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

## **Original Application No. 116 of 2014**

Meera Shukla Vs. Municipal Corporation, Gorakhpur & Ors.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SWATANTER KUMAR, CHAIRPERSON HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE U.D. SALVI, JUDICIAL MEMBER HON'BLE PROF. A.R. YOUSUF, EXPERT MEMBER HON'BLE MR. RANJAN CHATTERJEE, EXPERT MEMBER

Present: Applicant: Respondent No. 1: Respondent No. 2: Respondent No. 4: Respondent No. 5: Respondent No. 6: Respondent No. 8:

and

Date

Remarks Item No. 13

July 15,

2015

Mr. M.C. Mehta and Ms. Katyani, Advs. Ms. Alpana Pandey, Adv. Ms. Pragati Neekhra, Adv. Ms. Savitri Pandey, Adv, Ms. Azma Parveen Adv. Mr. Pradeep Misra, Mr. Daleep Kr. Dhyani, Advs. Mr. Gaurav Dhingra, Adv. Mr. B.V. Niren, Adv., for CGWA.

The Learned Counsel appearing for the Applicant contends that entire city of Gorakhpur does not have any STP and entire sewage through different drains is directly discharged into water bodies or River. According to him, there have been more than 500 deaths in the year 2014 due to high contamination of water. The Learned Counsel appearing further for the Applicant on referring to the affidavit filed on behalf of Respondents points out that large sum of money have already been spent without any effective measures and control of water pollution. A sum of Rs. 26 Crores have been spent for installation of hand pumps while nobody knows what kind of water is being extracted and what is the status of groundwater. Further amounts have been sanctioned and they are likely to be spent without any tangible result in sight.

Orders of the Tribunal

Learned counsel appearing for Respondents submit that the Jal Nigam, State of Uttar Pradesh, Gorakhpur Development Authority are the concerned Authorities which would provide the requisite information and are responsible for controlling the water pollution.

Learned counsel appearing for Gorakhpur Development Authority submits that they have already provided sites for construction and installation of STPs and they are taking effective steps to remove unauthorised construction or encroachments over and around the lake and River etc.

Learned counsel appearing for Pollution Control Board submit that they have never tested ground water or other water bodies for assessing the contamination and pollution of water.

We direct Municipal Corporation, Gorakhpur, Gorakhpur Development Authority, Department of Urban Development Authority, U.P. Pollution Control Board and Deputy Commissioner of Gorakhpur to file a common Affidavit answering inter alia but particularly the following:-

- 1. The sewage that is generated in District Gorakhpur.
- 2. Where such sewage is being discharged.
- The analysis reports of all the water bodies and river in Gorakhpur. Analysis of the ground water taken from atleast 5 different locations where the hand pumps are situate.
- MSW collections and disposal of MSW in the district and whether there is any plan for construction of a MSW and its present status.
- 5. The comprehensive and complete details of land given for establishment and operationalisation of the STPs already approved by the State with complete and comprehensive time schedule for their

commissioning.

- 6. If the works have already started and the status reports thereof.
- 7. Unauthorised and illegal encroachment upon the water bodies particularly upon the lakes and flood plain. Steps taken by Gorakhpur Development Authority for repossessing the land in question.
- 8. Let this report be filed within three week from today. The senior most Officers of the respective Departments or Organisations would be personally responsible for timely submission of the said Affidavit. In the event of default they shall be present before the Tribunal. In the meanwhile the State of Uttar Pradesh will not permit spending of any money in district Gorakhpur in relation to the above even if the amounts have already been sanctioned.

List this matter on 14<sup>th</sup> August, 2015.

,,CP (Swatanter Kumar)

....,JM (U.D. Salvi)

....,EM (Prof. A.R. Yousuf)

....,EM (Ranjan Chatterjee)