

Minutes of First Meeting of State Ganga Committee (SGC), Uttarakhand held on 16-08-2017

The First meeting of Uttarakhand State Ganga Committee was held under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Govt. of Uttarakhand on 16-08-2017 at Chief Secretary Meeting Hall, Secretariat, Dehradun.

The meeting was attended by all Ex-officio members of State Ganga Committee or their representatives, along with officials from concerned departments and Executing Agencies. All nominated members attended the meeting. The list of participants has been annexed.

The agenda wise discussions held and the decisions taken are as under:

1. Constitution of State Ganga Committee: At the outset Program Director, SPMG & Member-convenor of SGC apprised the members/committee about the constitution, roles & responsibility, duties and powers of State Ganga Committee.

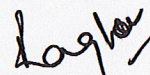
2. Background Note- River Ganga Authorities Order, 2016: Program Director briefed about the River Ganga Authorities Order, 2016 issued by Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Govt. of India through Gazette Notification No. 2458 dt. 7th October, 2016. He informed that after the constitution of State Ganga Committee all District Ganga Committees proposed for seven districts of Uttarakhand viz. Dehradun, Haridwar, Uttarkashi, Tehri Garhwal, Pauri Garhwal, Chamoli & Rudraprayag have also been notified. PD apprised that SGC has been given statutory powers of an authority under section 5 of Environment, Act 1986. It was decided that powers for effective enforcement should be exercised by issuance of directions from time to time by State Ganga Committee in this regard.

3. Namami Gange Program & Status of Projects: The component wise status of projects was briefed by Program Director.

(a) Municipal Sewerage Projects: The committee was apprised about the status of the Ongoing and newly sanctioned projects of I&D and STP. GM, Ganga, Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam informed that letters of award have been issued for four projects, bidding process is continuing for seven projects, NOC from NMCG/World Bank is awaited for two projects of Rishikesh & Muni-Ki-Reti and responsive bids were not obtained for seven projects even after retendering two/ three times due to low cost bids.

A proposal for clubbing of 7 projects into two packages- one package for Joshimath, Srinagar I&D/STP and Upgradation of existing STP and second package for Gopeshwar, Rudraprayag, Karnprayag and Nandprayag has been forwarded by Peyjal Nigam to SPMG. Program Director, SPMG sought approval for the same from the committee. The committee approved the proposal and directed Peyjal Nigam to get the tendering process initiated at the earliest.

GM, Ganga, UKPJN also informed the committee that proposal for the revision in scope of work in Kedarnath project prepared by WAPCOS, has been submitted to NMCG and tendering process will be done after further directions are received from NMCG.



(b) **River front Development:** Regarding the ongoing work of Chandighat Development, it was apprised that the permission to shift proposed cremation ghat by 70 meter due to widening of NHAI road and proposed new bridge is submitted to NMCG.

Program Director, SPMG apprised the committee that the project of Development of Ghats and Crematoria on 70 other sites in Uttarakhand along 7 stretches has been awarded to WAPCOS Ltd. and State Irrigation Department, on which presently the works have been halted. After the instructions from NMCG, the sites were reviewed and a proposal of prioritized sites- 26 sites for WAPCOS and 20 sites for Irrigation have been sent to NMCG. The decision is awaited from NMCG.

(c) **River Surface Cleaning:** Contract for River Surface Cleaning at Haridwar and Rishikesh (using mechanized trash skimmers and trash brooms) was awarded to M/s Ashwath Infratech on 13.12.2016 by NMCG for three years. Program Director apprised the committee that one trash skimmer each at Rishikesh and Haridwar was installed on 1st May, 2017. Later trash skimmer installed at Rishikesh has been recalled by NMCG for deployment at some other site.

4. **Annual Plan 2017-18:** Program Director, SPMG apprised the committee of the Action Plan for 2017-18 submitted by the Executing Agencies and future course of action for Namami Gange Project. Additional Secretary, Urban Development desired that projects for Solid Waste Management in towns of Uttarakhand should also be included in the action plan. It was clarified that currently NMCG is not taking up the Solid Waste Management Projects for the state and in future, the projects may be submitted in PPP mode with provision of producing energy from the waste. CCF, Namami Gange intimated that such a project is under execution in North Goa. Chief Secretary instructed Urban Development Department to get the requisite details.

An Action Plan for Rs. 203.99 Cr. was in principle approved by SGC to be forwarded to NMCG for final approval.

5. **IEC Activities under Namami Gange:** Program Director, SPMG apprised the committee about various IEC activities being executed under the Namami Gange programme through SPMG, which the committee appreciated.

6. **Coordination between SPMG & Forest Department in Forestry Interventions:** State Forest Department apprised the committee of the progress of Forestry Interventions on River Ganga. Chief Secretary directed forest department to coordinate with SPMG and share all the details, as SPMG is the nodal body for Namami Gange in the State.

7. **Effective Data Sharing between SPMG and UEPPCB:** Program Director, SPMG desired that the following details from UEPPCB are shared with SPMG:

- Locations of manual & real time monitoring stations for River water quality.
- Data of effluents from STPs and Industries.
- Status of Solid Waste Management in ULBs and Directions issued by UEPPCB in this regard.
- List of grossly polluting industries and latest status of operation and closure.
- Status of 'Consent to Establish' and 'Consent to Operate' for STPs and Industrial units.

