

Central Water Commission
Technical Documentation Directorate
Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section

West Block II, Wing No-5
R K Puram, New Delhi – 66.

Dated 29.01.2019

Subject: Submission of News Clippings.

The News Clippings on Water Resources Development and allied subjects are enclosed for perusal of the Chairman, CWC, and Member (WP&P/D&R/RM), Central Water Commission. The soft copies of clippings will be uploaded on the CWC website.

Encl: As stated above.

Donjam
29/1/2019
for SPA (Publicity)

o/c

Deputy Director, WSE Dte.

Am
29/1/19

Director, WSE Dte.

Am
29/01

For information to

Chairman CWC, New Delhi

Member (WP&P/D&R/R.M.), CWC and all concerned, uploaded at www.cwc.nic.in

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Time of India (New Delhi)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Keshari (Hindi)

The Hindu (New Delhi)

Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

The Times of India (A)

Business standard

The Economic Times

and documented at Bhagirath (English) & Publicity Section, CWC

Approach appropriate tribunal for water release, says NGT

Pleas sought adequate release of water from Sardar Sarovar Dam

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has dismissed a plea that sought adequate release of water from the Sardar Sarovar Dam to the downstream areas of the Narmada, stating that there is a separate tribunal to adjudicate the particular matter.

A Bench headed by NGT judicial member Justice Raghuvendra S. Rathore noted that the Water Dispute Tribunal and the Narmada Control Authority are already in place to deal with matters pertaining to the river.

"Therefore, it would be appropriate that the current matter also be placed before the Narmada Tribunal so as to consider all aspects of the grievance raised by the applicant. The applicant will be free to represent his case before the tribunal," the Bench said.

The directions came while the green panel was hearing a plea moved by the Narmada Pradushan Nivaran Samiti and the Bharuch Citizen Council, which sought directions to make



The plea sought directions to make urgent provisions for the release of 1,500 cusecs of water from the Sardar Sarovar Dam to the downstream Narmada areas on a daily basis. ■FILE PHOTO

urgent provisions for the release of 1,500 cusecs of water from the Sardar Sarovar Dam to the downstream areas of the river on a daily basis.

The petition further alleged that due to release of 600 cusecs of water, the riverbed was drying up. This, the petition said, led to adverse impact on the environment.

"Due to unavailability of surface water, water-intensive and heavily polluting industries along the Narmada estuary withdrew large quantities of water from borewells aggravating the water crisis in the region and accelerating the rate of toxic sea water intrusion into aquifers of the downstream area," the plea had contended.

Hindustan Times
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YAMUNA POLLUTION

NGT panel suggests pits, artificial ponds for idol immersion

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NEWDELHI: To bring down post-immersion pollution in the Yamuna, a National Green Tribunal-appointed committee has directed authorities in Delhi to explore the possibility of creating artificial ponds and pits in various localities for idol immersion.

The suggestion—besides others such as restricting height of idols to a maximum of three feet—was discussed in a meeting held in December, 2018 by the two-member Yamuna pollution monitoring committee.

“Idol immersion should be banned in River Yamuna and replaced by artificial ponds in RWAs and on empty land space,” read a suggestion that came from the divisional commissioner and was discussed in the meeting.

The cue was taken from Surat in Gujarat, which recently set an example by not allowing any idol immersion in the river Tapi. According to a report prepared by the Surat Police Commissioner, at least 22 artificial ponds were created in the city before Ganapati immersion in 2018. Earlier, more than 6,000 such idols used to be immersed in the River Tapi from 33 platforms.

“The possibility of using colony/locality-wise pits needs to be discussed and a decision taken. Delhi needs to create sufficient artificial ponds before issuing a

notification that immersion would be permitted only in designated ponds,” said the monitoring committee, which has already submitted its comments to the NGT.

Pollution level in the Yamuna spikes manifold after immersions every year. Tests carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) after Durga Puja and Ganesh Puja immersions in 2018 revealed that concentrations of chromium, lead, nickel and mercury among other had shot up several times.

