

No. Admin-01/2016-17/595/NMCG
Ministry of Jal Shakti
Department of Water Resources, River
Development & Ganga Rejuvenation
National Mission for Clean Ganga

1st Floor,
Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium,
India Gate, New Delhi-110001
Dated: 5th March, 2020

Subject: - Minutes of the 5th Meeting of the Empowered Task Force (ETF) on River Ganga held on 10th February, 2020 at 03.00 PM.

A copy of the minutes of the 5th meeting of the Empowered Task Force on River Ganga held on 10th February, 2020 at 03.00 PM, Conference Room, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti is forwarded herewith for kind information and necessary action.

2. You are requested to forward the latest status on action points pertaining to your Ministry/ Department.



(Rajiv Ranjan Mishra)

Director General, NMCG & Member Secretary, ETF

Contact No: 011-23049528

To

- 1) PS to Union Minister for Jal Shakti
- 2) PS to Minister of State for Jal Shakti
- 3) Secretary, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti
- 4) Secretary, Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti
- 5) Secretary, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance
- 6) Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
- 7) Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
- 8) Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- 9) Secretary, Ministry of Tourism
- 10) Secretary, Ministry of Culture
- 11) Secretary, Ministry of Shipping
- 12) Secretary, Ministry of Power
- 13) Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development
- 14) Secretary, Ministry of Science & Technology
- 15) Chief Executive Officer, Niti Aayog
- 16) Chief Secretary, Govt. of Uttarakhand
- 17) Chief Secretary, Govt. of Uttar-Pradesh
- 18) Chief Secretary, Govt. of Bihar
- 19) Chief Secretary, Govt. of Jharkhand
- 20) Chief Secretary, Govt. of West Bengal
- 21) Chief Secretary, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh

Copy to :-

- (i) PS to DG, NMCG
- (ii) PS to DDG/ all Executive Directors, NMCG

Minutes of the 5th meeting of Empowered Task Force (ETF) on River Ganga held on 10th February, 2020 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti

The 5th meeting of the Empowered Task Force (ETF) on River Ganga was held on 10th February, 2020 at 03.00 PM under the Chairmanship of Shri Gajendra Singh Shekawat, Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti in the Conference Room, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi.

2. The list of participants is annexed.
3. Shri U.P. Singh, Secretary, Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation welcomed the Hon'ble Minister and members present in the meeting and explained the constitution of NMCG as an Authority, along with the background of such development and also highlighted the role and function of ETF. He mentioned that District Ganga Committees (DGCs) have to carry out their work as envisaged in the Authority Order of 7th October, 2016, and they should also meet frequently. He impressed upon the Chief Secretaries and Project Directors of SMCGs to review what work has been done by DGCs. Similarly, the Principal Secretary, UD and Project Director should also see that the SGCs meet regularly and review the functions envisaged in EP Act.
4. Secretary, Department of WR, RD & GR congratulated Chief Secretary, Uttar-Pradesh for successful organization of 'Ganga Yatra' in the State from 27th to 31st January, 2020. He impressed upon other States to organize similar 'Ganga Yatra' in their respective States as envisioned by Hon'ble Prime Minister during the National Ganga Council meeting held on 14th December 2019 at Kanpur.

5. Shri Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, Director General, NMCG welcomed the Hon'ble Minister, Chief Executive Officer, NITI Aayog, Secretary, Department of WR, RD & GR, Chief Secretary, Uttar-Pradesh, Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development and all other members present in the meeting and started the meeting with a presentation on agenda items. He mentioned that in the recently held National Ganga Council meeting, Hon'ble Prime Minister has provided a clear road map for rejuvenation of River Ganga. The road map contains specific tasks to be undertaken by various Central Ministries/ Departments and most importantly States. This meeting of the Empowered Task Force is primarily to take stock of the action taken reports by Central Ministries/ Departments and State Governments on the direction of Hon'ble Prime Minister during NGC meeting.

The agenda items were taken up with permission of the Chairperson.

