

Item No.04

Court No. 1

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

(BY HYBRID MODE)

Original Application No.348/2021

Pradeep Kumar & Anr.

Applicant(s)

Versus

Union of India & Ors.

Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 08.08.2023

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SHEO KUMAR SINGH, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR TYAGI, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. A. SENTHIL VEL, EXPERT MEMBER**

Applicant: Mr. Akash Vashishtha, Advocate

Respondent: Mr. Atif Suhrawardy, Advocate for CPCB
Mr. Daleep Dhyani, Advocate for UPPCB

ORDER

1. The issue raised in this application is violation of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and discharge of sewage on open lands and roads, internal lanes and the storm water drains in 93 villages of Greater Noida.
2. A report was called from a joint Committee and the matter was discussed vide order dated 03.08.2022 and it was observed:

“xxxxxx.....xxx

8. *It is seen that the observations in the inspection reports are not fully reflected in the main report. The report shows that the grey water is flowing into the drains but the inspection report further show that the sewage is overflowing into the drains and going to the ponds which fact is not mentioned in the main report. The recommendations however show that proper drainage system needs to be ensured to prevent overflow of sewage upto the natural ponds. Ponds need to be protected and kept free from pollution. As recommended, decentralized system of sewage system needs to be followed and treated water waste stored in ponds for proper landscaping. The interception of storm water drain is required so that sewage goes into the sewerage system. It does appear that existing sewerage network for 80 villages is inadequate as there are*

only 16 fecal sludge receiving points. The suggestion that there has to be atleast one sludge receiving point in each village needs to be explored. Decentralized system of sewerage in villages needs to be set up. Septage management needs to be monitored by designated authorities/ statutory regulators.

9. *Though as evident from Annexure III all villages have been provided with internal drainages but are yet to be connected to main sewer line which ultimately has to reach established 174 MLD STP. We further find that only 110-120 MLD is treated against the 174 MLD installed capacity. It is utmost necessary that all households and other establishments are connected to sewers to make use of laid sewer line otherwise, it will remain defunct. No waste water be allowed to go into pond and within three months, the ponds in question be remediated and water quality be improved.*
10. *Sanitation and proper hygiene in villages is imperative for clean environment and protection of public health in terms of Article 243W read with Schedule XXII to the Constitution. It is a matter of common knowledge that 93 villages in question adjoining Greater NOIDA are practically part of urban area. Sewerage systems need to be upgraded and if necessary appropriate charges can be collected online or otherwise from the inhabitants. The area is notified under the U.P. Industrial Development Act, 1976 whereunder Greater NOIDA Authority has been constituted. The joint Committee already constituted needs to further monitor compliance to ensure that there is no overflow of sewage in the drains and the same is not discharged into water bodies – ponds/drains. The same must be scientifically managed either in STP or by traditional water treatment facilities, to be duly approved and monitored by the authorities keeping in mind the need for hygiene and public health. The treated sewage water needs to be duly utilized for non-potable purposes – agriculture, washing of roads and other such purposes. In the interest of public health, the residents may be persuaded to have sewage connections and the authorities may explore levying charges against all the residents so that connections are not be avoided for saving the charges. ...”*

3. The Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority (GNIDA) has submitted action taken report with the proposal that the authority is providing sewerage connection free of cost but the persons residing there do not cooperate due to their personal reasons. It is further submitted that the authority has ensured availability of around 35 de-sludging

vehicles and call centers to attending the related issues and further ensure that the connectivity of sewer line with the STP may be done upto 2027. The problem being faced by the authorities as stated by the learned Counsel is that house owners are reluctant to take sewer connections. Out of 10127 houses, only 2087 applications have been received for sewer connection. In the last three months the authority has provided 1458 connections and has achieved the target in 8 villages, while rest of 35 villages are under process to connect with the STPs.

4. Learned Counsel for the respondents sought short time and submitted that 100% connectivity shall be done within time frame say within five years.

5. Further action taken report be submitted to this Tribunal by the GNIDA within three months 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. It may be ensured that the treated sewage water needs to be duly utilized for non-potable purposes, agricultural, washing of roads and other such purposes. In the interest of public health, the residents may be persuaded to have sewerage connections and the authorities may explore levying charges against the services done. Efforts should be made to complete the work within a time bound manner.

6. Put up with the latest action taken report on 03.11.2023.

Sheo Kumar Singh, CP

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

August 08, 2023
Original Application No.348/2021
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