

**West Bengal State NGRBA Program Management Group (SPMG)
Urban Development & Municipal Affairs Department,
Government of West Bengal**

Minutes of the 5th meeting of the State Ganga Rejuvenation, Protection and Management Committee (State Ganga Committee), West Bengal under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Government of West Bengal and Ex-officio Chairperson of the State Ganga Committee.

Held on: 19th November, 2021 at 11:00 A.M.

Venue: Nabanna, 13th Floor

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

Agenda-1: Confirmation of proceeding of the 4th SGC meeting of WBSPMG under erstwhile NGRBA setup held on 9th November 2020

The minutes of the 4th State Ganga Committee meeting held on 9th November 2020 were read out and approved.

The decision taken in 4th State Ganga Committee Meeting (SGC) under NGRBA framework were taken up for discussion point wise and the related progress was reviewed.

Agenda-2: Adoption of annual accounts of WBSPMG for the year ended 2020 - 21

The audited Annual Accounts for the year 2020 - 21 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.

Agenda - 3: Review of 23 STP projects being implemented in the State of West Bengal under NMCG program

The Program Director, WBSPMG informed the committee that three projects at Bhatpara, Kalyani and Gayeshpur have been completed and operation and maintenance is going on.

Three projects at Halisahar, Barrackpore and Budge Budge having 4 STPs (Barrackpore has 2 STPs) have been commissioned and all will be going to Operation and Maintenance (O & M) phase shortly.

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The Program director pointed out that the work at Nabadwip STP project is expected to be completed in December, 2021 and that of Kanchrapara by March, 2022

Working on other projects are under different stages of progress and are going on as per schedule and is expected to be completed by maintaining the respective time schedule of the projects.

Status of the completed was reviewed and it is decided to complete the House to House connection as early as possible.

Agenda - 4

It was informed by the Program Director, WBSPMG that the NG - I phase under NMCG program is near completion. Further work will be taken up under NG - II under NMCG program to bridge the in-treatment capacity gap. Towards this direction, NMCG has also sanctioned funds for preparation of 11 DPRs for different Ganga Towns.

In order to fully utilize the installed capacities of the completed and commissioned STP projects and for integrated Faecal Sludge Management in West Bengal, Principal Secretary, UD & MA Department has constituted a Committee. The committee is expected to submit draft report shortly.

Chief Secretary has instructed the committee members to take a visit to Chhatisgarh and Navi Mumbai to gather knowledge on modus operandi of such facilities existing and in operation there.

Chief Secretary instructed to ensure a smooth convergence of Namami Gange Scheme with SBM II. The City action Plan for all the cities and ULBs covering Sewage and Septage Management is to be prepared and submitted by 31.01.2022. SUDA has been instructed accordingly.

Chief Secretary has instructed the concerned Engineers of the Executing Agencies to visit Haridwar, Lucknow and other cities where Multi storied structures have been created for STPs. so that the same model may be replicated in West Bengal where there is paucity of land.

Agenda-5: Review of status of the River Ghat Development projects

Chief Secretary emphasized on construction of Electric Crematoriums in all the District to ensure ecofriendly and pollution free cremation.

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Agenda-6: Ratification of extension of service of contractual employees / officers

The matter of engagement of contractual officials and ratification of extension of service on contractual employment as mentioned on the agenda is ratified.

Agenda - 7: Strengthening of WBSPMG with requisite man power.

It was pointed out by WBSPMG that over the years the work of WBSPMG has increased many folds and in fact it is running with even less than minimum Officials required. Thus, for smooth functioning of the unit, a proposal came to strengthen it with the adequate man power by following appropriate rules and norms to which Chief Secretary has kindly consented. WBSPMG will work out the requirement and place it before NMCG for approval.

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 and the ACS Forest Department desired to make their presentation as a part of the minutes. Presentation is annexed herewith as Annexure - II

Agenda-9: Strengthening of laboratories of West Bengal

The status report in connection with Strengthening of laboratories in West Bengal was explained by ACS, Environment Department to the committee.

Agenda-11: Status of Bio-diversity by Wildlife Institute of India (WII)

Committee was appraised with the status of Bio-Diversity interventions taken up in the State. Chief Secretary desired to have a better progress graph for all the sanctioned Projects by 31.03.2022.

Agenda - 12: Miscellaneous:

During execution of 3 EAP projects at Barrackpore, Halisahar and Budge Budge additional cost over and above the Contract Cost incurred. The matter was sent to the NMCG and after

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examination they have issued Revised Sanction and agreed to share the GST loading. A proposal under the signature of Principal Secretary, UD & MA department, Government of West Bengal has been submitted with the NMCG to kindly reconsider to share the balance of additional cost incurred towards labour cost, utility shifting etc. which were essential for the completion of the project.

Reply is expected shortly.

Meeting ended with thanks to and from the Chair.



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