

J-19011/1/2009-NRCD-II
National Mission for Clean Ganga
Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation
Government of India

3rd Floor, Rear Wing
Doorsanchar Sadan, 9, CGO Complex
Lodi Road, New Delhi – 110003
Dated 29th December, 2014

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

**Subject: Minutes of the 4th National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA)
meeting held on 27th October 2014**

A copy of the minutes of the 4th NGRBA meeting held on 27th October, 2014 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resource, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation is forwarded herewith for kind information/necessary action.

Encl: As stated



(Puskal Upadhyay)
Additional Mission Director &
Director Finance, NMCG
Contact No :- 011-24361074

To

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister of Water Resource, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
2. PS to Hon'ble Minister of Science and Technology, Technology Bhawan, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi - 110016
3. PS to Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development, Krishi Bhawan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi - 110001
4. PS to Hon'ble Minister of Urban Development, Nirman Bhawan, Maulana Azad road New Delhi-110018
5. PS to Hon'ble Minister of Shipping, Transport Bhawan, 1, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001
6. PS to Hon'ble Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Shshtri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
7. PS to Hon'ble Minister of Finance, Vijay Chak road, New Delhi-110001
8. PS to Hon'ble Minister of Environment and Forests & Climate Change, Indra Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi-110003
9. PS to Hon'ble Minister of Power, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
10. PS to Hon'ble Minister of Drinking Water and Sanitation, C Wing, 4th floor, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110003
11. PS to Hon'ble Minister of Tourism, Transport Bhawan, 1, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001
12. Ps to Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, 4 Subash Road, Uttarakhand Secretariat, Fourth Floor New Building, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, Pin Code 248001
13. PS to Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Chief Minister's Office, Section-I, Lal Bahadur Shashtri Bhawan, Lucknow-226001
14. PS to Chief Minister of Bihar, Main Secretariat, Patna
15. PS to Chief Minister of Jharkhand, Chief Minister Secretariat, 3, Kanke Road, Ranchi-834008

16. Ps to Chief Minister of West Bengal, NABANNA (14th Floor), 325, Sarat Chatterjee Road, Shibpur, Howrah-711102
17. Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi.
18. Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, Technology Bhawan, New Delhi.
19. Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Krishi Bhavan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi - 110001
20. Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.
21. Secretary, Ministry of Shipping, Transport Bhawan, 1, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001
22. Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Shshtri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
23. Secretary, Department Of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, North Block, New Delhi.
24. Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi.
25. Secretary, Ministry of Power, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi.
26. Secretary, Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation, C Wing, 4th floor, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110003
27. Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Transport Bhawan, 1, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001
28. Secretary, Planning Commission, Yojna Bhawan, New Delhi.
29. Chief Secretary, Uttarakhand, Uttrakhand Secretariat, Dehradun.
30. Chief Secretary, Uttar Pradesh, Shastri Bhawan, Lucknow.
31. Chief Secretary, Bihar, Main Secretariat, Patna.
32. Chief Secretary, Jharkhand, Project Bhawan, Ranchi.
33. Chief Secretary, West Bengal, Nabanna, 325, Sarat Chatterjee Road, Shibpur, Howrah-711102
34. Shri Mohan Singh Rawat Gaonbasi, NGRBA Expert Member, Jhali Mali Devi Ashram, Kyun Kaleswar, Pauri-Gharwal- 246001
35. Shri Giridhar Malviya, NGRBA Expert Member, 26 AN Jha Marg, George Town, Allahabad- 211002
36. Shri N. Vittal, NGRBA Expert Member, 12, 3rd Floor, Sreela Apartment, Building No.22, Gilcris Avenue, Harrington Road Chetpet, Chennai- 600028
37. Dr. Bhure Lal, NGRBA Expert Member, 67, Lodi Estate, New Delhi-110003
38. Shri M.A. Chitale, NGRBA Expert Member, B-1,Vedant Grihakul Sawarkar Chowk, New Shreya Nagar, Aurangabad- 431005
39. Prof. Vinod Tare, Convenor, IIT Consortium, IIT Kanpur, Nankari, Kalyanpur, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh 208016
40. Shri Navalawala, Chief Advisor, MoWR, RD & GR, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi11001
41. Sh. Shriram Vedirc, Advisor, MoWR, RD & GR, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi11001
42. Joint Secretary & Financial Advisor, MoWR,RD&GR, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi.

