### L-25011(13)/5/2022/NMCG National Mission for Clean Ganga Department of WR, RD&GR Ministry of Jal Shakti

Major Dhyanchand National Stadium Near India Gate, New Delhi Date: 18.04.2024

Subject:- Response of the NMCG in compliance of the Order dated 09.02.2024, passed by the Hon'ble NGT the matter of OA 200/2014- M.C. Mehta vs Union of India & Ors.

Sir,

This is with reference to the above matter before the Hon'ble NGT. The response of the NMCG in compliance of the Order dated 09.02.2024, passed by the Hon'ble NGT is attached herewith. The same may kindly be placed before the Hon'ble NGT for consideration.

2. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Encl: As above

Anup Kumar Srivastava

Your faithfully

Executive Director (Tech)

To

The Registrar,

Hon'ble National Green Tribunal(PB), Copernicus Marg, New Delhi

Copy for information to:

- (1) PPS to the Secretary, DoWR, RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi.
- (2) PS to the DG, NMCG

#### L-25011(13)/5/2022NMCG

#### NATIONAL MISSION FOR CLEAN GANGA

Response of the NMCG in compliance of the order dated 09.02.2024, passed by the Hon'ble NGT in matter of OA 200/2014- M. C. Mehta Vs Union of India & Ors.

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), while considering the aforesaid matter related to prevention, control and abatement of pollution in river Ganga and its tributaries with respect to the State of Uttarakhand, and the reports submitted by the District Magistrates [in the State of Uttarakhand, in its order dated 09.02.2024, has inter-alai directed the NMCG to examine, particularly in context of hill towns, on permitting/discharging treated sewage into streams and rivers subject to standards to be prescribed for maintaining sanctity and wholesomeness as per Water Act, 1974. The funding of NMCG in Ganga States should have due consideration in regard of duly approved Sewage Treatment Facilities and their compliance with discharge standards and clarification on acceptability of septic tanks and soak pit systems particularly for hill towns.

- 2. That, the NMCG has duly examined the issues arising in the implementation of the directions passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal including the compliance of the discharge standards from the Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and to be ensured by the state statutory authorities for the new and existing STPs. In this regard, while the status of the action taken was also placed before the Hon'ble Tribunal on 12.04.2024, in respect of the issues arising in the State of U.P. The NMCG, vide D.O Letters dated 28.03.2024, from the DG, NMCG has invited attention of the Chief Secretaries of all the Ganga Basin State including the State Government of Uttarakhand for the preparation of the District Ganga Plan with short and long term priorities. The attention was also invited to the recent amendment brought out vide Gazette Notification no S.O 137 (E) dated 10.10.2024, in the River Ganga Authorities Order, 2016, for exploring the possibility of the reuse of the treated effluent which is conforming to the stipulated standards. A copy of the D.O letter dated 28.03.2024 addressed to the Chief Secretary State Government of Uttarakhand is attached herewith as Annexure-I
- 3. That in addition, it is submitted that NMCG, vide letter dated 15.04.2024, has brought to the notice of the concerned Chief Secretaries of the State Governments, SPMGs & SMCG about the Gazette notification dated 10.01.2024 with regard to the utilization of the treated sewage and trade effluents which conforms to the norms prescribed under the Act. A copy of the letter dated 15.04.2024 is attached as Annexure-II



- 4. Further, it is submitted that while the State Pollution Control Boards including the Uttarakhand State Pollution Control Board are mandated to ensure the compliance of the effluent discharge standards as prescribed, under the Environment (Protection)Act, 1986, for the Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs), the State Pollution Control Boards are also vested with powers to specify stringent standards depending upon the receiving environment. Therefore, the Uttarakhand State Pollution Control Board, if so advised, is within its right to specify stringent standards, particularly in the hilly towns, to maintain the sanctity of the wholesomeness of the river Ganga and its tributaries.
- 5. With respect to STPs constructed in Uttarakhand, all the STPs which have been funded by NMCG are designed conforming to environmental norms, as directed by Hon'ble NGT. NMCG has funded 54 STPs (219.82 MLD) in the State, and all of them are as per the norms directed by the Hon'ble NGT. Of them, 34 STPs (140.40 MLD) have been completed, and remaining are at various stages of completion.
- 6. That the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) while considering new proposals for the STPs or upgradation of the existing STPs is duly considering such proposal with due diligence and keeping in view the environmental norms directed by the Hon'ble NGT to ensure the safeguards, particularly the quality of water to be maintained in river Ganga and its tributaries.
- 7. That in order to evolve a proper mechanism and methodology, the Authorities Order, 2016, underscore the preparation of the Action Plan district wise by the concerned State Governments. The process is proposing to be further firmed up on receipt of the response from the concerned State Governments

