



F.No. A-14011/WQM-I/2021 19398

Dated: 06.12.2021

To

The Chairman,  
Delhi Pollution Control Committee  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor, C Wing,  
Delhi Secretariat, I P Estate,  
Delhi-110002

**DIRECTIONS UNDER SECTION 18 (1) (b) OF THE WATER (PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF POLLUTION) ACT, 1974 IN THE MATTER OF CONTROL OF POLLUTION IN RIVER YAMUNA**

**WHEREAS**, amongst others, under Section 17 of The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, one of the functions of the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) and Pollution Control Committee (PCC) constituted under The Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 is to plan a comprehensive programme for prevention, control or abatement of pollution of streams and wells located in the State and to secure the execution thereof.

**WHEREAS**, In pursuance of Hon'ble NGT order dated 16.02 2018 in O.A. No. 06/2012 in the matter of Manoj Mishra Vs. Union of India & Ors related to high Ammonia level in river Yamuna, a meeting was held on 20.02 2018 under the chairmanship of 'Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti' wherein Chief Secretary, Haryana State Government; Chairman, Haryana State Pollution Control Board (HSPCB); Member Secretary, Upper Yamuna River Board (UYRB) & Executive Director, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG); Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB); Member (Drainage), Delhi Jal Board (DJB); Chief Nodal Officer (Water), DJB; Chief Engineer (WW), DJB; Chief Engineer, Haryana Irrigation & Water Supply Department, Panchkula, Haryana; Chief Engineer, YWS(S), Haryana Irrigation & Water Supply Department, Delhi attended the meeting. The matter related to water quality and high level of Ammonia in the river Yamuna water at Wazirabad pond was discussed and accordingly short and long-term measures/ recommendations were made by the Committee for its implementation by the respective States, and .

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**WHEREAS**, CPCB has identified 351 polluted river stretches in the country in the year 2018 based on water quality data of 2016 and 2017, including 3 on River Yamuna based on Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) as criteria pollutant. The identified stretches as polluted on river Yamuna are under Priority Class I in Delhi (Wazirabad to Asgarpur), Haryana (Panipat to Sonapat) and Uttar Pradesh (Asgarpur to Etawah & Shahpur to Allahabad, Balua Ghat) That in compliance to Hon'ble NGT orders passed in OA No 673/2018, River Rejuvenation Committee (RRC) constituted by Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh State Governments have prepared and submitted action plans to CPCB Task Team, for bringing polluted river stretch of River Yamuna in the respective jurisdiction to be fit at least for bathing purposes (i.e. BOD < 3 mg/L and FC < 500 MPN/100 ml) on the basis of gap analysis (w.r.t. sewage, industrial effluent, waste management and other aspects as per Hon'ble NGT order) which were approved by CPCB Task Team with conditions. Presently, implementation of activities under Action Plans already approved by CPCB Task Team in respect of P-I to P-IV polluted river stretches and progress of implementation of P-V action plans is being reviewed periodically by the River Rejuvenation Committee constituted by the respective State Govt./ UT Administration at State level, while the Central Monitoring Committee (CMC) constituted by Hon'ble NGT under the chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS) reviews the progress at Central Level, and

**WHEREAS**, a 'Study Group' has been constituted to suggest long term and short term measures for control of pollution in river Yamuna. Report of the Study Group has been discussed in a meeting held on 30.09.2021 with the stakeholders of Delhi and Haryana and sought comments. Final recommendations of the 'Study Group' to be ensured by the States of Delhi and Haryana. Joint Surveillance Squad (JSS) comprising officials of Haryana and Delhi States have been constituted for identification of hot spots, sources of pollution, illegal discharges if any and present practices followed for treatment of generated sewage in the unauthorized colonies between Pallah and Delhi. JSS to carryout frequent inspections as per the schedule suggested by CPCB and report to be submitted to CPCB. Also, concerned States are required to ensure implementation of the recommendations of the Study Group; and

