

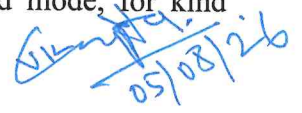
Mi/24/2020-HR NMCG
Government of India
Ministry of Jal Shakti
Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation
National Mission for Clean Ganga

1st Floor,
Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium
New Delhi-110001

Dated: 5th August 2026

Sub: Minutes of 72nd meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of National Mission for Clean Ganga

Please find enclosed minutes of 72nd meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) held on 23rd July 2026 through hybrid mode, for kind information and necessary action.


05/08/26

(Vinod Kumar Gupta)
Deputy Secretary (Admin.)

To

1. Joint Secretary (PFC-I/PF-States), Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, North Block, New Delhi-110001
2. JS & FA, DoWR, RD & GR, MoJS, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
3. Adviser (WR&LR), NITI Aayog, Yojana Bhawan, Sansad Marg, New Delhi - 110001
4. Secretary, Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation, Uttarakhand, 43/6, Mata Mandir Road, Dharmapur, Dehradun, Uttarkhand-248001.
5. Principal Secretary (UD), Urban Development Department (UDD), 834, Babu Bhawan, Lucknow- 226001.
6. Principal Secretary (UD & Housing), Urban Development and Housing Department (UDHD), Vikas Bhawan, Bailey Road, Patna, Bihar-800015.
7. Principal Secretary (UD), Urban Development Department (UDD), 4th Floor, Project Building, Dhurwa, Ranchi- 834004.
8. Principal Secretary (UD), Department of Municipal Affairs (DMA), Nagarayan, Sector-I, Block-DF-8, Bidhan Nagar, Kolkata-700064.
9. Executive Officer, Municipal Council, Paonta Sahib, District Sirmaur, H.P
10. All Executive Directors/DDG of NMCG

Copy to: -

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister for Jal Shakti
2. PPS to Secretary (WR, RD & GR)
3. Project Director, SMCG Group, 105 (New No.545/941), Rajpur Road, Opp. RTO office, Dehradun 248001
4. Project Director, SMCG, Plot No. 18, Sector-7, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow- 226010
5. Project Director, SPMG Group (Secretary, Urban Development), Government of Bihar, Vikash Bhawan, Bailey Road, Patna, Bihar – 800001
6. Project Director, SPMG Group Urban Development & Housing Department, Room no. 403, 4th Floor, Project Bhawan, Dhurwa, Ranchi, Jharkhand- 834004
7. Project Director, SMCG Group Unnayan Bhawan', 3rd Floor, DJ-11, Sector-II, Block-A, KMDA, Kolkata- 700091
8. PPS to DG, NMCG- for his kind information

**Minutes of the 72nd meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of
National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) held on 23rd July 2026 at
NMCG Office, New Delhi**

The 72nd meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) was held on 23rd July 2026 at 11:00 AM at NMCG office, Delhi through hybrid mode under the Chairmanship of Director General (DG), NMCG.

Executive Director (Admin.), NMCG welcomed the Director General, NMCG, members of the Executive Committee and other officials present in the meeting. Thereafter, the agenda items were taken up for discussion.

Agenda Item No. 72.1: Status of In-Principle Approved Cost Variations in Projects by the Executive Committee of NMCG

Background:

The Executive Committee (EC) of the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) accords in-principle approval to projects involving significant cost variations prior to their final approval, subject to completion of the prescribed procedures, including independent Third-Party Appraisal (TPA), wherever applicable. This mechanism is intended to avoid post-facto approvals by apprising the EC in advance of anticipated project variations, thereby facilitating timely review and, where necessary, appropriate corrective interventions. Accordingly, this agenda item has been included to maintain a consolidated record of projects accorded in-principle approval and to provide the EC with periodic updates on their status and progress.

