

**T-03/2016-17/534/NMCG/PhaseII/Vol.III**  
**National Mission for Clean Ganga**  
**Department of Water Resources, River Development**  
**& Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti**

1<sup>st</sup> Floor,  
Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium  
India Gate, New Delhi-110002  
Dated: 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2022

**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**Subject: Minutes of the 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of re-constituted Principal Committee in the NGT Matter OA No.06 of 2012 held on 14.01.2022 from 10.30 AM onwards**

A copy of Minutes of Meeting of Principal Committee held through Video Conferencing on 14.01.2022 from 10.30 AM on-wards, under the Chairmanship of Secretary, DoWR,RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti is forwarded herewith for information/ necessary action.

18311

(D. P. Mathuria) 14.2.2022

Executive Director-Technical, NMCG  
Member Secretary, Principal Committee  
[ed-technical@nmcg.nic.in](mailto:ed-technical@nmcg.nic.in)

Encl: As above.

To:

1. Shri Shashi Shekhar, Expert Member, C – II/155, Satya Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi – 110021
2. Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jorbagh Road, New Delhi – 110032
3. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, RD&GR Shram Shakti Bhavan, Rafi Marg, Sansad Marg Area, New Delhi, Delhi 110001
4. Chief Secretary, GNCTD, Delhi Secretariat, IP Estate, Near Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, Delhi - 110002
5. Secretary, Irrigation Department, Govt. of Haryana, Haryana Civil Secretariat, Sector-1, Chandigarh, Haryana
6. Secretary, Irrigation Department, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh, H.P. Secretariat, Shimla-171002
7. Secretary, (UP) Irrigation Department, Babu Bhawan Sachivalya, Government of UP, Lucknow – 226 001

8. Secretary, Irrigation Department, Govt. of Uttarakhand, 4 Subhash Road, Secretariat, Forth Floor, New Building Dehradun, Pin code-248001
9. Secretary, Department of Environment, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Delhi Secretariat, IP Estate, New Delhi (Fax – 011 23392034)
10. Secretary, Department of Irrigation & Flood Control, Varunalaya Complex (Phase-II), Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005
11. CEO, Delhi Jal Board, Delhi Jal Board, Varunalaya Complex (Phase-II), Karol Bagh, New Delhi-
12. Dr. A. K. Gosain, Professor of Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi Hauz Khas, New Delhi - 110 016
13. Dr. C. R. Babu, Centre for Environmental Management of Degraded Ecosystems, School of Environment Studies, University of Delhi-110007.
14. Dr. A. A. Kazmi, Civil Engineering Department, Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee, Roorkee, Uttarakhand 247667
15. Vice Chairman, Delhi Development Authority, Vice-Chairman Office B- Block, 1st Floor Vikas Sadan, New Delhi-110023
16. Chief Engineer (Yamuna), Department of Irrigation, Uttar Pradesh
17. The Member Secretary, Haryana State Pollution Control Board, C-11, Sector 6, Panchkula, Haryana 134109
18. The Chief Administrator, Haryana Shehri Vikas Pradhikaran (HSVP/HUDA), Sector 6, Panchkula, Haryana
19. The Director, Urban Local Body, Bays No 11-14, Sector 4, Panchkula, Haryana
20. The Engineer-In-Chief, Public Health Engineering Department, Haryana, bays no 13-18, sector 4, Panchlula, Haryana
21. The Engineer-In-Chief, Irrigation & Water Resources Department, Haryana, Sichai Bhawan, Sector 5, Panchkula, Haryana
22. Principal Secretary, Department of Environment, U.P., Room No. 601, Bapu Bhawan Secretariat, Vidhan Sabha Marg, Lucknow – 226001.
23. Principal Secretary, Urban Development Department, 824, Bapu Bhawan, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh – 226001
24. Member Secretary, Delhi Pollution Control Committee, Government of N.C.T. Delhi, 4th Floor, ISBT Building, Kashmere Gate, Delhi-110006
25. Additional Commissioner, East Delhi Municipal Corporation, Plot No. 419, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Udyog Sadan, Patparganj Industrial Area, New Delhi – 110092
26. Chief Engineer (Flyover), PWD, 4th Floor, MSO Building, I.P.Estate, Delhi - 110002

**Copy for kind information to:**

1. PPS to Secretary, Department of Water Resources, RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Shram Shakti Bhavan, Rafi Marg, Sansad Marg Area, New Delhi, Delhi 110001
2. PS to Director General, NMCG
3. PS to ED (Projects), NMCG

**Minutes of the 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the re-constituted Principal Committee held on 14.01.2022 through Video Conferencing in compliance to the directions of Hon'ble NGT in the matter OA No. 06 of 2012**

The 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the re-constituted Principal Committee (Yamuna) constituted by Hon'ble NGT in the matter OA No. 06 of 2012 was held through video conferencing on 14.01.2022 from 10.30 AM onwards in Conference Room, NMCG under the Chairmanship of Secretary, DoWR,RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti. The list of participants present at the meeting is at ***Annexure-I***.