Anup Kumar Srivastava Executive Director(Tech)

बृजेन्द्र स्वरुप, मा. व. से. कार्यकारी निदेशक (परियोजना)

Brijendra Swaroop, IFS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (Projects)



मारत सरकार जल शक्ति मंत्रालय जल संसाधन,

नदी विकास एवं गंगा संरक्षण विभाग GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

DO No:-L-25011(13)/5//2022-LME NMCG

Respected Sir,

Dated:28th March, 2024

I would like to draw your kind attention towards Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, N Delhi, in the matter of OA No. 200/2014 – M. C. Mehta Vs. Union of India &Ors. related to prevention, control and abatement of pollution of river Ganga is presently taking up matter District Ganga Committee (DGC)-wise of Ganga basin States. Last Order in the matter was issued on 09.02.2024 (copy enclosed). In this context, following points are submitted for consideration: -

- 2. (i) In terms of Para 26 of the River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Order dated 07.10.2016, the State Ganga Committee (SGC) being nodal agency in the State has been entrusted, interalia, with preparation of a consolidated report of all District Ganga Committees abutting River Ganga and its tributaries. A few aspects to be captured in the report, as mentioned therein, are as under:
- the status of the plans being executed and measures taken by them and any other activity relating to the health of River Ganga and its tributaries;
- b) the quality of water in River Ganga and its tributaries in each specified District and remedial action in respect thereof;
- remedial measures taken on the complaints made to the District Ganga Committee or local authorities or other authorities;
- d) adverse report as reported by Ganga safety auditors in each specified District; and etc.
  - (ii) Para 57 (1) of the Authorities Order underscore the preparation of Plan district-wise for submission to NMCG for its approval. Sub-Para (2) of this Para further elaborates action (s) to be taken up based on these Plans. NMCG in collaboration with various partners has already prepared 3 Urban River Management Plan (URMP), 4 District Ganga Plans (DGP), and 1 River Basin Management Plan which can serve as a guide for development of further plans;
- 3. Also, NMCG partnering with other agencies is in the process of preparing more numbers of URMPs, DGPs, RBMPs, etc. with a view to taking up corrective/restoration measures in holistic manner. To accelerate this process and extend technical know-how, a draft framework for preparation of DGP has been brought out by the NMCG in July, 2022. Once DGPs are ready, developing short-term as well as long-term strategies to tackle pollution issues depending upon their priorities and availability of fund under various schemes would next step forward.
- 4. NMCG feels that till DGPs are ready for individual districts, a consolidated report by SGC in line with Para 2 above, along with its recommendation (s)/priorities assist all stakeholders to plan and pursue range of activities which are in sync with each other.
- 5. Additionally, Vide Notification on 10.01.2024, an amendment through the insertion of proviso in Para 6 (1) & 6 (2) has been effected by NMCG. The amendment allows the release of treated effluents conforming to stipulated standards into the waterbodies after exploring and exhausting possibilities of reuse. Thus, the main emphasis is placed on promoting and exploring the reuse of treated effluents, first. A copy of the amendment is attached for ready reference.



राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन

प्रथम तल, मेजर ध्यान चंद नेशनल स्टेडियम, इन्डिया गेट, नई दिल्ली-110002 NATIONAL MISSION FOR CLEAN GANGA

1st Floor, Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, India Gate, New Delhi - 110002 Ph. 011-23049534 (M): 9434169208 | E-mail: ed.projects@nmcg.nic.in



In view of position explained above, it is requested that the concerned officials/SPMG/SMCG may be accordingly sensitized and directed to take necessary actions on Para 4 & 5 above urgently. A consolidated report by the SGC, preferably in a month time will help NMCG review the same, and in turn, tailor its planning and activities in terms of the Ganga Authority Notification.

