

Minutes of 6th meeting of the Executing Committee held with the Punjab State Government at 11 AM on 15/11/2018 at 'Conference Hall, Punjab State Council for Science and Technology, Mahatma Gandhi State Institute of Public Administration (MGSIPA) Complex, Sector-26, Chandigarh' under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Justice Pritam Pal, Former Judge, Punjab & Haryana Court, for ensuring compliance to the Hon'ble NGT order dated 7/8/2018 in matter of OA No. 139 of 2016 titled Stench Grips Mansa's Sacred Ghaggar River (Suo Motu Case) And Yogender Kumar.

6th meeting of Executing Committee was held with the officials of Punjab State Government at 11 AM on 15.11.2018 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Justice Pritam Pal, Former Judge, Punjab & Haryana Court for ensuring compliance to the Hon'ble NGT order dated 7/8/2018 in matter of OA No. 139 of 2016 titled Stench Grips Mansa's Sacred Ghaggar River (Suo Motu Case) And Yogender Kumar. The list of Officials, who attended the meeting is enclosed as **Annexure-I**.

At the outset, Sh. Krunesh Garg, Member Secretary, Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB) welcomed the Chairman and Members of the Executing Committee as well as Officials of other Departments of Punjab Government. After a brief introduction of the officials present in the meeting, the Hon'ble Chairman of the Executing Committee informed that the Executing Committee has visited the whole stretch of River Ghaggar recently and observed that the quality of water flowing in River Ghaggar is not of good quality and hence, all the stakeholder departments are required to take immediate necessary action to improve upon the quality of River Ghaggar. He also highlighted the seriousness of the issue and urged officials to perform the duties seriously. He also stated that maintaining wholesomeness of the water of River Ghaggar is an auspicious work. effective enforcement of provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 on the aspects related to industrial effluent and sewage as well as solid waste management. Action must be taken against the violators. He urged all the officials of Punjab State Government departments to comply with the orders of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Principal Bench, New Delhi in letter and spirit, so that there should be visible improvement in the quality of River Ghaggar. The Chairman also informed that the law violators should be punished as per the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. Thereafter, the agenda were discussed and the details in this regard are given in the subsequent paras:

1. Additional Secretary, Department of Science, Technology and Environment informed that the State Level Task Force and District Level Special Task Forces have been constituted by the Govt. on 14/11/2018 and a copy of the same was handed over to the Chairman and Members of the Hon'ble the Committee.
2. Er. S. S. Matharu, Environmental Engineer, PPCB gave a detailed power point presentation on the action taken w.r.to the compliance of decisions of earlier

meetings of the Executing Committee. The point-wise compliance was presented as under:

- A link has been provided on Board's website i.e. www.ppcb.gov.in at home page under the sub head 'Executing Committee for River Ghaggar' of the head 'Focus Area' for uploading the details/ data of the Executing Committee. Proceedings of all the five meetings of the Executing Committee have been uploaded on the website including the orders dated 7/8/2018 passed by the Hon'ble NGT, draft Action Plan, proceedings of the meeting taken by MS, PPCB with various stakeholder departments. Also, other activities related to the project are being uploaded on the website from time to time.
- PPCB has already identified all the water polluting industries located in the catchment area of River Ghaggar. The Board has not allowed any industry to discharge its treated/ untreated wastewater into River Ghaggar directly/ indirectly. The Board has also identified all the industries located in the catchment area of River Ghaggar and a list of the same will shortly be provided to the Executing Committee for carrying out random inspections.
- All the industries located in the catchment of river Ghaggar have installed captive effluent treatment plants as under:
 - Pharmaceutical units have adopted ZLD based treatment systems.
 - One no. distillery have adopted ZLD based treatment system and the second distillery (Patiala Distillers & Manufacturers Ltd.) has although installed effluent treatment and is presently utilizing treated wastewater onto land for plantation. However, the same is in the process of installing ZLD based treatment system which is likely to be commissioned by 31/12/2018.
 - Both the Paper Board Mills have installed necessary treatment systems to re-circulate the entire process.
 - All the electroplating units are getting their effluent lifted to CETP at Ludhiana.
 - All the remaining water polluting industries are having their own treatment plants and are discharging their treated effluent onto land for irrigation.
- Regarding preparation of Action Plan to Control Pollution in River Ghaggar, a meeting was taken by MS, PPCB with all the concerned departments on 3/10/2018. Thereafter, the concerned departments have sent their inputs/ information. Now, the Board has prepared the draft Action Plan after incorporating the inputs/

information of the concerned departments and the same has been sent to the Punjab Govt. for its approval.

