

Minutes of the 4th meeting of the State Ganga Rejuvenation, Protection and Management Committee (State Ganga Committee), West Bengal held at Conference Hall, 13th Floor , Nabanna

Date : 9th November, 2020 at 11:00 A.M.

Venue : Nabanna, 13th Floor

List of participants : As per list enclosed (Annexure-1)

The meeting initiated under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, Govt. of West Bengal and Ex-officio Chairperson of the State Ganga Committee. Following action points as noted hereunder have been taken after agenda wise discussion of SPMG activities.

Agenda-1 : Confirmation of proceeding of the 3rd SGC meeting of WBSPMG under erstwhile NGRBA setup held on 30th August 2019

The Minutes of the 2nd Ganga Committee Meeting (SGC) of the erstwhile WBSPMG under NGRBA framework were taken up point wise and the related progress was reviewed. Overall discussion on agenda points and status of action taken following the resolutions of the meeting held on 30th August 2019 were placed before the members for information.

Agenda-2: Adoption of annual accounts of WBSPMG for the year ended 2019-20 .

The audited Annual Accounts for the year 2019-20 was placed before the house for perusal which has been approved and adopted. WBSPMG was advised to take consequent actions like inviting Pr.A.G.(G & SSA) for Transaction and Accounts Audit, Statement of Expenditure, Audit for World Bank financed Projects and observed other relevant statutory compliance subsequent to adoption of accounts.

Demand for EAP fund (State share) : Programme Director , SPMG raised the issue of pending allocation of State share for an amount of Rs. 111.158 Crore in relation to projects under EAP. She also informed the house that the share of Govt. of India has already been received.

Agenda-3 : Review of status of the completed projects

PD, SPMG briefed the House about physical as well as financial progress of all completed STPs in Kalyani, Gayeshpur and Bhatpara through power point presentation for information to all concerned.

The progress of house connection with relation to the STPs were also mentioned during the discussion.

Agenda-4: Review of status of the on-going projects

Program Director, SPMG informed that all the on-going projects at Halisahar, Budge Budge Barrackpore and Nabadwip are running smoothly after resolving various issues which cropped up during the project execution. However certain issues pertaining to the Sewer Network laying and consequently the need of the intervention of District administration and ULB's from Halisahar, Budge Budge and Barrackpore was needed in relation to shifting of utilities from the route of proposed pipe laying were discussed for information to all concerned.

Chief Secretary emphasized on the need for optimum utilization of these STPs through immediately starting up the House to house connection work.

Agenda-5: Review of status of the projects for which AA & ES have been received

The status of all 25 (Twenty five) projects under different stages were explained by Program Director, SPMG to House. She informed to the house that the process for the financial closure for the HAM project of Howrah, Bally, Kamarhati & Baranagar and Kancharapara have already been issued and the work is now in progress.

She informed to the house that the Mahestala project is under financial evaluation at NMCG end. Also it was informed that DPR's of Durgapur, Asansol, Chinsurah are in the process and would be completed and submitted soon

Program Director, SPMG narrated briefing about the 12 (Twelve) STP projects for renovation and rejuvenation to the House. 7 (Seven) projects out of the 12 belong to district Hooghly and rest 5 (five) belong to North 24 Pargana district.

Agenda-6: Review of status of the river Ghat development projects

Program Director, SPMG informed about the physical as well as financial progress of the river ghats development projects in Kalna, Katwa, Agradwip and Dainhat taken up for execution by KMDA. She informed the house that some other projects have been undertaken for execution by NMCG through EPIL under their direct supervision and monitoring.

Agenda-7: Ratification of extension of service of contractual employees / officers

The extension of services of the six employees and officers under contractual appointment as mentioned in the agenda were put up in front of the house and the decision of further extension of service as mentioned in the list for all 6 employees are ratified.

Agenda-8: Review of "Forestry Intervention to Clean Ganga (FIG)" project under execution responsibility of State Forest Department

The Forest Department narrated their projects under execution through their own presentation for information to all the members present.

Agenda-9: Strengthening of laboratories of West Bengal - separate presentation will be given by West Bengal Pollution Control Board (WBPCB)

The status report in connection with Strengthening of laboratories in West Bengal was explained by WBPCB to the committee.

Agenda-11: Status of Bio-diversity by Wildlife Institute of India (WII) - separate presentation to be given by the Concerned Department

Committee was apprised on the status of Bio-Diversity study by WII.

Other issues :

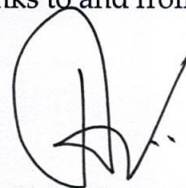
Preparation of Guideline/directive for releasing the domestic polluted water

The Chief Secretary emphasized on the need for a developing a blueprint pertaining to water pollution abatement and the role of urban bodies including subsequent modifications in their municipal rules pertaining to sewer and decentralized faecal sludge management. In this regard Chief Secretary requested the WBPCB Chairman to prepare a Water Pollution Manual for the State.

Inclusion of Commissioner KMC as a permanent invitee member of the State Ganga Committee
The proposal was approved.

ACS Environment raised the concern that as per the recent orders of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in OA 200 of 2014, the Environmental Compensation regime for completion of ongoing projects relating to sewage treatment is already in place. Accordingly, the concerned departments may take all necessary steps for not only completion of all ongoing projects with top most priority but also the nodal departments may make adequate budgetary provisions to meet the fine obligations.

There being no other agenda, the meeting ended with thanks to and from the Chair.



Chief Secretary
Government of West Bengal
&
Chairperson, State Ganga Committee
WBSPMG