

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 1088 of 2024

IN THE MATTER OF:

Natural Social; Services

... Applicant

Versus

Director General Directorate of Tourism & Ors

... Respondent

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THROUGH

DATE: 05.12.2025

PLACE: NEW DELHI

Gigi.C.George, Advocate

Advocate for Respondent

Ch No. 457, Lawyers Block-1

Delhi High Court, New Delhi

Email- gigicgoerge.adv42@yahoo.in

Mob-9810625315

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 1088 of 2024

IN THE MATTER OF:

Natural Social; Services

... Applicant

Versus

Director General Directorate of Tourism & Ors

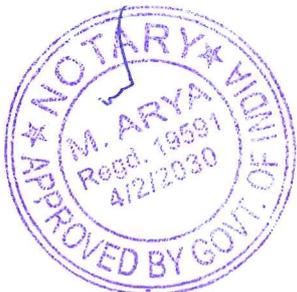
... Respondent

REPLY AFFIDAVIT IN COMPLIANCE OF ORDER DATED 23.01.2025 ON BEHALF OF NATIONAL MISSION FOR CLEAN GANGA i.e. RESPONDENT NO. 5.

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:

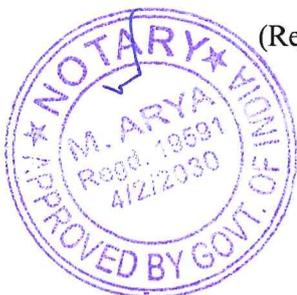
I, Vinod Kumar Gupta, aged about 56 years, S/o Shri Dularchand Prasad presently working as Deputy Secretary Administration in the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India, New Delhi do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under:

1. That I am working as Deputy Secretary Administration in the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India, New Delhi. I am duly authorized for and on behalf of the Respondent No. 5 to swear to the present Affidavit. I am fully conversant with the facts and circumstances of the present case from the records;
2. That the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) is one of the authorities constituted in accordance with the provisions of sub-section 3 of Section 3 of the *Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986* vide *notification no. S.O. 3187(E) dated 07.10.2016* inter-alia to take measures for prevention, control and abatement of environmental pollution in river Ganga and to ensure continuous adequate flow of water so as to rejuvenate the River Ganga. NMCG is a nodal agency for the implementation of the provisions of the above notification and for effective abatement of pollution and rejuvenation, protection and management of the River Ganga and its tributaries;



विनोद कुमार गुप्ता / Vinod Kumar Gupta
उप सचिव (प्रशासन) / Deputy Secretary (Admn.)
जल शक्ति मंत्रालय / Ministry of Jal Shakti
जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संसाधन विभाग
Deptt. of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga
भारत सरकार / Govt. of India
नई दिल्ली / New Delhi

3. That NMCG para 6(3) of the Authorities order, 2016, mandates that *“no person shall construct any structure, whether permanent or temporary for residential or commercial or industrial or any other purposes in the River Ganga, Bank of River Ganga or its tributaries or active flood plain area of River Ganga or its tributaries:*
Provided that in exceptional circumstances like natural calamities or religious events at traditional locations, temporary structures can be raised after prior permission of the National Mission for Clean Ganga acting through the State Ganga Committee and the District Ganga Committee: Provided further that in case any such construction has been completed, before the commencement of this Order, in the River Bank of River Ganga or its tributaries or active flood plain area of River Ganga or its tributaries, the National Mission for Clean Ganga shall review such constructions so as to examine as to whether such constructions are causing interruption in the continuous flow of water or pollution in River Ganga or its tributaries, and if that be so, it shall cause for removing them
4. That Paragraph 42 of the Authorities Order, 2016, stipulates that: *“Every person, the State Ganga Committees, District Ganga Protection Committees, local authorities, and other authorities shall obtain prior approval of the National Mission for Clean Ganga on matters relating to the River Ganga and any area abutting the River Ganga or its tributaries, if required to implement the decisions of the National Ganga Council. Such matters inter alia include (b) the construction of bridges and associated roads and embankments over the River Ganga or at its riverbank or its floodplain area. (c) construction of Ghats or extension of any existing Ghat; ”;*
5. That the present affidavit is being filed in Original Application No. 1088 of 2024, wherein the Applicant has raised grievances regarding the alleged construction of Garwa Ghat at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. The applicant has raised the issue regarding the construction of Garwa Ghat, approximately 233 meters long, on the Ganga River front in Varanasi, U.P. The Applicant has further invited attention to a newspaper article dated 10.08.2023, wherein it has been stated that the project was sanctioned by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh and that the Uttar Pradesh Tourism Department has allegedly sanctioned the said construction with a budget allocation of Rs. 7.35 crores. It is alleged that the construction is contrary to the provisions of the River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities Order, 2016, and violative of