**WHEREAS**, in the past, CPCB has issued directions under section 18 (1) (b) of The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and under section 5 of The Environment

(Protection) Act, 1986 to Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) for ensuring 100 % of treatment of generated domestic sewage, industrial effluent and wastes by providing adequate infrastructure on ground in a time bound manner, and

**WHEREAS**, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) continuously received complaints regarding increasing in level of Ammonical Nitrogen in Yamuna river at Wazirabad and increase in foam formation at D/s of Okhla Barrage, mainly during winter season. To ascertain the facts monitoring was carried out and meetings were held with the stakeholder's agencies in Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh in previous years and several reports have been filed before Hon'ble National Green Tribunal and Hon'ble Supreme Court. Further, CPCB also carried out sampling of river Yamuna at Pallah, Wazirabad, ITO, Okhla, CLC, inlet of WTP at Wazirabad, Drain No 6 and Drain No. 8 during 08.11.2021, 09.11.2021 and 11.11.2021 to assess the water quality of river Yamuna. Based on the monitoring carried out on 8.11.2021 at Okhla., The concentration of Ammonical Nitrogen (15.8 mg/L), BOD (10 mg/L), Faecal Coliform (13000000 MPN / 100 mL) and Faecal Streptococci (1300000 MPN/100 mL) are high. Detergents are also observed as 1.8 mg/L and Phosphate as 1.05 mg/L. Water quality of river Yamuna on 09.11.2021 revealed at Palla, the concentration of Ammonical Nitrogen (4 mg/L), BOD (5 mg/L), Faecal Coliform (35000 MPN / 100 mL) and Faecal Streptococci (1700 MPN / 100 mL) count are high. Detergent is observed as 'BDL' and Phosphate as 0.2 mg/L. Water quality assessment of river Yamuna carried out on 11.11.2021 at Okhla reveal that the concentration of Ammonical Nitrogen (13.3 mg/L), BOD (9 mg/L), Faecal Coliform (3500000 MPN/100 mL) and Faecal Streptococci (24000 MPN / 100 mL) are high. Detergents are also observed as 2 mg/L and Phosphate as 0.66 mg/L. Based on the analysis and observations of the afore-said monitoring, it can be concluded that foam formation in river Yamuna is due to the presence of detergents and laundry chemicals in river. These detergents contain phosphates (sodium tri-poly-phosphate) which might have been released from households/industrial activities, as natural levels of phosphate usually range from 0.005 to 0.05 mg/l, and

**WHEREAS**, a meeting has been convened on 10.11.2021 with the officials of Haryana, Delhi and UP States to take a stock of action taken on the earlier directions as well as long-term and short term measures suggested by Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS) in a meeting which was held

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on 20.02.2018 under the chairmanship of 'Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti'. In the said meeting, Delhi, Haryana and UP officials were requested to take necessary remedial measures for control of pollution in a time bound manner

**NOW, THEREFORE,** in exercise of the powers conferred under section 18 (1) (b) of The Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act 1974, the following directions are issued for ensuring compliance:

1. To ensure 100 % treatment of generated sewage, industrial effluent and wastes, by providing adequate infrastructure on ground in a time bound manner in the State and also to comply to various directions passed by Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) for rejuvenation of identified polluted rivers including river Yamuna within the jurisdiction of the NCT Delhi.
2. To enhance monitoring frequency of drains, river Yamuna, industries, STPs and CETPs and strict enforcement of discharge norms in the State. Action shall be initiated against the violators in accordance with the provisions of The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, as applicable.
3. To carryout random inspection of water polluting industries, Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs), Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) falling in the catchment of river Yamuna and located within the jurisdiction of NCT Delhi and to identify violating industries or operators of STPs /CETPs and Imposition of 'Environmental Compensation' on the violators in line with the Hon'ble NGT directions.
4. To identify violators of environmental norms in the NCT Delhi and criminal proceedings also shall be initiated against such violators under the provisions of The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 or The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 as applicable.
5. An effective surveillance from State authorities also be formed for control of Ammonical Nitrogen in river Yamuna and if required, use of advanced technologies such as 'drones for surveillance' also be explored.
6. Stringent measures against the tankers indulged in illegal discharges in river Yamuna also be taken within the jurisdiction of NCT Delhi.

