

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

Original Application No. 923/2024

News Item titled "Delhi News बुराड़ी में यमुना नदी किनारे मृत अवस्था में मिली हजारों मछलियां, दुर्गंध से ग्रामीण परेशान" " appearing in Jagran.com dated 04.07.2024

Date of hearing: 17.09.2025

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

Respondent Mr. Mohit Singhal, Adv. for R - 1 (Through VC)
Mr. Narender Pal Singh, Adv. for R - 2 (Through VC)
Mr. Gigi. C. George, Adv. for R - 4
Ms. Jyoti Mendirata & Ms. Ananya Basudha, Advs. for R - 5 & 8 (Through VC)
Mr. Rahul Khurana, Adv. for R - 6 & 7 with Mr. Nirmal Kumar (Through VC), SEE, HSPCB

ORDER

1. In this Original Application, registered *suo-motu* the Tribunal is considering the incident of death of thousands of fishes in the River Yamuna in Delhi's Burari and the news item discloses that the fishes had died due to chemical laden water from the factories, hence the issue of pollution in River Yamuna in the relevant stretch also arises.
2. Learned Counsel for NMCG submits that responsibility lies with River Rejuvenation Committee. The NMCG cannot be absolved of its responsibility by making such a statement because Sub-Clause 2 of Clause 4 of the River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities Order, 2016 (2016 Order) provides for restoration and maintenance of chemical, physical, and biological quality of the waters which is to be achieved in a time bound manner. The order covers river Ganga as also its Tributaries. In Clause 39 of the order, the functions of the NMCG have been enumerated and under Clause 38 the duties of NMCG have been specified. The Sub-Clause 1 of Clause 38 clearly requires the

NMCG to follow the principle laid down in Clause 4. In terms of Clause (iv) of Clause 38 of 2016 Order, the NMCG is required to do all other acts or abstain from doing certain act which may be necessary for rejuvenation and protection of River Ganga and its tributaries.

3. Hence the above stand of the NMCG that the responsibility lies with the other authorities is not in consonance with the above provisions of the 2016 Order.

4. In this matter, the Authorities of the State of Haryana and Delhi are shifting the responsibility on each other. Hence, we require the Member Secretary, CPCB, to hold a Joint Meeting of the concerned authorities of the State of Haryana and Delhi and fix a responsibility and also chalk out a program for preventing such an incident in future.

5. The Respondent No. 1, Member Secretary CPCB, will file the report in compliance of the above direction within eight weeks.

6. List on 01.12.2025

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

September 17, 2025
No. 923/2024
HB