

Hindustan Times- 18- February-2023

Fill waste treatment gaps on war footing, says NGT

HT Correspondent

htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The water quality of the Yamuna is within acceptable standards when it enters the national capital but deteriorates downstream from the city, the National Green Tribunal has said, ordering that the "huge gap" in the generation of sewage and its treatment be addressed.

Taking note of a report submitted by a Delhi government committee on January 31 this year, a bench headed by NGT chairperson AK Goel on February 16 said that there was a gap of 238 million gallons per day (MGD) in sewage generated and treated, and directed the gap to be duly considered and addressed.

The report was submitted by a committee formed by the National Green Tribunal and headed by Delhi lieutenant governor (LG) VK Saxena.

HT reached out to the Delhi Jal Board with requests for a comment but did not receive a reply.

The order relied on a Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) report findings. "Water quality of river Yamuna is meeting the criteria when it enters Delhi at Palla from Haryana. However, water quality deteriorates as it exits Delhi at Asgarpur. This indicates the contribution of pollution in river Yamuna in Delhi due to discharge of untreated/ partially treated domestic and industrial waste water through 24 drains," said this report.

CPCB was directed to monitor water quality at interstate borders and compile results, including data about the quality of effluents drained into the Yamuna.

The LG Saxena-headed committee was set up to ensure compliance with the January 2021 directions issued by the Supreme Court (SC) and similar directions by the National Green Tribunal in for the rejuvenation of the river.

A progress report from the committee was sought by January 31 in this regard. The February 16 order came after both



Yamuna's water quality deteriorates after it enters the Capital, an official report said.

SUNIL GHOSH / HT

reports were taken into account.

The National Green Tribunal bench noted that out of the 35 sewage treatment plants (STPs) in Delhi, 23 were consistently non-compliant with the norms prescribed by the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC).

"CPCB is directed to monitor the performance of STPs in Delhi, Haryana and UP including the drains joining river Yamuna on a quarterly basis," the bench said. It ordered that the first report in this regard be filed by April 30.

Delhi deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia on Saturday last week announced the setting up of two STPs of a capacity of 2 million litres a day and 6 million litres a day in Mundka, apart from two sewage pumping stations of 15 million litres a day and 6 million litres a day capacity in the area.

According to officials in the LG office, Saxena was made the committee head after "taking into account his work towards management of legacy waste".

Legacy waste is that which has been collected and kept for years at some barren land or a landfill.

The Times of India- 18- February-2023

Govt did nothing to clean river, AAP should pay green fine: BJP

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: BJP on Friday claimed that the Delhi government had not done anything to clean the Yamuna. It also asked AAP to pay 2,232 crore as environmental compensation immediately as per the National Green Tribunal's order.

AAP did not respond to the allegations.

Delhi BJP working president Virendra Sachdeva said, "In the matters of sewer pollution and waste management, there is an emergency like situation in Delhi. NGT has directed the AAP government to pay 2,232 crore as environmental compensation for improper management of solid and liquid waste."

BJP spokesperson Praveen Shankar Kapoor said, "Even NGT is fed up with Delhi govern-

ment for its failure to check pollution and manage waste."

BJP alleged that out of the 35 sewage treatment plants of Delhi Jal Board, 23 were failing to meet basic quality standards because of which poisonous sewage was falling directly into the Yamuna.

Delhi government lacks any concrete plan for waste management, Kapoor claimed. "People of Delhi are suffering because of poisonous water and air. On the other hand, they will have to pay the fine due to the negligence of the Kejriwal government," the spokesperson said.

Leader of Opposition Ramveer Singh Bidhuri said that the fine imposed by NGT on the Delhi government should be recovered from the coffers of AAP.

The Times of India- 18- February-2023

HC seeks CPCB Sabarmati river pollution report

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Ahmedabad: Taking cognizance of the news report on the Sabarmati being the second most polluted river in India according to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the Gujarat high court on Friday directed the Gujarat Pollution Control Board (GPCB) to place before it the CPCB report. **P2**

HC seeks CPCB report on Sabarmati pollution

Court Also Asks For A Report On Desilting

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Ahmedabad: Taking cognizance of the news report on the Sabarmati being the second most polluted river in India according to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the Gujarat high court on Friday directed the Gujarat Pollution Control Board (GPCB) to place before it the CPCB report.

