

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA  
(THROUGH PHYSICAL HEARING WITH HYBRID MODE)**

Miscellaneous Application No.39/2024/EZ

In

Original Application No.144/2023/EZ

News Item published in Avenue Mail  
Dated 7th February 2023 titled  
“Jamshedpur: Industrial Wastes  
adding to Pollution level in  
River Subarnarekha”

Applicant(s)

Versus

Member Secretary, Jharkhand State  
Pollution Control Board & Ors.

Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 03.10.2024

**CORAM: HON’BLE MR. JUSTICE B. AMIT STHALEKAR, JUDICIAL MEMBER  
HON’BLE DR. ARUN KUMAR VERMA, EXPERT MEMBER**

For Applicant(s) : *Suo Motu*,

(in O.A. No.144/2023/EZ)

For Respondent(s): Ms. Aishwarya Rajyashree, Adv. for Dy. Commissioner,  
Jamshedpur (in Virtual Mode)

**ORDER**

1. The Original Application No.144/2023/EZ was registered by the New Delhi Bench of the National Green Tribunal as Original Application No.124/2023/PB on a *suo motu* cognizance being taken on the basis of a media report with respect to the matters of pollution in the Subarnarekha River in Jharkhand in and around area Jamshedpur.
2. The media report refers to survey conducted by the State Pollution Control Board showing exceedance of pH value, DO content and lead content. The report further mentions that the river covers drainage area of 1.93 million hectares and the river is rain-fed originating near Ranchi and going upto Bay of Bengal through

Odisha and West Bengal covering length of 450 kilometers, and at some places like – Mango and Moubhandar, pollution was more.

3. The Original Application was disposed off by this Tribunal vide order dated 11.10.2023 directing different Municipal Council/Corporation in its paragraph 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 to establish STPs and make them functional by 15.04.2024. Respondents including District Magistrate, East Singhbhum were directed to file Compliance Report by 30.04.2024. Para 11 to 16 of the order dated 11.10.2023 reads as under:-

xxxxxxxxxxxxx.....xxxxxxxxxxxxx.....xxxxxxxxxxxxx

*“11. For the Jamshedpur Notified Area Committee, the report shows that there are 18 sewage drains / discharge points being discharged in river Subarnarekha. The total quantum of sewage discharge is 122.05 MLD. The total quantum of untreated sewage discharge in Subarnarekha is 122.05 MLD. This shows that the entire sewage generated is being discharged into Subarnarekha untreated. This is an extremely serious matter. The Report mentions that there is one STP of capacity 45 MLD and 11 PSTPs of capacity 4.8 MLD. If, in spite of one STP and 11 PSTPs total untreated sewage in the Jamshedpur Notified Area is being discharged into the Subarnarekha river, it means that the STP and PSTPs are not functioning. The Report mentions that there is a proposed plan for treatment of wastewater for which survey of Nullahs has been carried out. Timeline given is March 2026. We find this timeline to be absolutely unacceptable as it does not show any sense of urgency in the concerned authorities to address the river pollution on a war footing considering that the entire sewage generated in Jamshedpur Notified Area is being discharged into Subarnarekha river.*

*We, therefore, direct the State Respondents to ensure STPs are established within 6 months i.e. by 15.04.2024 and made functional.*

*12. In the Mango Municipal Corporation area the report shows that there are 9 sewage drains/discharge points being discharged in Subarnarekha River. The total quantum of discharge of sewage in Subarnarekha river is shown as 30.24 MLD. Total quantum of untreated sewage being discharged into the Subarnarekha river is shown as 30.24 MLD. In spite of this poor state of affairs, there is not a single Sewage Treatment Plant for treatment of sewage as per the report. Here also the timeline given for completion is March 2026.*

*Considering that there is no STP and the entire generated sewage is being discharged into the Subarnarekha river untreated by the Mango Municipal Corporation, we direct the Respondents to establish adequate number of STPs within 6 months by 15.04.2024.*

*13. So far as Kapali Municipal Council is concerned, the report mentions that there are 2 sewage drains / discharge points in the Subarnarekha river but the quantum of treated sewage and quantum of untreated sewage has not been calculated. Respondents are directed to determine the same and take adequate steps for setting up of STPs within 6 months i.e. by 15.04.2024.*

*14. As regards Jugsalai Nagar Parishad, the report mentions that the total quantum of sewage discharge in the Kharkai river is 5.4 MLD based on the Census of 2011. There is no treatment facility. Total quantum of untreated sewage being discharged in Kharkai river is 5.4 MLD. The report mentions that Detailed Project Report (D.P.R.) for STP has been prepared in 2018 but there is no progress thereafter. This shows a completely irresponsible attitude of the*

*respondents towards keeping the Kharkai river clean and keeping the water quality within the prescribed parameters.*

*We direct the respondents to ensure that the STP is set up within 6 months i.e. by 15.04.2024.*

*15. For Adityapur Municipal Corporation, the report mentions that the total number of sewage drains/ discharge points into river Kharkai is 08. The total quantum of discharge of sewage in the Kharkai river is 14 MLD. Total quantum of treated sewage discharged in river Kharkai is shown as NIL. Total quantum of untreated sewage being discharged in river Kharkai is stated to be 11 MLD. 3 MLD capacity STP is stated to be constructed in NIT, Jamshedpur. A 36 MLD - 4 STPs are stated to be under construction under the AMRUT Scheme.*

*We direct the State Respondents to ensure that the 4 STPs are setup within 6 months i.e. by 15.04.2024.*

*16. For the Rural Block area of East Singhbhum, the total number of sewage drains/discharge points into the river Subarnarekha is shown as one at Musabani Block. Total quantum of discharge of sewage into the Subarnarekha river is shown as 10 cubic liters (Musabani Block). Total quantum of treated sewage being discharged in Subarnarekha river is shown as NIL. Total quantum of untreated sewage being discharged in Subarnarekha River is shown as NIL. There is no STP plant nor is there any proposed plan for setting up of STP which is shown as NIL.*

*We, therefore, direct the Respondents to ensure that STP is set up in the Rural Block area of East Singhbhum within 6 months i.e. by 15.04.2024.”*

4. In this regard, it is submitted that no compliance report has been filed by pursuant to above mentioned directions as on date.

5. Therefore, if directed, M.A. may be registered in the instant case for the purpose of compliance of the order of the Hon'ble Tribunal as O.A. has already been disposed off.
6. Affidavit of compliance has not been filed till date. Hence, the present M.A.
7. Issue notice to the District Magistrate, East Singhbhum, returnable within four weeks.
8. Ms. Aishwarya Rajyashree, learned Counsel appearing (in Virtual Mode), accepts notice on behalf of the State Respondents, District Magistrate, East Singhbhum.
9. Issue notice to the Kapali Municipal Council, through its Executive Officer, Jugsalai Nagar Parishad, through its Executive Officer and Adityapur Municipal Corporation, Adityapur, through its Executive Officer, returnable within four weeks. The aforesaid shall be impleaded in the array of Respondents as Respondent Nos.4, 5 and 6 respectively.
10. All the Respondents shall file their counter-affidavits within four weeks.
11. **List on 17.12.2024.**

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**B. Amit Sthalekar, JM**

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**Dr. Arun Kumar Verma, EM**

October 03, 2024,  
Miscellaneous Application No.39/2024/EZ  
In  
Original Application No.144/2023/EZ  
OM