Chief Secretary directed that regular meeting be organized in this regard and continuous data sharing between UEPPCB and SPMG be ensured.

8. Waiving off of UEPPCB fee for various NGRBA/ Namami Gange Projects: STPs constructed by Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam are not installed with a commercial objective, similarly O&M of the STP by Uttarakhand Jal Sansthan is not a profit making activity. The sewer charges realized from public are fixed with consent from State Government. State Ganga Committee was requested that the fee charged by UEPPCB from UJN and UJS for obtaining "Consent to establish" and "Consent to operate" should be waived off. State Ganga Committee gave concurrence to this and recommended that the matter should be referred to UEPPCB Board which will give final sanction for waiving off these fees.

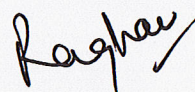
9. Maintenance of Assets Created under Namami Gange Projects: PD SPMG apprised the committee that In case of I&D and STP sewerage projects the approved projects cost includes respectively one year or fifteen years O&M cost, while in case of ghat and crematoria projects, the sanctioned cost includes O&M cost for 6 months. The assets created after construction will have to be maintained with financial support from State Government. Principal Secretary, Finance directed the implementing agencies to forward proposals through their administrative department regarding budget requirement for O&M activities for ongoing as well as proposed projects.

10. Fast Tracking of Projects Implementation by Executing Agencies: The executing agencies were directed by the State Ganga Committee for speedy implementation of the approved projects under the Namami Gange program and put up various issues from time to time to the State Ganga Committee for resolving them at the State Government level.

11. Technical Cooperation by GIZ: Under the Indo German agreement for Technical Cooperation experts from GIZ have been stationed at SPMG office. In this regard it is proposed that G.I.Z-SGR team will support executing agencies during preparation & vetting of Bid documents and will represent the SPMG during discussion during various technical & financial meetings & evaluation of proposals. GIZ experts along with SPMG will have a review and coordination meeting with Executing Agencies and will sort out the various issues once every month or more as it may deem necessary.

12. Other Issues:

Mr. S.K. Rai, Scientist, WIHG, nominated member desired that (1) Details of the approved project should be shared with all the nominated members, (2) Technical specification and cost estimate before floating the bids should be shared with the nominated members to avoid any bias for particular bidder (3) He urged that research scholarship at different institutes e.g. Wadia Institute, NIH, Doon University, UEPPCB etc may be instituted (4) UEPPCB should put the water quality data on the website and (5) Workshop & seminar may be organized in academic institutes to help the stakeholders understand the associated issues and provide useful solutions



Mr. Vishal Singh nominated member from CEDAR suggested that Forestry Interventions in Namami Gange Program should be implemented on Hydro Geological approach to revive springs as well as conserve bio diversity and stabilize hill slopes. He also suggested reforestation in critical recharge zones to recharge springs by direct sowing instead of plantation through rising of nurseries

Dr. Anil Gautam nominated member from PSI suggested that the treated sewage from STPs in Haridwar should be pumped into Ganga canal so that additional water may be available for main Ganga River. He further suggested that measures for spring recharge should be implemented for increasing the flow in the downstream stretch of dam; this would help in maintaining the environmental flow.

Chief Secretary instructed PD, SPMG to take above suggestion into consideration with concerned implementing agencies and directed to hold a meeting of all the nominated members with Program Director and implementing agencies separately for further discussions.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

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(Dr. Raghav Langer)
IAS
Program Director, SPMG &
Member Convener,
State Ganga Committee

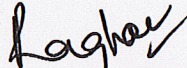
Office of the Program Director, State Program Management Group, Namami Gange, Dehradun Uttarakhand

Letter No.: 1418/SPMG/NGRBA/SGC/06

Dated: 11-09-2017

Copy to:

1. PS to Chief Secretary, Government of Uttarakhand
2. PS to Director General, National Mission for Clean Ganga, New Delhi.
3. PS to Principal Secretary/Secretary, Finance, Government of Uttarakhand
4. PS to Principal Secretary/Secretary, Urban Development, Government of Uttarakhand
5. PS to Principal Secretary/Secretary, Environment & Forests, Government of Uttarakhand
6. PS to Principal Secretary/Secretary, Irrigation, Government of Uttarakhand
7. PS to Principal Secretary/Secretary, Drinking Water, Government of Uttarakhand
8. Chairman, Uttarakhand Environment Protection and Pollution Control Board.
9. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Uttarakhand
10. Dr. A.A. Kazmi Professor, Indian Institute Technology(IIT), Roorkee
11. Dr. A.K. Lohani, Scientist 'G', National Institute of Hydrology(NIH), Roorkee
12. Dr. Santosh Rai, Scientist 'D', Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology (WIHG), Dehradun
13. Dr. Anil Gautam, People Science Institute (PSI), Dehradun
14. Dr. Vishal Singh, Centre for Ecological Development & Research (CEDAR), Dehradun


Program Director, SPMG &
Member Convener,
State Ganga Committee