II. Secretary DoWR,RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti welcomed all the participants. Director General, NMCG welcomed the participants and informed that meeting of the Committee is being held after a gap of 9 months and the Agenda for the meeting has already being circulated.

**Agenda 1: EDMC's request regarding change of land use of an area measuring 31 acres for Solid Waste Management Processing & Disposal Facility and 0.5 acre approx. in Planning Zone 'O' located in Ghonda Gurjan in East Delhi.**

ED (Tech), NMCG informed that EDMC has requested Principal Committee regarding change of land use of an area measuring 31 acres for *Solid Waste Management Processing & Disposal Facility* and 0.5 acre approx. in Planning Zone 'O' located in Ghonda Gurjan in East Delhi.

Further, it was informed that the proposal of EDMC was discussed in 4 meetings of re-constituted Principal Committee held on 04.09.2017, 17.10.2017, 21.11.2017 and 18.07.2018 respectively. However, consent was not provided by Principal Committee for Solid Waste Management Processing & Disposal Facility located in O-zone. In the first meeting of the re-constituted Principal Committee, the Committee recommended that EDMC may explore an alternate location as the proposed site (Ghonda Gujran) lies within the flood plain zone of river Yamuna and has potential to create severe damage to the river ecology/ ecosystem, if the project is given a go-ahead. It was also highlighted that as per the provision of *MSW Rules 2016, Schedule-I (A) para (vii)*, no SLF is allowed to be constructed in active flood plain. In the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of Principal Committee held on 18.07.2018, it was brought to notice of the Committee that in another matter in NGT, EDMC had submitted the same proposal for construction of *Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM)* in Ghonda Gurjan and Sonia Vihar based on the

recommendations of CPCB and NEERI. Officials from CPCB informed that 150 acres of land near Sonia Vihar is now *no flood zone* due to construction of unauthorized colony and can also be allocated to EDMC as the site fulfills the criteria mentioned in *SWM Rules'2016*. NEERI reported sensitivity score for the site as moderate. Subsequently, the reports of CPCB and NEERI were submitted in NGT. However, authenticity of the data could not be determined as the officials from DDA informed that both the areas are located in 1 in 25-year floodplain of Yamuna. Principal Committee disapproved the submission made by EDMC and its failure to share information on such a sensitive issue and wanted that EDMC should have kept Principal Committee informed with all the developments in the matter. However, no further information was shared by EDMC with the Committee, so no directions were issued by Principal Committee.

Now Commissioner, EDMC through a presentation (copy placed at *Annexure-II*) informed that approximately 2600 TPD of MSW is generated in EDMC area and only one 1300 TPD of waste processing facility is available at Ghazipur. There is no land available for establishing processing facility for remaining waste. Also 38 years old Ghazipur Landfill site is neither engineered nor having LTP and is unsuitable for further dumping of solid waste. Bio-mining and reclamation of land in Ghazipur Landfill site is also in progress. Regarding allocation of additional land for SWM facility, NGT vide order dated 08.03.2019 directed to get the matter sorted out between EDMC and DDA. On 12.03.2019, EDMC requested DDA for allotment of 50 acres of land for development of SWM Facilities. DDA informed about land availability at Ghonda Gujran on Yamuna floodplain. EDMC engaged NEERI for scientific assessment as per CPCB guidelines. NEERI's report was made available to CPCB and suitability of Ghonda Gujran site for the said purpose was admitted before the NGT on behalf of CPCB. On 20.03.2019, 42.5 acres land was allotted by DDA at Ghonda Gujran for setting up SWM facility subjected to certain conditions. However, during handing over of land, observations were made by the officials of DDA that the part of the allotted land is in 1:25 years floodplains of Zone 'O' and land use of the allotted land needs to be changed from "Recreational" to "Utility". After relentless follow up with DDA it was decided that floodplain portion is to be demarcated using Total Station Survey (TSS) of the allotted land, floodplain portion is to be retrieved by the DDA, the change of land use from "Recreational" to "Utility" is to be processed for the remaining portion and EDMC is to initiate the process of obtaining approval from Principal Committee of NGT. It was further informed

that EDMC approached I&FC, GNCTD for exact dimension and geo-coordinates of the area falling in flood plains. As advised by I&FC Department, EDMC has obtained the same from GSDL. The matter was also considered by the Technical Committee of DDA on 05.01.2022.