विनोद कुमार गुप्ता / Vinod Kumar Gupta
 उप सचिव (प्रशासन) / Deputy Secretary (Admn.)
 जल शक्ति मंत्रालय / Ministry of Jal Shakti
 जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण विभाग
 Deptt. of Water Resources, RD and GR
 भारत सरकार / Govt. of India
 नई दिल्ली / New Delhi

the order passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Allahabad concerning restrictions on activities within 200 meters of the River Ganga.

6. That accordingly, the NMCG, vide its letter dated 22.04.2025 addressed to the Director General, Directorate of Tourism, Government of Uttar Pradesh, has brought to their notice that it has come to the attention of NMCG that the construction of Garwa Ghat, as sanctioned by the Uttar Pradesh Tourism Department, is allegedly being undertaken within 200 meters of the floodplain of River Ganga, which is in contravention of the Hon'ble High Court of Allahabad's order. Further, NMCG also requested the Directorate of Tourism, Government of Uttar Pradesh, to submit a proposal seeking prior permission for the construction of Garwa Ghat, 233 meters long, on the Ganga River front in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. As per the NMCG Authority Notification, 2016, particularly paragraphs 6(3) and 42, obtaining prior approval from NMCG is mandatory for any construction activity (temporary or permanent) within the floodplains or on the riverfronts of the River Ganga and its tributaries. In light of the above, NMCG has directed the Directorate of Tourism, Government of Uttar Pradesh, to submit the requisite proposal within seven (7) working days from the date of issuance of the said letter. Copy of the NMCG letter dated 22.04.2025 to Directorate of Tourism, Government of Uttar Pradesh is marked and annexed herewith as '*Annexure I*'.
7. That Vide its communication dated 01.05.2025, the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has issued a reminder to the District Ganga Committee (DGC), reiterating that the functions and powers of the DGC are clearly defined under Section 55 of the NMCG Authority Notification, 2016. In light of this, the NMCG has requested that the DGC urgently look into the matter and ensure that a comprehensive proposal is submitted to the NMCG for prior approval before the commencement of any project that falls within the river's floodplain. Furthermore, if the proposed project is located within the floodplain, all construction activities must be suspended until the necessary approval is duly obtained from the NMCG. Copy of NMCG letter to DGC dated 01.05.2025 is marked and attached herewith as '*Annexure II*'.
8. That Vide its communication dated 20.11.2025, the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) addressed to the Director General, Directorate of Tourism, Government of Uttar Pradesh to submit a proposal seeking prior permission for the construction of Garwa Ghat, 233 meters long, on the Ganga River front in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. As per the NMCG Authority Notification, 2016, particularly paragraphs 6(3) and 42, obtaining prior approval from NMCG is mandatory for any construction activity




 विनोद कुमार गुप्ता / Vinod Kumar Gupta
 उप सचिव (प्रशासन) / Deputy Secretary (Admn.)
 जल शक्ति मंत्रालय / Ministry of Jal Shakti
 जल संवर्धन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण विभाग
 Dept. of Water Resources

(temporary or permanent) within the floodplains or on the riverfronts of the River Ganga and its tributaries. Copy of the communication dated 20.11.2025 is marked and annexed herewith as '*Annexure III*'.

9. That in view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has received an online application bearing No. NMCG202571711917 dated 28.11.2025, as well as a communication through email dated 03.12.2025, seeking prior approval for the proposed construction of *Garwa Ghat*, measuring 233 metres in length, on the Ganga riverfront in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. Copy of the email dated 03.11.2025 is marked and annexed herewith as '*Annexure IV*'.
10. That it is submitted that in view of the application submitted by the Project Proponent seeking prior approval for the proposed construction, it is respectfully submitted that the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) is presently examining the matter in accordance with the applicable norms and procedures. The said application is under active consideration and is proposed to be placed before the competent Cell/Committee of NMCG for detailed deliberation. The decision taken therein shall be duly communicated to the concerned authorities and will be placed on record before this Hon'ble Tribunal as required.
11. That in the view of the above submission, it is respectfully submitted that the Respondent shall abide by all the order (s) and/ or direction (s) passed by the Hon'ble Tribunal in the instant case and render justice.

