Minutes of the 1st meeting of Joint Committee for compliance of the order dated-12.01.2022 passed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (WZ), Pune in Original application No. 68/2021 (WZ) filed by Vanshakti & Anr Vs. Municipal corporation of Greater Mumbai & Ors.

Date: 16.02.2022.

Venue: Video conference.

Members Present

 Mr. Suresh Kumar Adapa Scientist 'E', MOEF & CC, Nagpur.

Mr. Nishchal C, Scientist 'D', CPCB.

Smt. Nidhi Chaudhary, IAS
 District Collector, Mumbai Suburban District

 Mr. Sunil Limaye Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Wild life)

Mr. Narendra Toke Director, Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra.

6. Mr. Jaywant Hazare, Regional Officer, MPCB, Mumbai

7. Officers from MCGM

1. Today preliminary meeting was held through video conferencing.

2. Mr. Jaywant Hazare, Regional Officer, MPC Board Mumbai briefed about the issue of Powai Lake pollution and explained regarding constitution of Joint Committee for compliance of the order dated 12.01.2022 passed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (WZ), Pune in Original Application No. 68/2021 (WZ). In the said matter, Hon'ble NGT constituted an eight members Joint Committee comprising of members from MoEF, CPCB, MPCB, District Collector, DCP, Chief Wildlife Warden, State Environment Dept, MPCB. The Committee may prepare its action plan covering all aspects of environment in the light of earlier studies and plans, as may be updated in the light of current ground situation. The plan may provide for mode of execution, monitoring mechanism and budget allocation. The Joint Committee may meet once in every month to oversee the execution at least for one year and thereafter, at such intervals as it may find necessary.

3. All the present committee members have introduced themselves and have narrated their experience in the field. They have also made some suggestions.

Mr. Nishchal C, Scientist 'D', CPCB -

There are earlier studies carried w.r.t. water quality of Powai Lake & also other lakes. It is suggested that the same reports shall be referred while preparing action plan for Powai Lake.

Mr. Suresh Kumar Adapa, Scientist 'E', MOEF & CC, Nagpur

Earlier study reports and analysis reports of Powai Lake shall be compiled and referred while study of Powai Lake.

Mr. Narendra Toke, Director, Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra-

There is one more court case other than NGT case 68/2021 (WZ), wherein Hon'ble High Court has issued stay order on the work of jogging track, around the Powai Lake. We may prepare action plan as per orders of Hon'ble NGT vide dated-12.01.2022.

Mr. Sunil Limaye, Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Wild life) -

There is discharge of sewage into Powai Lake. It should be restricted and discharge of sewage shall be stopped completed. All committee member may visit Powai Lake site physically in the month of March 2020 to verify the present situation. Elevated cycle track is one of the option, which may be considered.

Mr. Arte/Shri. Rothod/ Shri. Rajesh Tamhane, MCGM -

There is stay from Hon'ble High Court for work of jogging track at Powai Lake periphery. MCGM has appointed one committee compiling of member from NEERI for preparing development plan of Powai Lake. Project of jogging track is environment friendly and MCGM can give presentation regarding the project.

Smt. Nidhi Chaudhary, IAS, District Collector, Mumbai Suburban District-

We may call presentation from MCGM regarding development and proposed schedule of cycle track. It was agreed that before going to visit Powai Lake, presentation of MCGM shall be arranged before committee.

Meeting concluded with vote of thanks to the dais.

Mr. Jaywant Hazare Member Convener

Regional Officer, MPC Board Mumbai