Prof.A.K.Gosain highlighted that the NGT judgement dated 13.01.2015 was pronounced after detailed deliberations and the proposal of EDMC should not be entertained as it completely violates the NGT judgement. Floodplain area is not just the area where the river flows, it also denotes the areas that will be covered during flooding (peak flow of the river). Photograph of the proposed site shows no vegetation, as the site is inundated by floods every year. And as per the map shown by EDMC, there seems a waterbody existing even in non-monsoon period near to the site, indicating that the floodwater reaches the site. As highlighted previously by the Principal Committee, EDMC should have managed the solid waste processing at Ghazipur and should have explored other alternatives rather than proposing facility in floodplain."

Prof.A.A.Kazmi suggested that the directions of NGT regarding no construction in floodplain area of the River Yamuna should be adhered. Haryana is currently utilizing the existing processing facility site for establishing new processing plants, after cleaning and proper management of the solid waste at the site. Similar measures can be adopted by EDMC also.

Prof. C.R.Babu informed that the proposed site by EDMC is in active floodplain and is surrounded by waterbodies as being highlighted in the Google Earth images. If the ISWM facility is implemented at the proposed site, it shall lead to much more degradation of the ecology and the environment and shall pollute the river and ground water, in terms of sedimentation load and other factors. It will be suicidal to allow SWM facility on active flood plain of river Yamuna in Delhi, where river is already highly fragile. It was also suggested that low-lying agricultural area may be used till EDMC is able to secure land in the already existing Ghazipur landfill site but no solid waste should be brought on Yamuna flood plains.

ED (Tech), NMCG further informed that in compliance to 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of Principal Committee, a site visit was undertaken on 28<sup>th</sup> August and 06<sup>th</sup> September 2021 by Expert members of Principal Committee along with NMCG and DDA officials to review the status of DDA's projects in terms of the NGT judgement dated 13.01.2015. The Committee had visited Yamuna

Vanasthali Project site (Wazirabad Barrage to ISBT Bridge) having 236.5 acres on eastern bank of River Yamuna, which also includes the site allocated to EDMC for development of ISWM facility. Committee recommended that the area allotted to EDMC does not qualify for development of ISWM facility and should be retrieved by DDA and the land should be integrated with DDA's restoration plan. The same has been recorded in the site visit report of the Committee. It was also noted that two villages - Gadhi Mandu and Usmanpur are existing in the floodplains, having dairies and a lot of solid waste dumping (appears to be collected by rag-pickers) on active flood plain and these villages should have been relocated as per NGT order. DDA officials had informed that alternate land was provided to the villagers previously. However, illegal encroachment re-appeared in the floodplain area and is continuing. Therefore, the Committee had suggested that these should be relocated at the earliest and the area should be restored after necessary approvals.

It was highlighted that the area located on river side of the existing pusta (left marginal bund, which is a flood afflux bund) is O-zone in the DDA's Masterplan for Delhi. As informed by DDA during the visit, PWD, Delhi has a proposal for development of road, criss-crossing the floodplain. Expert members had observed that such construction shall bifurcate the floodplain and shall trigger construction activities in the bifurcated area leading to illegal encroachment of floodplain.

Prof.A.K.Gosain informed that during the visit it was also noticed that huge plantation activities as a part of compensatory plantation are being carried out in floodplain area of the river. Also, such dense large tree plantation is not recommended in active flood plains as it will convert the active flood plain to mono-culture dense forests. This shall also cause obstruction to the flow of the river. Therefore, Delhi Government should be directed that such compensatory activities should be prevented in the floodplain and if required, be only carried out in outermost area of the floodplain, where floodwater reaches only in 1 in 50 year or so.

ED (Tech), NMCG also highlighted that as per the NGT judgement dated 13.01.2015, the existing constructions in the floodplain violating the directions needs to be inventorized, physically verified by DDA and action needs to be taken whether it should be restored or not.

DDA is currently inventorizing the already existing structures. Therefore, new activities in O zone such as *Integrated Solid Waste Management Facility* should be prevented.

Director General, NMCG directed EDMC to provide details of the activities taken-up for clearing the dumpsite at Ghazipur site.

Commissioner, EDMC informed that bio-mining of the existing dump site started in 2019 and as of 2021, 4 lakh tonnes of legacy waste has been treated. However, EDMC is unable to treat the fresh waste and therefore it was proposed to treat fresh waste at a new proposed facility without dumping. NHAI has also been involved for utilization of the treated inert waste in road construction. It was also informed that only vegetation exists near the proposed site and no waterbody exists at the proposed site.

Vice Chairman, DDA informed the Committee that the situation in EDMC area cannot be compared with Haryana and other States, where land is available. 40% of Delhi's population resides in EDMC area and it was difficult to make available alternate vacant land for solid waste management facility. The issue of 1 in 25-year floodplain was highlighted and it was informed that a clear definition of the floodplain needs to be provided.