Identify the Deponent who
named before me

VERIFICATION:

I, deponent above named do hereby verify that the contents of the aforesaid affidavit are true and correct to my knowledge and belief and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

Verified at New Delhi on this 05 DEC 2025 day of December, 2025



ATTESTED

NOTARY PUBLIC

05 DEC 2025

विनोद कुमार गुप्ता / Vinod Kumar Gupta
उप सचिव (प्रशासन) / Deputy Secretary (Admn.)
जल शक्ति मंत्रालय / Ministry of Jal S
जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण विभाग
Deptt. of Water Resources, RD and GR
भारत सरकार / Govt. of India
नई दिल्ली / New Delhi

DEPONENT

DEPONENT

विनोद कुमार गुप्ता / Vinod Kumar Gupta
उप सचिव (प्रशासन) / Deputy Secretary /
जल शक्ति मंत्रालय / Ministry of Jal S
जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण
Deptt. of Water Resources, RD and GR
भारत सरकार / Govt. of India
नई दिल्ली / New Delhi

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 फा.सं/F.No L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG
 जल शक्ति मंत्रालय
 Ministry of Jal Shakti
 जल संसाधन, नदी विकास एवं गंगा संरक्षण विभाग
 Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation
 राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन
 National Mission for Clean Ganga

Annexure - I

प्रथम तल,
 मेजर ध्यानचंद, राष्ट्रीय स्टेडियम,
 इंडिया गेट, नई दिल्ली- 110002
 दिनांक: 22/04/2025

Subject: Direction for Urgent submission of application to NMCG for approval of "Construction of 233 meters long Garwa ghat on Ganga River front in Varanasi, U.P"-reg.

Ref: - NGT O.A 1088/2024 dated 23/01/2025

With reference to the above O.A., it has come to notice of NMCG that the Construction of 233 meters long Garwa ghat, on Ganga River front in Varanasi, U.P is sanctioned by Uttar Pradesh Tourism Department.

2. The construction is allegedly proposed to be raised within 200 meters of Flood plain of river Ganga which is in contravention of the order passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Allahabad.
3. The applicant has further stated in the OA that the construction includes not only the Ghat but also the fast-food shops, benches, parking and changing rooms which is not permissible within 200 meters of River Ganga.
4. It has been alleged that the Ghat is being constructed on the river bed itself, which will affect the flow of the river.
5. NMCG Authority Notification, 2016, paragraphs 6(3) and 42 mandate obtaining prior approval for diverse nature of construction (temporary/permanent) across the River Ganga and its tributaries.
6. Above in view, it is directed to submit proposal seeking prior permission for the aforementioned project from NMCG within seven (7) working days from the date of issuance of this letter.



(अनूप कुमार श्रीवास्तव)
 कार्यकारी निदेशक (तकनीकी)

To

1. DG, Directorate of Tourism, Rajkiya Puroshtam Das Tandon Parvatan Bhawan, C-13, Vipin Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh - 226010

Copy for Information:

1. PS to DG, NMCG
2. District Magistrate Varanasi, Katchehry, Varanasi - 221002
3. Project Director, SMCG-UP, Plot no. 18, Sector 07, Gomti Nagar Extension, Lucknow-226001

Reminder

फा.सं/F.No L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG
 जल शक्ति मंत्रालय
 Ministry of Jal Shakti
 जल संसाधन, नदी विकास एवं गंगा संरक्षण विभाग
 Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation
 राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन
 National Mission for Clean Ganga

Annexure -II

प्रथम तल, मेजर ध्यानचंद, राष्ट्रीय स्टेडियम,
 इंडिया गेट, नई दिल्ली- 110002
 दिनांक: 01/05/2025