With regards,

Yours sincerely

(Brijendra Swaroop)

Dr. S. S. Sandhu, IAS (1988) Chief Secretary -cum-Chairman SGC, State Government of Uttarakhand 4, Subhash Road Secretariat, Dehradun-248001

REGD. No. D. L.-33004/99

रजिस्ट्री सं. डी.एग:- 33004/99



सी.जी.-डी.एल.-अ.-10012024-251243 CG-DL-E-10012024-251243

#### असाधारण EXTRAORDINARY

भाग II—खण्ड 3—उप-खण्ड (ii) PART II—Section 3—Sub-section (ii)

प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं. 130]

नई दिल्ली, बुधधार, जनवरी 10, 2024/पौष 20, 1945

No. 130]

NEW DELHI, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2024/PAUSHA 20, 1945

### जल शक्ति मंत्रालय (जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण विभाग)

### (राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन)

#### आदेश

नई दिल्ली, 10 जनवरी, 2024

का.आ. 137(च). केंद्र सरकार पर्यावरण (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1986 (1986 का 29) की धारा 3 की उप-धाराओं (2) और (3) द्वारा प्रदत्त शक्तियों का प्रयोग करते हुए एतदद्वारा गंगा नदी (संरक्षण, सुरक्षा और प्रबंधन) प्राधिकरण आदेश, 2016 को संशोधित करने के लिए निम्नलिखित आदेश देती है:-

- (1) इस आदेश को गंगा नदी (संरक्षण, सुरक्षा और प्रबंधन) प्राधिकरण (संशोधन) आदेश, 2024 कहा जाएगा।
   (2) यह आधिकारिक राजपत्र में प्रकाशन की तारीख से लागू होगा।
- 2. गंगा नदी (संरक्षण, सुरक्षा और प्रबंधन) आदेश, 2016 केअनुच्छेद 6 में,-
  - उप-अनुच्छेद (1) में, नियम के बाद, निम्नलिखित नियम डाला जाएगा, अर्थात्ः

"बशर्ते कि राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन अधिनियम के तहत निर्धारित मानवंडों के अनुरूप शोधित सीवेज को कृषि उपयोग, औद्योगिक उपयोग, आदि जैसे उद्देश्यों के लिए इसके सीधे पुन: उपयोग का विकल्प तलाशने के बाद नदी. नहर या जल निकायों में निर्वहन की अनुमति दे।"

- II. उप-अनुच्छेद (2) में, नियम के बाद, निम्नलिखित नियम डाला जाएगा, अर्थात्:
- III. "बशर्ते कि राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन अधिनियम के तहत निर्धारित मानदंडों के अनुरूप शोधित व्यावसायिक अपशिष्ट को कृषि उपयोग, औद्योगिक उपयोग, आदि जैसे उद्देश्यों के लिए इसके सीधे पुन: उपयोग का विकल्प तलाश ने के बाद नदी, नहर या जल निकायों में निर्वहन की अनुमति दे।"

फा. सं. टी-25/2015-16/1154/एनएमसीजी] सत्य प्रकाश वशिष्ठ, कार्यकारी निदेशक (प्रशासन)

नीट: मूल आदेश, भारत के राजपत्र, असाधारण, भाग II, खंड 3, उप-खंड (ii) में अधिसूचना संख्या का.आ. 3187(अ), दिनांक 7 अक्टूबर, 2016 तथा अधिसूचना क्रमांक का.आ.1793(अ), दिनांक 22 मई, 2019 द्वारा संशोधित किया गया था, द्वारा प्रकाशित किया गया था।

#### MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

# (Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation) (NATIONAL MISSION FOR CLEAN GANGA)

#### ORDER

New Delhi, the 10th January, 2024

- S.O. 137(E).—In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-sections (2) and (3) of section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986), the Central Government hereby makes the following order further to amend the River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities Order, 2016, namely:
- 1. (1) This Order may be called the River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities (Amendment) Order, 2024.
  - (2) It shall come into force on the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.
- 2. In the River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities Order, 2016, in paragraph 6,-
  - (i) in sub-paragraph (1), after the proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—
    "Provided further that the National Mission for Clean Ganga maypermit the discharge of treated sewage, which conforms to the norms prescribed under the Act, into the river, canal or water bodies after exploring the option of its direct reuse for purposes such as agricultural use, industrial use, etc.";
  - (ii) in sub-paragraph (2), after the proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:-

"Provided further that the National Mission for Clean Gangamaypermitthe discharge of treated trade effluent, which conforms to the norms prescribed under the Act, into the river, canal or water bodies after exploring the option of its direct reuse for purposes such as agricultural use, industrial use, etc.".