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7. Recommendations of the MoJS (i.e , long term and short term measures) and Study Group also be implemented by all the concerned Departments in NCT Delhi in a time bound manner, for which time bound action plans be prepared and submitted to MoJS and CPCB and its implementation shall be ensured by the concerned State Government Departments
8. A mechanism shall be developed to alert the authorities in case of incidences of increase in Ammonical Nitrogen or Phosphate concentration in river Yamuna (by way of installing Real Time Water Quality Monitoring Station at the interstate borders), so that short term measures be implemented if necessary by all the concerned. All the authorities of Delhi, Haryana and UP should be coordinated each other to resolve episodal spike in Ammonical Nitrogen and Phosphate/ surfactants in river Yamuna by implementing suitable measures and enforcement of various provisions notified under The Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986.
9. Washing activities at Dhobhi Ghats on the banks of river Yamuna should be prohibited. Dry Cleaning Units in operation without captive Effluent Treatment Plants in NCT Delhi contributing to pollution in river Yamuna should be closed with immediate effect. Dedicated Dhobi Ghats on the banks of river Yamuna shall be developed with a provision of wash water collection and treatment of collected wash wastewater for ensuring compliance to the discharge norms before its discharge into river Yamuna, in a time bound manner.
10. To submit action taken reports on the directions issued by CPCB during the years 2019-2021 in the matter of control of pollution in river Yamuna.
11. That DPCC shall issue direction under section 33 (A) of The Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act 1974;
  - i. To Delhi Jal Board (DJB) that for up gradation of all the existing Water Treatment Plants (WTPs) in Delhi with a suitable provision to accept untreated raw water from river Yamuna, within one year.
  - ii. To Delhi Irrigation & Flood Control Department that for a periodic cleaning/ de-silting of Canals prior to the monsoon season apart from periodic Dredging, De-weeding of the Okhla and Wazirabad Barrage and rescheduling of cleaning of Canals joining Okhla barrage to be explored in consultation with the concerned Department (s) in UP.

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- iii. To Delhi Irrigation & Flood Control Department that use of De-foaming/Foam suppressing chemicals to avoid foam formation at Okhla Barrage subject to no impact on aquatic environment in river Yamuna.
- iv. To DJB that in the event of increase in Ammonical Nitrogen in river Yamuna, addition or re-circulation of treated water from the respective Water Treatment Plant (WTP) into the raw water intake of Water Treatment Plant also be explored as a temporary and short term measure.
- v. To DJB and Delhi Irrigation & Flood Control Department that for arrangement of adequate capacity of surface aerators or floating aerators (solar powered) or diffused aerators at Okhla and Wazirabad barrages to disperse excess ammonium levels in river Yamuna.
- vi. To all the District Magistrates in NCT Delhi that for enforcement of provisions of the "Delhi Water Board Septage Management Regulations 2018" notified by the Urban Development Department, GNCTD vide Notification dated 12.11.2018 to prevent unauthorized disposal of Septic Tank Waste (Septage) in drains or river Yamuna.
- vii. To Delhi Irrigation & Flood Control Department that a feasibility of change in the design of spillway of Okhla Barrage shall be explored to ensure smooth discharge from the barrage instead of vertical fall.
- viii. To Delhi Police/Delhi Traffic Police/Road Transport Authority that to take stringent actions against the tankers indulged in illegal discharges in river Yamuna within the jurisdiction of Delhi State.

**Compliance to the directions shall be submitted to CPCB within fifteen days from the date of receipt of these directions.**

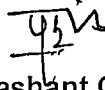
13/12/21  
(Tanmay Kumar)  
Chairman

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(Prashant Gargava)  
Member Secretary