During the hearing of a PIL that the HC had filed suo

motu two years ago, the bench of Chief Justice Sonia Gokani and Justice Vaidhavi Nanavati asked GPCB to supply the report of the central body, which was placed before the parliament by the Union ministry of Jal Shakti.

The report said that the Cooum river in Tamil Nadu is the most polluted, followed by the Sabarmati. It revealed that the stretch of Sabarmati between Raysan village in Gandhinagar and

YOU READ IT HERE FIRST

Sabarmati 2nd most polluted in India

It Falls In 'Critically Polluted' Category: CPCB

STPs: Task force had proposed time-bound action plan

AMC chief suspends engineer

MINIST AMCA'S STPS ASSESSMENT

The Times of India dated Feb 3, 2023

dy report on record by the next hearing.

The report is a cause of concern because two years ago, the HC undertook an exercise to curb pollution in Sabarmati and to rejuvenate it.

After getting various government agencies to pull up its socks, the high court ensured that the pollution of the river was mitigated to some extent. Since the elevation of Justice JB Pardiwala to the Supreme Court, the PIL has not been heard for nearly eight months.

As the bench discussed the CBCP report, advocate Hemang Shah, the amicus curiae in the case, submitted that it is not possible for this generation to reap fruits of the exercise to clean the river, and probably the

next generation will benefit from it.

The court even questioned his perceptible pessimism over the issue of pollution, and he said that his opinion is based on ground realities.

Meanwhile, the HC also sought a report on the desilting to be undertaken by the Ahmedabad Mega Clean Association (AMCA) of its Mega pipeline, which has been laid to carry trade effluents to the Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) and then to the river.

AMCA said that it has kept in abeyance Ashima Ltd's request for a connection to the pipeline to release its effluent.

The court also discussed the operational cost of zero liquid discharge facility.

RIVER SUTRA
SAVE SABARMATI
A TIMES OF INDIA ENDEAVOUR

Vautha village had a biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) of 292 mg/L.

GPCB's counsel Devang Vyas assured the HC that he would place the CPCB's stu-

The Times of India- 18- February-2023

Let us utilise our share of Krishna water, T tells KRMB

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: Stating that Andhra Pradesh has utilised its quota of water share in Krishna water for the current water year, the Telangana government said it has still 141 tmcft of its share left and urged the Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) to allow them utilise it.

Telangana irrigation engineer-in-chief C Muralidhar, who attended KRMB meeting on Friday, asked the board to calculate the actual utilisation by AP and Telangana.

Telangana officials said the KRMB committee should audit water use by each state without any delay.

AP irrigation officials could not attend the meeting due to a meeting on Polavaram project in AP. The KRMB meeting is likely to be held in the next month after consultations with both the states.

Both Telangana and AP have been fighting over their share in Krishna river.

While the present allocation of water between the two states is 66:34, the Telangana government has been asking for 50:50.

Deccan Chronicle- 18- February-2023

SC stays NGT penalty on state

Apex court allowed state to carry on works related to drinking water

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, FEB. 17

In a relief to Telangana, the Supreme Court on Friday stayed the ₹920 crore penalties and fines imposed by a National Green Tribunal (NGT) bench at Chennai for going ahead with the construction works of Palamuru-Ranga Reddy lift irrigation scheme (PRLIS) and Dindi irrigation project without procuring environmental clearances.

The apex court also allowed the Telangana government to carry on the works catering to the drinking water

component of the PRLIS. The government had submitted that it was only going ahead with works meant for providing drinking water through the Mission Bhagiratha in the erstwhile districts of Mahbubnagar and Nalgonda. The Supreme Court bench, comprising Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice M.M. Sundaresh, made it clear that it was allowing the works as it did not want people to struggle for drinking water.

The NGT southern bench in Chennai had on December 24, 2022, ordered the Telangana government to pay ₹528

crore as penalty for damaging the environment with PRLIS and levied ₹92 crore fine for violating environmental norms in Dindi project. For “wilful violation of its earlier orders,” the NGT imposed a penalty of ₹300 crore on Telangana and asked it to deposit the overall fine amount of ₹920 crore with the Krishna River Management Board in three months.

Counsel for Andhra Pradesh argued that Telangana was going ahead with irrigation works towards which it has finalised bids for lifting and pumping around 90 TMC water

through PRLIS without clearances.