ED (Tech), NMCG informed that besides NGT order regarding demarcation of 1 in 25-year floodplain and their directions as regards no construction activities to be undertaken in the floodplain; River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities order'2016 applicable for River Ganga & its tributaries define floodplains against floods of 1 in 100-year frequency. Further, the right and left marginal bunds knowns as afflux bunds give protection to low lying areas and as per BIS, afflux bands shall be designed to provide reasonable degree of protection for the floods of 1 in 25-year periodicity. Thus 1 in 25-year flood waters inundates up to Pusta which gives protection to areas on the other side of the bund.

Prof.A.K. Gosain informed that IIT Delhi in its report had given two possibilities – one the extent of flooding if the bunds are not available and the other was the extent of flooding during the presence of the bunds. However, NGT directed that no construction should be carried out in the floodplain despite the presence of embankments. Further, it was also directed to demolish all

the structures in the floodplain. It was highlighted that the demarcation of 1 in 25-year floodplain done by DDA on the ground is inappropriate and was not properly done. A separate meeting can be convened to discuss the issues in details.

Secretary, DoWR,RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti observed that land available in floodplain should be kept construction-free for the river. It was suggested that a separate meeting of DDA, Expert members of Principal Committee may be convened to resolve issues in demarcation of 1 in 25-year floodplain.

After detailed discussion and deliberations, Secretary, DoWR,RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti and Chairman Principal Committee decided that EDMC should look for alternate land for developing ISWM facility and should also explore possibility for utilizing the existing site at Ghazipur. Further it was suggested that expert members of the Principal Committee may provide guidance to EDMC to provide technological solutions as way forward. It was also directed that the recommendations made by the expert members of the Principal Committee in their inspection report of the site visit carried out in August & September 2021 may be shared with Delhi Government for taking necessary action in time bound manner. Encroachment of floodplain of river Yamuna should be prevented in effective manner by the authorities by removal of illegal encroachment.

**Principal Committee rejected the proposal of EDMC's for change of land use in Planning Zone 'O' located in Ghonda Gurjan in East Delhi and recommended that EDMC should look for alternative way for management of solid waste. The land may be retrieved for its development as part of river front development project being implemented by DDA.**

**Agenda 2: Progress on Maily Se Nirmal Yamuna Revitalization Project since last meeting of Principal Committee held on 06.04.2021**

**Status of Sewerage Infrastructure Projects, Industrial Pollution Management and Drain Trapping**

ED (Tech), NMCG presented the progress of sewerage projects as submitted by Delhi Government in its Monthly Progress Report (**presentation at Annexure-III**). It was informed

that about 933 MLD of untreated sewage is daily discharged into River Yamuna, 318 MLD STP at Coronation Pillar earlier scheduled for completion by December 2021 is now proposed to be fully commissioned by February 2022. Delhi Government is required to expedite the works. STPs at Kondli, Rithala and Okhla are expected to be completed by December 2022. With regard to the 18 drains discharging into River Yamuna, as per the report of Delhi Jal Board, 12 drains (Magazine Road Drain, Sweeper Colony Drain, Khyber Pass Drain, Metcalf House Drain, Tonga Stand Drain, Moat Drain, Civil Military Drain, Delhi Gate Drain, Drain no 14, Tughlaqabad Drain, Kalkaji Drain and Tehkhand Drain) have been reported to be fully trapped and no leakages are observed in these 12 drains. However, as per the report of DPCC for the month of December 2021, overflow has been reported in many of the trapped drains. Further, Sen Nursing Home drain which is trapped into Dr Sen Nursing Home STP of Delhi as well as into the ring road trunk sewer overflows. To stop this marginal overflow, permanent RCC Weir was being constructed by DJB to completely stop the overflow. However, the work was stopped by South DMC and the constructed structure was completely demolished by SDMC in the month of July 2020 due to the reason that it caused obstruction to the flow during the monsoon thereby flooding the WHO building. It was generally believed that backflow from the drain occurred due to the weir causing upstream flooding. For trapping the flow of Qudisia Bagh & Mori Gate Drain, STP was proposed however land was not available since past few years. It has now been reported that land was identified in O-zone and DDA has allotted the land, however the cost of land demanded is on higher side. The matter is being taken up with DDA to allot the land either free of cost or at nominal rates. For Mori Gate STP, alternative proposal is being framed to carry the sewage to Coronation Pillar STP for its treatment by laying a rising main from proposed SPS at ISBT Kashmere Gate.