Discussion:

The status of variations mentioned in the Agenda Item were discussed and it was informed that up to the 70th EC Meeting, the EC has accorded in-principle approval to six sewerage infrastructure projects involving cumulative cost variations amounting to ₹86.092 crore. Out of six projects, the Saharanpur HAM Project received final approval in the 67th EC Meeting held on 14.11.2025 and following two projects were approved in the 71st EC Meeting:

- i. Garden Reach HAM Project; and
- ii. Hooghly–Chinsurah Sewerage Project.

Accordingly, following three projects from the previously in-principle approved list will continue to remain pending final approval. Their current status is as follows:



- i. I&D and STP at Muni Ki Reti – Under Third-Party Appraisal (TPA);
- ii. I&D and STP at Chhata – Under Third-Party Appraisal (TPA); and
- iii. Phusro I&D and STP Variation Proposal – Under Third-Party Appraisal (TPA).

In addition to these projects, the proposals accorded in-principle approval during the 71st Executive Committee (EC) meeting will also be included in the above list and placed before the Executive Committee for consideration in its next meeting.

Decision:

After detailed deliberations, the Executive Committee decided that the status of projects accorded in-principle approval shall be included as a standing agenda item in every subsequent EC meeting to keep the Committee apprised of their progress and current status until their final consideration.

Agenda Item No. 72.2: In-principle approval of the variation proposal for “Interception & Diversion and STP project at Krishnanagar Municipality in West Bengal”

1. **Project** - I&D and 14 MLD STP works at Krishnanagar Municipality, approved in the 51st EC Meeting
2. **Original Sanctioned Cost** - Rs 91.88 crores, including GST, with 100% central funding as per AA&ES dated 21.11.2023.
3. **Original Award Cost** - Rs 71.80 Crore, including GST.
4. **Project Status** – Under Construction (progress 23%).
5. **State Proposed Cost Variation** – Rs. 4.84 crore, including 18% GST
6. **Variation Proposal** – The road stretch between the Krishnanagar–Karimpur Road Junction and R.N. Tagore Road is narrow, and laying a deep gravity sewer along this alignment poses a significant risk of damage to the adjoining buildings. To mitigate these risks, an alternative technical solution by replacing the deep gravity sewer with a rising main through the construction of an additional lifting station. Further, to reduce power consumption and operational costs during the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) period, the installation of a solar power plant within the STP premises has been considered. As adequate space is not available at the proposed lifting station site for installation of solar panels, the solar power plant is proposed to be located within the STP campus. This has resulted in net additional cost increase of Rs. 4.84 crores.

Discussion:

The State explained that the existing road corridor between Krishnanagar–Karimpur Road Junction and R.N. Tagore Road is too narrow to safely accommodate the construction of a deep gravity sewer. Excavation along this stretch could adversely affect the structural stability of the adjacent buildings. In view of these site constraints, the State has proposed a revised technical approach involving the construction of an additional lifting station and replacement of the proposed deep gravity sewer with a rising main.

The State further informed that, to optimise energy consumption during the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) period, a solar power plant has been proposed. Since sufficient land is not available at the proposed lifting station for installation of solar panels, the solar power facility is proposed to be established within the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) premises.

The State informed that the implementation of the revised technical solution would involve an additional financial implication of ₹4.84 crore, after considering the cost adjustment for the gravity sewer works proposed to be omitted from the original scope. The detailed rate analysis and cost estimation for the revised items have been prepared by the Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority (KMDA) and subsequently examined and vetted by the State Mission for Clean Ganga (SMCG), West Bengal.

The Executive Committee (EC) sought details regarding the basis and methodology adopted for preparation of the cost estimates of the proposed variation items.

The State clarified that the estimates were worked out based on the applicable State Schedule of Rates (SoR) and comprehensive item-wise rate analysis, and therefore, the same may be treated as the final estimates for the proposed variation components.

