time sewer connections are made.

[Action: State of Maharashtra]

5.6 PD, NRCD insisted for time bound implementation of action plans for identified polluted river stretches in the State giving due priority to the most polluted ones. Further, it was suggested that a physical meeting with a team from Maharashtra may be held at NRCD.

[Action: State of Maharashtra/ NRCD]

5.7 JS, NRCD informed that a Performa was shared with the States/UTs by NRCD so that performance of the State/UT can be evaluated in terms of implementation of the Action Plan. The response from the State is awaited.

5.8 Further, a 26 MLD STP at Nanded was sanctioned under NRCD, however details of the STP are missing in the report submitted by Quality Control of India (QCI). State may look into the matter.

[Action: State of Maharashtra]

6. Andaman & Nicobar

6.1 Secretary (Environment), Andaman informed that UT is putting in efforts in ensuring compliance to the directions of Hon'ble NGT in the Matter OA 673 of 2018 and OA 606 of 2018. With regard to the previously proposed 10 MLD STP at Port Blair, it was informed that the project has been scrapped and treatment is proposed through a 25

MLD phyto-remediation plant. The proposal is currently in DPR stage and work order is expected to be issued soon. Due to heavy rains, the working time is very limited. It was assured to pursue the works which are under the Port Blair Municipal Corporation and PWD implementing the Smart city projects. It was agreed to submit the MPRs timely.

6.2 The Chair directed Andaman & Nicobar Pollution Control Committee to review the performance of the projects after its implementation.

[Action: Andaman & Nicobar Pollution Control Committee]

7. Tripura

7.1 State may provide status and details of the proposed sewage treatment facilities. Treatment efficiency of bio-remediation works taken up in 5 drains needs to be analyzed.

[Action: State of Tripura]

7.2 Secretary (Environment), Tripura informed that to increase the utilization capacity of the operational 8 MLD STP, additional pumping stations are being installed. 8 MLD STP at Akhaora completed and shall be operational in 1-2 months' time. For treating 64.24 MLD of effluent, works are under different stages of implementation – 31.5 MLD STP, 9.7 MLD by bio-remediation of drains and work order to be issued for 17.5 MLD STP and 8 MLD STP.

7.3 The Chair desired that CPCB may review the bio-remediation works being carried out by the State, and share its effectiveness with other Stakeholders, if found useful.

[Action: CPCB]

8. Gujarat

8.1 State may put in effort to:

- (i) Increase the utilization capacity of the existing STPs, which is reported as 68%.
- (ii) Improve the compliance status of the 46 STPs and 1 CETP which are reported to be non-complying.

[Action: State of Gujarat]

8.2 Secretary (Urban Development), Gujarat informed that Chief Secretary, Gujarat regularly reviews the progress. There remain few major issues in the State.

8.2.1 First is lack of household connections in locations where collection network system is functional. During the survey, it was found that around 12.9 lakh household connections were yet to be made. State Government is now providing Rs.7000/- to the owners for getting their household connected to the sewer networks. Around 2 lakh connections have been completed and for the remaining connections, financial arrangements have been planned.

8.2.2 Second is lack of collection networks in outgrown and missed out areas. New DPRs are being taken up worth Rs. 5000 crores. This includes household sewer connections. The Utilization Capacity of the existing STPs is more than 68%, however the STPs are being planned for 20 years and shall not achieve 100% utilization capacity at present.

8.2.3 Third issue is that the few Nagar Palikas are not able to run and maintain the STPs properly due to fund paucity and high O&M. State Government has decided to provide financial and technical assistance to these ULBs. The non-compliant STPs in the State shall either be upgraded or replaced. Keeping in pace with the circular economy concept, State is planning and putting in efforts to increase the amount of reused treated water from 35% to 60%. Reuse of treated water has also helped in recovering earnings for smaller ULBs.

8.3 The Chair appreciated the efforts being put in by the State; she observed that while creating additional STP capacity, State should focus on improving the utilization capacity of the existing STPs. The Chair also remarked that even after the completion of sufficient sewage treatment, there is no improvement seen in the water quality of Priority-I rivers.

[Action: State of Gujarat]

8.4 Secretary (Urban Development), Gujarat informed that State is having fast urbanization, hence considering the future predictions and improvement in water supply connections, STPs are being established in every municipality. Efforts are being made by the State to improve the sewerage networks and household connections and for addressing the industrial pollution which shall lead to improvement in water quality of the rivers.

