

183
114

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE RIVER REJUVENATION COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 12.12.2018 AT 12.30 PM IN THE OFFICE CHAMBER OF
ADDL. CHIEF SECRETARY, FOREST & ENV. DEPARTMENT,
GOVT. OF ODISHA**

The first Meeting of the River Rejuvenation Committee of State of Odisha was held on 12.12.2018 at 12.30 PM under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary, Forest & Env. Department, Govt. of Odisha in his Office Chamber. The list of participants is at **Annexure-I**.

Initiating the discussion Addl. Chief Secretary welcomed the members. Member Secretary, State Pollution Control Board, Odisha appraised regarding Order dt.20.09.2018 of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi in Original Application No.673/2018 in the matter of News Item Published in "The Hindu" Authored by Shri Jacob Koshy titled "More River Stretches are now Critically Polluted". The operational part of the orders was discussed in detail. After the detailed deliberation the following decision were taken.

1. It was decided to include Member Secretary, Orissa Water Supply and Sewerage Board and Engineer-in-Chief of Water Resources Department, Govt. of Odisha as Co-opted Members in the River Rejuvenation Committee.

(Action: Director, Env-cum-Sp. Secretary, F&E Department)

2. It was also decided to take up the constitution of Special Environmental Surveillance Task Force at the earliest in compliance to the order of Hon'ble NGT.

(Action: Director, Env-cum-Sp. Secretary, F&E Department)

3. The website of River Rejuvenation Committee may be developed by State Pollution Control Board, Odisha and link be given to all stake holders department.

(Action: State Pollution Control Board)

4. As per the orders of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Central Pollution Control Board has identified 19 polluted river stretches in which 12 are in Mahanadi river basin, 04 are in Brahmani river basin, 01 is in Rushikulya river basin, 01 is in Nagavali river basin and 01 in Budhabalang river basin. It was observed that only one river stretch i.e. Gangua, downstream of Bhubaneswar city has been categorized as "Priority I". Three other stretches such as Guradinala along Rourkela, Kathajodi, Cuttack to Urali and Nandirajhor, downstream of Talcher have been categorized as "Priority III". Two river stretches such as

Daya, Bhubaneswar to Bergarh and Kuakhai, Urali to Bhubaneswar has been categorized as "Priority IV" and rest others have been classified as "Priority V". However, the stretches such as Urali to Bhubaneswar in Kuakhai, Sambalpur to Paradip in Mahanadi and Patrapur to Ganjam in Rusikulya river meet the criteria limit to BOD 3 mg per liter during 2017. Further, it was observed that the stretches such as Banguru nallah along Talcher Rengali, Bheden along Bheden, Kusumi, along Angul Talcher, Nuna along Bijipur, Puri, Sabulia along Jagannathpatna to Rambha, Nandira jhor downstream of Talcher, Budhabalanga, Mahulia to Baripada have single deviation of BOD of 3 mg per liter during 2017 and it was felt that more observations are required to ascertain the status. Therefore, out of 19 polluted river stretches identified, Draft Action Plan has been prepared for 09 numbers of stretches which have consistently BOD values of more than 3 mg per liter.

5. The issue of construction of STPs in Bhubaneswar was discussed. The timelines for completion of the STPs were also discussed.
6. It was decided that Water Resources Department may be requested by Cuttack Municipal Corporation to take up the inspection and repair work through Odisha Construction Corporation Limited to prevent leakages at the sluice gate at Khannagar in order to prevent the flow of waste water to the river during lean period.

(Action: Director, Municipal Administration)


7. It was also decided to request the authorities of Rourkela Steel Plant to release some extra water from Mandira dam in order to increase the flow of water in river Brahmani.

(Action: Director, Municipal Administration)

8. The Action Plans of 09 river stretches were approved.
9. In compliance to the orders of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, the Action Plan of "Priority I" river stretches shall be sent to CPCB for their consideration.

(Action: State Pollution Control Board)

The Meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.


Additional Chief Secretary,
Forest & Env. Department