

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

Application No. 515/2023
(IA No 557/2024, IA No 458/2024)

Ganga Pollution	Applicant
Versus	
State of UP & Ors.	Respondent(s)
With	
Original Application No. 516/2023	
M/s Sundrop Colonizers Pvt. Ltd.	Applicant
Versus	
State of UP & Ors.	Respondent(s)
With	
Original Application No. 517/2023	
Gokul Chandra Sharma & Ors.	Applicant(s)
Versus	
State of UP & Ors.	Respondent(s)
With	
Original Application No. 518/2023 (I.A. No. 06/2024)	
Sri Math (Jagatguru Ramanand Acharya Peeth) & Anr.	Applicant(s)
Versus	
State of UP & Anr.	Respondent(s)
With	
Original Application No. 519/2023	
Smt. Meena Mishra	Applicant
Versus	
State of UP	Respondent
With	

Original Application No. 520/2023

Smt. Vimla Devi

Applicant

Versus

State of UP

Respondent

With

Original Application No. 521/2023

Sarvamangla Adhyatma Yog Vidya Peeth

Applicant

Versus

Union of India & Ors.

Respondent(s)

With

Original Application No. 522/2023

Shri Shri Guruji Tapasthali

Applicant

Versus

State of UP & Ors.

Respondent(s)

With

Original Application No. 523/2023

Vinod Kumar Pandey

Applicant

Versus

State of UP & Ors.

Respondent(s)

With

Original Application No. 524/2023

Ram Rekha Jaiswal

Applicant

Versus

State of UP & Ors.

Respondent(s)

With

Original Application No. 525/2023

Pt. Ram Chandra Sharma

Applicant

Versus

State of UP & Ors.

Respondent(s)

With

Original Application No. 526/2023
(I.A. No.288/2024)

Ganga Sewa Abhiyan & Ors. Applicant(s)

Versus

Union of India & Ors. Respondent(s)

With

Original Application No. 527/2023
(I.A. Nos.296/2024 & 297/2024)

Kautilya Society & Anr. Applicant(s)

Versus

State of Uttar Pradesh & Ors. Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 24.09.2025

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRAKASH SHRIVASTAVA, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE DR. A. SENTHIL VEL, EXPERT MEMBER**

Applicant: Mr. Amit Upadhyay, Adv. for Applicant in OA 515/2023 (Through VC)
Mr. Manoj Kumar Singh, Adv. for Applicant in OA 518/2023 (Through VC)
Ms. Mani Munjal & Mr. Parth Yadav, Advs. for Applicant in OA 526/2023 (Through VC)

Respondent: Mr. Bhanwar Pal Singh Jadon, Ms. Gargi Chaturvedi, Ms. Anjali Sharma & Mr. Shivansh Sharma, Advs. for the State of UP
Mr. Sumeer Sodhi & Ms. Vanshika Jhamb, Advs. for R - 26 in OA 515/2023
Mr. Pradeep Misra & Mr. Daleep Dhyani, Advs. for UPPCB (Through VC)
Mr. Vikrant Pachnanda, Adv. for MoEF & CC in OA 515, 526 & 527/2023 (Through VC)
Mr. Ranjit Kumar, proxy counsel for Mr. Gigi. C. George, Adv. for NMCG & Harish Chandra Institute
Mr. Amit Tiwari & Mr. Chetanya Puri, Advs. for Varanasi Development Authority in OA 527/2023
Mr. Atif Suhrawardy, Adv. for CPCB in OA 515 & 526/2023
Mr. Kunal Singh, Adv. for R - 11 (Through VC)
Mr. Rajneesh Sharma, Mr. Muneeb A. Khan, Mr. Mohd. Osama & Mr. Abdul Ahad, Advs in I.A No. 296-297/2024
Mr. Shrish Chandra, Adv. in I.A. 288/2024 (Through VC)
Mr. Adarsh Kumar Tiwari, Adv. for R - 25 (Through VC)
Mr. Ajay Kumar Singh & Mr. Rohit Amit Sthalekar, Advs. for R - 6 to 8 in OA 527/2023

ORDER

1. Learned Counsel appearing for State of Uttar Pradesh seeks two weeks' time to file the reply to IA No. 458/2024.
2. Learned Counsel appearing for Varanasi Development Authority seeks two weeks' time to file the reply to IA No. 296/2024 & I.A. No. 297/2024.