With regard to Barapulah Drain, it was informed that the surrounding area is mostly seweraged yet around 150 MLD of flow is observed to be discharging into Yamuna. This may be due to small colonies not connected to sewerage network. It was highlighted that in one of the Principal Committee meeting, CEO Delhi Jal Board informed that many of the sewers in seweraged areas have been clogged due to poor maintenance and for de-clogging the sewers have been punctured, due to which overflow is reaching the drain. It was also informed by DJB in the earlier meeting that a Master Plan for seweraged areas is also being prepared, however no further progress has

happened since then. Conveyance system of the sewerage areas needs to be maintained as it is linked with O&M of the entire system. It has been reported in MPR that the work of trapping of Maharani Bagh Drain has been partially completed and further a pumping station has to be completed for which land issue is to be resolved. For tapping flow of Najafgarh Drain, Interceptor Sewer Project has been completed, however treatment capacity for treating the trapped flow is yet to be completed and made operational. Similar status prevails for Shahdara Drain.

With regard to the 13 existing CETPs in the State, it was informed that in the last meeting of Principal Committee, all the CETPs were reported to be non-complying. However now 5 CETPs are reported to be complying and 7 CETPs are non-complying with regard to the norms for Total Dissolved Solids. Condition Assessment of the CETPs have been completed by NEERI.

CEO, Delhi Jal Board informed that works of the STP at Coronation Pillar has been completed and only the work of conveyance system from old STP to new STP is in progress. It is targeted to inaugurate the STP by mid of February 2022. With regard to the drains highlighted to have overflow, it was informed that Tonga Stand Drain, Civil Military Drain and Delhi Gate Drain were not fully trapped previously. Process of installing new gate for trapping the Civil Military Drain is in progress. For trapping of Delhi Gate Drain, DDA has been requested to provide land for setting up of STP near Rajghat. Land has also been requested to setting up Lift station for Tonga Stand drain. It was also informed that individual decentralized STPs were proposed for Mori Gate, Barapulah and Maharani Bagh Drains by DJB. However as per the decision of the Board, it has now been decided to trap the flow of the drain and to treat the flow in Coronation Pillar and Okhla STPs respectively. For setting up the conveyance system from these drains to the STPs, tenders have been floated.

Vice Chairman, DDA informed that the department is in regular touch with DJB to ensure that the lands are made available at the earliest and the land near Rajghat is to be first transferred from Power Department, Delhi to DDA for its further allotment to DJB.

CEO, Delhi Jal Board informed that for decentralized STPs in Najafgarh zone, land for 10 STP sites have already been allotted by DDA to DJB and for allotment of land for 30 locations is in

final stage. DJB is floating tender for the STPs. Small decentralized STPs of 100-300 KLD are being installed in parks allotted by DDA and similar action is proposed to be taken up in MCD parks. DJB is also pursuing with Forest Department for providing treated water for irrigation purposes in the ridge areas. It was informed that DJB shall be trapping the flow of all the 16 drains and the 449 small drains joining the 3 major drains (Najafgarh, Shahdara and the Supplementary Drain). DJB is ensuring that the ongoing STP projects at Rithala, Okhla and Kondli are completed by December 2022. Further, it was informed that the Delhi Government has directed DJB to take up the 13 existing CETPs in Delhi, which were owned by different private agencies and were having design parameters of BOD – 30mg/l. DJB shall be taking over the CETPs for operation and maintenance. These are to be upgraded to ensure optimum utilization capacity and to achieve the revised stringent outlet parameters. Tender for the same are being floated. Out of the 35 STPs, it was informed that only 11 STPs were designed to achieve the outlet BOD parameter of 10mg/l. Therefore DJB is also in process of upgrading the balance STPs in terms of capacity and design parameters.

Additional Chief Secretary, Delhi informed that the Power department has submitted file to Hon'ble LG, Delhi with regard to land (near Rajghat) transfer to DDA and shall be transferred shortly. As reported by DPCC, 7 CETPs are non-compliant to the norms and is expected to perform better after its transfer from DSIIDC to Delhi Jal Board. NEERI has submitted analysis report with respect of 10 CETPs and report for 3 CETPs is to be submitted. Recommendations are being adopted in time bound manner by DJB. The CETPs are having installed capacity of 212 MLD, 36 MLD of effluent was estimated to be generated in the industrial areas. However at present 64 MLD of effluent is treated in the CETPs, implying that effluent from slums and other commercial establishments are also reaching the CETPs. DPCC has imposed Environment Compensation of Rs. 12.01 crores on the CETPs for not meeting the norms.

ED (Tech), NMCG highlighted that DPCC has not prescribed any PETP norms for the industries in Delhi. The water polluting industries should have individual PETP so that the desired influent quality reaching the CETPs is met. This issue was also raised by CPCB. Further, directions were issued by NMCG in 2018 to the CETPs for ensuring that the treated water is re-utilized in an

organized manner. Subsequently directions were also issued by DPCC to the owners of the CETPs. However, the status of compliance of the directions is not known.