Copy to: The Joint Secretary and Mission Director, MoWR,Rd&GR and NMCG

Internal Circulation:

PPS to Secretary (WR,RD&GR) / PPS to JS&FA (WRRD&GR) / PS to MD-NMCG /PS to AMD & Dir (F) NMCG/All NMCG Staff

Minutes of the 4th meeting of National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) held on 27th October, 2014 in Vigyan Bhawan

The 4th meeting of the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) was held on 27th of October, 2014 at 11.00 hours chaired by Sushree Uma Bharti, Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resource, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (WR, RD&GR) and Vice chairperson, NGRBA. The list of participants is enclosed at **Annexure-I**.

2. Welcoming the participants in the meeting, the Secretary, MoWR, RD &GR briefed the participants about the purpose of the meeting and informed briefly about various agenda items under consideration of the 4th meeting of NGRBA meeting such as the transfer of business, reconstitution, institutional arrangements, status of projects and steps for expediting their execution, special focus on involving people through communication & public outreach activities and Clean Ganga Fund.
3. The Hon'ble Union Minister of WR, RD &GR emphasized that the work of Ganga Rejuvenation work need support from various ministries as well as from states. Union Minister also informed that considering the need of the time a new ministry has been formed for Ganga rejuvenation. She further mentioned that Aviralta and Nirmalta need to be maintained for Ganga. She further mentioned that the Hon'ble Prime Minister has given her the responsibility to conduct the 4th NGRBA meeting and take necessary decisions related to it and mentioned that now onwards NGRBA meeting need to be regular affair and proposed to conduct such meetings every 3 months.
4. At the outset, Mission Director explained the agenda items as given below:
 - a) Action taken report of the decisions taken in the 3rd meeting of NGRBA
 - b) Transfer of business in regard to Ganga Rejuvenation from MoEF & CC to Mo WR, RD & GR – amendment to (Allocation of Business) rules,1961 and Reconstitution of NGRBA
 - c) 'Namami Gange': Action plan for Ganga Rejuvenation under Integrated Ganga Conservation Mission & Institutional Arrangement
 - d) Ganga River Basin Management Plan (GRBMP) of the consortium of 7 IITs – latest status: A presentation by the Consortium of IITs
 - e) NGRBA programme framework, Status of Project and measures for effective implementation
 - f) Strategy for Communication and Public Outreach activities
 - g) Establishment of Clean Ganga Fund

Agenda Item No.1: Action taken report of the decisions taken in the 3rd meeting of NGRBA

The mission director informed that one of the important decision of the 3rd meeting of NGRBA was on Environmental Flows. He further informed that as a result of the third meeting, an Inter-Ministerial Committee under Shri B K Chaturvedi was constituted to look into the aspect of environmental flow and other matters. Subsequently, in the aftermath of Uttarakhand

disaster, as per the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme court, an Expert committee under Shri Ravi Chopra was set up which also looked into this aspect. Both the committee has already submitted their reports. Further IIT consortium is preparing the GRBMP and the first version of this plan is tentatively expected to be available by the end of December, 2014. The Additional Secretaries of MoWR, RD&GR and MoEF&CC will review the recommendation of these reports and will submit their report for the implementation of Environmental Flow.

At this issue, number of participants put forward their views. The participants suggested that states need to be consulted and field level issues must be kept in mind while designing the e-flows as well as various development requirements and power and agricultural potential of the state. Some expert members also opined that there can be alternatives to various development options but there cannot be an alternative to loss of river Ganga due to lack of continuous flow.

It was informed that the Ministry has set up a committee of Additional Secretaries with support from the convener of the IIT consortium to go through the recommendations of the previous committees as well as the report of IITs and expedite the decision on the environmental flow.

While there was a general understanding on the need for the environmental flow as being essential for the river health, Uttarakhand Chief Minister also mentioned about the need for safeguarding the state's interest.

Hon'ble Minister, WR, RD & GR stated that maintaining a minimum flow i.e. the environment flow is essential for continuity of the flow and hence the health of the river and it depends upon the river, location and season. It has got to be determined on scientific basis and for its implementation, the government is going to look into needs of different sectors and would also be consulting the states. The possibility of releasing the minimum flow through the existing dams would also be examined.

There was a general agreement on determination of environmental flow on scientific basis and formulating policy for its implementation in consultation with stakeholders in a time bound manner.