3. Learned Counsel for the applicant in IA No. 288/2024 filed in OA No. 526/2024 has pressed this IA.

4. Learned Counsel for Prayagraj Development Authority has sought time to file the reply but no such reply has been filed and no one is present for Prayagraj Development Authority today. It has been pointed out that Prayagraj Development Authority is the contesting respondent in this IA. In such circumstances, we direct the Vice-Chairman of Prayagraj Development Authority to either appear virtually on the next date of hearing and assist the Tribunal or appear through some duly instructed advocate in the matter. If the reply to the IA has not been filed the same will also be filed within two weeks.

5. In respect of the main issue involved in this original applications, further report on behalf of Chief Engineer, Sone, Irrigation and Water Resources, Department dated 23.09.2025 has been filed disclosing the status of delineation and demarcation of flood plain zones of river Ganga and its tributaries. The progress reflected in the report is as under:-

“II STATUS OF THE TRIBUTARIES

5. *That in compliance of the above directions, it is pertinent to state that the progress of 24 rivers (Ganga + its 23 tributaries) has been examined. Out of these, the flood plain zone delineation of certain rivers, namely Ganga (Segment B Phase-1), Yamuna, Suvav, and Solani, has already been completed in accordance with the directions passed in O.A. No. 200/2014, O.A. No. 673/2018, O.A. No. 433/2022 and O.A. No. 632/2022 respectively based on the 100 years return period in strict compliance of the Ganga Rejuvenation Order, 2016. That for these rivers the Government Orders notifying the flood plain zone have been issued.*

Copies of the Government Orders has been annexed herewith as
ANNEXURE R-1.

6. *That the status of the flood plain zone delineation of the tributaries of the river Ganga in the State of Uttar Pradesh has been compiled in a tabular format:*

S. No.	Name of River	Chief Engineer Concerned with Flood Plain Zone Delineation	Stretch	Reference of Hon'ble NGT O.A.	Final Date for Completion of Flood Plain Zone Delineation
1	Ganga (Segment B Phase-1)	Chief Engineer, Ganga	Bijnor to Kanpur	200/2014	Completed
	Ganga (Segment B Phase-2)	Chief Engineer, Information System Organization	Unnao to Ballia	200/2014	Completed
2	Yamuna	Chief Engineer, Ramganga	Asgarpur to Etawah and Shahpur to Prayagraj	673/2018	Completed
3	Kali (East)	Chief Engineer, Ganga	Muzaffarnagar to Gulawathi	673/2018	In Progress
4	Varuna	Chief Engineer, Son	Rameshwar to Varanasi	673/2018, 483/2022	In Progress
5	Hindon	Chief Engineer, Yamuna	Saharanpur to Ghaziabad	673/2018	In Progress
6	Gomti	Chief Engineer, Sharda Sahayak	Sitapur to Varanasi	673/2018	31.03.2027
7	Ramganga	Chief Engineer, Eastern Ganga	Moradabad to Kannauj	673/2018	June 2026
8	Betwa	Chief Engineer, Betwa	Hamirpur to Vagpura	673/2018	Under Process
9	Ghaghra	Chief Engineer, Gandak	Barhalganj to Deoria	673/2018	In Progress
10	Rapti	Chief Engineer, Gandak	Domingarh to Rajghat	673/2018	In Progress
11	Sai	Chief Engineer, Sharda Sahayak	Unnao to Jaunpur	673/2018	31.03.2027
12	Saryu	Chief Engineer, Gandak / Sharda Sahayak	Ayodhya to Ilfatganj	673/2018	31.03.2027
13	Suvav	Chief Engineer, Saryu-2	Entire Length	433/2022	Completed
14.	Tedhi	Chief Engineer, Saryu-1	Chittora Lake to Lolpur Vikamajot	402/2024	In Progress
15	Budhi Ganga	Chief Engineer, Ganga	Chausana Village to Khwajapura	511/2023	In Progress
16	Solani	Chief Engineer, Ganga	Saharanpur to Muzaffarnagar	632/2022	Completed
17	Khokhri	Chief Engineer, Yamuna	Dongri Dam to confluence with Sindh River	201/2024	In Progress
18	Pandu	Chief Engineer, Ramganga	Entire Length	985/2019	In Progress
19	Noon	Chief Engineer, Ramganga	Entire Length	985/2019	In Progress
20	Sengur	Chief Engineer, Ramganga	Entire Length	985/2019	In Progress
21	Assi	Chief Engineer, Son	Entire Length	483/2022	In Progress

