

WHY INDUSTRIES SHOULDN'T BE SHUT DOWN

NGT pulls up firms for Ganga pollution

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, 17 Feb ruary

The National Green Tribunal today issued show cause notice to industries located on the stretch from Haridwar to Kanpur asking why they should not be shut down for polluting river Ganga.

The green panel also directed industries like tannery paper and pulp, textile, slaughter houses etc to clear their stand on attainment of zero liquid discharge, installation of online monitoring systems, current status of these units and asked what steps they have taken till now to control pollution resulting from their activities. "Is there any single industry which is polluting according to you (industries)? In the last two years, we have not heard so from you people, still the pollution exists. You say your units do not cause pollution but have you ever got your trade effluent analysed? "If pollution is there why

shall we not shut these industries. Tell us why we should not close down industries which are running without consent from the pollution board," a bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Swatanter Kumar said.

The Tribunal ordered Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board to put on its website the list of 1,070 seriously polluting units and also the Environment Ministry to clarify the process of identifying seriously and grossly polluting industrial units in public domain. During the proceedings, the counsel for slaughter houses contended that they were not discharging anything into the river and in fact irrigating fields from their used water. To this the tribunal said, "What happens when you irrigate the land from your water? Do you even know what kind of effluents you are releasing into the underground water? You are causing water pollution directly."

The tribunal will now hear the matter on 7 March. On 10 February, the green panel had set up a committee to look into the polluting industries located along the banks of Ganga and inform it about the quantum of sewage discharged by them in the river. The tribunal has constituted the panel comprising member secretary of Central Pollution Control Board, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board, CEO of UP Jal Nigam, Director of Environment Ministry and a professor from IIT-Roorkee.

"The committee shall submit report on actual effluent discharge from each drain that joins Ganga and measure load on points where Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) are sought to be constructed under Phase-I B of the judgement (Haridwar to Kanpur)," the bench had said while warning that if the directions are not complied with, it would impose heavy costs.

Govt depts on notice over pollution norms

BIJENDRA AHLAWAT

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

FARIDABAD, FEBRUARY 17

The Pollution Control Board has asked various government departments to ensure implementation of all regulations to keep a proper tab on air pollution level that has gone up in the past several months.

The construction activity has been blamed for the rise in respirable suspended particulate matter (RSPM) levels in the city.

Admitting that the rise in the RSPM level was a cause of concern, Jai Bhagwan Sharma, regional officer, Pollution Control Board, Faridabad, said a notice has been issued to the Municipal Corporation Faridabad, HUDA and the NHAI for ensuring implementation of regulations.

He said the matter had come up at a meeting of the



Environment Pollution Control Authority (EPCA). He said the EPCA had directed the board to ensure that all measures to keep air pollution level under control should be in place. He said the ongoing construction activity in the city had contributed to the rise in RSPM levels in the past two months.

The particulate matter level in the city had been between 250 and 300 micrograms during the past over a month, which had been several times higher than the safe limit of 60, he said.

The Times of India

Title : Haryana uses mapping tech to trace groundwater

Author : Vishwa Mohan

Location :

New Delhi

Article Date : 02/18/2016

Haryana will be the first state in the country to have aquifer mapping done for its groundwater resources by May .

An aquifer is an under ground layer of water-bearing rock, from which ground water can be extracted. The mapping will assist the state in estimating the quantity and quality of groundwater in an aquifer and would help it in assessment of sustainable level of water extraction.

Haryana is one of the eight states selected for this kind of scientific mapping in the first phase. Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Telangana are the other states selected for the purpose. These are the states where the groundwater situation has already reached a critical level.

“The mapping will help us know the exact location of aquifer, its size, quantum of water it can store and its recharge point. The objective of the programme is to prepare management plans, in consultation with stakeholders and state governments, which will help us take measures to replenish the declining groundwater,” said Shashi Shekhar, secretary of the Union water resources ministry .

Shekhar, who reviewed the entire ongoing programme last week, told TOI on Monday that the target is to complete the aquifer mapping of the entire country by 2022. “The mapping in the priority eight states will, however, be done by 2017,” he said, adding this is one of the priority projects of his ministry that looks to ensure sustainability and equitable distribution of water among users across the country in due course.

The mapping is currently being done by the Central Ground Water Board.

For the full report, log on to <http://www.timeofindia.com>

Haryana is one of the eight states selected for aquifer mapping in phase 1. Mapping in all eight states to be done by 2017

The Times of India

Title : Aamir to be face of Maha water conservation drive

Author :

Location :

Mumbai:

Article Date : 02/18/2016

Bollywood superstar Aamir Khan, whose comments on “intolerance“ had sparked a row last year and invited the wrath of right-wing outfits, is partnering with the BJP-led Maharashtra government for its flagship water conservation and droughtmitigation programme.

Aamir and wife Kiran Rao, along with the team of his popular TV show `Satyamev Jayate', have formed `Paani Foundation', which will work with the government to solve the water crisis in the drought-hit state.

“When we did Satyamev Jayate, we saw the on ground results which were very strong. But we didn't work on ground then. We thought we should take a step forward and focus on one topic till we solve it. Satyajit Bhatkal (the show's director) and I chose water because it's very important and Maharashtra because we were born here. We thought we should begin with this,“ Aamir said at a presser where CM Devendra Fadnavis and industrialists were also present.

The actor announced `Sa tyamev Jayate Water Cup', which will work for `Jal Yukt Shivar', the Fadnavis government's flagship scheme aimed at making villages droughtfree in five years through conservation programmes. PTI



The actor, whose comments on intolerance had invited the wrath of right-wing outfits last year, said he won't be the only face of the drive and will rope in Marathi celebrities to promote the cause

फिर बर्फ के तूफान से घिरा अमरीका, 1600 उड़ानें रद्द



न्यूयार्क. अमरीका एक बार फिर बर्फ के तूफान की चपेट में आ गया है। इस बार पूर्वी हिस्सा ज्यादा प्रभावित हुआ है। 17 राज्यों में बर्फबारी और भीषण ठंड का अलर्ट जारी किया गया है। न्यूयॉर्क, वाशिंगटन और नार्थ कैरोलिना सहित कई बड़े शहरों में 1600 से ज्यादा उड़ानें रद्द करनी पड़ी हैं। सड़कें फिसलन भरी होने से हादसों की आशंका बढ़ गई है। तटीय क्षेत्रों में बाढ़ आने की भी आशंका है। तूफान के बवंडर से वेसन में एक हाईस्कूल क्षतिग्रस्त हो गया है, जबकि अलबामा में फायरब्रिगेड का मुख्यालय नष्ट हो गया।