Agenda Item No.2 Transfer of business in regard to Ganga Rejuvenation from MoEF & CC to Mo WR, RD & GR – amendment to (Allocation of Business) rules, 1961 and Reconstitution of NGRBA

As per the amendment in the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Amendment Rules, 2014, the Ministry of Water Resources has been renamed as 'Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation' and the work related to Ganga rejuvenation has been allocated to them as per the Notification No. S.O. 1986 (E) dated 31st July, 2014 published in the Gazette of India. According to this notification, the National Ganga River Basin Authority including the Mission Directorate, National Mission for Clean Ganga and other related matters of Ganga Rejuvenation, and also conservation, development, management



and abatement of pollution in river Ganga and its tributaries has been transferred to MoWR, RD & GR.

During the discussion states were requested to fill up the vacant positions in SPMG and state level meeting of State Ganga River Conservation Authority (SGRCA) need to be conducted regularly. It was agreed that the next meeting of SGRCA shall be conducted within next 30 days.

Agenda Item No.3 'Namami Gange': Action plan for Ganga Rejuvenation under Integrated Ganga Conservation Mission & Institutional Arrangement

Considering that the river Ganga has a very special place in a collective consciousness of this country, a new Ministry for Ganga Rejuvenation has been created to bring a comprehensive approach for this national priority. The Union Budget 2014-15 has set up an Integrated Ganga Conservation Mission namely "Namami Gange".

The Group of Secretaries (GoS) has submitted its report to the Hon'ble Ministers on 28th August 2014 and has recommended various short term, middle term and long term strategies for Ganga rejuvenation.

The **Short term** activities to be developed within the coming 3 years will include various research, studies, training, pilot, DPR preparation and demonstration and implementation work through Govt. agencies and Public Private Partnership (PPP) for wide gamut of conservation and rejuvenation work for river Ganga.

- i. Scheme for rehabilitation and up-gradation of existing Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) etc. along Ganga
- ii. Ensuring complete sewerage infrastructure in identified town alongside Ganga depending upon the previous investments etc.
- iii. In situ sewage treatment in open drains
- iv. Support for preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) to keep a shelf of projects ready
- v. River Front Management for Ghat's developments in selected cities and towns
- vi. Industrial pollution abatement in Kanpur and other cities
- vii. Action Plan for Char Dham Yatra – Public amenities, waste disposal and sanitation
- viii. Action Plan for Ganga Sagar
- ix. Capacity building of urban local bodies
- x. Afforestation – Conservation of Flora
- xi. Conservation of Aquatic life – special attention on Dolphin, Turtles and Ghariyals
- xii. Safe disposal of flowers and other puja material
- xiii. Ganga Task Force (such as, through ex-servicemen etc.)
- xiv. Ganga Vahini (network of volunteers etc.)
- xv. GIS data and Spatial Analysis for Ganga basin
- xvi. Study of communities depending on Ganga for their traditional livelihood
- xvii. National Ganga Monitoring Centre
- xviii. Guidelines for sand mining in Ganga

- xix. Feasibility study and diversion of a stream from suitable upstream location of Bhagirathi
- xx. Assessment of Special Properties of Ganga Water
- xxi. Communication and Public Outreach Activities etc.

The **medium term** vision of Ganga Rejuvenation is planned for 5 years. As part of the medium term plan, (i) One hundred and eighteen (118) urban habitations on banks of river Ganga have been tentatively identified by the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) in consultation with NMCG for extending sewerage infrastructure and (ii) Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation (MoDW&S) has contemplated sanitation scheme for all 1649 number of Gram Panchayats located on Ganga banks for making these free from open defecation with proper sanitation plan. Some of the ongoing/new projects under different components for Ganga and its tributaries would continue through the medium term as well. Other new projects necessary to fulfil the mandate of NGRBA would also be taken up.

The **long-term** vision for Rejuvenation of river Ganga would emerge from the Ganga River Basin Management Plan (GRBMP) being prepared by the Consortium of 7 IITs for restoring wholesomeness of river Ganga in terms of defining concept of ensuring Nirmal Dhara, Aviral Dhara and maintaining Geological and ecological integrity of river.