Additional Chief Secretary, Delhi informed that the PETP norms have been prescribed by DPCC in December 2021 and the status of reuse of treated water will be provided by DSIIDC or by Delhi Jal Board after transfer of the CETPs. It was assured that the status of reuse of treated water shall also be monitored by DPCC.

CEO, Delhi Jal Board informed about the request made by UYRB to Delhi Jal Board for discharging the treated water of the Okhla STP to Okhla Barrage. As the Okhla Barrage is maintained by UP Government, a meeting in this regard was held with UP Irrigation Department. However positive response was not received from the UP Government. Therefore, it was requested that a meeting in this regard may be convened with NMCG taking a lead to resolve the issue.

ED (Tech), NMCG informed that high quality treated water will be discharged from Okhla STP into Agra Canal and is used for irrigation in Haryana & Uttar Pradesh. It was proposed that instead this treated water be discharged downstream of Okhla Barrage so that good quantity of flows remains available downstream in UP. Water allocation rights of co-Basin States are monitored by UYRB and the issue therefore needs to be discussed at higher level.

Prof. A.A. Kazmi highlighted that the idea of discharging of 500 – 600 MLD treated water from Okhla STP to the Downstream of Okhla Barrage may be beneficial in improving in the quality of water received downstream of river at Vrindawan and Mathura, which have not improved in the last 6-7 years. Further, it was suggested that the irrigation canal of Noida also needs to be controlled and regulated so as to reduce the pollution load into the river.

Prof. A.K. Gosain apprised that the work being done by Delhi Jal Board for trapping all the natural drain to control entry of untreated sewage in River Yamuna, as per the directions of the NGT, will remain a temporary measure till implementation of Sewerage Master Plan for Delhi. DJB has to complete the laying of sewers so that sewage shouldn't get discharged into existing storm water channels.

Prof. C.R. Babu informed that entire treated water should not be reused as in such case, there may be no flow downstream of Wazirabad Barrage in River Yamuna, because Delhi hardly releases any water from Wazirabad barrage for entire dry period and flows in river Yamuna in Delhi is essentially flow of treated and untreated sewage from Delhi through various drains. A part of treated water must be released into the river for maintaining the ecologically of the river. Many of the unauthorized colonies are directly discharging raw untreated sewage into natural drains connecting River Yamuna. It was highlighted that downstream of DND flyway, where DDA is implementing Biodiversity parks as part of the Restoration project, at least 100 -150 Dhobi Ghats are discharging into floodplain and directly into the river, just above the Okhla Barrage.

**Secretary, DoWR,RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti directed the Delhi State Departments to ensure that the ongoing projects are completed within the proposed timeframe. Status of proposed decentralized STPs shall be reviewed in subsequent meetings of the Committee and the Committee may also be timely apprised of the plan to address the gap in treatment capacity. In Delhi, the aim is that not a drop of untreated sewage/ effluent should be discharged into the rivers/ water bodies and that reuse of the treated water should be ensured. Secretary, DoWR,RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti suggested that a meeting may be convened between NMCG, UYRB, Delhi and UP Government. Further, if required, meeting of higher officials may also be convened at a later stage.**

**Agenda 3: Review of Haryana reach of Yamuna, STP/ CETP projects (implementation of Action Plan), status of drains and river water quality**

ED (Tech), NMCG highlighted that capacity utilization and compliance of the existing STPs (non-complying to stringent norms) remains major issue. Significant flows are observed in the drains even after presence of large number of installed STP. Provision for tapping the drain and diverting the flow to the STP is not there, especially for major drains in towns such as Yamunanagar, Sonapat and Panipat contributing to the pollution. All 19 existing CETPs of 190 MLD in the State are reported to be complying. This status needs to be re-verified as the drains getting discharge from these CETPs are having very high pollution load. The drain quality upstream and downstream of CETPs/ STPs discharge may also be examined to identify the

defaulters. Significant STP capacity exists in Haryana though non-compliance of STPs is a big concern in the State.

Engineer-in-Chief, PHED, Haryana informed that not all the STPs are under jurisdiction of PHED but many STPs are under jurisdiction of ULB and HSVP. Out of existing 42 STPs of PHED along Yamuna stretch. 21 STPs are achieving the BOD norms of 10 mg/l, upgradation works are in progress for 4 STPs, 13 STPs will be upgraded by December 2023 and 2 STPs are owned by ULBs. Besides there are STPs being operated by other agency like HSVP and ULBs.

