

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 361 of 2018

IN THE MATTER OF

Narmada Pradusan Nivaran Samiti

...Applicant

VERSUS

MOEF & CC & ORS.

...Respondents

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3.	Copy of Minutes of the Ninety-Seventh meeting of Narmada Control Authority annexed as Annexure - B	

Place: New Delhi

Through

Date: 20.02.2026


Gigi C George Advocate

Standing counsel (UOI)
NGT

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BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO.361/2018

NARAMADA PRADUSAN NIVARAN SAMITI & ORS. -APPLICANT

VERSUS

M.O.E.F.C&C. & ORS.

--- RESPONDENTS

**SUBMISSION ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT NO.2&3
i.e. NCA and MoJS, DoWR, RD&GR**

1. That Respondent No.2&3 in the present matter is filing reply affidavit on each and every date regarding latest developments in relation to review of the E- Flow of River Narmada in the Downstream of Sardar Sarovar Dam.
2. That on the last date of hearing i.e.21.01.26, after hearing the submission of the Respondent No.2&3 and Respondent No.4/SSNNL,GoG, this Hon'ble Tribunal directed the R-4/SSNNL,GoG to file a reply regarding the communication received from CIFRI and other material indicating the prayer of extension of time and status of report. Respondent No.4/SSNNL, GoG immediately i.e. the very next day (22.01.26) wrote to CIFRI to provide the details of the report. The copy of the said letter is annexed as Annexure-A. But when the Order dt.21.01.26 was uploaded instead of Respondent No.4 it was mentioned as Respondent No.2/NCA.
3. That a 97th NCA Meeting was convened on 28th January, 2026 under the Chairmanship of NCA (Secretary, MoJS, DoWR, RD & GR, GoI) wherein under item No. 97-2(985)-H –To Review the Environmental Flow of River Narmada in the Downstream of Sardar Sarovar Dam, Chairman, NCA directed the SSNNL, GoG to submit the Final Report of CIFRI to the E-Flow Committee for further course of action. The copy of the same is annexed as Annexure-B.


(R. VASUDEVAN)
Director (Civil)
Narmada Control Authority
(MoJS, DoWR, RD & GR)
INDORE (M.P.)

4. That the Respondent No.2 &3 prays to this Hon'ble Tribunal to direct the Respondent No.4/SSNNL, GoG to place on record the final report/the latest development of the study given to CIFRI at the earliest so that Respondent No.2 &3 can take appropriate action based on the said report.

For Respondent No.2&3 i.e.
NCA & MoJS, DoWR, RD&GR

R. Vasudevan
(R. VASUDEVAN)
Director (Civil)
Narmada Control Authority
(MoJS, DoWR, RD & GR)
INDORE (M.P.)

G. George
Through
COUNSEL
Gigi George

(R. VASUDEVAN)
Director (Civil)
Narmada Control Authority
(MoJS, DoWR, RD & GR)
INDORE (M.P.)



Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Limited

(A Wholly Owned Govt. of Gujarat undertaking)

Add. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests

Environment Cell, Block-12, 9th Floor, New Sachi
Gandhinagar-382010 (Gujarat)

☎ (079) 232 52812, 232 52442
✉ envirementcell@gmail.com

No. SSNNL/ENV/CIFRI/54/06

Date:-22/01/2026

To
Dr. B. K. Das
Director, ICAR-CIFRI
Barrackpore, Kolkata - 700120
West Bengal

Sub: Reminder for submission of Final w.r.t. study awarded to ICAR-CIFRI titled "Assessment of Environmental Flow towards river habitat and ecological requirement with a focus on downstream fish species of Sardar Sarovar Dam (SSD)" - reg.

Ref: (1) This office letter no. SSNNL/ENV/CIFRI/54/04 Date:- 03/01/2026

(2) Directions of the Hon'ble NGT in hearing held on 21.01.2026

Sir,

This is in continuation of the correspondence cited under reference and with regard to the study being carried out by ICAR-CIFRI for assessment of Environmental Flow (E-Flow) downstream of Sardar Sarovar Dam (SSD).

It is informed that the matter was heard by the **Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT)** on **21.01.2026**, wherein the Hon'ble Tribunal has **directed submission of the Final Report before the next date of hearing scheduled on 23.02.2026**.

In this regard, it is reiterated that as per the **MoU dated 27.02.2025**, the stipulated study period of nine (09) months, reckoned from **27.03.2025**, has already elapsed and accordingly **Final Report has become due on 27.12.2025**.

