

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date & Time: 11th September 2020 (11:00 hrs IST)

Attendees:

1. Shri E. H. Pathan (Executive Engineer & Head – Drainage Department, SMC)
2. Shri Bhiarav B. Desai (Executive Engineer – Tapi Shuddhikaran Project, SMC)
3. Shri Parag U Dave (Regional Officer, Gujarat Pollution Control Board, Surat)
4. Shri Dharmesh Mistry (I/C Town Planner, Town Development Department, SMC)
5. Shri H.D. Patel(EE, Irrigation Department, Surat Circle)
6. Shri/Smt Rachita Desai (Dy Town Planner, Town Planning Department, SMC)
7. Shri Trushit Desai (Consultant – SMC / NGT WZ-50/2018)

- No members from Gujarat Urban Development Mission(GUDM), Collectorate and Gujarat Water Supply and Sewerage Board (GWSSB) were present.

Location: Virtual Meeting Platform (ZOOM)

Subject: Hon'ble NGT Order Dated 16 July 2020 in the case of WZ 50/2018 and action plan of compliance plan thereof

- A. In matter of Tapi River pollution etc., Environment Interest Litigation (EIL) was filed by Nav Yuva Sangathan and others vide original application no. 50/2018 (WZ) at National Green Tribunal(NGT), Pune and Hon'ble NGT has passed an order on 25th February 2019 to form a committee to review and coordinate the necessary measures for Tapi Shuddhikaran project progress.
- B. In compliance with the order of Hon'ble NGT dated 25th February 2019; para-13, A Committee comprising of Five Members (Representatives of Different Departments & Agencies) was constituted to review and co-ordinate the necessary measures, with Surat Municipal Corporation as The Nodal agency for compliance and co-ordination. The Committee had completed Six Committee meetings till 17th March 2020
- C. 7th (Eighth) meeting of The Committee was convened at Virtual Meeting platform- Zoom at 11.00 AM on 11th September 2020, in compliance with various guidelines and directives in effect in regard of ongoing COVID-19 pandemic
- D. Following representatives of the relevant authorities were present in the meeting,-
 - (1) Narmada Water resources, Water Supply & Kalpasar Department, Gujarat was represented by Mr. H.D. Patel, Executive Engineer, Surat Irrigation Circle
 - (2) Gujarat Pollution Control Board (GPCB) was represented by Mr. Parag U. Dave, Regional Officer, Gujarat Pollution Control Board, Surat Regional Office
 - (3) Commissioner shri, Surat Municipal Corporation was represented by Mr. E. H. Pathan, Executive Engineer & Head of Drainage Department, Surat Municipal Corporation (SMC), Mr. Bhairav Desai, Executive Engineer, Tapi Shuddhikaran Project (TSP), Mr. Dharmesh Mistry, I/C Town Planner, Town Development Department, Mr. Vijay Desai, Deputy Town Development Officer, Town Development Department,

Mrs. Rachita Desai, Deputy Town Planner, Town Planning Department, Surat Municipal Corporation (SMC)

The following points were discussed during the meeting

1. Mr. E. H. Pathan of SMC welcomes the representatives of the Committee Members and explained the proceedings of the aforementioned case and status thereof. Mr. E.H. Pathan also explained the agenda of the meeting. Mr E.H. Pathan informed the quorum that the case no 50/2018 has been transferred to the Principal Bench of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal and will merged with case no. 673/2018 as per the order of Hon'ble NGT order of July-2020. He also informed that the next hearing is scheduled on 21st September 2020 at The Principal Bench of Hon'ble NGT. He further informed that,-
 - a) SMC has already been doing following actions to avoid disposal of Municipal Solid Waste into River Tapi.
 - b) Catch-pits are installed with special design to control disposal of waste into River Tapi. He further informed that approximately 43,000 Catch-pits are fitted with cement concrete jali to prevent plastic and solid waste entry in to drain. Moreover all the outlets into natural resource has also been fitted with screen to prevent solid waste entry in to natural water drain.
 - c) In regards of status of STPs, in jurisdiction of SMC, out of 4(four) Construction of 01 STP is completed and 3 STPs are in progress. However, some delays are expected in completion of construction and commissioning of STPs due to time lost due to various guidelines, directives and difficult times of COVID-19 pandemic.
 - d) In regard of construction of STPs outside jurisdiction of SMC but within jurisdiction of SUDA, 2 STPs (94.96 MLD) are in progress and 2 package tenders have been invited for construction of 12 STPs totaling a treatment capacity of 83.36 MLD and the tenders are live online. The Completion and Commissioning of these STPs are too expected to be delayed till end of 2022 due to reasons explained vide para 1(c) above.
 - e) In regard of the in-situ remediation of Drains, SMC has invited Expression of Interest (Eoi) from 18 Companies / Organizations, and in response, SMC has received Eoi from 2 companies / organizations. NEERI, Nagpur was also invited to submit the proposal for in-situ remediation of drains till STPs are constructed.
 - f) Status of availability of land was also asked, that could not get replied as representative of Collectarate were not present.
 - g) From Govt. of Gujarat, Rs.167.07 crore (Prorata Grant of Gol scheme) is yet to be received. But could not get replied as representative of GUDM was not present.
2. Mr Dharmesh Mistry of Town Development Department of SMC inform the Committee Members that Works related to demarcation of No-Construction Zone, Restricted Zone along-with delineation of Restricted Activities – along the stretch of Tapi River, are under progress in consultation with the Town Planning Department of The State. An

Affidavit in this regard was already submitted to Hon'ble NGT by Town Planning Department of SMC.

3. Mr Bhairav Desai requested Representatives of Irrigation Department to share the details and updates on approval for desilting in the upstream of Singapore Weir
4. Mr. H.D. Patel, Executive Engineer, Surat Irrigation Circle has stated that principal approval is obtained for desilting in the upstream of Singapore Weir
5. Mr. P.U. Dave, Regional Officer, GPCB-Surat RO stated that water quality in river Tapi is being checked regularly. The water quality data of samples along stretch of Tapi River during the period March-August, 2020 are shared with SMC. He also requested all Committee Members to share affidavits by various departments under multiple cases of River Pollution with other Members of Committees, so as to avoid mismatches and conflicting / contradicting submissions to Courts of Law. He confirmed the receipt of Minutes of Meeting held at The Collector Office, Surat District Collectorate on this matter. He requested SMC to share various Technical and Financial details of TSP Project for presentation to the Chief Secretary of The State, Gujarat, as and when required
6. Mr. H.D. Patel, Executive Engineer, Surat Irrigation Circle has requested SMC to share update on demarcation of Red and Blue Line. He has also requested SMC to share the affidavit filed by Town Planning Department of SMC in this regard.
7. Mr. E.H. Pathan, Executive Engineer, Surat Municipal Corporation, requested all committee members to review status updates and compile updated information on the responsibilities entrusted upon various departments, as they might be required to be provided before/during scheduled hearing at Hon'ble NGT
8. Meeting was ended with vote of thanks from chairs.


Executive Engineer &
Divisional Head (Drainage)
Surat Municipal Corporation

DNG/OUT/No/ 1735
Dt. 19/09/2020