8.5 Member Secretary, GPCB informed that the Priority-I rivers are identified in the most populated areas of the State. Efforts are being put in by the State to addresses the issues. There is improvement in water quality of the rivers and shall be reflected in 2024 water quality monitoring reports. Chair asked CPCB to confirm the facts and send analysis to GPCB and NRCD.

[Action: CPCB]

9. Telangana

9.1 The Chair raised concern over few ongoing STP projects not having any progress in the past 6 months including 2 STPs having 99% progress. State was directed to provide incremental progress made with regard to all ongoing projects in the MPR submissions.

[Action: State of Telangana]

9.2 Principal Secretary, EFS&T informed that due to the measures taken by the Government, the water quality has improved in all the stretches and all efforts are being placed to bridge the gap in sewage and solid waste management.

9.3 Managing Director, HMWSSB informed that as provided in the MPR, work of 6 STPs could not be initiated due to land and other local issues and hence the progress made and completion timeline could not be updated. As the issues are now resolved, these STPs are being taken up under AMRUT-2.0. The tendering process for newly sanctioned 38 STPs are being taken up, with 24 months completion timeline.

9.4 Further, it was informed that Government of Telangana has taken up rejuvenation of river Musi as a flagship program and plans to utilise 5 TMC of river Godavari water to ensure freshwater flow in river Musi along and this project is under pipeline.

9.5 The Engineer in Chief, PHED informed that the STPs that are having 99% progress since past 6 months could not be commenced due to non-completion of network connections owing to monsoon season and continuous rains. It was assured that the STPs shall commence within couple of months.

[Action: State of Telangana]

9.6 JS, NRCDC raised concern over inordinate delay in establishment of the solid waste processing facilities since last two years. The Commissioner & Director Municipal Administration, Telangana informed that at present the issue of LOA for setting up of processing plants is kept on hold, as the feasibility for establishment of Waste to Energy plants on cluster basis is being studied and suitable lands are being identified.

[Action: State of Telangana]

10. Kerala

10.1 ACS (Environment), Kerala informed that Kerala is a rural-urban continuum and has specific undulating terrain which makes it difficult in providing sewer network connections in the entire State. Onsite sanitation through septic tanks and soak pits is being practiced in majority of places. Most of the households are located not in cluster form but households are distributed all over the State. However, action is being taken to divert the sewage to common STPs. Fecal Sludge Treatment Plants (FSTPs) also exists in the State and some more units are being setup. Ministry of Jal Shakti was thanked for the approval of Cochin Metro Rail Limited's proposal of two STPs- one at Perandoor and one at Elamkulam.

10.2 Special Secretary (LSG), Kerala informed that as it is difficult to provide sewer network in the entire State, hence more Mobile Treatment Units (MTUs) and FSTPs are proposed to fill the gaps. Out of 4 non-operational STPs, 2 are individual STPs and action is being taken by LSGD and PCB for rectification. In case of 0.1 MLD FSTP at Kochi Corporation project for renovation is underway. With regard to ongoing projects having no incremental physical progress reported, most of these are individual STPs and implementation is being regularly monitored. With regard to the variation in data of STPs and their capacity, it was informed that the data is dynamic and is being updated regularly by the SPCB based on issuance of consent to operate. Further, it was informed that 1.5 MLD CETP at Aroor was delayed due to court case and for 1.5 MLD CETP, Chandiroor, Administrative Sanction will be issued and the project is expected to be completed within one year.

10.3 The Chair appreciated the works carried out by the State and suggested that State may document the non-STP related sewage treatment works undertaken which can be

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used by other States having similar topographical conditions. State may submit the document in this regard at the earliest to CPCB for compilation.

[Action: State of Kerala/ CPCB]

11. Puducherry

11.1 Progress of all the 5 proposed STPs by the UT needs to be expedited.

[Action: UT of Puducherry]

11.2 The Chair raised concern over two more river stretches being identified as polluted though the UT has sufficient sewage treatment capacity and solid waste management facility.

11.3 Secretary (Environment), Puducherry informed that to address the issue of pollution in River Chunnambar, a 3 MLD FSTP is planned and shall be completed by March, 2025.

[Action: UT of Puducherry]

11.4 The pollution issue in newly identified rivers – Gautami Godavari and Coringa is due to discharge from Andhra Pradesh, however a 6 MLD STP is planned for Yanam which shall be completed by June, 2025.

[Action: UT of Puducherry]

11.5 Further, it was informed that Coastal Action Plan has been prepared and was submitted to CPCB. Thereafter, CPCB examined the Action Plan and requested to submit the revised Action Plan. NCCR is preparing the revised Action Plan and it would be completed by November, 2024.