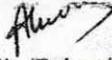
In view of the above and considering the binding directions of the Hon'ble NGT, you were requested vide reference letter no.(1) and **once again requested to submit the Final**

EM
21/1/26
Member (E&R)
Dy
g. runde.
21/1/26
DDE
Shri BS.

Report at the earliest. A copy of the same may also be forwarded to the E-Flow Committee, NCA, for further needful.

Early submission of the report is essential to enable SSNNL to place the same before the Hon'ble NGT on the next date of hearing scheduled on 23.02.2026, for compliance with the Tribunal's directions.

Your cooperation in this matter is solicited on priority.

 (G. Ramana Murthy)
Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
SSNNL, Gandhinagar.

Copy submitted for kind information to:

- Hon'ble CMD, SSNNL, Gandhinagar
- ✓ • Executive Member, NCA & Chairman of E-flow committee, Indore
- Director (Canals), SSNNL, Gandhinagar
- CE(QC, CPC and T&C), SSNNL, Gandhinagar
- C.E (Dam), Ektanagar

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नर्मदा नियंत्रण प्राधिकरण
NARMADA CONTROL AUTHORITY

नर्मदा नियंत्रण प्राधिकरण
की सत्तानवेवी बैठक का कार्यवृत्त

MINUTES OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH MEETING OF
NARMADA CONTROL AUTHORITY

स्थान : सिविल सेवा अधिकारी संस्थान (CSOI), कस्तूरबा
गांधी मार्ग, नई दिल्ली

Venue: Civil Services Officers Institute (CSOI),
Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi

दिनांक : 28 जनवरी 2026
Date : 28th January, 2026

समय : 11:00 पूर्वाह्न
Time : 11:00 AM

इंदौर
जनवरी 2026

Indore
January, 2026

After detailed discussion, Chairman, NCA directed Member (E&R), NCA to ensure the conditions of MoEF & CC are complied with and directed GoMP to complete the balance works at the earliest.

GoMP agreed with the decision of the Authority.

G. CONSERVATION OF FISHERIES AND PROTECTION OF LIVELIHOOD OF FISHERMEN IN THE DOWNSTREAM OF SARDAR SAROVAR DAM (SSD)

The Executive Member, NCA informed that during the 96th NCA meeting held on 1st December, 2025, CMD, SSNNL, GoG informed that within three months they will prepare an Action Plan and submit to NCA.

EM, NCA requested GoG to apprise the Authority about further progress.

CMD, SSNNL, GoG informed that preparation of an Action Plan for conservation of Fisheries and protection of livelihood of fishermen in the downstream of SSD is under process and the same is expected to be completed by March, 2026. The same will be implemented and the action taken report shall be submitted periodically to NCA.

After detailed discussion, Chairman, NCA directed GoG to complete the balance works at the earliest in a time bound manner and to submit the periodical report to NCA.

GoG agreed with the decision of the Authority.

ITEM NO.97-2(985)

H. TO REVIEW THE ENVIRONMENTAL FLOW OF RIVER NARMADA IN THE DOWNSTREAM OF SARDAR SAROVAR DAM

The Executive Member, NCA informed that a decision was taken by NCA to study environmental flow (E-Flow) in a staged manner across the entire basin, from Amarkantak to the Gulf of Cambay, accounting for intervening structures. In the initial phase, two separate studies will be undertaken by CIFRI through SSNNL:

1. From Garudeshwar Weir to Bhadbhut Barrage.
2. From Bhadbhut Barrage to the mouth of the river.

During the 96th NCA meeting CMD, SSNNL informed that the E-flow study for the Garudeshwar Weir–Bhadbhut Barrage stretch is being carried out by the CIFRI and the Final Report is expected by December, 2025.

Member (Environment and Forest), NVDA informed that E-flow study should be taken up for the total stretch of River Narmada and not only for the downstream of Sardar Sarovar Dam. Chairman, NCA directed CWC to guide the Party States regarding the matter and report by 31st December, 2025 on the demand made by MP.

In line with the above decision, Member (E&R), NCA, vide letter dated 5th December, 2025, requested Member (Env.& Forests), NVDA, GoMP to provide the latest status of environmental-flow releases from Bargi, Tawa, Indira Sagar and Omkareshwar projects, including

1. Present daily release figures (lean, non-lean and monsoon periods);
2. Monitoring locations and methodology adopted by the project authorities,
3. Agency responsible for monitoring and verification;
4. Source from where this data may be accessed.

In view of the Chairman, NCA's direction for CWC to consolidate inputs of Party States by 31st December 2025, an early availability of this information, preferably by 11th December will greatly assist in preparing background material for the Committee's deliberations. But the same is still awaited from GoMP.