- The Board has written a letter to the Department of Science, Technology and Environment, Chandigarh on 31/10/2018 to take up matter with the Director, Health and Family Welfare, Punjab to organize health camps in the habitation areas located along the stretch of River Ghaggar.
- The main activities related to Punjab Pollution Control Board as per draft Action Plan were explained as under:

Activity	Target Date
Closely monitoring of the industries located in the catchment area of River Ghaggar during odd hours.	Continuous activity
Pursuing of screening plants located at Mubarikpur to devise a mechanism for 100% recirculation of the wastewater generated from the washing of river bed material.	31/3/2019
To ensure installation of ZLD treatment system by M/s Patiala Distillers and Manufactures, Vill. Main, Distt. Patiala	31/12/2018
Identification of the new industries discharging their wastewater into River Ghaggar.	Continuous activity
To ensure installation of treatment system in the paper mills as per protocol of CPCB for the industries located in Ganga Basin so as to achieve fresh water consumption and wastewater discharge to the tune of 15 KL/ Tonne of paper production and 10 KL/ Tonne of paper production respectively.	31/3/2019
Regular monitoring of ETPs installed by the industries falling in the catchment area of River Ghaggar.	Continuous activity
Monitoring of quality of water of River Ghaggar and the drains contributing to the river Ghaggar pollution	Monthly basis

3. Er. V.K Garg, Chief Engineer, Punjab Water Supply and Sewerage Board submitted the details pertaining to the number of towns falling in the catchment area of River Ghaggar, total water consumption, total wastewater generation and total no. of STP's installed in the Towns/ Cities located in the catchment area of River Ghaggar. He also informed that at present total 19 STP's are in operation, out of which 15 is being looked after by the Punjab Water Supply & Sewerage Board (PWSSB). 9 STPs are under construction and 5 are under planning stage with the department. To the query of Shri J.Chandra Babu, Member of Executing Committee with regard to installation of Electromagnetic Flow Meters with all the tube wells, the Chief Engineer informed that Electromagnetic Flow Meter has not been provided on tube wells. He further informed that the quantity of waster drawn from tube wells is calculated on the basis of running hours of tube wells/ no. of hours pumping of water and the capacity of overhead tanks and also the department is not having sufficient funds at present for providing the Electromagnetic Flow Meters. The Hon'ble Members of the Committee desired that the department should prepare Action Plans which should also include the following as given in subsequent paras:-

- a) *Installation of Electromagnetic Flow Meters to all the tube wells which are used as water supply sources.*
 - b) *Installation of CCTV cameras at the bye-pass system provided at all the STPs, which are in operation.*
 - c) *Making provisions for providing holding tank of adequate capacity or standby arrangement in the design of STPs, for holding the untreated wastewater for at least two days in the event of maintenance of the STP.*
 - d) *For upgradation in the technology of the existing STPs, which are based on old technology, if required.*
 - e) *Water quality of all the tube wells presently supplying water by the Punjab Water Supply and Sewerage Board be provided to the Committee.*
4. Er. Mandeep Singh, Executive Engineer, Horticulture, GMADA informed that two STPs have been installed by GMADA i.e. one at Lalru which is in operation and the other is at Dera Bassi, which is ready for commissioning. He assured to send data/information pertaining to the other actions, which are required to be taken by the department to control pollution in River Ghaggar, within a week time.
5. Sh. Jaskiran Singh, Director, Department of Rural Development and Panchayats informed that there are total 75 villages in District Patiala, 61 villages in District Sangrur and 07 in District SAS Nagar, which are discharging their sullage/wastewater in the River Ghaggar. The Gram Panchayats have been dissolved in July, 2018 after completion of their 5-years terms. The elections of the Gram Panchayat are expected in the month of December, 2018. The project regarding finalization of technology for treatment of wastewater of the villages, which are discharging their wastewater into River Ghaggar either directly or indirectly is being undertaken by Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology, Patiala and once the report is received, the necessary steps will be taken. *The members of the Committee desired that while deciding the technology to treat the wastewater, the advice of Punjab Pollution Control Board may also be taken.*
6. Sh. R.P Gupta, Superintending Engineer, Department of Water Supply and Sanitation informed that the Department is supplying the drinking water in rural areas and there are total 200 tube wells installed by the department in catchment areas of River Ghaggar. The analysis of samples of drinking water is carried out by them and has found the concentration of Fluoride in the range of 0.1 to 9 mg/l which is beyond the permissible limits of 1.5 mg/l. *The Hon'ble Committee members requested to submit the action plan with regard to the measures which must be adopted for providing potable water supply to the public residing in the rural areas.*

