

**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

Versus

Union of India & Ors.

Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 02.05.2024

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

Applicant: Ms. Katyayni, Adv. for Applicant

Respondent: Mr. Gigi. C. George, Adv. for NMCG
Ms. Madhumita Bhattacharjee, Adv. for the State of West Bengal

ORDER

1. Tribunal in the previous order dated 21.02.2024 in paragraph 10 had required the State of West Bengal to give the specific information by filing a report mentioned in that paragraph to the following effect:-

“10. Having regard to nature of reports which have been submitted before us, we now require the District Magistrates (Chairmen of District Ganga Committees) of each of nine districts from where main River Ganga is flowing in West Bengal to file their affidavits disclosing the timeline for achieving the target of 100% treatment of sewage generated per day and also the phase manner in which the target will be achieved. In the affidavits, the District Magistrates will also disclose the manner and extent of utilization of funds received from NMCG and utilization of the amount credited in ring-fenced account. The District Magistrates will also disclose the steps which have been taken for demarcation of floodplain zones of River Ganga within their districts. The requisite

information in respect of all the districts under the heads and sub-heads already disclosed by the Tribunal in the order dated 24.11.2023 be filed.”

2. No such report has been filed by State of West Bengal.

3. Learned Counsel appearing for State of West Bengal submits that a letter has been circulated seeking adjournment on the ground that officers of the State are busy in the Parliamentary Election but no such letter of adjournment is on record.

4. National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has filed the response in terms of the previous order reflecting the status of STPs in 29 districts and sanctioned cost of the same as under:

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SI No.	District	Name of the project	Sanctioned Cost (Rs. In Cr.)	STP Capacity (MLD)	Sewer Network (Km)	Status
1	Nadia	Sewerage Scheme & STP works at Gayeshpur	168.67	8.23	61	Completed
2	Nadia	Sewerage Scheme & STP works at Kalyani	57.87	21	46.33	Completed
3	North 24 Parganas	Sewerage Scheme & STP works at Bhatpara	228.52	31	125	Completed
4	North 24 Parganas	Sewerage System & STP works at Halishahr	332.56	16	226.99	Completed
5	South 24 Parganas	Sewerage System & STP works at Budge-Budge	225.45	9.3	131.59	Completed
6	North 24 Parganas	Sewerage System with STP at Barrackpore	341.68	24	247.14	Completed
7	North 24 Parganas	I&D including Lock Gate and it's appurtenant structures at Barrackpore Municipality, West Bengal structure	0.93	0	0	Completed
8	Nadia	I&D & treatment work at Nabadwip	54.30	20	4	Completed
9	North 24 Parganas	I&D and STP works at Kanchrapara	48.77	18	2.5	Completed

10	North Parganas	24	Rejuvenation of 7 nos. Existing STPs along with lifting station & pumping station including sewerage network at North 24 Parganas Dist.	65.54	46.24	0	Completed
11	Hooghly		Rejuvenation of 8 nos. exiting STPs along with lifting station & pumping station including sewerage network at Hooghly Dist.	86.61	78.9	0	Completed
			Total	1610.90	272.67	844.55	
12	Howrah		I&D with STP at Bally (HAM)	595.72	62	0	Work in progress. To be completed in Sep 2024
13	North Parganas	24	I&D with STP at Baranagar & Kamarhati (HAM)		60	9	
14	Howrah		I&D with STP at Howrah (HAM)		65	0	
15	Murshidabad		I&D with STP at Berhampore	51.20	3.5	5.25	Work in progress. To be completed in Sep 2024
16	Murshidabad		I&D with STP at Jangipur	68.47	13	11.38	Work in progress. To be completed in Sep 2024
17	South 24 Parganas		I&D with STP at Maheshtala(HAM)	273.53	35	6.38	Work in progress. To be completed in Sep 2024
18	Hooghly		I&D with STP at Hoogli- Chinsurah (HAM)	154.73	26.50	20	Work in progress. To be completed in Sep 2024
19	North Parganas	24	North Barrackpore municipality (Interception & Diversion with STP), West Bengal	214.78	38	10.35	Work in progress. To be completed in June-25
20	Nadia		I&D with STP at Chakdah	121.66	15	9.45	Work in progress. To be completed in June-25

21	Kolkata	I&D with STP at Tolly's Nullah (Adi Ganga)	653.67	25.10	49.50	Under tendering
22	Kolkata	Upgradation of Keorapukur STP, 50 MLD capacity including 15 years O&M	67.06	50	0	Under tendering
23	Kolkata	I&D with STP at Garden Reach	289.02	65	0	Under tendering
24	Nadia	I&D with STP at Krishnanagar	91.88	14	6.80	Under tendering
25	Hooghly	Bansberia FSTP works	4.56	0.02	0	Under tendering
26	Kolkata	Installation of New Penstock/constructi on of I & D structures Gates and Refurbishment of Existing Gates/I & D structures along the Bank (Eastern & Western) of Beliaghata Circular Canal	4.23			Under tendering
27	Paschim Bardhaman	I&D works with STP, for drains falling in River Damodar, at Durgapur	287.53	80	11.39	State has to revise the DPR due to change of scope.
28	Paschim Bardhaman	Detailed Project Report for I&D sewerage system & STP for Asansol & Kulti towns	384.96	95	4.50	
29	Purba Bardhaman	Burdwan FSTP works, West Bengal	6.46	0.50	0	State has to revise the DPR based on latest SOR.
		Grand Total	4880.40	920.29	988.55	

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5. Above chart discloses that approximately Rs. 5000 crores have been sanctioned for 29 sewerage infrastructure projects to create treatment facility of 920 MLD of sewage. Out of 29 STP and sewer network work, only 11 are stated to be complete in the district of Nadia, North 24 Parganas, South 24 Parganas and Hooghly but, it is not

disclosed as to how many STPs are operational and out of these 11 STPs also we find that STP's at serial numbers 7,10 and 11 are not connected with the sewer network. It is stated that out of 2758 MLD of sewage generation, treatment facilities exist for 1430 MLD. However, no details are provided about number of existing STPs and their performance. The report is also deficient in providing status of number of drains carrying sewage/sullage and their direct confluence with Ganga and its tributaries.

6. As per the CPCB's August-November data (2023) available in public domain, there are 42 STPs in 29 towns with designed capacity of 693.6 MLD with their utilization capacity of 247.5 MLD. Out of 42, 30 operational STPs were monitored and 25 were found to be non-compliant. Further, as per CPCB there were 104 drains monitored during pre and post monsoon period joining river Ganga.

7. In view of the above, NMCG is directed to disclose the steps taken by it for monitoring the utilization of the funds allocated to above projects and providing details of existing STPs and interception of drains.

8. Hence, we accept the prayer for grant of time made by Counsel for State of West Bengal for filing fresh report with the direction that consolidated district wise report be filed giving number and details of operational STPs in the State and water quality analysis of treated water discharge from those STPs, water quality of river Ganga and its tributaries.

9. Hence, fresh report be filed within a period of four weeks by e-mail at judicial-ngt@gov.in preferably in the form of searchable PDF/ OCR Support PDF and not in the form of Image PDF.

10. List on 12.08.2024.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Sudhir Agarwal, JM

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

May 02, 2024
Original Application No. 200/2014
JG.