Keeping in view the transfer of Ganga Rejuvenation work from MoEF&CC to MoWR, RD &GR with an existing set of institutions namely National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), a registered society, following business processes and institutional mechanism was considered necessary for expeditious implementation of projects:

- a) NGRBA will continue to be the apex body leading the policy on Ganga Rejuvenation as per its mandate with NMCG being the implementation arm of the NGRBA.
- b) Namami Gange will be an umbrella program for all ongoing schemes as well as the new ones. All projects and activities taken up by NMCG for rejuvenation of Ganga and its tributaries would constitute the Integrated Ganga Conservation mission – 'Namami Gange'.
- c) Under NGRBA, a fast track project appraisal mechanism including Empowered Steering committee (ESC) has already been established and is functioning satisfactorily. All projects under Namami Gange hence forth will be appraised and approved following the same process.
- d) The work program of NGRBA will continue to be implemented by NMCG, which will include the ongoing works under both Externally Aided Projects (EAP) and Non-EAP funding, the Namami Gange Program and also the works on Yamuna and other tributaries.
- e) NMCG will be appropriately strengthened to establish a dependable project management mechanism. The SPMGs will also be appropriately strengthened to take up the additional work effectively.
- f) Considering that the work on Ganga will continue on an ongoing basis, NMCG will be authorized to create minimum necessary positions as temporary plan posts on a continued basis and the project related requirements will be met by hiring of professionals on contract.



- g) Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation will continue to provide secretarial support to NGRBA through NMCG including conduct of meetings of its different institutions, for which adequate infrastructure will be created at NMCG.
- h) Wherever possible, the grant in aid will be released to the NMCG for further release to the SPMGs. However, from the forth-coming budget a uniform funding mechanism will be established for all projects.

During discussion, Justice Giridhar Malviya, suggested that an appropriate committee must be formed with accountability and authority that the short term actions must be completed within this time frame.

Shri Bhure Lal highlighted the criticality of controlling industrial pollution for rejuvenation of Ganga and suggested that:

- There must be mechanism to separate the industrial waste water from sewage as once the Industrial waste water is mixed with sewage it is difficult to segregate.
- Water extraction from ground and surface water sources should not be allowed for the industries and the industrial waste water need to be recycled and reused within the industry in order to minimize the fresh water demand;
- Options for maximum use of treated waste water from STP and sewage sludge to be made in Horticulture and Agricultural sector respectively;

Regarding PPP mode of operation of plants (CETP and STP) he gave examples of CETPs working in Delhi on PPP mode to be considered as model and suitable case studies should be studied.

The Hon'ble Union Minister of Shipping, Road Transport & Highways, Rural Development and Drinking water Sanitation, Shri Nitin Gadkari mentioned that it is true that there is big gap between the waste water generation and treatment facility. However, meeting the requirement of 100% facility of treatment will require huge money and time. Therefore, PPP model may be required to be adopted so that the money as well as time can be saved, further the O&M issues can also be sorted out through such PPP model. He further informed that as part of the Swatch Bharat mission, 6500 villages along Ganga has been considered for taking care of their waste management.

Shri N. Vittal indicated the need for strengthening the institutional set up and drew attention to the example of the NHAI. He also underscored the need for giving adequate authority to such implementation agency for enforcement. In this regard he mentioned that an act is required to be developed and informed about a draft legislation being developed by him along with his team.

At the end of the discussion various activities under Namami Gange scheme were agreed and it was decided further that:

- *The action plan proposed for Namami Gange along with the institutional arrangement have been agreed;*

- *PPP model may be considered for taking up pilots in the areas of Industrial Pollution control, Municipal sewage management, both liquid and solid waste and other potential areas for taking forward by NMCG. A shelf of good DPRs is essential for expediting the project sanction and implementation thereafter. MoUD is taking up empanelment of eligible entities and associated price discovery and guidelines for the same. Pending launch of new mission under MoUD, it is proposed to fund preparation of DPRs under Namami Gange to facilitate early project sanctions.*

Agenda Item No.4: Ganga River Basin Management Plan (GRBMP) of the consortium of 7 IITs – latest status: A presentation by the Consortium of IITs

Shri Vinod tare, as representative of IIT-Consortium mentioned that various issues related to *Aviral* and *Nirmal Dhara* of Ganga, ecological and geotechnical integrity with Ganga rejuvenation has been integrated after necessary consultation with various levels of stakeholders. Reports under GRBMP are being prepared in 3 different layers considering sustainable agriculture, *Aviralta* and *Nirmalata* of river Ganga. At the end of the discussion, on behalf of the consortium of IITs, Shri Vinod Tare offered to make detailed presentation on GRBMP in each of the states. All the states welcomed the same and extended their invitation to the consortium of IITs for the same.