Subject: Construction of 233 meters long Garwa ghat, on Ganga River front in Varanasi, U.P
Ref: - (i) NGT O.A 1088/2024 dated 23/01/2025; (ii) L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG dated 22/04/2025 (copies enclosed)

With reference to the above referred references, it is to say that-

1. NMCG vide its letter L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG dated 22/04/2025 directed the UP tourism department to submit a proposal seeking prior approval for the said project.
2. No application for approval of said project has been received by NMCG till date.
3. Functions and power of the District Ganga Committee have been defined under section 55 of the NMCG Authority notification, 2016. Accordingly, it is requested that the matter is looked into urgently and ensure that a detailed proposal is submitted to NMCG for approval before implementation of the project begins, if the proposed project lies within the river flood plain.
4. Also, if the project is within flood plain, any construction work be suspended until due approval is obtained from NMCG.

(अनूप कुमार श्रीवास्तव)
 कार्यकारी निदेशक (तकनीकी)

Encl: As above

To

1. District Magistrate cum Chairperson, District Ganga Committee, Varanasi, Katchehry, Varanasi – 221002

Copy for kind information to:

1. DG, Directorate of Tourism, Rajkiya Puroshtam Das Tandon Parvatan Bhawan, C-13, Vipin Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh - 226010
2. Project Director, SMCG-UP, Plot no. 18, Sector 07, Gomti Nagar Extension, Lucknow-226001 with request to kindly instruct the concerned authorities to adhere to the provisions of Authorities Notification, 2016 strictly.
3. PS to DG, NMCG

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फा.सं/F.No L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG

जल शक्ति मंत्रालय

जल संसाधन, नदी विकास एवं गंगा संरक्षण विभाग

राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन

Most Urgent

7

Annexure - III

प्रथम तल,
मेजर ध्यानचंद, राष्ट्रीय स्टेडियम,
इंडिया गेट, नई दिल्ली- 110002
दिनांक: 20/11/2025

Subject: Direction for Urgent submission of application to NMCG for approval of "Construction of 233 meters long Garwa ghat on Ganga River front in Varanasi, U.P"-reg.

Ref: -

- i. NGT O.A 1088/2024 dated 23/01/2025
- ii. NMCG letter no. L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG dated 22/04/2025.
- iii. NMCG reminder no. L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG dated 01/05/2025
- iv. NMCG reminder no. L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG dated 16/06/2025.
- v. SMCG-UP letter dated 131/920-P/SMCG-U.P./04 dated 9/07/2025
- vi. NMCG reminder no. L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG dated 13/08/2025.

With reference to the above O.A., it has come to notice of NMCG that an affidavit dated 09.09.2025 was submitted before Hon'ble NGT on the behalf of Director General, Directorate of Tourism regarding the Construction of 233 meters long Garwa ghat, on Ganga River front in Varanasi, U.P.

2. It has been observed that the said affidavit does not mention submission of any application to NMCG for obtaining prior permission under Section 42 of the NMCG Authority Order, 2016.
3. NMCG, vide letter under reference (ii), had requested the project proponent to submit a fresh proposal seeking prior approval. Subsequent reminders under references (iii), (iv), and (v) were also issued by NMCG and SMCG; however, no response has been received to date. However, no response has been received as yet in this matter.
4. NMCG Authority Notification, 2016, paragraphs 6(3) and 42 mandate obtaining prior approval for diverse nature of construction (temporary/permanent) across the River Ganga and its tributaries.
5. Above in view, it is directed to submit proposal seeking prior permission for the aforementioned project from NMCG within seven (7) working days from the date of issuance of this letter.


(अनूप कुमार श्रीवास्तव)
कार्यकारी निदेशक (तकनीकी)

To

1. DG, Directorate of Tourism, Rajkiya Purosham Das Tandon Parvatan Bhawan, C-13, Vipin Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh – 226010

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2. District Magistrate cum Chairman, District Ganga Committee, Varanasi, Katchehry, Varanasi – 221002- with direction to take urgent action in the matter w.r.t letter dated 1.05.2025 & 16.06.2025. A letter from SMCG, UP vide letter dated 9.07.2025 may also be referred.

