

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 230/2025**

IN THE MATTER OF:

News Item titled "Deadline Looming: MCD met Just 21% of Desilting Target by End of April" appearing in The Times of India dated 05.05.2025.

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STATUS REPORT ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT NO.- 7, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (PWD), GNCTD.

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:-

1. That the present Status Report is being filed in pursuance of the Order dated 11.09.2025 passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal, whereby the Answering Respondent was impleaded as respondent no. 7, amongst others and to file their reply regarding the desilting of drains in Delhi.
2. That PWD Delhi maintains the Ring Road, Arterial Roads and other major roads having ROW of 20 mtr. or more. The total road length maintained by PWD is 1406 Kms having storm water drains of aggregate length 2129.66 Kms. In order to prevent and manage waterlogging on roads, several measures are being implemented, including improving drainage systems, ensuring proper slope, and managing stormwater runoff by cleaning and maintaining existing drainage.
3. That following steps have been taken to manage and reduce the problem of waterlogging in every successive rainfall:

A. Preparatory Activities:

I. Desilting of Storm Water Drains

a) PWD maintains a total drain length of 2,129.66 km across Delhi, covering varying diameters: 600 mm, 600–1200 mm, 1200–1800 mm, and 1800–3000 mm.

b) The entire department and especially all the road maintenance divisions have been sensitized for appropriate preparatory action to avoid situation of water logging and for prompt action in case water logging is reported at any location.

c) Desilting of all the road-side storm water drains has been started by respective road maintenance divisions.

1st Phase of Desilting of drain has been completed since June-2025.

2nd phase of desilting is in progress and is to be completed by 15.03.2026.

d) The silt extracted from the drains has to be cleared within 24 hours so that the extracted silt does not enter back into the drain. A total of 268928 MT of silt has been removed so far in both the phases.

II. Permanent Pump Houses in Low-Lying Areas

a) All the electrical divisions have been sensitized to ensure that all the pumps located at different pump houses on the storm water drains are in proper working condition.

- b) In locations such as subways and other low-lying zones where mobile pumps are ineffective, 153 permanent pump houses have been established with 735 Pumps of varying capacity installed.
- c) Each is equipped with adequate pumps and manned by trained operators to ensure timely water removal and maintain traffic flow.
- d) The Superintending Engineers have been directed to cross check and inspect the pumps of other circles and submit their report.

B. Action Plan During Monsoon:

I. Establishment of Central Control Room

- a) A dedicated control room has been established on the 12th floor of the PWD Headquarters.
- b) It is operational round-the-clock with a dedicated team of operators and is accessible to the public via toll-free number 1908.
- c) The control room will be manned by computer and telephone operators under supervision of an Assistant Engineer, 24x7.
- d) The control room functions in coordination with PWD field units, traffic police and DM office.

II. Real-Time Monitoring through CCTV

CCTV surveillance systems have been installed in specific locations to monitor water levels and improve response times.

III. Deployment of High-Capacity PTO Pumps

Additional pumping arrangement is made at vulnerable locations and availability of Pump operators is ensured round the clock during monsoon season. 277 Nos. PTO/Mobile pumps are also kept ready near the vulnerable locations under the charge of concerned EE of the location.

IV. Deployment of Maintenance Vans

- a) To manage localized water-logging and accidental drain chokes, 200 maintenance vans have been deployed city-wide.
- b) Each van is manned by a 5-member team (4 manpower + 1 supervisor) familiar with the drainage system and flow patterns of the area.
- c) Round the clock vigil shall be there for clearing water logging and de-clogging the bell-mouth of drains.
- d) The Horticulture team has been sensitized to take prompt necessary action for removal of fallen trees and their branches obstructing the traffic.

V. Complaint Resolution from Delhi Traffic Police

PWD coordinates closely with Delhi Traffic Police and takes timely action on water logging complaints to ensure traffic movement is not hindered.

VI. Rapid Action Teams

- a) Rapid Action Teams have been constituted to respond to emergency water logging incidents.
- b) These teams are deployed in shifts to provide 24x7 support during monsoon periods.

VII. Nodal Officers appointed for each waterlogging points

- a) Nodal officer to be present at the vulnerable location during the time of rainfall.

VIII. Flood Control Order Book

Every year, the Public Works Department issues a flood control order, which includes a list of all PWD roads and pump houses, along with the names and mobile numbers of the Executive Engineer, Assistant Engineer, and Junior Engineer responsible for each road. It also includes a list of flood-prone areas, along with the name and mobile number of the concerned Executive Engineer.

IX. Analysis of waterlogging points

Point wise cause analysis of water logging is being done in every successive rainfall and places where waterlogging persists for more than half an hour i.e. traffic is disrupted because of waterlogging.

X. Inter-Departmental Coordination Committees:

An inter-departmental coordination meeting was held under the chairmanship of the PWD Secretary to resolve inter-departmental issues and expedite monsoon preparedness. Representatives from PWD, MCD, NDMC, Traffic Police, DJB, I&FC, DUSIB, DDA, NHAI, and DIAL participated in the meeting.

The committee monitors the following:

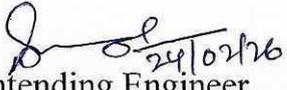
- Progress of desilting.

- Functioning status of pumps
- Actions taken at vulnerable locations
- Functioning of control rooms

XI. Unified Helpline & Public Grievance Systems:

Plans have been put in place for a citywide helpline to centralize complaints and avoid confusion over which agency tackles a flooding problem.

4. That the matter is under continuous monitoring, and any further directions issued by the Hon'ble Tribunal shall be complied with in letter and spirit. The present report is being filed for the kind consideration of this Hon'ble Tribunal and may kindly be taken on record.


Superintending Engineer,

Public Works Department