[Action: UT of Puducherry]

12. Sikkim

12.1 Secretary (PHED), Sikkim informed that 3.25 MLD STP is now completed and households are now being persuaded for getting connected to the main sewer networks. The progress of STP at Mangan and Chungthang got delayed due to land issues. STP proposed at Soreng is at DPR stage. Due to flash floods in River Teesta, South Sikkim got damaged, which affected the works with regard to proposed STP projects at Jorethang and Rabong.

12.2 JS, NRCD highlighted that during the visit of team from NRCD, it was suggested that a letter with regard to escalation in the project cost may be submitted to NRCD for consideration. The letter is awaited at NRCD and therefore State may expedite the same.

[Action: State of Sikkim]

12.3 The Chair suggested that a separate meeting be held with the State with regard to the damage caused by flash floods in River Teesta.

[Action: NRCD]

13. Manipur

13.1 State to address the issue of 140 MLD gap in sewage treatment capacity existing in the State.

[Action: State of Manipur]

13.2 Except River Nambul, no improvement is seen in water quality of rivers. Further, there is addition of 4 new river stretches in Priority V.

13.3 Status of construction of 3 ETPs of 400 KLD at Takyelpat, Tera Urak & Kuraopokpi Industrial Estates of Manipur needs to be indicated in the MPR.

[Action: State of Manipur]

13.4 ACS (Environment), Manipur informed that two STPs of 16 MLD and 1 MLD under NRCP have been completed. The 16 MLD STP has been commissioned and operational with 50% capacity utilization at present. However, in case of 1 MLD STP, laying of 30m sewer line is pending due to some issues and the same will be completed in the next 2-3 months.

13.5 With regard to the newly sanctioned project for pollution abatement of Imphal and Manipur rivers under NRCP, it was informed that tenders will be floated soon and execution of the project is expected in two months' time. Action Plan for the remaining polluted rivers has been prepared and submitted.

[Action: State of Manipur]

13.5.1 Further, there has been a decline in the flow of rivers in the State which has rendered them to be seasonal. With reduced flow, there is lack of water for dilution in the rivers leading to an increased concentration of pollutants in the rivers which further resulted in increase in number of polluted stretches in the State. In order to address this issue, the State Government is looking up for other schemes/sources of funding for catchment area treatment for rejuvenation of the springs which will improve the flow/e-flow of the rivers and reduction of pollution therein. The State Government is working on proposals for reuse of treated water from the existing STPs and requested the Ministry for technical and financial assistance in this regard.

[Action: State of Manipur/ NRCD]

13.6 The Chair suggested that the State may consider nature based solution and bioremediation for treatment of sewage, similar to activities being undertaken by Tripura State Government. Further, the State may submit proposals related to constructed wetlands & spring rejuvenation to the Ministry for examination.

[Action: State of Manipur]

14. Daman, Diu & Dadra Nagar Haveli

14.1 UT to ensure timely submission of Monthly Progress Reports.

[Action: UT of DDDNH]

14.2 UT to expedite the completion of house sewer connections in order to enhance the utilization capacity of the existing 13 MLD STP.

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[Action: UT of DDDNH]

14.3 Secretary (Environment), DDDNH informed that more effort is being put up by the UT in addressing the pollution in both polluted river and coastal stretches of UT. Work is in progress with regard to pending house connections, 90% connections are expected to be completed within the next 4-5 months.

14.4 Report with regard to the status of phytoremediation carried out in drains will be submitted to the CPCB for compilation.

[Action: CPCB]

14.5 The Chair suggested that the UT may explore nature based solution for treatment of sewage and to speed up implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan.

[Action: UT of DDDNH]

15. Uttarakhand

15.1 Out of the 60 operational STPs in the State, all are complying with MoEF&CC norms, however, as per NGT norms 44 STPs are complying and 16 are non-complying. State may address this issue and may expedite the progress of ongoing STP works at the Udham Singh Nagar and Gaurikund project, which have completion timeline of October 2024 and April 2025.

[Action: State of Uttarakhand]

15.2 The Chair remarked that Uttarakhand having significant works done in managing sewerage however there is no improvement seen in river stretches of Bahela & Dhella and there is deterioration in river stretches of Kalyani, Koshi, Nandour, Pilkha and there is addition of new river stretch of Banganga.

[Action: State of Uttarakhand]

15.3 Secretary (Drinking water & Sanitation), Uttarakhand informed that with completion of on-going STP projects, the water quality in the identified rivers shall improve. Further, it was informed that e-flow in the rivers are being maintained as per river specific notifications.

15.4 Scientist E, CPCB highlighted that the pollution in river Bahela & Dhella is due to industrial activities in the catchment; therefore strict monitoring and enforcement may be ensured.