Agenda No. 1: Confirmation of the Minutes of 4th meeting of Empowered Task Force (ETF) held on 22.07.2019

6. The minutes of the 4th meeting of ETF were confirmed, as no comments have been received from any quarter.

Agenda No. 2: Appraisal on the Action Taken Note on the decisions taken in 4th meeting of Empowered Task Force

7. Director General, NMCG mentioned about the important decision points in the 4th meeting of ETF. These related to Organic farming, 25% Funding under RKVY, Agro forestry, Independent Third Party Evaluation of Scheme, Reuse of treated water, Involvement of NSS, NCC and NYKS, Development of education material, Solid and Liquid waste management in Ganga villages and Plantation along river. These were also discussed in 1st NGC meeting held on 14th December, 2019. Therefore, he suggested to take above decision points along with Agenda 3.

Agenda No. 3: Review of Action Taken Report on the decisions of 1st meeting of National Ganga Council (NGC) held on 14.12.2019 at Kanpur

8. The following are the highlights of the interventions made by concerned Ministries/ Departments and State Governments:-

(i) Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare

Dr. Vandana Dwivedi, Adviser (PKVY), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare stated that they are converging all schemes for Ganga districts/ states at Govt. of India level.

She mentioned that allocating 25% funds under PKVY for Ganga districts may create imbalance and suggested that an exclusive plan for Ganga districts will be more useful. She mentioned that a detailed programme has been developed by Government of Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh, but there is need to draw a holistic programme to make an impact. The work on 6846 ha under PKVY is going on in Uttarakhand. The Government of Uttarakhand has prepared an action plan for Rs.7753 crores to start this programme in all blocks. However, proposal is yet to be submitted. Secretary, D/o WR, RD & GR suggested that 20 hac. cluster in a village will not suffice. There are around 5000 Ganga grams in all the blocks of 5 States. It should start in all 5000 Ganga grams on full saturation basis to have any visible impact.

Adviser (PKVY), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare mentioned that the budget for organic farming is Rs. 500 crores for this year. However, the physical and financial progress is slow. Funds are getting lapsed. Entire fund is under-utilized in Jharkhand State. All other States are lagging in utilization of funds.

DG, NMCG asked all states to fully utilize the available funds. It was emphasized that as it is the funds available are not sufficient for the intended task and hence utilization has to be maximum so that Ministry can release more funds.

(ii) Ministry of Tourism:

Ms. Meenakshi Sharma, Director General, Ministry of Tourism stated that under their scheme of “Swadesh Darshan”, they have included Ganga bank destinations in Uttarakhand and UP along with other pilgrimage centers. They are working on a composite holistic plan on Ganga Circuit. Ministry of Tourism will come up with a plan as far as tourism along Ganga is concerned.

(iii) Ministry of Culture

Ms. Nirupama Kotru, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture stated that they are doing “Chalo Man Ganga Yamuna Teer” on a big scale with the support of Local Administration. In this programme the private sector can also be roped in. They are trying to see that people are enlightened and a significant majority volunteer to visit the river. It is a whole ecosphere that needs to be addressed to take people close to the river.

DG, NMCG mentioned about Ganga Sanskriti Yatra conducted by the Ministry of Culture in 2016 and proposed that Ministry of Culture should consider to organize this Yatra again this year. NMCG would also help through District Ganga Committees. Similarly, dedicated galleries may be set up in museum on Ganga theme under the guidance of world class curators.

Secretary, WR, RD & GR requested Ministry of Culture to come up with a detailed action plan.

(iv) Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change

Shri Jigmet Takpa, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change stated that Central CAMPA Fund is meant for innovative research and pilot schemes as per CAMPA Act. At national level an amount of Rs. 7000 crores only is available under CAMPA.

DG, NMCG stated that UP can make a pilot nursery which can be funded under national CAMPA. In UP we have a UP Wetland Authority. Uttarakhand has identified 51 wet lands. UP has 225 wet lands. Bihar has rich wet lands.

Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change can consider to take wetland pilot projects under National CAMPA.