Decisions:

After detailed deliberations, the Executive Committee (EC) approved the proposal for according approval to variation amount of Rs 4.84 crores and Revised Administrative Approval & Expenditure Sanction (AA&ES) for the project titled “Interception & Diversion (I&D) and Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) at Krishnanagar Municipality, West Bengal” under Namami Gange Programme (NGP – Non-EAP) at an estimated cost of Rs. 83.59 crores, including GST.

Agenda Item No. 72.3: Approval of the proposal for “Interception & Diversion with Sewage Treatment Plant scheme at Shantipur Municipality, West Bengal”.

Decision:

The Executive Committee (EC) decided to defer the proposal.

Agenda Item No. 72.4: In principle approval of Scope variation and revision in the awarded project cost for "Agra Sewerage Scheme (I&D and STP Work)" under ‘Namami Gange’ Programme.

1. **Project** - I&D and STP works at Agra City was approved in the 27th EC Meeting.
2. **Original Sanctioned Cost** - Rs 842.25 crore, including GST, with 100% central funding as per AA&ES dated 06.05.2020.



3. **Original Award Cost** - Rs 582.84 crore, including GST.
4. **Project Status** – Under Construction (progress 83%; STP under trial operations).
5. **State Proposed Cost Variation** – Rs. 40.79 crore, excluding GST.
6. **Variation Proposal** – The variation proposal due to change in the scope of work and additional work at Agra project. The scope/cost variation proposal has been on account of unforeseen site conditions that necessitated scope deviations and additional work. The scope/cost variations include
 - a) Extra Length of Rising Main at 31 MLD STP (Package I)
 - b) Trenchless works (Railway Crossing) in Gravity Line (Common Chamber to MPS) at 35 MLD STP (Package II)
 - c) Sand filling in trenches of rising main from Khairati Tola MPS to Dhandhupura STP (Package III)
 - d) Variation in Rising Main length at 100 MLD STP (Package III)
 - e) Road restoration variation in width of BC & extra depth of DBM at 100 MLD STP Rising Main (Package III)
 - f) Laying of additional effluent line at 100 MLD STP

Discussion:

The Executive committee enquired about road restoration being part of the scope or not?, the State clarified that the original scope included road restoration for the excavated trench only; however, the Fatehabad road being the main road linking Tajmahal, busy route and frequented by VVIP movements, was required to be restored in full width (not limited to the excavated trench width) to its original condition in the shortest possible time requiring backfilling with river sand etc. in line with the condition stipulated in the NOC provided by district administration.

The committee enquired whether existing disposal channel is capable to handle additional discharge of 100 MLD of treated water, State clarified that the channel's design capacity is not adequate to carry the combined flow of existing 78 MLD STP and new 100 MLD STP and thus requires a separate effluent disposal line. The Executive Committee expressed dissatisfaction with the deficient quality DPR prepared by the State and lack of due diligence by the third party appraisal agency.

Decisions:

After detailed deliberations, the Executive Committee (EC) decided to approve 'in-principle' the scope/cost variation proposal for the project "Agra Sewerage Scheme (I&D and STP Work), Agra, Uttar Pradesh", under Namami Gange programme (NGP – EAP) at an estimated cost of Rs. 40.79 crore, excluding GST subject to 3rd party appraisal of the detailed proposal.

EC also directed that explanation be sought from the State officials and Third-Party Agency (TPA) seeking an explanation as to why the inadequate discharge carrying capacity of existing disposal channel was identified in DPR and flagged in TPA report, respectively.

Agenda Item No. 72.5: In-principle approval of the variation proposal for “Interception & Diversion and STP at Jamui, Bihar under Namami Gange Programme”.