[F. No. T-25/2015-16/1154/NMCG]

SATYA PRAKASH VASHISHTH, Executive Director (Admin)

Note: The principal order was published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii), dated the 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2016, vide notification number S.O. 3187(E), and amended vide notification number S.O. 1793(E), dated the 22<sup>nd</sup>May, 2019.

L-25011(13)/5/2022-LME NMCG-NATIONAL MISSION FOR CLEAN GANGA 2661428/2024/Legal Matters & Enforcement

Item No.03

Court No. 1

#### BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

Original Application No. 200/2014 (IA No. 340/2022, MA No. 872/2018, MA No. 875/2014, & MA No. 480/2018)

M C Mehta

Applicant

Union of India

Respondent

Date of hearing: 09.02,2024

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDHIR AGARWAL, JUDICIAL MEMBER

HON'BLE DR. A. SENTHIL VEL, EXPERT MEMBER

Versus

Applicant:

Ma. Katyayni, Adv. for Applicant

Respondent:

Mr. Kaushal Gautam, AAG with Ms. Suchprest Kaur, Adv. for the State of

Uttarakhand

Mr. Rahul Verma, AAG for SHDCUL [Through VC]

Mr. Mukesh Verma, Adv. of UKPCB Mr. Gigl. C. George, Adv. for NMCG Mr. Raj Kumar, Adv. for CPCB

#### ORDER

- The issue raised in this Original Application is regarding prevention, control and abatement of pollution of river Ganga. The matter is pending since 2014 and numerous orders have been passed from time to time requiring all concerned authorities to make serious attempts and efforts for preventing pollution of river Ganga. We are not giving details of all such numerous orders passed from time to time in the last several years and it only suffice to refer to the order dated 24.11.2023 wherein we find that with regard to the micro-scrutiny of the matter, we required respondents to submit not only state-wise but district-wise information in respect to certain specific items mentioned in the order dated 24.11.2023.
- 2, Relevant extract of the order is reproduced as under:

L-25011(13)/5/2022-LIME NIMCG-NATIONAL MISSION FOR CLEAN GANGA 2661428/2024/Legal Matters & Enforcement

" 2. The issue under consideration in this Original Application is about prevention, control and abatement of pollution of River Ganga. The Tribunal in the previous order dated 05,09,2023 had taken note of the fact that the main stream of river Ganga in Uttarakhand flows from 7 district and its tributaries from 6 Districts thus, there are total 13 districts abating river Ganga or its tributaries. The Tribunal had also taken note of the written submission of the Counsel for the Applicant dividing the entire stretch of River Ganga in State of Uttarakhand in three parts and accordingly had reproduced the issues pointed out by counsel for the applicant for each of the stretch and directed the District Collector, the Ex-Officio Chairman of District Ganga Protection Committee to submit a report and such reports were called from each of the 13 Districts in pursuance to the direction of the Tribunal. The reports have been submitted for district of Nainital, Champawat, Udhamsingh Nagar, Pithoragarh, Tehri, Devpriyag, Chamoli, Haridwar, Pauri Garhwal and Bageshwar and we have gone through those reports. We find that the basic information for proper consideration of the issue have not been disclosed by any of the district. For each of the District with respect to each city/town of the District apart from the other information, following information is required to be disclosed

I. Sewage

- a) Per day generation of sewage in each city/town within the District.
- b) Quantity of sewage treated per day, city/town wise.
- The number of sewage treatment plant existing and their capacity and capacity utilization and mode of disposalin each city/town.
- d) Quantity of discharged treated sewage from each STP, particularly for fecal coliform.
- e) Time bound plan to meet the gap, if any, in generation and treatment of sewage
- f) Details of Hotels, Dharamshala and Ashram operating without proper consent and discharging untreated effluent and the action taken against them.
- g) Water quality in river and its tributaries in abutting districts /towns in terms of fecal coliform (MPN/100ml)

II. Municipal Solid Waste disposal:

- of Per day generation of Solid waste in each city/town within the District.
- b) Quantity of solid waste treated per day, in each city/town of the District.
- c) The gap in treatment of solid waste.
- d) Legacy waste and the time bound plan to treat legacy waste.
- e) The manner of utilization of the treated waste as well as rejects arising out of remediation of legacy waste.
- ff Current status of dumping of solid waste with reference to location.