Copy for Information:

1. PS to DG, NMCG
2. Project Director, SMCG-UP, Plot no. 18, Sector 07, Gomti Nagar Extension, Lucknow-226001

Item No. 02

Court No. 1

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

Original Application No. 1088/2024

Natural Social Services

Applicant

Versus

Director General
Directorate of Tourism & Ors.

Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 23.01.2025

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRAKASH SHRIVASTAVA, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDHIR AGARWAL, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. A. SENTHIL VEL, EXPERT MEMBER**

Applicant: Mr. Ashutosh Tiwari & Mr. Anuj Srivastava, Advs

ORDER

1. In this original application, the applicant has raised grievance against the construction of Garwa ghat in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.
2. Learned counsel for the applicant referring to the news item filed as annexure 2 has submitted that the construction includes not only the Ghat but also the fast-food shops, benches, parking and changing rooms which is not permissible within 200 meters of River Ganga.
3. He has orally submitted that the Ghat is being constructed on the river bed itself, which will affect the flow of the river.
4. Issue notice to the respondents for filing the response/reply by way of affidavit before the Tribunal at least one week before the next date of hearing through e-filing. If any respondent directly files the reply without routing it through his advocate then the said respondent will remain virtually present to assist the Tribunal.

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फा.सं/F.No L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG

जल शक्ति मंत्रालय

Ministry of Jal Shakti

जल संसाधन, नदी विकास एवं गंगा संरक्षण विभाग

Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation

राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन

National Mission for Clean Ganga

प्रथम तल,
मेजर ध्यानचंद, राष्ट्रीय स्टेडियम,
इंडिया गेट, नई दिल्ली- 110002
दिनांक: 22/04/2025

Subject: Direction for Urgent submission of application to NMCG for approval of "Construction of 233 meters long Garwa ghat on Ganga River front in Varanasi, U.P"- reg.

Ref: - NGT O.A 1088/2024 dated 23/01/2025

With reference to the above O.A., it has come to notice of NMCG that the Construction of 233 meters long Garwa ghat, on Ganga River front in Varanasi, U.P is sanctioned by Uttar Pradesh Tourism Department.

2. The construction is allegedly proposed to be raised within 200 meters of Flood plain of river Ganga which is in contravention of the order passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Allahabad.
3. The applicant has further stated in the OA that the construction includes not only the Ghat but also the fast-food shops, benches, parking and changing rooms which is not permissible within 200 meters of River Ganga.
4. It has been alleged that the Ghat is being constructed on the river bed itself, which will affect the flow of the river.
5. NMCG Authority Notification, 2016, paragraphs 6(3) and 42 mandate obtaining prior approval for diverse nature of construction (temporary/permanent) across the River Ganga and its tributaries.
6. Above in view, it is directed to submit proposal seeking prior permission for the aforementioned project from NMCG within seven (7) working days from the date of issuance of this letter.



(अनूप कुमार श्रीवास्तव)
कार्यकारी निदेशक (तकनीकी)

To

1. DG, Directorate of Tourism, Rajkiya Purosham Das Tandon Parvatan Bhawan, C-13, Vipin Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh - 226010

Copy for Information:

1. PS to DG, NMCG
2. District Magistrate Varanasi, Katchehry, Varanasi - 221002
3. Project Director, SMCG-UP, Plot no. 18, Sector 07, Gomti Nagar Extension, Lucknow- 226001

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Reminder

फा.सं/F.No L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG
 जल शक्ति मंत्रालय
 Ministry of Jal Shakti
 जल संसाधन, नदी विकास एवं गंगा संरक्षण विभाग
 Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation
 राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन
 National Mission for Clean Ganga

प्रथम तल, मेजर ध्यानचंद, राष्ट्रीय स्टेडियम,
 इंडिया गेट, नई दिल्ली- 110002
 दिनांक: 01/05/2025

Subject: Construction of 233 meters long Garwa ghat, on Ganga River front in Varanasi, U.P
Ref: - (i) NGT O.A 1088/2024 dated 23/01/2025; (ii) L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG dated 22/04/2025 (copies enclosed)

With reference to the above referred references, it is to say that-

1. NMCG vide its letter L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG dated 22/04/2025 directed the UP tourism department to submit a proposal seeking prior approval for the said project.
2. No application for approval of said project has been received by NMCG till date.
3. Functions and power of the District Ganga Committee have been defined under section 55 of the NMCG Authority notification, 2016. Accordingly, it is requested that the matter is looked into urgently and ensure that a detailed proposal is submitted to NMCG for approval before implementation of the project begins, if the proposed project lies within the river flood plain.
4. Also, if the project is within flood plain, any construction work be suspended until due approval is obtained from NMCG.