S. No.	Name of River	Chief Engineer Concerned with Flood Plain Zone Delineation	Stretch	Reference of Hon'ble NGT O.A.	Final Date for Completion of Flood Plain Zone Delineation
22	Ishan	Chief Engineer, Ramganga	Entire Length	515/2023	In Progress
23	Kali (West)	Chief Engineer, Ganga	Entire Length	515/2023	In Progress
24	Krishni	Chief Engineer, Ganga	Entire Length	515/2023	In Progress

III. STATUS OF PHYSICAL DEMARCATION OF THE RIVER GANGA

7. That the process of physical demarcation of the River Ganga (Segment B Phase-1), i.e. Bijnor to Kapur has been completed in the matter of M.C. Mehta Vs Union of India & Ors. [OA 200 OF 2014] in consonance with the Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities Order, 2016. That the process of physical demarcation of the River Ganga (Segment B Phase-2) i.e. Unnao to Ballia is presently underway and shall be completed by 31.03.2026.

IV. STATUS OF THE PHYSICAL DEMARCATION OF THE TRIBUTARIES

8. That with regard to Kali (East) [O.A. No. 673/2018], Varuna [O.A. Nos. 673/2018 and 483/2022], Hindon [O.A. No. 673/2018], Ghaghra [O.A. No. 673/2018], Rapti [O.A. No. 673/2018], Budhi Ganga [O.A. No. 511/2023], Khokhri [O.A. No. 201/2024], Pandu [O.A. No. 985/2019], Noon Sengur [O.A. No. 985/2019], Assi [O.A. No. 483/2022 read with O.A. No. 985/2019], Ishan [O.A. No. 515/2023], Kali (West) [O.A. No. 515/2023], and Krishni [O.A. No. 515/2023], the work of delineation of flood plain zone is still ongoing. The matters are pending consideration before the Hon'ble Tribunal, and periodic progress reports are being submitted by the departments.
9. That in the case of Gomti [O.A. No. 673/2018], Sai [O.A. No. 673/2018], and Saryu [O.A. No. 673/2018], specific deadlines for delineation have been prescribed, i.e., 31.03.2027, for the completion of the exercise. Similarly, in the case of Ramganga [O.A. No. 673/2018], the deadline for completion of delineation has been fixed as June 2026. The work is under active progress, and directions of the Hon'ble Tribunal are being complied with.
10. That in respect of Betwa [O.A. No. 673/2018], the work of delineation is presently under process and the matter remains pending before the Hon'ble Tribunal. Likewise, in the case of Tedhi [O.A. No. 402/2024], the exercise of the delineation of the floodplain zone is underway.

11. That with respect to the River Solani, a further progress report dt. 21.05.2025 has been filed on behalf of the Deponent in the matter of V.K. Tyagi Vs State of Uttarakhand [OA 632 OF 2022] stating that the physical demarcation of the said river has been completed. That the photographs of the pillars have been attached with the said report.