Principal Committee expressed displeasure over the absence of any senior officials from the State in the meeting. In the absence of any senior officers, the compliance to various direction cannot be made. **It was directed that Principal Secretary of the Departments should attend the meetings along with concerned officials. Multiple agencies are involved in carrying out pollution abatement works for river Yamuna. Accordingly, data with regard to State needs to be clearly presented by senior officials from State instead of Department centric status. Further that Chief Secretary, Haryana should take internal review meetings at his level to sort out inter-Departmental coordination issues and may also attend the next meeting of Principal Committee to bring more clarity to the problem of pollution in river Yamuna.**

**Agenda 4: Review of UP reach of Yamuna in particular projects which aim to remediate pollution from Shahdara drain, Noida drain, Hindon river out falling into Yamuna**

ED (Tech), NMCG informed that up to Delhi stretch of river Yamuna, there is insignificant pollution load in river Yamuna from Uttar Pradesh. Pollution load from Uttar Pradesh in river Yamuna comes through Hindon cut canal which merges in river Yamuna upstream of Okhla barrage. Discharge from 30 MLD STP at Loni and 2 CETPs at Loni (0.8 MLD CETP is not functional and 1.2 MLD CETP is 60% operational) comes into river Yamuna. However, bigger concern remains pollution load discharged by UP downstream of Okhla from Noida drain, Shahdara drain and through Hindon River. These bring in sewage (treated and untreated) industrial effluent from conforming and non-conforming areas. The non-compliance of existing STPs and industries in this area is a big concern. In one of meeting of Hon'ble Minister MoJS

with Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, it was proposed to have a Special Monitoring Cell of SPCB is to be constituted for NCR area for keeping oversight on performance of industries, STPs and CETPs so that they remain compliant at all time. The Special Cell under Regional Officer, UPPCB at Noida has been created and is monitoring on weekly basis and is uploading data on website.

Managing Director (Gramin), UP Jal Nigam informed that 109 STPs are existing in UP and are monitored on weekly basis. There are three drains – Sahibabad drains carrying 90 MLD of flow, which is being treated at 2 STPs and the remaining two drains - Indirapuram and Banthla are carrying 50 MLD of flow. A new STP was proposed for trapping the flow of these two drains. However due to significant presence of industrial effluent, option of treatment by CETP is being explored now.

ED (Tech), NMCG informed that Sahibabad drain carried discharge from non-conforming industrial units and UPPCB was advised to monitor and close down these industries located in non-conforming industries.

**Secretary, DoWR,RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti directed that joint inspection of the areas may be carried out by UP Authorities along with Pollution Control Board, Delhi Jal Board and NMCG so as to work out a plan for resolving these issues.**

#### **Agenda 5: Restoration and Rejuvenation of Yamuna Flood Plain' By DDA**

ED (Tech), NMCG informed that DDA is implementing the project Restoration and Rejuvenation of Yamuna Flood Plain following principles of environmentally sustainable and nature based initiatives. The complete stretch 'O'-zone as per Delhi Master Plan - 2021 falling under the jurisdiction of DDA from Wazirabad Barrage to Okhla Barrage has been subdivided into 10 projects for restoration, preservation and beautification of the floodplain, including development of biodiversity parks, horticulture, constructed wetlands. Total 1,503.5 hectare area is to be developed of which 299.75 hectare area falling under the jurisdiction of UP State is also being developed by DDA. In compliance to 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of Principal Committee, a site visit was undertaken on 28<sup>th</sup> August and 06<sup>th</sup> September 2021 by Expert members of Principal Committee

along with NMCG and DDA officials to review the status of DDA's projects in terms of the NGT judgement dated 13.01.2015 and detailed inspection report was prepared.

Director (Landscape), DDA through a presentation (**copy at Annexure-IV**) briefed about the action taken status on the recommendations made by the Expert Member of the Principal Committee during their inspection visit. Most of the recommendations are being complied by DDA, status of few major points are being highlighted below:

- i. Meeting has been held with Special Secretary (Power) on 31.12.2021 regarding the retrieval of the land under Millennium Bus Depot and IPGCL (near Rajghat).
- ii. Land is not being specifically allotted for Compensatory Afforestation/Compensatory Plantation. However, plantation of species suitable for Yamuna flood plains are only being undertaken as per the landscape plan prepared for the floodplains.

Further, it was highlighted that the proposed PWD Elevated Road from Wazirabad to DND Flyway shall be cutting across 4 restoration projects of DDA (Project 2, 3, 4 & 6) in the Yamuna floodplain. Another upcoming NHRCL's project for Delhi-Varanasi High Speed Rail Corridor shall be cutting across two of the DDA's restoration project (Project 2 & 10). Ongoing NCRTC's RRTS corridor connecting Delhi and Meerut is cutting across 2 of the DDA's projects (Project 2 & 10). Already restored water body has been damaged by the NCRTC project. Similarly, NHAI's ongoing Six Lane Access Highway is cutting across the Project 2 of the DDA's restoration project.