“Simply banning idol immersion in the Yamuna won’t help. We need an integrated and holistic approach. We have also suggested that POP and chemical paints should be banned in idol making,” said K Mahesh, district magistrate of east Delhi, who was present in the meeting held by the monitoring committee.

Government authorities have also been asked to send a team to Surat to see how immersions could be managed during Durga Puja and Ganesh Puja to bring down pollution in the Yamuna River from 2019.

“It is a welcome move. A systematic and target oriented approach rather than knee-jerk reaction are necessary to bring down post-immersion pollution in Yamuna. The example of Surat is worth exploring,” said Manoj Misra, convenor of Yamuna Jiye Abhiyan.

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DJB to drag Haryana to HC for industrial waste in Yamuna

Water Production In 3 Plants Falls By 30% Due To Dumping

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi Jal Board (DJB) will take Haryana to court over increased levels of ammonia and industrial pollutants in the Yamuna.

"Raw water quality in Delhi has been affected time and again due to discharge of industrial waste by Haryana. This has been a perpetual problem and Delhiites suffer due to it," DJB vice-chairman Dinesh Mohaniya said on Monday. As the problem has again started impacting the water supply in the capital, DJB has decided to move Delhi high court for a solution, he added.

The raw water quality at Wazirabad pond has deteriorated severely since Friday, with the present ammonia level in the Yamuna at 2.2 ppm. DJB can treat up to 0.9 ppm ammonia levels. Hence, the water production capacity at Wazirabad, Chandrawal and Okhla treatment plants has fallen by 30%, said an official. Further, rationalisation of drinking water has been done at other plants.

DJB will plead in HC that the ammonia levels are almost double of what can be treated at Wazirabad and urgent di-

rections are required to be given to Central Pollution Control Board and other respondents to stop it. The Haryana irrigation department directly controls the pollutant sources and illegal bunds have recently come up in the channel DD-8, which can't be done without the department's consent, an official said referring to the draft petition.

DD-8 is a channel through which additional water can be supplied to Delhi for diluting the pollution — in case it can't be controlled — so that

RIVER CHOKED

the water can be made drinkable at Wazirabad.

Due to high levels of pollutants in the Wazirabad reservoir, the command areas, including NDMC and other central Delhi areas, have been impacted. Following the Supreme Court's orders, the reservoir needs to be kept full at all times to meet Delhi's drinking water requirement, the official said. "The Centre, with offices and residential complexes in NDMC areas, has been requested to direct Haryana to take action," he added.

HC okays DJB step to stop water misuse

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New Delhi: Sensing a scam, Delhi Jal Board recently decided to cancel potable water connections to bottling and water processing plants in the capital. DJB took the step to save water and to plug gaps that saw private entities bottle Jal Board's water by paying a small fee for the connection and then sell it at more than 100% profit.

Delhi high court has now dismissed a challenge to the DJB decision and refused to interfere with the move.

HC in a recent order forced the owner of a cooling plant, challenging the DJB decision, to withdraw his plea after the civic agency explained to the court that the move will save huge volumes of water by ending the misuse by bottling plants.

The owner had moved court challenging a directive by DJB where it said that there are a large number of water cooling plants, filling and bottling units that sell water illegally in jars, cans and glasses in resi-

dential and commercial areas.

"With the growing population, DJB has been facing overall shortage of potable water and is unable to meet its demand for various reasons... in order to stop commercial use of water and make it available to consumers, DJB has approved to withdraw/cancel water connections sanctioned to bottling plants selling packaged units of water in jars bottles and glasses," the order issued by DJB stated.

DJB also recommended to the three civic bodies to not issue licenses for bottling plants with DJB water or ground water as their source.

Defending the policy in court, standing counsel Sumeet Pushkarna told HC that DJB water is produced at a cost of Rs 20 per kilolitre and sold at concessional rates to domestic and commercial users for drinking purpose. Such petitioners can't sell the water at high cost for individual profit as they neither have a food grade or the ISI mark. Such persons are liable to be prosecuted, Pushkarna added.