L-25011(13)/5/2022-LME NMCG-NATIONAL MISSION FOR CLEAN GANGA 2661428/2024/Legal Matters & Enforcement

- 8. In some reports, it is said that water quality of the river is satisfying the norms and such report has been submitted without testing the quality of the sewer at the outlet and what actually has been placed before is the diluted sewer water with river water which is nothing but an attempt to misrepresent the correct facts.
- 9. We are also surprised to see that despite the fact that across the State of Uttarakhand, in various local bodies, untreated sewage is being ultimately discharged in rivers but no preventive, punitive and remedial action has been taken by Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board (UKPCB) and it is staying a silent spectator, forgetting its statutory responsibility. This situation is really alarming and needs to be deprecated by all means.
- 10. Learned Counsel appearing for State of Uttarakhand when questioned that even the timeline for completion of various works mentioned in the chart are generally not provided, said that some further time may be granted. We find that enough opportunity has been given to the concerned authorities but the fact remains that in the last several decades, treatment of sewage meeting the standards prescribed under Water Act has not been resorted to, there is continuous discharge of sewage in the river water causing its pollution and for the decades together, prohibition contained in Section 24 of Water Act, 1974 is being breached with impunity without facing any corresponding legal consequence or action.
- 11. We also find that National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) which has been exclusively assigned with the mandate of rejuvenation of Ganga has perhaps not gone into aspects of intricacles of sewage and solid waste management for hilly terrain, in view of River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities Order, 2016 (hereinafter referred to as 'Ganga Order, 2016') as amended vide River Ganga (Rejuvenation,

L-25011(13)/5/2022-LME NMCG-NATIONAL MISSION FOR CLEAN GANGA 2661428/2024/Legal Matters & Enforcement

quantity of water in streams and rivers is exploited to abuse the conditions. An estimated sewage generation in all 13 districts is estimated to 700 MLD and even 50 percent is not properly treated. Laying of sewers and connectivity of households is unresolved issue. Influx of tourists and pilgrims during the season adds to sewage generation and Hotels and Dharamshala predominantly rely on septic tanks and soak pits.

Above information also shows that in every district and concerned 7 local body, sewage whether municipal, industrial or domestic is being discharged in River Ganga directly or through its tributaries and thereby causing pollution of river water, since, sewage is substantially untreated or partially treated at some places. Continuous discharge of untreated sewage putting polluting matter in the river is not only patently illegal being in violation of provisions of Water Act, 1974 but is also an offence. Section 24 of Water Act, 1974 imposes a complete prohibition upon discharge of polluting material not meeting the prescribed parameters in the river directly or indirectly. However, this violation in all the above districts is continuously being observed with impunity for decades together despite several orders passed by this Tribunal from time to time in the last almost a decade. In other words, we may say that information as noticed above demonstrate that discharge of untreated sewage in violation of Section 24 of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 (hereinafter referred to as Water Act, 1974) is continuous. Proposals for establishment of STP or otherwise treatment of sewage are in the stage of either Detailed Project Report (DPR) preparation or proposal or construction of STP is going on but the fact remains that consistently untreated sewage is ultimately meeting the river and polluting it. The issue of installation /establishment of STP is not being attended with due diligence, expediency and earnestness.

L-25011(13)/5/2022-LME\_NMCG-NATIONAL MISSION\_FOR\_CLEAN\_GANGA 2661428/2024/Legal\_Matters & Enforcement

Protection and Management) Authorities (Amendment) Order 2024 vide notification dated 10.01.2024 (hereinafter referred to as 'Ganga Order, 2024'). NMCG has to be examin, particularly in context of hill towns, on permitting/discharging treated sewage into streams and rivers subject to standards to be prescribed for maintaining sanctity and wholesomeness as per Water Act, 1974. The funding of NMCG in Ganga States should have due consideration in regard of duly approved Sewage Treatment Facilities and their compliance with discharge standards and clarification on acceptability of septic tanks and soak pit systems particularly for hill towns. NMCG is directed to file its response before next date of listing.