Shri Sanjay Dayal, Special Secretary, Urban Development & housing Department, Govt. of Bihar informed that a draft plan has been prepared for 133 wetlands. Work has started on 28 wetlands, through Jal Jeevan Hariyali Programme of Bihar Government under which tanks and pokhris have been identified and work has started on 32,000 tanks.

(v) Ministry of Rural Development.

Secretary, Rural Development indicated that he is inventorising all the water bodies in 52 Ganga districts on the main stem of Ganga and geotagging them. He also indicated that rejuvenation of a large number of identified water bodies has been taken up.

DG, NMCG requested Secretary, Rural Development to cover districts on the tributaries of Ganga also. He suggested that small river streams can be rejuvenated under MGNREGA through various activities including right type of plantation with effective

convergence at the district level. Secretary, Rural Development was requested to suitably convey the priority to States, who agreed to have special focus on them.

It was informed that NMCG has also initiated, with the help of District Ganga Committees and other agencies, the work of water body conservation.

(vi) NITI Aayog

CEO, NITI Aayog stated there should be convergence of schemes between Ministry of Rural Development and NMCG. He added that under Aspirational Districts programme, they are going to make a push for re-use of treated water by power plants. He also mentioned that a need based digital dashboard will be prepared by NITI Aayog for Ganga districts.

(vii) Ministry of Power

Director General, NMCG explained about the need to utilize treated wastewater in thermal power plant as per existing policy of the Ministry of Power and also that the States should facilitate it and have a policy in this regard.

Shri Vivek Kumar Dewangan, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Power informed that they have notified re-use of treated water for thermal power plants within a radius of 50 Kms. But issues are of quality in terms of total dissolved solids and fluorides. For each power plant these are specified to be acceptable. We need to have tertiary treatment and transport will be the responsibility of the thermal plants. Tariff will be included in the cost of power. There are 17 thermal power plants on Ganga main stem and 36 on tributaries. Thermal power plants ensure zero liquid discharge and ash water circulation is in place. He stated that adequate treated water is not available at present.

Secretary, D/o WR, RD & GR stated that thermal power plants should not be allowed to use ground and surface water. Every State should have a policy for re-use of treated water. We must provide regulation and incentives. States should come with a policy for use of treated waste water.

Hon'ble Minister stated that we have to draw a line. Ideally treated water should be used fully. Clean water should go to the river.

(viii) Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs

Shri V.K. Jindal, Joint Secretary, SBM, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs stated that the Town and Country Planning Organizations of the Ministry is being asked to examine and give suggestions in a holistic manner on river centric planning within a specific time frame.

Similarly, MoHUA is continuously encouraging the Ganga States and cities for enhancing the processing capacities of MSW. The Ministry has given sufficient funds under SBM for creation of processing capacity. He stated that the Ministry is also pursuing on monthly basis the enhancement of treatment capacity and specific survey was made of Ganga Towns under Swachh Survekshan 2020. The result are expected in March, 2020

Regarding Reuse and recycle of waste water, the Ministry is constituting a Task Force with the approval of the Competent Authority.

He informed that they have already completed the targets for construction of individual house hold toilets, public toilets and community toilets. The states have

already been given the options to construct toilets based on various technologies including biodigester technology.

DG, NMCG stated that NMCG in collaboration with NIUA is developing guidelines and template for Urban River Management Plan and how the issues critical for the health of river Ganga can be mainstreamed into master plans and Urban Planning Process.

Hon'ble Minister emphasised that, it is very important to utilize the installed capacity. Otherwise building capacity is meaningless. It should be strictly monitored month-wise. Solid waste management and liquid waste management both are linked. Both should be integrated in a holistic and time-bound manner.

(ix) Uttar-Pradesh -States; NMCG

Shr Rajendra Kumar Tiwari, Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh mentioned that after the meeting of Hon'ble Prime Minister, Ganga is accorded highest priority by the State Government. A lot of enthusiasm has been created. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh has taken 4 meetings with 26 departments together. The State has made short-term plans for this financial year and work is under progress.