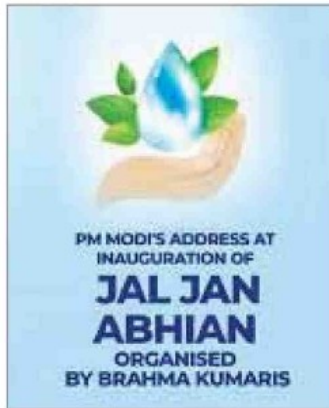
Senior counsel Mukhul Rohatgi, representing Telangana, submitted that works have been stopped and the interests of Telangana state are being disrupted by the NGT orders. He said that five reservoirs are being constructed for drinking water purposes and the first reservoir was spread over 24, 000 acres which is a thousand times bigger than Rashtrapati Bhavan. He said that NGT has ordered stopping of constructions at a depth of 100 to 200 ft. according to 2050 requirements.

The Pioneer- 18- February-2023

Timely Jal Jan Abhian

Water conservation is in the nation's best interests and it should be taken up on priority

The Jal Jan Abhian launched by Prime Minister Modi is one of the timeliest steps to conserve water and ensure that people do not feel a shortage of water in the time to come. The Jal Jan Abhian is one of a joint nationwide campaign by Brahma Kumaris and the Union Jal Shakti Ministry, a kind of public-private partnership but it is all about creating awareness amongst the people and ensuring that water gets proper attention from the government as well as the people. The Jal Jan Abhian is perfectly synched with one of the 17 UN goals for sustainable development to be achieved by the year 2030. Water conservation is indeed one of the most important sustainable development programs for the country as we are running out of potable water. Most of our water bodies including rivers are polluted and whatever fresh water we have, is often wasted by the fortunate few while others have to fetch water from long distances. Most



others have to fetch water from long distances. Most rivers, lakes, and surface water in India are polluted due to industries, untreated sewage, and solid wastes. Although the average annual precipitation in India is about 4000 billion cubic meters, only about 1122 billion cubic meters of water resources are available for utilization due to a lack of infrastructure. Much of this water is unsafe because pollution degrades water quality. Water pollution severely limits the amount of water available to Indian consumers, industry, and agriculture. Unfortunately, the root cause of water pollution is our ignorance and carelessness. We pollute rivers and water bodies without even realizing it.

In this context, the awareness campaign is very necessary. The Prime Minister rightly said that it should be a collective concern. Besides, over-exploitation of the groundwater is also a cause of concern as the water table is going down with every passing year. This is because we are the largest user of groundwater in the world, and most of the crops of wheat and rice bank upon groundwater extraction putting a heavy load on the groundwater. India uses 25 percent of all groundwater extracted globally, surpassing the USA and China. And because 70 percent of the water supply in agriculture today is groundwater, it will remain the lifeline of India's water supplies for years to come. The awareness campaign will be held across the country for eight months, targeting 10 crore people. Indeed, as the Prime Minister rightly said, there shall be a tomorrow only if there is water, and for this, we have to make joint efforts right now!

Hindustan- 18- February-2023

दिल्ली में प्रवेश करते ही यमुना का पानी खराब हुआ

नई दिल्ली। राष्ट्रीय हरित अधिकरण (एनजीटी) ने कहा कि राष्ट्रीय राजधानी में प्रवेश करने के बाद यमुना नदी की जल गुणवत्ता खराब हो गई है। यहां मलजल के प्रबंधन में मौजूदा अंतराल पर विधिवत विचार करने और कम करने करने की आवश्यकता है। हरियाणा के यमुना जलग्रहण क्षेत्र में मलजल आने और उसके शोधन में भारी अंतर को युद्धस्तर पर कम करना होगा। अधिकरण ने कहा कि उत्तर प्रदेश ने तो यमुना प्रदूषण के संबंध में एक भी रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत नहीं की, यह बहुत अफसोस की बात है। शुक्रवार को यमुना के असंतुलित प्रदूषण के लिए उपचारात्मक कार्रवाई से संबंधित मामलों व इस विषय पर पारित सर्वोच्च न्यायालय और न्यायाधिकरण के आदेशों के बावजूद कानून राज, पर्यावरण और सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य की हानि से निपटने में अधिकारियों की विफलता पर सुनवाई हुई।