(अनूप कुमार श्रीवास्तव)
 कार्यकारी निदेशक (तकनीकी)

Encl: As above

To

1. District Magistrate cum Chairperson, District Ganga Committee, Varanasi, Katchehry, Varanasi – 221002

Copy for kind information to:

1. DG, Directorate of Tourism, Rajkiya Purosham Das Tandon Parvatan Bhawan, C-13, Vipin Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh - 226010
2. Project Director, SMCG-UP, Plot no. 18, Sector 07, Gomti Nagar Extension, Lucknow-226001 with request to kindly instruct the concerned authorities to adhere to the provisions of Authorities Notification, 2016 strictly.
3. PS to DG, NMCG

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Reminder-2

फा.सं/F.No L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG
 जल शक्ति मंत्रालय
 Ministry of Jal Shakti
 जल संसाधन, नदी विकास एवं गंगा संरक्षण विभाग
 Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation
 राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन
 National Mission for Clean Ganga

प्रथम तल, मेजर ध्यानचंद, राष्ट्रीय स्टेडियम,
 इंडिया गेट, नई दिल्ली- 110002
 दिनांक: 16/06/2025

Subject: Construction of 233 meters long Garwa ghat, on Ganga River front in Varanasi, U.P

Ref: -

- i. NMCG letter no. L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG dated 22/04/2025
- ii. NMCG reminder no. L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG dated 01/05/2025

Please refer to letter under reference vide which SMCG-UP and DGC Varanasi have been requested to look into the matter urgently and ensure that a detailed proposal is submitted to NMCG for approval. However, no reply has been received as yet in the matter.

It is therefore requested to kindly submit response inputs to the NMCG letter dated 22/4/2025 to anjali.nihr@gov.in at the earliest.



(अनूप कुमार श्रीवास्तव)
 कार्यकारी निदेशक (तकनीकी)

Encl: As above

To

1. District Magistrate cum Chairperson, District Ganga Committee, Varanasi, Katchehry, Varanasi – 221002

Copy for kind information to:

1. DG, Directorate of Tourism, Rajkiya Puroshtam Das Tandon Parvatan Bhawan, C-13, Vipin Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh - 226010
2. Project Director, SMCG-UP, Plot no. 18, Sector 07, Gomti Nagar Extension, Lucknow- 226001 with request to kindly instruct the concerned authorities to adhere to the provisions of Authorities Notification, 2016 strictly.
3. PS to DG, NMCG

450



OFFICE OF THE PROJECT DIRECTOR
STATE MISSION FOR CLEAN GANGA -UTTAR PRADESH
DEPARTMENT OF NAMAMI GANGE & RURAL WATER SUPPLY
GROUND FLOOR, UTTAR PRADESH JAL NIGAM-RURAL HEAD QUARTER,
06 RANA PRATAP MARG LUCKNOW- 226001, UTTAR PRADESH

E-mail : apd@smcgup.org, www.smcgup.org

Reference No: 131/2025/SMCG-U.P/04

Date: July 09, 2025

To,

Chairman-District Ganga Committee/District Magistrate-Varanasi
Varanasi

Subject: Urgent Compliance with Ganga Authority Notification-2016 for construction at Garwa Ghat, Varanasi

Dear Sir,

It has come to notice that construction activities for a 233-meter-long Garwa Ghat along the Ganga Riverfront in Varanasi are being carried out under the aegis of the Directorate of Tourism, Uttar Pradesh, without obtaining prior approval under the relevant provisions of the Ganga Authority Notification, 2016.

In this regard, the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), vide its letter No. F.No L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG dated 22 April 2025, has directed the Director General, Directorate of Tourism, Uttar Pradesh, to submit a proposal seeking prior approval for the aforementioned project within seven (7) working days from the date of issuance of the letter.

Furthermore, NMCG, through its subsequent letter dated 01 May 2025 (Ref. F.No L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG), has advised the District Ganga Committee, Varanasi, to ascertain whether the project falls within the floodplain of the River Ganga, and to ensure that any ongoing construction be immediately suspended until appropriate clearance from NMCG is obtained.