Agenda Item No.5: NGRBA programme framework, Status of Project and measures for effective implementation

During the implementation of the World Bank assisted project under NGRBA, it was observed that the project preparation was taking undue long time on account of multi stage, multi-agency approval process raising concerns about slow takeoff. At the advice of DEA, a joint working group of the World Bank and NMCG was constituted to rationalise the transaction processes for World Bank funded projects leading to following improvisations of existing system accordingly,

- a) Keeping in view that the critical projects were already listed in the Cabinet approval, it was decided to deal with only two documents i.e. The DPR and Bid documents under a fixed time line with a decision to incorporate the essentials of the concept note and feasibility report in the DPR itself.
- b) Joint Meetings to be held for expediting the evaluation and assessment of DPRs involving all concerned-the SPMGs, , NMCG and Third Party Appraisal Agencies & World Bank, wherever applicable.
- c) The Bid documents would be prepared in parallel with the DPRs to avoid delay in procurement and grounding of schemes. The standard bid documents prepared in consultation with the World Bank has been circulated to the States for expediting the project implementation process and ensuring uniformity and transparency.
- d) The period of O&M for contracts to be awarded on DBO basis was changed to 10 years to make the bidding in tune with market realities and improve participation by bidders.



It has been requested by states for release of funds in four installments as in case of other similar central programs including those taken up by NRCD. Following a uniform fund release model with first installment (out of four) as advance with sanction order would ensure better fund management and project planning by the States.

Various measures including the above led to much needed expediting the project approval and implementation after due appraisal by the Empowered steering Committee of the NGRBA. So far, 5 institutional development projects, 1 implementation support project and 70 investment Projects in 48 towns in Ganga States costing **Rs. 4974.79 Crores** have been sanctioned under NGRBA. A treatment capacity of 658.23 MLD shall be created on completion of the sanctioned sewerage projects of which treatment capacity of 123 MLD has been created.

In addition, ESC of the NGRBA has appraised 7 'Municipal Wastewater' investment projects costing Rs.1758.62 Crores for which issuing of Administrative Approval and Expenditure Sanction (AA&ES) is in process.

Further for restoration and reconstruction of sewerage works sanctioned under NGRBA damaged due to Uttarakhand disaster, 3 projects have also been recommended by ESC for an amount of **Rs 9.80 Crores**.

In addition a number of projects have also been recently appraised and recommended by the ESC for conservation of aquatic life mainly related to Gangetic Dolphin, Turtles & Ghariyals, Assessment and Conservation of fisheries, Assessment of special properties of water in river Ganga, water quality monitoring and other research activities etc. amounting to **Rs 20.19 crores**.

It was agreed that:

- *The progress of works in the States needs to be expedited in order to achieve the objective of Ganga Rejuvenation indicated under short and medium term action plan.*
- *States also need to build technical and financial capacity for improving and fast-tracking of the implementation of the NGRBA projects. The capacity building of ULBs will be supported from center.*
- *NGRBA noted the process simplification measures introduced/proposed by the NMCG for expeditious project preparation and considered the same for further continuation under Namami Gange.*

Agenda Item No. 6: Communication & public Outreach

During the NGRBA meeting the need of communication and public outreach activities were highlighted and some of the important activities planned were discussed. These include

- Ganga Vahini (with involvement of ex-servicemen and volunteers),



- brochures and Literature for people residing along Ganga, other places in country and Non –residents Indians;
- Communication plan for people at grass root level taking form of Jan Andolan;
- Crowd sourcing activities like (i) Namami Gange Logo Design Competition; (ii) Slogan Competition; and (iii) photographs contest with anecdotes on river Ganga;
- Photo exhibition on Culture, Ecology, Heritage etc.;
- Newspaper advertisement
- Identification of celebrity as face of the movement;
- Production of TV anthem and radio jingle and its telecast;
- Regular update in website and tweets and social media

NGRBA took note of various measures for public participation and communication planned and being implemented by NMCG and decided that these activities may be further taken up/continued.

Agenda Item No. 7: Establishment of Clean Ganga Fund

The establishment of the Clean Ganga Fund (CGF) has been approved by the Cabinet on 24th September 2014 (No: 43/CM/2014(i)).

The salient features of the fund was explained and NGRBA was apprised of the developments such as operation of CGF through a trust under chairmanship of the Finance Minister; eligibility of domestic donors for tax benefits as the fund being , open to domestic as well as NRIs & PIOs.

Consequently a current account vide account number: 34213740838 has been opened with State Bank of India (SBI) Main Branch, New Delhi for receiving the money from voluntary contributions and in order to encourage smooth, hassle-free and on the spot contributions, an online web application enabling the donors to contribute directly to the account has also been set up in association with SBI.

Broad activities proposed to be financed from CGF include, inter alia, Activities outlined under the 'Namami Gange' programme for cleaning of river Ganga.