1. **Project** - I&D of drains and STP at Jamui, approved in the 48th EC meeting
2. **Original Sanctioned Cost** - Rs 77.39 crores, including capex GST of 12%, with 100% central funding as per AA&ES dated 11.07.2023.
3. **Original Award Cost** - Rs 69.18 crores, including capex GST of 12%.
4. **Project Status** – Present progress of the work is 18% (as on May 2026)
5. **State Proposed Cost Variation** – Rs. 1.53 crores
6. **Variation Proposal** - Unforeseen site conditions that necessitated scope variation, including minor additional works as follows:
 - a) Construction of retaining wall at 07 MLD STP due to change of STP location towards riverside, protection work is required;
 - b) Original IPS location changed, subsequently diversion route (102 mtr) and rising main (175 mtr) increased and revised route having 3 Nos. of drains (small) in the way which to be tapped (3 Nos.);
 - c) Manhole item was missed in the financial bid (BoQ) which is a mandatory component for the sewer, there shall be requirement of this item to execute the network. This shall bring an additional impact of about Rs 1.50 crores in the project.

Discussion:

The State informed that the proposed variation has become necessary due to the shifting of the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) location closer to the river, which necessitated the provision of flood protection works, along with a minor increase in the length of the sewer pipelines. The relocation of the STP and Intermediate Pumping Station (IPS) resulted in the requirement for construction of flood protection works, an additional diversion sewer of 102 m, and an increase of 175 m in the length of the rising main. The proposal also includes the tapping of three minor drains (small street drains) along the revised alignment.

Further, it was discussed that the State had inadvertently omitted the provision for manholes in the variation proposal, although these are essential components for the laying of sewer lines and were also not included in the original Bill of Quantities (BOQ). The State explained that this omission occurred because the requirement was communicated separately by the site office after the variation proposal had already been submitted. The estimated additional cost for this component is approximately ₹1.50 crore, and the detailed estimate will be submitted in due course. The Executive Committee (EC) was requested to accord in-principle approval for this component.

The Executive Committee (EC) enquired about the detailed cost estimates for the proposed variation items, including the flood protection works and the additional pipeline works. The State informed that the estimates had been prepared in detail based on the prevailing State Schedule of Rates (SoR) and, therefore, may be considered as the final cost estimates for these components.

Decision:

After detailed deliberations, the Executive Committee (EC) approved the proposal for according in principle approval of the cost variation amounting to Rs. 1.53 crores for the items having detailed schedule of rates and also in-principle approval for the missing items for the construction of manholes of about Rs 1.50 crores, subject to the 3rd party appraisal of the detailed proposal.

The Revised Administrative Approval & Expenditure Sanction (AA&ES) for the project titled “Interception and Diversion (I&D) of Drains and Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) at Jamui, Bihar” under Namami Gange Programme (NGP – Non-EAP) will be issued after final approval of the in-principally approved component.

Agenda Item No. 72.6: Variation proposal for “Interception & Diversion and STP at Kahalgaon, Bihar under Namami Gange Programme”.

1. **Project** - I&D of drains and STP at Kahalgaon, Bhagalpur approved in the 25th EC meeting.
2. **Original Sanctioned Cost** - Rs 25.77 crores, with 100% central funding as per AA&ES dated 30.12.2019 under NGM-I.
3. **Original Award Cost** - Rs 45.98 crores, including of 18% GST dated 21.09.2023 during NGM-II (Revised estimated cost in principle approved by NMCG during NGM-II before tendering).
4. **Revised AA&ES cost**- Rs 48.20 crores, including of 18% GST after award of work, NGM-II.
5. **Project Status** – Present progress of the work is 95% (as on May 2026).
6. **State Proposed Cost Variation** – Rs. 20.99 crores with TPA recommendation
7. **Variation Proposal** – The major components of variation proposal are as follows:
 - a) Due to change of STP location, flood protection work, dewatering work and soil filling work required at STP campus;
 - b) Due to in-adequate BoQ quantity in IPSs components with descoping of IPS 04;
 - c) Change in length of rising main pipeline from between the IPSs and between IPS to STP.