Additionally, the District Magistrate, in his capacity as Chairperson of the District Ganga Committee-Varanasi, has been requested to urgently examine the matter and facilitate submission of a detailed proposal to NMCG for necessary approval through NMCG's letter reference# F.No L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG dated 16 June 2025. However, no response has been received thus far.

It is also pertinent to note that this matter is currently under consideration by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in OA No. 1088/2024.

In light of the above, necessary action may be initiated forthwith, in accordance with the directions of NMCG.

Annexure: as above

(Prabhash Kumar)
Project Director

CC for information:

- i. Additional Chief Secretary, Namami Gange and Rural Water Supply, GoUP
- ii. Principal Secretary, Tourism Department, GoUP
- iii. Executive Director (Technical), NMCG, New Delhi

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Reminder-3

फा.सं/F.No L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG
जल शक्ति मंत्रालय
Ministry of Jal Shakti
जल संसाधन, नदी विकास एवं गंगा संरक्षण विभाग
Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation
राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन
National Mission for Clean Ganga

प्रथम तल, मेजर ध्यानचंद, राष्ट्रीय स्टेडियम,
 इंडिया गेट, नई दिल्ली- 110002
दिनांक: 13/08/2025

Subject: Construction of 233 meters long Garwa ghat, on Ganga River front in Varanasi, U.P

Ref:

- i. NMCG letter no. L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG dated 22/04/2025.
- ii. NMCG reminder no. L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG dated 01/05/2025
- iii. NMCG reminder no. L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG dated 16/06/2025.
- iv. SMCG-UP letter dated 131/920-P/SMCG-U.P./04 dated 9/07/2025

Please refer to letters under reference vide which NMCG and SMCG had issued reminder regarding the subject proposal. However, no response has been received as yet in this matter. It is once again requested to submit response to anajli.nihr@gov.in, within next 15 days from the issue date of this letter.

Encl: As above



(अनूप कुमार श्रीवास्तव)
 कार्यकारी निदेशक (तकनीकी)

To

1. District Magistrate cum Chairperson, District Ganga Committee, Varanasi, Katchehry, Varanasi – 221002

Copy for kind information to:

1. DG, Directorate of Tourism, Rajkiya Puroshtam Das Tandon Parvatan Bhawan, C-13, Vipin Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh - 226010
2. Project Director, SMCG-UP, Plot no. 18, Sector 07, Gomti Nagar Extension, Lucknow-226001 with request to kindly instruct the concerned authorities to adhere to the provisions of Authorities Notification, 2016 strictly.
3. PS to DG, NMCG

Fwd: Direction For Urgent Submission Of application To NMCG For approval of " Construction of 233 meters long Garwa ghat on ganga River front in varanasi, Up"- reg.

Anup Kumar Srivastava <ed-technical@nmcg.nic.in >

Wed, 03 Dec 2025 2:07:51 PM +0530

To "Arpita Kumari"<arpita.kumari@govcontractor.in>

Cc "Anjali"<anjali.nihr@gov.in>

==== Forwarded message =====

From: DINESH KUMAR <uptvns@gmail.com>

To: <anjali.nihar@gov.in>, <ed-technical@nmcg.nic.in>, <dg-upt@up.gov.in>, <commvar@nic.in>, "dmvar" <dmvar@nic.in>

Date: Wed, 03 Dec 2025 14:02:14 +0530

Subject: Direction For Urgent Submission Of application To NMCG For approval of " Construction of 233 meters long Garwa ghat on ganga River front in varanasi, Up"- reg.

==== Forwarded message =====

Dear sir/ Madam

Please refer your letter number F.No. L-25012(11)/9/2025-LME NMCG dated 20.11.2025 regarding permission for the construction of 233 meters long Garhwa Ghat on Ganga river front in Varanasi UP.

In this regard the requisite information has been prepared and attached for your perusal and necessary action please.

Regards

(Dinesh Kumar)
Joint Director Tourism,
Varanasi, Vindhyachal & Azamgarh Division,
Varanasi.

2 Attachment(s)

LATTER.pdf
435.7 KB

ASI.zip
12 MB