He added that the 'Ganga Yatra' organized by the UP government, covered 1358 Km out of which 1238 Kms were covered on road and the rest 120 Kms was through river. The 'Yatra' covered 27 districts, comprising of 87 legislative assemblies and 26 parliamentary constituencies. Various activities were conducted for raising awareness about rejuvenation of river Ganga, and promoting economic activities along the banks on convergence, composite and complimentary mode. It saw participation by around 7.83 crore people, which is one-third of the population of Uttar Pradesh. During the Yatra, 1.16

lakh toilets were constructed, 429 new 'talaab' were built, and 654 'Ganga Chabutras' connected with Ganga Wellness Centers were made. Further 302 'Ganga Maidans' were developed, and 118 'Ganga parks' were created, where plantations were carried out. Moreover, 103 'Ganga nurseries' were also constructed.

Agenda No. 4: Adoption of Annual Accounts of NMCG for Financial Year 2018-19.

9. The Annual Accounts of NMCG for the Financial Year 2018-19 was placed before the Empowered Task Force. After brief discussion the same was adopted by the Empowered Task Force.

Agenda No. 5 (Supplementary): Implementation of additional 54844 hectare of Forestry Intervention Project in Ganga River basin from Namami Gange Programme Fund

10. Director General, NMCG informed that a detailed project report on forestry intervention was prepared through Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun, which prescribed site specific afforestation models along the banks of river Ganga over an area of 1,34,104 hectares in five States at an estimated cost of Rs. 229.73 Crores. So far, 28,288 hectare plantation with a cost of Rs.337.22 crores have been carried out under Namami Gange Programme. During Financial Year 2018-19, it was proposed that the balance areas should be taken up under CAMPA fund. Accordingly, a series of meetings were held and in the last meeting held on 7th February, 2020 in the NMCG, it was revealed that in some of the area, plantation has already been taken up under State Plan and other schemes by the State.

After thorough review, the figures were reconciled. It is now estimated that funding needs to be arranged by NMCG for 54,844 hectare. It was proposed that the balance areas,

which cannot be taken up by CAMPA or any other schemes of State Government be funded through NMCG in a phase-wise manner.

The Empowered Task Force (ETF) agreed in principal to the proposal.

11. In his concluding remarks Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti mentioned that while there is visible impact of the work done by various states, there is more work to be done in the coming couple of years. He asked the representatives of the Ganga states to focus on solid and liquid waste management, and the actions to be implemented in the urban sector.

12. In the light of discussions and concluding remarks by Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti, the following are key highlights of the decisions taken in the meeting :

(i) Every Ministry/ Department and Chief Secretary's office in States should set up a Ganga Cell to contribute and coordinate effectively in this important National Mission.

(Action : All Ministries/ Departments/ State Governments)

(ii) All other states to plan for Ganga Yatra on similar lines, of 'Ganga Yatra' organized by the UP government.

(Action : States)

(iii) All the ministries/ departments, state governments and other stakeholders should meet regularly and work in a mission mode.

(Action : All Ministries/ Departments/ State Governments)

(iv) Representatives of the states to focus on the economic activities related to Ganga, in line with the decisions in the NGC meeting held under the chairmanship of the Prime

Minister. The tributaries of river Ganga should also be given attention because they are the '*praan*' and '*aarthik adhaar*' of the people.

(Action : States)

(v) As directed by Hon'ble Prime Minister, National Ganga Council and Empowered Task Force should meet more often. These meetings should be held in one of the Ganga bank towns. Senior Officers from States and Central Ministries may be invited to NGC meetings.

(Action : NMCG)

(vi) All Ministries should prepare an Action Plan on river Ganga within March, 2020 to accord focused attention on Ganga Grams and copies be shared with NMCG for apprising NGC.

(Action : All Ministries/ Departments/ States)

(vii) A calendar for the regular meetings of District Ganga Committee, State Ganga Committee, Empowered Task Force and National Ganga Council should be prepared.