A Copy of the report dt. 21.05.2025 has been annexed herewith as ANNEXURE R-3.

V. STATUS OF THE PHYSICATION DEMARCATION OF THE RIVER YAMUNA

12. That with respect to river Yamuna, it is respectfully submitted that the work of identification and delineation of its flood plain zone has been completed, as already stated above. That the matter relating to the physical demarcation of the floodplain zone of river Yamuna is presently pending before the Hon'ble Tribunal in Sharad Gupta vs. State of U.P. & Ors. (O.A. No. 316 of 2022). That in the said matter, Central Water Commission is a party and in compliance of the Hon'ble Tribunal's directions, a report dated 29.11.2024 was submitted by the Central Water Commission (CWC) regarding the flood plain zone demarcation of the river Yamuna from Asgarpur to Prayagraj. Subsequently, an additional reply dated 28.08.2024 was filed on behalf of CWC, elaborating upon the detailed steps undertaken for demarcation and identification of the flood plain zone.

A Copy of the Order dt. 11.09.2024 in OA 316/2024 has been annexed herewith as ANNEXURE R-3.

A Copy of the CWC report dt. 29.11.2024 has been annexed herewith as ANNEXURE R-4.

13. That the abovementioned matter, in compliance with the Hon'ble Tribunal's order dated 11.09.2024, the following significant steps were undertaken:

- The coordinates (Latitude & Longitude) of the flood plain zone of river Yamuna, covering the stretches from Asgarpur to Etawah and Shahpur to Prayagraj, were provided by CWC to the Irrigation and Water Resources Department on 21.11.2024 by e-mail.

Copy of the document of Geo-coordinates has been annexed herewith as ANNEXURE R-5.

- On receipt of the said final report, Ground Truth Verification was carried out block-wise in the districts falling between Asgarpur to Etawah and Shahpur to Prayagraj, and the exercise was completed by 05.12.2024 by the Irrigation Department.

14. That based on the proposal of the Chief Engineer and Head of Department, Irrigation and Water Resources, and using the CWC-provided coordinates, 17 districts have been duly notified as forming part of the flood plain zone.

15. In pursuance of the same, the requisite notification regarding identification and delineation of the flood plain zone of the critical

stretch of river Yamuna (Asgarpur to Etawah and Shahpur to Prayagraj) was formally issued by the State Government vide Letter No. 685/2024/45NGT/2024-27-C-4-11(Writ)(NGT)/2019 dated 21.12.2024. A copy of the letter dt. 21.12.2024 has been annexed as ANNEXURE R-6.

16. *That it is further pertinent to state that the affidavit dated 29.07.2025 filed on behalf of the Principal Secretary, Irrigation and Water Resources Department, Government of U.P., records the fact that the delineation of the flood plain zone of river Yamuna from Asgarpur to Prayagraj, based on a 100-year return period, has been completed in accordance with the Ganga Rejuvenation Order, 2016. In addition, vide letter dated 28.07.2025, the Chief Engineer (Ramganga), Irrigation and Water Resources Department, Kanpur, communicated to the Chief Engineer (Water Resources), Irrigation and Water Resources Department, Lucknow, a point-wise compliance narrative indicating that:*

- The delineation has been completed.*
- The project has been formulated and duly approved by the Chief Engineer Committee.*
- The estimation work is under progress.*
- A progress report has also been enclosed, showing the district-wise status of pillar fixation, with a cumulative target of 21,582 pillars, which is to be achieved up to March 2026.*

A Copy of the letter dt. 28.07.2025 has been annexed herewith as ANNEXURE A-7.”

6. Chief Engineer, Irrigation, Water Resources Department is directed to file further progress report atleast one week before the next date of hearing.

7. List on 19.12.2025.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

September 24, 2025
Original Application No. 515/2023
And connected OAs.
JG.