7. Sh. Dharminder Sharma, Chief Conservator of Soil informed that the Department is executing the projects for utilization of the treated wastewater from the STPs of the various towns and cities across the State. He further informed that there are 29 projects have been commissioned, 12 are under progress, 25 projects are proposed under the NABARD-RIDF-24, 18 projects are under consideration of PWSSB and 31 projects are proposed under PMKSY. He also submitted the details in writing during the meeting.
8. Sh. Devinder Singh, Superintending Engineer, Department of Drainage informed that the department is maintaining the drains of the State. To the query of Shri J.Chandra Babu, Member Executing Committee, he further informed that they do not measure the flow in the river/drain in routine, but the flow measurement of the water of River Ghaggar is carried out during rainy season. He also informed that the stationary gauges have been installed in the drains for this purpose. *Hon'ble Members of the Committee, suggested the representative of the Department of Drainage for installation of stationary gauge at all the major drain outfalls into River Ghaggar and to share the flow details (once in fifteen days) with all the concerned departments as well as the Committee. The Committee also suggested the Drainage Department for installation of stationary gauge in all the drains contributing pollution of river Ghaggar within 3-months and also to include in the action plan to be submitted by the department.*
9. Sh. Anoop Naggar, Regional Director, CGWA informed that they also monitor the water quality of underground water. As per the monitoring carried out by them, they have found 'arsenic and fluoride' in the groundwater in excess at some places. He further informed that they have categorized the whole area under four zones i.e. safe zone; semi critical; critical and over exploited as per the water extraction activities. *Committee suggested CGWA representatives to monitor ground water quality of tube wells or hand pumps in the vicinity of the habitation areas located along the stretch of River Ghaggar and to submit the analysis results to the monitoring committee, within a month.*
10. Superintendent of Health and Family Welfare Department could not bring the relevant data. *Members of the Committee suggested that Department of Health & Family Welfare shall prepare health status of public (epidemiological survey) along the stretch of River Ghaggar and also to arrange health camps in the catchment area of River Ghaggar and submit a detailed report in this regard to the Committee.*

Shri J. Chandra Babu, Member, Executing Committee requested all the concerned to prepare action plans keeping in view that no drain should carry and discharge untreated

sewage/ sullage/ wastewater into River Ghaggar. Action Plan should also include trainings especially on operation and maintenance (O & M) of STPs to all the concerned officials (STP operators as well as all the supervisors of STPs). Upon deliberations with the officials of all the stakeholder departments, following decisions were taken, as detailed below:-

- Each department shall nominate the Nodal Officer of their department and send the contact details of the Nodal Officer as well as the Head of Departments to the PPCB. PPCB shall collect the information and submit the same to the Executing Committee within a week.
- All the concerned departments shall prepare detailed action plans with time lines as well as financial estimates pertaining to the activities to be performed by them for control of pollution in River Ghaggar and submit the same by 15/12/2018.
- All the department shall submit the Action Taken Report in compliance to the order dated 7/8/2018 of Hon'ble NGT by 15/12/2018.
- Er. S.S. Matharu, EE, Nodal Officer of PPCB shall visit all the STPs, which are in operation, in the presence of concerned officer of PWSSB/ GMADA within four weeks and shall submit the report to the Executing Committee. The proforma for performance assessment of STPs and submission of the report should be as per CPCB format.
- PPCB will carry out inspections of all the industries falling in the catchment area of River Ghaggar. While inspecting the industries, the visiting teams also shall collect the ETP outlet as well as ground water samples within the industry or in the vicinity of the industry and the reports along with the analysis results should be submitted by 15/12/2018. The prescribed format of the inspections (to be provided by Shri J.C.babu, Member of Executing Committee) must be filled at site and sampling protocol be strictly followed for carrying out sampling, by the inspecting team.
- Punjab Water Supply and Sewerage Board shall prepare the detailed action plan pertaining to the activities to be performed by the department for control of pollution in River Ghaggar and submit the same by 15/12/2018 and shall apply for obtaining consent to operate of the PPCB as required under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 for all the STPs.
- The State Level Special Task Force as well as the District Level Special Task Forces to carryout the responsibilities assigned by the Hon'ble NGT and to submit the reports periodically to the Executing Committee.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.
