

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
WESTERN ZONE BENCH, PUNE**

(By Video Conferencing)

Original Application No. 25/2022 (WZ)
(Old O.A. No. 144/2022(PB))

In Re: New item published in the Indian Express dated 29.12.2021
titled "The road to rediscovery of Kham, the seasonal river of
Aurangabad"

Date of hearing: 23.08.2022

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DINESH KUMAR SINGH, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. VIJAY KULKARNI, EXPERT MEMBER**

Applicant(s) :
Respondent(s) : Mr. Aniruddha Kulkarni, Advocate for Aurangabad
Municipal Corporation

ORDER

1. This original application is relating to the news paper article published in Indian Express pertaining to the untreated sewage flowing into the river Kham wherein cognizance was taken by the Tribunal vide order dated 28.02.2022 and a direction was given to the Chief Secretary, Maharashtra to call a meeting of the concerned officers including Members of the RRC(River Rejuvenation Committee), State Pollution Control Board and District Administration and ensure that action taken report is filed in respect of status as on 31.05.2022 before the Pune Bench.

2. In compliance with said order, the report in the form of affidavit has been filed by Aurangabad Municipal Corporation which is being represented today before us by Learned Counsel Sh. Aniruddha Kulkarni.

3. The said affidavit contains the action taken in the matter so far which is reproduced herein below:-

"a) AMC is operating 4 STPs of design cap. 211 MLD against the present sewage generation of 96 MLD. The plants are designed

to serve future population to the year 2030. Total 186 underground drainage line completed till date.

- b) *AMC continues to fund expenditure through its allocated annual budget towards widening, deepening, channelizing, stone pitching and green cover augmentation along Kham River within limits of Municipal Corporation & the Cantonment Board area.*
- c) *AMC has made the provisions for door to door collection & segregation of solid waste using GPS enabled vehicles.*
- d) *AMC has installed 2 MSW processing sites with capacity 150 MT/D each & one MSW site having capacity 150 MT/D is under construction.*
- e) *One Bio-methanation plant for wet waste with capacity 30 MT/D is installed & 4 Material recovery facilities (MRF) having capacity 10 MT/D each are installed for processing of dry waste and 2 more MRF's with each 10MT/D cap. are proposed.*
- f) *Iron barricades are installed at 17 out of 26 bridges located on the Kham River & the rest 9 bridges will be completed within 30 days.*
- g) *Plastic traps are installed at five places on different nallah in Kham river basin to stop and remove the flowing the thermocal, plastic bags and other garbage on spot.*
- h) *AMC has undertaken projects for river rejuvenation and beautification since January 2021.”*

4. It appears that the District Collector, Aurangabad was also supposed to carry out marking of blue and red line of Kham river and was also to remove the illegal encroachment on Kham river within a period of six months but no report to that effect has been filed today before us.

5. It is further apprised by the Learned Counsel for the Aurangabad Municipal Corporation that there is another original application

no.29/2020(WZ) pending before us pertaining to the pollution of Kham river as well as Sukna river which is listed for hearing before us on 21.09.2022.

6. We deem it proper to hear both the matters together and direct the Registry to place this application on the same date for consideration.

7. In the meantime, the District Collector is directed to submit a report in respect of the red line and blue line of the Kham river in compliance of the directions given to him by the Chief Secretary, Maharashtra as per the affidavit dated 07.07.2022 and place the same before us by the next.

8. We further direct the Registry to implead the Aurangabad Municipal Corporation as Respondent No.1 and District Magistrate, Aurangabad as Respondent No.2.

9. List the matter along with Original Application No. 29/2022(WZ) on 21.09.2022

Dinesh Kumar Singh, JM

Dr. Vijay Kulkarni, EM

August 23, 2022
Original Application No. 25/2022 (WZ)
(Old O.A. No. 144/2022(PB))
JG