[Action: Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board]

16. West Bengal

16.1 PD, NRCD highlighted that most of the STPs in State are non-compliant to Fecal Coliform norms. Necessary arrangements may be made by the State for ensuring compliance of the STPs. State may submit pending Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for the towns along the Ganga main stem.

[Action: State of West Bengal]

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16.2 Principal Secretary (Environment), West Bengal along with other State officials attended the meeting. Senior Special Secretary (Department of UD & MA), West Bengal informed that the STPs previously built under Ganga Action Plan (GAP) are non-complying to the FC norms, therefore State is installing chlorination tanks in these STPs. Co-treatment of septage in the existing STPs is being undertaken, due to which improvement in Ganga river quality observed. Low cost technologies/ in-situ treatment are being explored. Due to difficulty in land availability and purchase of private land requires 8 month time, which led to delay in DPR submission. Pending DPRs will be submitted in phased wise manner.

[Action: State of West Bengal]

16.3 Further, it was informed that the river water quality has improved and CPCB has been requested to de-list 4 of the river stretches now achieving Bathing water quality standards. **CPCB to revisit the polluted river stretches list.**

[Action: CPCB]

17. Uttar Pradesh

17.1 The action plans for the 6 newly identified polluted river stretches (Banganga, Pilkhar, Rihand, Sone, Sai & Bahela) in 2022 report needs to be prepared by the State Government.

[Action: State of UP]

17.2 State Government to submit the DPRs for the towns identified under Priority I&II polluted river stretches.

[Action: State of UP]

17.3 For the earlier identified stretches, wherein actions have already been identified, projects are yet to be taken up for (i) Hindon (Sardana, Loni), (ii) Kali Nadi (Meerut – Abu Nala 1), (iii) Yamuna (Fatehabad, Hamirpur), (iv) Ramganga (Karula Drain – Moradabad), (v) Bahela (Tanda).

[Action: State of UP]

17.4 Project Director-UPSMCG/ Managing Director-UPJN (R) indicated that the balance DPRs for Hindon, Kali Nadi & Yamuna polluted river stretches are under preparation and will be submitted shortly for consideration.

17.5 Regarding comprehensive Varuna action plan, a joint meeting of Principal Secretary – Namami Gange and Principal Secretary – Urban Development Department along with all concerned departments has been held on 28.09.2024 and draft DPRs have been prepared except for the interceptor sewer which is pending from Irrigation department and is likely to be submitted within next month.

17.5.1 DG, NMCG indicated that these DPRs (under Varuna Action Plan) are not to be considered as independent projects rather all of them carry inter-dependency in terms of flow & timelines and accordingly, it was requested to submit all the DPRs collectively for further actions.

[Action: State of UP]

17.6 The Chair pointed out that NMCG has sanctioned projects on the main stem/ certain tributaries of river Ganga, it is primarily the responsibility of State to ensure that no untreated sewage is being discharged into the rivers. The Chair requested the State to prepare concerted action and a clear road map on the action plans to deal with polluted river stretches.

[Action: State of UP]

18. Odisha

18.1 State to provide details of action proposed for bridging the gap in sewage treatment of 404.5 MLD.

[Action: State of Odisha]

18.2 Additional Chief Secretary (Environment), Odisha attended the meeting along with other State officials. State official informed that 13 STPs of 375.50 MLD is operational in the State having utilization capacity of 186 MLD. FSTPs of 2087 KLD are operational in all 115 ULBs. Further, it was assured that details shall be submitted to the Ministry.

18.3 The Chair appreciated the works done by the State in improving water quality of certain stretch. However State was directed to submit details of action proposed for Priority-I river Gangua.

[Action: State of Odisha]

19. Chhattisgarh

19.1 State to address the issue of delay in on-going 4 STPs at Nava Raipur Zone 1, Kanker, Sigma and Koni C (Bilaspur). State may indicate the following in the MPR:

- (i) Timelines for the sanctioned 5 STPs
- (ii) Model River identified by the State

[Action: State of Chhattisgarh]

19.2 The Chair expressed concern about deterioration of Kharoon river and under-utilization of existing STPs.

[Action: State of Chhattisgarh]

19.3 Secretary, Urban Development informed that 9 STPs are operational for Kharoon and 1 STP Dhamtari is under construction for which timeline will be indicated in the MPR. Though capacity utilization of the existing STPs has improved in last 6 months however, efforts are being made to improve it further.

[Action: State of Chhattisgarh]

19.4 Regarding identification of Model River and floodplain demarking, the details will be indicated in the subsequent MPR submissions.