NGRBA noted the developments and various measures being taken by NMCG to facilitate expeditious operationalization of the Clean Ganga Fund.

5. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, mentioned that for Ganga Rejuvenation all the stakeholders need to work together. He welcomed the initiative of the government of focused approach by shifting the subject of Ganga rejuvenation from MoEF&CC to the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation and also emphasized upon the need for proactive approach for Ganga rejuvenation.

He also mentioned the following:

- With the support of Centre, treatment capacities has been created, however there is need to create much additional treatment capacity;



- SPMGs constitution is completed in Uttarakhand with filling up of most of the expert positions;
- A detailed exercise has been done by the state for identification of projects in different areas for Ganga Rejuvenation for a total amount of Rs 9222 crores. This include covering 132 towns and other habitations along Ganga and its tributaries for an amount of Rs 7634 Crores for domestic waste water management. Other schemes relate to community toilets for *char dham* route etc. (Rs 219 Crores), Improved wood based crematoriums (Rs 52.47 Crores), Biodigester toilets, CETPs at Haridwar and kashipur (Rs 25 crores), RFDs, conservation of aquatic life, capacity building of ULBs, assistance for DPR, disposal of puja materials etc.,
- Drying of rivers is an alarming phenomenon in Uttarakhand; nearly 90% of the springs has been lost due to non-availability of water in the streams and hence there is need of balanced watershed management and taking up structures for ground water recharge. There may be need of smaller dams without disturbing the river flow for storage to sustain the river during lean season.
- The state of Uttarakhand has proposed 1 lakh water bodies for stream and spring recharge to be executed in forest, panchayat and barren areas;
- Through its own resources, Govt. of Uttarakhand has taken up rejuvenation of water bodies in Kosi Ganga of district Almora and Nayyar of Pauri district; the state is constrained due to paucity of funds and requested NGRBA for assistance to replicate such efforts in the entire catchment area;
- As part of a proactive approach the state wishes to demarcate 500m on either side of the river course for organic agriculture so that no pesticide residue will accumulate in the ground water, which would be washed into the river system;
- Declaration of Eco-sensitive zone in Uttarakhand need to be reviewed as the notified area is higher than that was proposed as even with a lot of resources in Uttarakhand (forest, water) very few could be used for the betterment of local people.
- Due to the sediment deposition the area for the flood zone has increased which is considered as one of the reason for the tragedy of 2013.
- Hydroelectric Power (HEP) is the only resource of the state and at present there is ban to HEP projects more than 2 MW. It has been stated that thermal power projects are giving more damage to the Gangotri and Himalayan glaciers whereas banning to HEP which is generally a green power need to be relooked in to. He further mentioned that the requirement of environmental clearance may be raised from 2MW to at least 25MW.
- Therefore along with flood zone mapping scientific sand mining of the river should be allowed to remove the excess sediment deposited due to the flash flood in 2013.
- 30% cost sharing is difficult for the state to meet due to disasters and mobilization of materials in the state. The sharing pattern need to be revised and 90: 10 funding ratio may be considered. The same proportion should also be applied for O& M for entire period.
- Powers to sanction projects up to a certain limit may be delegated to State Government. Along with this Uttarakhand can be the knowledge center for Ganga and a Ganga Museum can be set up.



- It has also been proposed to ensure the original flow in River Bhagirathi a diversion of Bhagirathi can be made from Uttarkashi (up stream of Tehri Dam) and the can be released at the downstream of Tehri Dam.

6. The Hon'ble Minister of Minor Irrigation Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Raj Kishore Singh mentioned that for Ganga Rejuvenation, the state is ready to provide all the necessary support for taking up any action by the central government for cleaning of river Ganga. He also mentioned the following:

- There is high water scarcity in UP and suggested for recharging of small ponds. The ground water levels has been drastically decreased, so the ponds should be created for ground water recharge.
- He further mentioned that Govt. of UP is deeply considering the pollution issues from tanneries and other such polluting industries in Kanpur..
- 700 industries which are discharging their effluent into the Ganga are required to be adequately treated and the treated water shall be recycled and reused for the industrial purposes only.
- Requested expediting and sanctioning of proposals submitted to central government namely Garmukteswar Barrage (On Ganga) , Agra Barrage (Yamuna Barrage) and Vrindavan Barrage;

7. The Hon'ble Minister of Urban Development and Housing Department, Govt. of Bihar, Shri Samrat Choudhury mentioned that for Ganga Rejuvenation the state is ready to provide all the necessary support for taking up any action by the central government for cleaning of river Ganga. He also mentioned the following:

- State is getting polluted water from the UP and it discharges the water almost 5 times more in quantity to West Bengal, due to joining of several tributaries.
- River front development and the roads along the river need to be constructed which will support as public places and will increase awareness;
- Due to high sediment deposition the risk of flood is high in this area and hence sediment cleaning is more important.
- The state require support from central Government in technical support, consultation for the DPR preparation and PPP model development.
- Projects on PPP mode may be developed in one or two cities first in Bihar and then it may be scaled up.