**Principal Committee directed that Field Inspection Report may be shared with Delhi Government. The project authorities must comply to the conditions stipulated in the permissions granted by Principal Committee. They must ensure minimum damage to the floodplain which should be restored after completion of the work. The Expert members and other members should continue to verify the compliance by undertaking more field visits which can be presented in the next meeting.**

**Agenda 6: PWD Delhi's project proposal for parallel elevated road on the flood plains of river Yamuna**

ED (Tech), NMCG informed that DDA had highlighted the issue of PWD, Delhi's proposed project for parallel elevated road on the flood plains of river Yamuna and that DDA Landscape department does not agree to the manner in which it is designed. NMCG vide letter dated 20th September 2021 and 13th December 2021 had directed PWD, Delhi to submit detailed proposal to NMCG in this regard for consideration of the same by Principal Committee. However, the proposal was not submitted even after issue of DO letter dated 30.12.2021 from Secretary, DoWR,RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti to Chief Secretary, Delhi highlighting the issue and recommending that no work may be taken in this regard till the matter is considered by the Principal Committee.

Prof. C.R. Babu informed that he is closely monitoring the DDA's restoration and rejuvenation project. It was suggested that PWD's proposed project is cutting across the floodplain. The project shall lead to fragmentation of the floodplain and shall have serious ecological hazard. The project should not be allowed to be developed along the floodplain. Other development projects which were permitted by the Committee subjected to condition that the agency must ensure minimum damage to the floodplain and should restore back the wetland/ water-bodies, after completion of the work. These development projects are also delaying the works of DDA's project.

Prof. A.K. Gosain highlighted that the message should be clear that the proposed projects along river Yamuna and its floodplain, before its inception should take prior permission of Hon'ble NGT. All the roadways and railways projects should be done on the pillars so that minimum intervention is there in the floodplain and passage of flow of the river should not be disturbed. Projects which fragment the floodplains should be avoided.

Chief Engineer (Flyover), PWD, Delhi informed that PWD had proposed the elevated road from Wazirabad to DND, in order to decongest the existing Ring Road. As after completion of elevated corridor from Vikaspuri to Wazirabad, entire stretch of outer ring road has become signal free which led to heavy congestion in ring road from Wazirabad to ITO area towards

DND. Therefore, the parallel road was proposed, on piers, utilizing the existing roads. Wherever existing roads cannot be utilized, works were proposed to be undertaken in floodplain area.

**Principal Committee directed PWD, Delhi to submit the details of the proposed project for parallel elevated road on the flood plains of river Yamuna from Wazirabad to DND and that no work should be undertaken till the proposal is considered by the Committee. Further, it was directed that details of the ongoing works being carried out by PWD on left bank of river Yamuna may also be provided to the Committee.**

Additional Chief Secretary, Delhi ensured Principal Committee that PWD, Delhi shall be submitting requisite information to the Committee at the earliest.

Secretary, DoWR, RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti directed the agencies to comply with the recommendations of the Committee and it was decided that the next meeting of the Committee shall be held in April, 2022.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

\*\*\*\*\*

**List of participants:**

1. Shri Pankaj Kumar, Secretary, DoWR,RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti – *in Chair*
2. Shri G Asok Kumar, Director General, NMCG cum Project Director, NRCD
3. Prof. A. K .Gosain, IIT Delhi, Expert Member
4. Prof. C.R.Babu, Delhi University, Expert Member
5. Prof. A. A.Kazmi, IIT Roorkee, Expert Member
6. Shri D.P.Mathuria, Executive Director (Technical), NMCG
7. Shri Satya Gopal, Additional Chief Secretary (Environment & Power), Delhi
8. Shri Udit Prakash Rai, Chief Executive Officer, Delhi Jal Board
9. Shri Manish Gupta, Vice Chairman, Delhi Development Authority
10. Shri Vikas Anand, Commissioner, EDMC
11. Sh. Rajeev Tiwari (IFS), Principal Commissioner (Hort. & LS), DDA
12. Dr. Pravin Kumar, Director Technical, NMCG
13. Shri Sushil Patel, Managing Director (Grahim), UP Jal Nigam
14. Dr. K.S Jayachandran, Member Secretary, Delhi Pollution Control Committee
15. Mrs. Kalpana Khurana, Additional Commissioner (Landscape), DDA
16. Mrs. Neelima Soni, Director (Landscape), DDA
17. Shri Pradeep Kumar Parmar, Chief Engineer (Flyover) , PWD, Delhi
18. Engineer-in-Chief, PHED, Haryana
19. Shri. JP Singh, Sr. Environmental Engineer, Haryana State Pollution Control Board
20. Shri Devbrat Singh, Executive Engineer, PWD, Delhi
21. Shri Sandeep Gupta, Senior Monitoring Expert, NMCG
22. Mrs. Ruby Raju, Project Engineer, NMCG