- 12. It is really surprising that in the last several decades, situation has not improved and authorities are probably taking the matter with objective to defy the law relating to environment instead of complying the same. There is no earnest effort and endeavor on their part to take effective action in the matter so as to comply with the provisions of environmental laws, particularly, Section 24 of the Water Act, 1974. Scheme of the Act shows that there is complete prohibition of discharge of polluting matter in the river, stream, well, land, etc. by virtue of Section 24 of the Water Act, 1974 and violation, thereof, is an offence under Section 43. Where offender is a company or Department of Government, punitive action has to be taken in the light of the provisions contained in Sections 47 and 48 of Water Act.
- 13. We may also observe that the cognizance can be taken by Magistrate of offence without insisting for sanction under Section 197 Cr.P.C. since Supreme Court in V.C. Chinnappa Goudar vs. Karnataka State Pollution Control Board & Anr., (2015) 14 SCC 535 and Noorulla Khan vs. Karnataka State Pollution Control Board & Anr., (2021) SCC OnLine SC 601 has held that Section 197 is not attracted for offences when prosecution is initiated

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under Water Act, 1974 against the public servants with reference to Sections 47 and 48 of Water Act, 1974.

14. In Noorulla Khan (supra), Supreme Court while referring to Karnataka State Pollution Control Board vs. B. Heera Naik (supra) said that in the context of Section 48 of Water Act, 1974, Commissioner of Municipal Corporation or Chief Officers of Municipal Councils may not strictly be called heads of the departments but such officials would still come under the provisions of Section 47 of Water Act, 1974. The law leid down in Karnataka State Pollution Control Board vs. B. Heera Naik (supra) was summarized in para 11 of judgment in Noorulla Khan (supra) as under:

#### "11. What emerges from these decisions of this Court is:

- a. If the violation of the provisions of the Water Act was at the hands of a Department, subject to the satisfaction of the requirements under Section 48 of the Water Act, "the Head of the Department" would be deemed to be guilty. This would of course be subject to the defences which are available to him to establish whether the offence in question was committed without his knowledge or that he had exercised all due diligence to prevent the commission of such offence.
- b. By virtue of the decision of this Court in V.C. Chinntippa Goudar (Supra), because of deeming fiction under Section 48 of the Water Act, the protection under Section 197 of the Code would not be available and the matter ought to be considered de hors such protection.
- c. If the concerned public servant happens to be a Chief Officer or Commissioner of a Municipal Council or Town Panchayat, he cannot strictly be called "the Head of the Department of the Government". Therefore, in terms of decision of this Court in B. Heera Naik (Supra), the matter would not come under Section 48 of the Water Act. But the matter would come directly under Section 47 of the Water Act. According to said decision, even in such cases, the deeming fiction available under Section 47 of the Water Act would dis-entitle the public servant from the protection under Section 197 of the Code.
- d. If the offenders are other than public servants or where the principal offenders are corporate entities in private sectors, the question of protection under Section 197 would not arise."

#### No. T-25/2015-16/1154/NMCG राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण विभाग (जल शक्ति मंत्रालय)

1st Floor,

Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium India Gate, New Delhi – 110002

Dated: 15 th April 2024

Subject: Amendment to River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection & Management) Authorities Order 2016

This is with reference to River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection & Management Authorities Order 2016, which has been amended vide Amendment Notification dated 10.01.2024, hereinafter called "River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection & Management Authorities (Amendment) Order 2024".

It is hereby requested to kindly take note of the said Amendment Order dated 10.01.2024 (copy annexed) for appropriate action in this regard.

Executive Director (Tech), NMCG

Encl: Copy of Amendment Order dated 10.01.2024

To,

- 1. Chief Secretary, NCT of Delhi/Haryana/Himachal Pradesh/Madhya Pradesh/Chattisgarh/Rajasthan/Bihar
- 2. SPMG Bihar/Jharkhand/ West Bengal & SMCG Uttar Pradesh/Uttarakhand

Copy to:

1. PPS to Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, for kind information please.

Copy for information to:

PS to DG/DDG/ED (Projects)/ED (Admin)/Dir (Tech)/Dir (Projects)/Dir (Coordination)/SWMS, NMCG

रजिस्ट्री सं. डी.एल.- 33004/99



सी.जी.-डी.एल.-अ.-10012024-251243 CG-DL-E-10012024-251243

#### असाधारण EXTRAORDINARY

भाग II—खण्ड 3—उप-खण्ड (ii) PART II—Section 3—Sub-section (ii)

