

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

Original Application No. 183/2024

News Item titled "**Why 75 % of Delhi's STPs aren't ready to tackle Yamuna stink**" appearing in The Times of India dated 19.02.2024

Date of hearing: 23.02.2024

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRAKASH SHRIVASTAVA, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDHIR AGARWAL, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. A. SENTHIL VEL, EXPERT MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. AFROZ AHMAD, EXPERT MEMBER**

ORDER

1. This Original Application is registered on the basis of the news item titled "**Why 75 % of Delhi's STPs aren't ready to tackle Yamuna stink**" published in 'Times of India' dated 19.02.2024.
2. The news item reveals a very serious issue that the Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) installed by the Delhi Jal Board along the river Yamuna are not functioning as per norms. About 75% have no or insufficient disinfecting equipments. Hence, outlets of STPs have very high coliform and fecal coliform counts. The news item also reveals that the STPs do not have facilities for bacterial disinfection such as chlorination, UV treatment or ozonation inspite of the repeated orders of the NGT. It also discloses that there is a gap of 227 MGD in treatment of sewage.
3. The news item raises substantial issue relating to the compliance of environmental norms and implementation of the provisions of Scheduled enactments.

4. Power of the Tribunal to take up the matter in *suo-motu* has been recognized by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of "*Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai vs. Ankita Sinha & Ors.*" reported in 2021 SCC Online SC 897.

5. Hence, we implead the following as respondents in the matter:

- i. Member Secretary, Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC).
- ii. Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).
- iii. Chief Executive Officer, Delhi Jal Board (DJB).
- iv. Director General, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG).
- v. Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC)

6. Let notice be issued to the above respondents for filing their response at least one week before the next date of hearing.

7. The CPCB is directed to submit the report including the details of performance of STPs in the following format:

Sewage received from	Quantity MLD	Treatment facility available (type of STP) with installed and utilization capacity	Disinfection Method	Quantity of chlorine kg/MLD	Quality of discharge MLD	Electricity consumed by STP per month	Discharge quantity MLD	Water quality at discharge point	Receiving water body	Sludge disposed tons/day	Final Disposal site of Sludge
Through sewerage								All parameter as per EP Rules including Fecal Coliform Total Coliform	Drain		
Drain/ Nalla							Nalla				
Through Septage Tankers							Land				
Other							River				
							Other				

8. In addition to furnishing information for each STP, the details of utilization of treated sewage and timelines set for ensuring treatment of entire sewage generated in Delhi be also disclosed.

9. List on 03.05.2024.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Sudhir Agarwal, JM

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

Dr. Afroz Ahmad, EM

February 23, 2024.
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DV