दिल्ली में कहीं भी पानी की बर्बादी है सबसे बड़ा अपराध : केजरीवाल

सीएम ने की साफ जलापूर्ति की परियोजनाओं की समीक्षा

राज्य ब्यूरो, नई दिल्ली : दिल्ली में कहीं पर भी अगर पानी बर्बाद कर रहे हैं, तो यह सबसे बड़ा अपराध है। यह बात मुख्यमंत्री अरविंद केजरीवाल ने उच्चस्तरीय समीक्षा बैठक के दौरान कही। दरअसल, केजरीवाल सरकार हर घर में नल से साफ जलापूर्ति की दिशा में काम कर रही है। इसी के मद्देनजर मुख्यमंत्री ने शुक्रवार को बैठक कर नए जल स्रोतों का अवलोकन व ग्राउंड वाटर रिचार्ज के लिए हर एसटीपी का व्यवस्थित इस्तेमाल करने सहित विभिन्न मुद्दों पर चर्चा की। बैठक में उत्तर एवं उत्तर-पूर्वी दिल्ली के लिए पानी का नया इंटीग्रेटेड प्रोजेक्ट जल्द तैयार करने और हर घर तक पानी का कनेक्शन देने से संबंधित मुद्दों पर चर्चा हुई।

दिल्ली जल बोर्ड ने हर घर को पानी का नया कनेक्शन देने के लिए सरकार से करीब 688 करोड़ रुपये मांग का प्रस्ताव रखा। इस पर उन्होंने कहा कि पानी का कनेक्शन देने में आने वाले खर्च का सही आकलन किया जाए। इस पर आने वाला खर्च सरकार देगी। सीएम ने निर्देश दिया कि संबंधित विभाग आपसी तालमेल बेहतर बनाएं, ताकि जलापूर्ति बढ़ाने के काम में देर न हो। बैठक में उपमुख्यमंत्री मनीष सिसोदिया, पर्यावरण मंत्री गोपाल राय, मुख्य सचिव नरेश कुमार समेत संबंधित विभागों के वरिष्ठ अधिकारी मौजूद थे। मुख्यमंत्री ने सात फरवरी को भी उच्च स्तरीय समीक्षा बैठक कर सभी परियोजनाओं में तेजी लाने के निर्देश दिए थे।

अधिकारियों ने आश्वासन दिया कि 688 करोड़ रुपये से हर घर को पानी का कनेक्शन दे दिया

- विभाग तालमेल बेहतर बनाएं, ताकि जलापूर्ति बढ़ाने के काम में न हो विलंब
- कहा- पानी का कनेक्शन देने में आने वाला खर्च सरकार उठाएगी



शुक्रवार को समीक्षा बैठक करते मुख्यमंत्री अरविंद केजरीवाल ● सौ. दिल्ली सरकार

जाएगा। जल्द ही उत्तर और उत्तर-पूर्वी दिल्ली के हर घर को पर्याप्त पानी मिल सकता है। अनधिकृत कालोनियों में 1000 आरओ प्लांट लगाने पर सीएम ने अधिकारियों को डिजाइन पेश करने को कहा।

केजरीवाल ने उपमुख्यमंत्री मनीष

जरूरत के अनुसार बढ़ाएं जल शोधन संयंत्र की क्षमता

मुख्यमंत्री अरविंद केजरीवाल ने अधिकारियों को जल शोधन संयंत्र की क्षमता बढ़ाने का निर्देश देते हुए कहा कि हम ट्यूबवेल से पानी तो निकाल लेते हैं, लेकिन उसे शोधित नहीं कर पाते हैं, क्योंकि कई जल शोधन संयंत्र की क्षमता कम है। इससे भविष्य में उसका लाभ मिलेगा। सीएम ने अधिकारियों से सभी जल शोधन संयंत्र का प्लान मांगा है कि इसके री-साइकलिंग पानी का हम कैसे इस्तेमाल करेंगे।

सिसोदिया को ग्राम सभा, जलबोर्ड और डूसिब के अधिकारियों साथ बैठक कर जमीन प्राप्त करने में आ रही दिक्कतों का समाधान करने का निर्देश दिया। साथ ही मुख्य सचिव को डीडीए से बात कर शीघ्र जमीन उपलब्ध कराने के लिए कहा है।