A meeting of e-flow Committee was convened on 15th December, 2025 through VC. During the meeting CE, MTBO, CWC intimated that C-Narmada has been mandated to carry out the e-Flow assessment of river Narmada, and hence, it would be appropriate to wait for submission of report by C-Narmada.

After a detailed discussion the Executive Member, NCA and Chairman of the E-Flow Committee concluded that the concern regarding basin-wide environmental-flow assessment of River Narmada is valid and it was decided that :

- a. It would be appropriate to await the report of **cNarmada** on scientific environmental-flow assessment.
- b. Upon receipt of the **cNarmada** report, the matter shall be placed before the Narmada Control Authority for informed deliberation and decision, including determination of further action, if required, in conformity with the NWDT Award and judicial directions.

Consensus emerged among the party states to await the report of the **cNarmada** for further consideration by the Narmada Control Authority.

Further, EM, NCA intimated that as per the MoU entered by SSNNL, GoG with the CIFRI, Kolkata, the study of e-Flow downstream of SSP was scheduled to be completed by December, 2025 and the final report is expected from SSNNL, GoG. In this regard, NCA, requested GoG to submit the final report to Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi before next hearing. As the same was not received from GoG/CIFRI, the Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi directed GoG to submit before the next hearing on 23rd February, 2026.

EM, NCA requested GoMP, GoG, GoM and GoR to apprise the Authority.

CMD, SSNNL, GoG intimated that SSNNL requested CIFRI again after the hearing on 21.01.2026, vide letter dated 22.01.2026, to submit the final report of the study to SSNNL as well as EM, NCA and Chairman of the E-Flow Committee so that further action can be taken on this issue. Once the final report is received from CIFRI, the same will be submitted to Hon'ble NGT and also to the EM, NCA and Chairman of the E-Flow Committee for further course of action.

With respect to u/s e-flow, Chairman, CWC intimated that cNarmada has been assigned to carry out the study.

Chairman, NCA directed Chairman, CWC to call a meeting with CIFRI, IIT, Gandhinagar, cNarmada and NMCG before finalising the downstream e-flow report by 20th February, 2026.

After detailed discussion, Chairman, NCA directed GoG to submit the final report of CIFRI to the E-Flow Committee for further course of action.

GoG agreed with the decision of the Authority.

I. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF SARDAR SAROVAR PROJECT & COMMAND AREA DEVELOPMENT ON NAL SAROVAR BIRD SANCTUARY, VELAVADAR NATIONAL PARK AND WILD ASS SANCTUARY IN GUJARAT

The Executive Member, NCA informed that a decision was made that the Government of Gujarat (GoG), in collaboration with the Forest Department and other concerned departments, would implement the mitigation measures recommended in the GEER Foundation report - 1998 and periodically update the NCA on the progress.

NCA had requested GoG to submit a comprehensive status report detailing completed and proposed mitigation measures, photographic or satellite evidence, and the status of inter-agency collaboration. However, no update has been received, so far. Given the ecological sensitivity of these areas and the status as a Ramsar site of international importance, timely action is essential to safeguard its long-term integrity.

During 96th meeting, Director (Canal), SSNNL informed about the measures taken so far. Chairman, NCA directed Member (E&R) to take-up the matter with MoEF & CC and seek their comments on the work being done by the States.

In pursuance of the above directions and for preparation of a consolidated and accurate brief, Member (E&R), NCA, vide letter dated 11.12.2025, requested APCCF, SSNNL, GoG to furnish an updated note on the present ecological status of the above sites, including (i) technical appraisal of the hydrological and ecological changes observed, (ii) environmental implications and management responses adopted or proposed, (iii) relevant monitoring datasets and indicators used, (iv) inter-departmental coordination mechanisms, and (v) factors influencing implementation over the years. The inputs were sought to enable MoEF&CC to obtain a clear, contextualised and evidence-based understanding of the issues.

To support this process, Member (E&R), NCA also suggested that a joint site visit and meeting be organized in Gujarat, involving senior officers of SSNNL, the Forest Department, District Authorities and NCA, supported by field-level staff familiar with site conditions, to ensure a shared understanding before the matter is placed before MoEF&CC. It was further suggested that concise technical presentations in a structured format (Issues–Challenges–Actions–Timelines) be prepared for the visit and for submission to MoEF&CC. The same is still awaited from GoG and no meeting could be convened.

GoG agreed to conduct the meeting and submit the report as desired by Member (E&R), NCA.