प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं. 130] No. 130] त्तई विल्ली, बुधवार, जनवरी 10, 2024/पौष 20, 1945

NEW DELHI, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2024/PAUSHA 20, 1945

### जल शक्ति मंत्रालय (जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण विभाग)

### (राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन)

#### आदेश

नई दिल्ली, 10 जनवरी, 2024

का.आ. 137(ज).—केंद्र सरकार पर्यावरण (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1986 (1986 का 29) की धारा 3 की उप-धाराओं (2) और (3) द्वारा प्रदत्त शक्तियों का प्रयोग करते हुए एतदद्वारा गंगा नदी (संरक्षण, सुरक्षा और प्रबंधन) प्राधिकरण आदेश, 2016 को संशोधित करने के लिए निम्नलिखित आदेश देती है:-

- 1. (1) इस आदेश को गंगा नदी (संरक्षण, सुरक्षा और प्रबंधन) प्राधिकरण (संशोधन) आदेश, 2024 कहा जाएगा।
  - (2) यह आधिकारिक राजपत्र में प्रकाशन की तारीख से लागू होगा।
- 2. गंगा नदी (संरक्षण, सुरक्षा और प्रबंधन) आदेश, 2016 केअनुच्छेद 6 में,-
  - उप-अनुच्छेद (1) में, नियम के बाद, निम्नलिखित नियम डाला जाएगा, अथित्:

"बशर्ते कि राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन अधिनियम के तहत निर्धारित मानदंडों के अनुरूप शोधित सीवेज को कृषि उपयोग, औद्योगिक उपयोग, आदि जैसे उद्देश्यों के लिए इसके सीधे पुन: उपयोग का विकल्प तलाशने के बाद नदी, नहर या जल निकायों में निर्वहन की अनुमति दे।"

- II. उप-अनुच्छेद (2) में, नियम के बाद, निम्नलिखित नियम डाला जाएगा. अर्थात:
- III. "बशर्ते कि राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन अधिनियम के तहत निर्धारित मानदंडों के अनुरूप शोधित व्यावसायिक अपशिष्ट को कृषि उपयोग, औद्योगिक उपयोग, आदि जैसे उद्देश्यों के लिए इसके सीधे पुन: उपयोग का विकल्प तलाश ने के बाद नदी, नहर या जल निकायों में निर्वहन की अनुमति दे।"

[फा. सं. टी-25/2015-16/1154/एनएमसीजी] सत्य प्रकाश वशिष्ठ, कार्यकारी निदेशक (प्रशासन)

नोद्ध: मूल आदेश, भारत के राजपत्र, असाधारण, भाग II, खंड 3, उप-खंड (ii) में अधिसूचना संख्या का.आ. 3187(अ), दिनांक 7 अक्टूबर, 2016 तथा अधिसूचना क्रमांक का.आ.1793(अ), दिनांक 22 मई, 2019 द्वारा संशोधित किया गया था, द्वारा प्रकाशित किया गया था।

#### MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

(Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation)
(NATIONAL MISSION FOR CLEAN GANGA)

#### ORDER

New Delhi, the 10th January, 2024

- S.O. 137(E).—In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-sections (2) and (3) of section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986), the Central Government hereby makes the following order further to amend the River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities Order, 2016, namely:
- 1. (1) This Order may be called the River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities (Amendment) Order, 2024.
  - (2) It shall come into force on the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.
- 2. In the River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities Order, 2016, in paragraph 6,-
  - (i) in sub-paragraph (1), after the proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—
    "Provided further that the National Mission for Clean Ganga maypermit the discharge of treated sewage, which conforms to the norms prescribed under the Act, into the river, canal or water bodies after exploring the option of its direct reuse for purposes such as agricultural use, industrial use, etc.";
  - (ii) in sub-paragraph (2), after the proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:-

"Provided further that the National Mission for Clean Gangamaypermitthe discharge of treated trade effluent, which conforms to the norms prescribed under the Act, into the river, canal or water bodies after exploring the option of its direct reuse for purposes such as agricultural use, industrial use, etc.".

[F. No. T-25/2015-16/1154/NMCG]

SATYA PRAKASH VASHISHTH, Executive Director (Admin)

Note: The principal order was published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii), dated the 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2016, vide notification number S.O. 3187(E), and amended vide notification number S.O. 1793(E), dated the 22<sup>nd</sup>May, 2019.