(Action : NMCG, States)

(viii) Develop a plan for revival of smaller rivers (lower order tributaries) in the Ganga basin in collaboration with Rural Development Department and the States.

(Action : NMCG, States, Ministry of Rural Development)

(ix) A data base should be prepared by Ministry of Tourism and Culture on Ganga and its tributaries and their conservation.

(Action : Ministry of Tourism and Culture)

(x) The work of PKVY should start in all 5000 Ganga grams on full saturation basis to have any visible impact.

(Action : Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare)

(xii) The river Ganga should be added in Sanskriti Yatra, of Ministry of Culture. Similarly, dedicated galleries may be set up in museum on Ganga theme under the guidance of world class curators.

(Action : Ministry of Culture)

(xiii) Pilot nurseries afforestation and Wetland Projects may be considered under National CAMPA.

(Action : Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change)

(xiv) Thermal power plants should not be allowed to use ground and surface water. Every State should have a policy for re-use of treated water. We must provide regulation and incentives. States should come with a policy for use of treated waste water.

(Action : Ministry of Power, States)

(xv) The Town and Country Planning Organization and National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) should give suggestions in a holistic manner on river centric planning within a specific time frame.

(Action : Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs)

(xvi) Solid waste management and liquid waste management should be integrated in a holistic and time-bound manner.

(Action : Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs)

(xvii) The next meeting of the ETF should be held in April, 2020.

(Action : NMCG)

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to chair and all participants.

List of Participants

of the 5th meeting of Empowered Task Force held on 10.02.2020 at New Delhi

1. Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Jal Shakti
2. Shri Amitabh Kant, Chief Executive Officer, NITI Aayog
3. Shri U.P. Singh, Secretary, Department of Water Resources, River Development, Ministry of Jal Shakti
4. Shri Rajendra Kumar Tiwari, Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh
5. Shri Rajesh Bhushan, Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development
6. Shri Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, Director General, NMCG
7. Ms. Meenakshi Sharma, Director General, Ministry of Tourism
8. Shri V.K. Jindal, Joint Secretary (SBM), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
9. Shri Vivek Kumar Dewangan, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Power
10. Ms. Nirupama Kotru, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture
11. Shri Jigmet Takpa, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
12. Shri Rajat Sachar, Senior Economic Adviser, Ministry of Shipping
13. Shri N.S. Mondal, Chief Engineer, Central Electricity Authority
14. Shri J.B. Ravinder, Joint Adviser, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
15. Shri Brijendra Swaroopm Deputy CEO (CAMP), Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
16. Shri S.V. Singh, Director, Survey of India, Ministry of Science and Technology
17. Dr. Vandana Dwivedi, Adviser (PKVY), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
18. Shri Avinash Mishra, Adviser, NITI Aayog
19. Shri Aneepu Sureja, Director, CEA, Ministry of Power
20. Ms. Neelima Alam, Scientist-E, Ministry of Science and Technology
21. Shri T.J. Alone, Director, ASI, Ministry of Culture
22. Shri V.K. Mishra, S.E. U.P Irrigation and Water Resources Department, Meerut
23. Dr. Rajiva, TE, UPDASP, Uttar Pradesh
24. Dr. Sitaram Taigor, Environment Specialist (Ganga), SMCG-UP

25. Shri Shrikant Dandekar, Chief Engineer, Water Resources Department, Rewa, Madhya Pradesh
26. Shri Shashi Ranjan, Director, State Urban Development, UDD- Jharkhand
27. Shri Sanjay Dayal, Special Secretary, Urban Development & housing Department, Govt. of Bihar
28. Shri C.S. Singh, MD, BUIDCO, Bihar
29. Shri R.K. Chaudhary, APD, SMCG-Uttar-Pradesh
30. Shri Uday Raj Singh, PD, SMCG- Uttarakhand
31. Shri K.K. Ratore, GM ganga UK PJN, Haridwar
32. Shri Prabhat Raj, Technical Advisor, SPMG- Uttarakhand