He further mentioned that in order to restrict the discharge of waste water from major cities along Ganga in Bihar, nala construction is being considered so that the treated waste water may be used for Parks and Gardens in city.

8. The Hon'ble Minister of Irrigation and Waterways, Govt. of West Bengal Shri Rajib Banerjee mentioned that for Ganga Rejuvenation the state is ready to provide all the necessary support for taking up any action by the central government for cleaning of river Ganga and thanked on behalf of state for considering the Ganga Sagar project in the agenda of short term activities under Namami Gange. He also mentioned the following:

- The state govt. has already taken some attempts for ghat development in historically sacred places of worship on its banks like Nabadwip, Mayapur, Dakshineswar, Belur, Kalighat as well as large scale RFD works. Such efforts of state government need to be further supported by the central govt. in the 1st phase of Ganga rejuvenation;
- He also requested to expedite the approval of projects on Waste water management under consideration by the Government of India and gave the example of Barrackpore, Tolly's nalla etc.
- The Ganga Sagar development will include construction of river /beach front road/ring road, jetties, bridges, bank protection, river training, beautification and dredging works and amenities to pilgrims. A concept note on this proposal has been submitted to central government;
- Bank erosion is a huge problem in west Bengal and in areas like Malda and Murshidabad and suitable measures need to be taken;
- Due to non-availability of required water from feeder channel of upstream of Farakka barrage, there are irreversible losses of navigability due to siltation which declines commercial, industrial activities of the state; therefore desilting and dredging needs to be taken up;
- Ganga- Padma as well as Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system receives flood water carried by various tributaries from upstream leading to flood and erosion problem almost every year and hence bank protection need be considered along with various other elements of Ganga Rejuvenation especially in places like Malda and Murshidabad;
- Funding ratio should be considered for 90:10.

9. At the end of the meeting the Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resource, river Development and Ganga Rejuvenation concluded the proceedings of the meeting which included the following aspects:

- She thanked all the states for their commitments for supporting the action plan for Namami Gange discussed during the meeting and requested them to expedite actions at their end so that the specific action on Ganga Rejuvenation is implemented in time bound manner.
- She took note of the concerns and difficulties of the states in meeting 30% of project cost as states share and said that their request for making the funding pattern of 90:10 would be taken into consideration for expediting the implementation of projects.
- The direction of discharge of the treated waste water should not be towards the river Ganga.
- Water availability should be increased in the rivers and tributaries and referred to Jal Manthan which is proposed in the 3rd week of November in which detailed discussions are expected to take place.
- It is suggested that solutions should be found through consensus and legislation should be considered as a last resort.
- All the concerned states need to conduct the state level SGRCA meetings within next 30 days to discuss the relevant issues for Ganga.
- For ensuring sustainability and efficiency of investment, projects on PPP would be taken up wherever possible.
- A panel should be formed for providing support to the states for DPR preparation. Empanelment of consultants to be made at the central level and state may use these consultants for preparing quality DPRs.



- No wastewater discharge should be allowed to go into the river.
- River Front Development is an important component of the action plan and hence states should urgently prepare proposals for these and suitable central agencies would help them in this exercise.
- National Ganga Monitoring center has been planned to be established with the help of institutions like Central Water and Power Research Station (CWPRS) and in near future 2-3 branches may be created in some of the Ganga basin states such as Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand These centers may also train people and utilize their services for Ganga rejuvenation.
- Small committees need to be formed for taking up necessary decisions and implementation of activities under short term.
- Running of STP and ETP plants on 24 hour basis is important and this needs to be embedded while sanctioning projects.
- Small target along with time line to be formulated for implementation of schemes and projects.
- There is need to effectively monitor and enforce rules regarding industrial pollution which is very toxic and the Central and state pollution control boards have to be more effective and need to be strengthened.
- By the next NGRBA meetings distribution of work as well as division of work to be ensured.
- Capacity building of ULBs would be supported from center.
- Ecological flow calculation shall be based upon a comprehensive approach based upon the scientific calculations and keeping in mind the socio-cultural aspects in consultation with the states.
- Technically and ecologically sound sand mining has been proposed and for this purpose Govt. of India is in process of forming a committee under an eminent expert;
- Ganga Vahini- would be set up as a network of volunteers and it would have units at the field level for helping in public participation in Ganga rejuvenation. Similarly, ex-servicemen would be formally involved in this endeavour by creating a suitable task force. These may also help in afforestation program taken up in consultation with FRI and other institutions.
- Removal of debris from Lohari nagpala hydroelectric project site which was discontinued is important and should be done expeditiously as it is hazardous.