[Action: State of Chhattisgarh]

20. Delhi

20.1 It was noted that timelines of different under construction STP's & upgradation of 18 DSTP's is being continuously revised is a matter of concern. The land allocation issue of Delhi Gate STP is also still unresolved. GNCTD has to complete ongoing STPs construction works without further extension of time. Similarly, issues regarding DSTPs must be resolved on urgent basis.

[Action: DJB/DDA]

20.2 The Chair remarked that as reported major part of Interceptor Sewer Project (ISP) has been completed and enquired whether there is any improvement in water quality of River Yamuna. **GNCTD to submit a detailed report in the matter.**

[Action: DJB]

20.3 DG, NMCG highlighted that primarily the focus is on improvement in water quality of the river as a number of STPs & ISP plans have been planned & reviewed but the cumulative effect on the river is not really visible.

20.4 Principal Secretary (Environment), Delhi informed that improvement in river water quality was observed till December, 2023. With completion of the ongoing STP's & DSTP's further improvement in water quality of Yamuna river is expected.

[Action: DJB]

20.5 Member (Drainage), DJB responded that the work for the required outfall arrangement from 564 MLD Okhla STP to Yamuna river has been awarded & partly completed but presently held up as DJB is yet to receive formal permission from UP Irrigation for completing the required outfall arrangement. However, matter is being perused with UP Irrigation for its resolution. The Chair directed the DJB following the matter with UP Irrigation.

[Action: DJB]

20.6 Member (Drainage), DJB responded that the Interceptor Sewer project was designed for trapping of drains, & on the STP capacity front, against the required STP capacity of 792 MGD the installed capacity is 712 MGD. 17 STP's are compliant on 10/10 standards and work on 13 STP's is going on which is likely to be completed by December 2024.

So after completion of these STP's 744 MGD capacity out of total 792 MGD will be on 10/10 standards. Thus there is huge progress on the STP capacity front. The Okhla STP, presently 50 MGD is being trapped which will be increased to full capacity of 124 MGD by end of the month.

[Action: DJB]

20.7 The Chair pointed out that the Okhla STP being reported is on downstream of Delhi, so DJB should also brief its plans for improvement in the Delhi stretch of the river Yamuna.

[Action: DJB]

20.8 Member (Drainage), DJB responded that augmentation & upgradation of 10 STP's is in progress which will result in upgradation of 240 MGD capacity on 10/10 standards, so

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there will be substantial improvement in the quality of river after completion of these projects by December 2024. Remaining 8 STP's are planned to be taken up in AMRUT-II funding, for which a meeting is planned in the following week.

[Action: DJB]

21. Miscellaneous

21.1 In the course of meeting, it was noticed that in case of some of the States, no representation at the level CS or Principal Secretary of concerned State was available. The Chair pointed out that without the presence of senior level officers, meaningful review of works was not possible. And therefore, CMC could not take up the review of works in case of States like UT of J&K, Goa, Andhra Pradesh, UT of Lakshdweep, Assam, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Bihar, Jharkhand, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

Annexure-I

List of participants:

1. Ms. Debashree Mukherjee, Secretary, DoWR,RD&GR, MoJS – *in Chair*
2. Shri Rajeev Kumar Mital, Director General, NMCG cum Project Director, NRCD
3. Shri Pradeep Kumar Agrawal, Joint Secretary, NRCD
4. Shri Anup Kumar Srivastava, Executive Director (Technical), NMCG
5. Shri Vishal Gandhi, Scientist E, CPCB
6. Shri Rohit Kakkar, Deputy Adviser, MoHUA (Online)
7. Shri. Nelapatla Ashok Babu, Director, NRCD
8. Shri S.K. Srivastava, Scientist-F, NRCD
9. Shri A.P. Singh, Scientist-E, NRCD
10. Dr. Sabita Madhvi Singh, Scientist-D, NRCD
11. Dr. P.N.Rymbai, Scientist B, NRCD
12. Dr. Pravin Kumar, Director-Technical, NMCG
13. Shri Rajat Kumar, Senior Waste Management Specialist, NMCG
14. Shri Ishwer Singh, Consultant (Legal), NMCG
15. Shri Vijay Kumar, Assistant Civil Engineer, NMCG
16. Shri Mahender Singh, Monitoring Expert, NMCG
17. Shri N K Madan, Senior Monitoring Expert, NMCG
18. Shri Rachit Andley, Project Manager, NMCG
19. Mrs. Ruby Raju, Senior Project Engineer, NMCG
20. Ms. Preeti Sinha, Research Associate, NRCD