

**Minutes of meeting of River Rejuvenation Committee held on 01/03/2023 under the chairmanship of the Principal Secretary, Environment Forest & Climate Change Department, Government of Bihar to review the compliances of directions of the Hon'ble NGT in OA no 673/2018.**

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A meeting of the River Rejuvenation Committee was held on 01/03/2023 under the chairmanship of the Principal Secretary, Department of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, GoB to review the compliances of directions of the Hon'ble NGT in O.A. no. 673/2018. (Attendance Sheet enclosed).

1. Member Secretary, BSPCB, Patna on behalf of the chair welcomed the participants and presented the background of O.A. no. 673/2018 and the current status of compliances in the light of different orders of the Hon'ble NGT through a Power point presentation. He stated that:

- I. The Hon'ble NGT is closely monitoring the issues related to pollution abatement of river Ganga and its tributaries through O.A. No. 673/2018. Out of 351 polluted river stretches in the country, Sirsiya at Raxaul (Priority-III), Parmar at Jogbani (Priority-V), Punpun at Fatuha (Priority-V), Ramrekha at Harinagar (Priority-V), Sikrahna (Harbaura) at Narkatiaganj (Priority-V) & Ganga (Priority-V) have been identified as polluted river stretches on the basis of analysis report before 2018 and Sirsiya at Raxaul (Priority-II), Parmar at Jogbani (Priority-V), Punpun at Fatuha (Priority-IV), Ramrekha at Harinagar (Priority-III), Sikrahna (Harbaura) at Narkatiaganj (Priority-IV), Ganga (Priority-IV), Kohra along Manjhaulia (Priority-IV), Burhi Gandak/ Sikrahna at Narkatiaganj to Pakridayal (Priority-IV), Daha at Gopalganj to Siwan (Priority-IV), Dhous along Madhuvapur (Priority-V), Gandak at Rewaghat (Priority-V), Lakhandei along Sitamarhi (Priority-III), Manusmar along Sitamarhi (Priority-V), Sone at Koelwar (Priority-V), Kamala along Darbhanga (Priority-V), Gangi at Ara (Priority-IV) & Ghaghara along Revelganj (Priority-V) in the State of Bihar.

Out of 18 rivers with 45 locations under polluted river stretches, Board has observed a total of 24 locations with value of BOD > 3.0 mg/L only one time during the year 2019 & 2021. A request letter sent to CPCB to exclude these stretches from the identified river stretches vide letter no. 100, dated 18.01.2023.

- II. The issues related to sewage management through the sewerage network and sewage treatment plant are being addressed by Urban Development and Housing Department through BUDICO under the Namami Gange Programme.





2. After detailed discussion, the following decisions were taken:-

- a. There are 67 projects including STP, Sewerage Network, Fecal Sludge Septage Management and Interception & Diversion (I&D) as of now in Bihar under various stages of development being executed under the Namami Gange Programme. Out of the above, only 08 projects were completed so far, 18 projects are under progress/ongoing, rest 41 projects are pending at different stages. Urban Development & Housing Department, GoB was directed to expedite all the concerned projects to reduce the pollution load in the identified river stretches.

(Action: UD&HD, GoB.)

- b. UD&HD, GoB to prioritize the projects at Harinagar, West Champaran; Narkatiyaganj, West Champaran; Raxaul, East Champaran and Jogbani, Araria.

(Action: UD&HD, GoB.)

- c. Ensure installation of the online monitoring system at all existing operational STPs outlets as well as plan in advance for installation of the same at the all ongoing and proposed plants (STPs) after commissioning.

(Action: UD&HD, GoB.)

- d. There are only 07 new STPs operational at Patna, i.e., Beur STP (43 MLD capacity), Karmalichak STP (37 MLD capacity), Saidpur STP (60 MLD capacity), Phari STP (60 MLD capacity), Barh STP (11 MLD capacity), Sonepur STP (3.5 MLD capacity), Sultanganj STP (10 MLD capacity) with a total capacity of 224.5 MLD, but the total capacity being utilized by these STPs are 73.83 MLD (approx. 32.91%) only. UD&HD, GoB was directed to ensure full utilization of STP at maximum capacity.

(Action: UD&HD, GoB)

- e. Ensure preparation of DPRs for reuse of treated wastewater (sewage) from STPs at the earliest. Use of treated wastewater (sewage) for water sprinkling to suppress the road dust for the time being.

(Action: UD&HD, GoB)

- f. UD&HD, GoB. Shall expedite the identification of land for the establishment of a biodiversity park in Ganga front towns and submit a detailed report to the Department of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, GoB for implementation.

(Action: UD&HD, & DoEF&CC, GoB)

- g. Industries Department shall carry out the inventorisation of industries located along the polluted river stretches in Bihar and submit the inventory to BSPCB at the earliest.


(Action: Industry Dept., GoB.)



- h. Panchayati Raj Department, GoB. shall ensure domestic waste water from gram panchayat areas are not discharged into the river.

(Action: Panchayati Raj Dept., GoB.)

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.

  
(Arvind Kumar Chaudhary)  
Principal Secretary,  
DoEF&CC, GoB.