The meeting ended with Vote of Thanks from Shri Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, Joint Secretary and Mission Director, NMCG

List of participants in the 4th meeting of the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) held on 27th October 2014 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

1. Sushree Uma Bharti, Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resource, river Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Vice Chairperson, NGRBA-in Chair
2. Sh. Prakash Javadekar, Union Minister for Environment, Forests & Climate Change
3. Shri Piyush Goyal, Union Minister for Power
4. Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister for Science & Technology
5. Shri Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister for Rural Development, Drinking Water & Sanitation
6. Shri Anuj Kumar Bishnoi, Secretary, Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation
7. Shri Shankar Aggarwal, Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development
8. Shri Mohan Singh Rawat Gaonbasi, NGRBA Expert Member
9. Justice Giridhar Malviya, NGRBA Expert Member
10. Shri N. Vittal, NGRBA Expert Member
11. Dr. Bhure Lal, NGRBA Expert Member
12. Shri Madhav Chitale, NGRBA Expert Member
13. Sh. Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, JS and MD, NMCG
14. Shri Sameer Verma, PS to Minister for WR, RD & GR
15. Shri Puskal Upadhyay, Additional Mission Director, NMCG
16. Prof. Vinod Tare, Convenor, IIT Consortium, IIT Kanpur
17. Shri Navalawala, Chief Advisor, MoWR, RD & GR
18. Sh. Shriram Vedire, Advisor, MoWR, RD & GR
19. Shri Sanjay Sharma, Advisor to the Hon'ble Minister for WR, RD & GR
20. Shri Panda, OSD to Minister for WR, RD&GR
21. Dr (Mrs) Anjali Srivastava, Chief Scientist, NEERI

Government of Uttarakhand

1. Shri. Harish Rawat, Chief Minister, Govt. of Uttarakhand
2. Shri S. Raju, Additional Chief Secretary, Govt. of Uttarakhand
3. Ms. Sowjanya, Additional Secretary and Programme Director, SPMG Uttarakhand

Government of Uttar Pradesh

1. Shri Raj Kishore Singh, Minister for Minor Irrigation
2. Shri S.P. Singh, Secretary UD
3. Sh. Harish Chandra, Technical Advisor, SPMG



Government of Bihar

1. Shri Samrat Choudhary, Minister for Urban Development & Housing Department, Bihar
2. Sh. D.S. Mishra, General Manger (Works), Buidco,

Government of Jharkhand

1. Shri A.K.Sinha, Additional Project Director, SPMG Jharkhand

Government of West Bengal

1. Shri Rajib Banerjee, Minister for Irrigation & Waterways, Govt. of West- Bengal;
2. Shri Gopal Krishna, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Power, Govt. of West Bengal;
3. Shri Dhiman Mukherjee, Secretary, Irrigation & Waterways, Govt. of West- Bengal;
4. Sri Debashis Sen, Principal Secretary, UD Deptt, Govt. of West Bengal

NMCG

1. Sh. G. Rambabu, Director
2. Shri. Yogesh Sharma, Advisor (Technical /Project Management)
3. Shri D.S. Dhapola, Tech. Manger & Unit Head
4. Mohd. Najeeb Ahsan, (Sr. Social Specialist)
5. Shri. Saumyasib Mukhopadhyay, (Sr. Env. Specialist)
6. Shri. Rajat Gupta, (Sr. SWM Specialist)
7. Shri Madhava Kumar R, (Sr. Economic/Finance Analyst)
8. Ms. Bhawna Sharma, Asst. GIS Specialist
9. Ms. Ruchi Verma, Research Officer (GKC)
10. Ms. Lochan Alag, Research Officer (GKC)
11. Sh. Amit Kumar, Research Officer (GKC)
12. Sh. Sravan Kr. Kota, Research Officer (GKC)