Discussion:

The State informed that the proposed variation has become necessary due to the shifting of the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) location closer to the river, which necessitated the provision of flood protection works. The relocation of the STP, conveying of effluent directly by rising main and change in methodology of pumping station has resulted in the variation proposal. The State explained that the proposed variations are necessitated due to the following reasons:

- a. **IPS-01, IPS-02 and IPS-03:** *The quantities of reinforcement steel, concrete, shuttering and other civil works have increased considerably due to a change in the construction methodology from open-cut excavation to well sinking, necessitated by site conditions. In*

addition, the capacities of certain electro-mechanical equipment have been revised, and some essential items have been added as they were omitted from the original Bill of Quantities (BOQ);

- b. **Rising Main:** The diameter and length of the rising main have been revised in accordance with the approved drawings;
- c. **SPS-01:** Construction of a new Sewage Pumping Station (SPS) has become necessary to facilitate the tapping of an additional drain;
- d. **STP:** Due to the relocation of the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), the revised site is situated in a low-lying area adjacent to the River Ganga and was found to be waterlogged. Accordingly, dewatering and earth-filling works were undertaken prior to commencement of construction to achieve the required Highest Flood Level (HFL). In addition, an approach road and flood protection works are required to ensure safe access to the site and protect the STP infrastructure from flooding.

Decision:

After detailed deliberations, the Executive Committee (EC) observed that the project, "Interception & Diversion (I&D) and Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) at Kahalgaon, Bhagalpur, Bihar," pertains to the Namami Gange Mission-II (NGM-II) period and, accordingly, the provisions of the NGM-II Guidelines are applicable.

The EC further noted that the project cost had already been revised prior to tendering during the NGM-II phase, and a Revised Administrative Approval & Expenditure Sanction (AA&ES) had been issued incorporating the conditions stipulated under the NGM-II Guidelines before award of the work. Therefore, any increase in project cost arising out of changes in scope necessitated by site conditions shall be the responsibility of the State Government.

The EC also referred to paragraph 7 (Page 2 of 12) of the Revised AA&ES Guidelines, which stipulates that:

"Any cost escalation over and above the sanctioned cost attributable to the State Government, including due to delay in land acquisition, change in scope post approval, etc., will be borne by the concerned State Government. The guidelines applicable to NGM-II Projects will be applicable to this Project."

In view of the above, the Executive Committee approved the proposal for according revised Administrative Approval & Expenditure Sanction (AA&ES) for the project titled "Interception & Diversion (I&D) and Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) at Kahalgaon, Bhagalpur, Bihar" under the Namami Gange Programme (NGP – Non-EAP) at a total estimated cost of ₹69.09 crore (inclusive of GST). Out of the total project cost, the variation cost of ₹20.99 crore shall be borne entirely by the State Government, in accordance with the applicable NGM-II Guidelines. The financial liability of the Central Government shall remain unchanged and shall be limited to the amount already approved under the existing Revised AA&ES.

Agenda Item No. 72.7: In-principle approval of the variation proposal for “Interception & Diversion and STP at Dehri-on-Sone, Bihar under Namami Gange Programme”.

1. **Project** - I&D of drains and STP at Dehri-on-Sone, approved in the 38th EC meeting
2. **Original Sanctioned Cost** - Rs 63.89 crores (excluding GST), with 100% central funding as per AA&ES dated 28.10.2021 under NGM-I.
3. **Original Award Cost** - Rs 83.26 crores (excluding GST) dated 14.09.2023;
4. **Project Status** – Present progress of the work is 55% (as on May 2026)
5. **State Proposed Cost Variation** – Rs. 6.86 Crores;
6. **Variation Proposal** – The major components of variation proposal are as follows:
 - a) Increase in the length of the gravity main DI pipeline from I&D-01 to 11 MLD STP.
 - b) Increase in the diameter of the gravity main RCC pipeline from I&D-02 to 11 MLD STP.
 - c) Provision of manholes, which were not included in the original DPR.
 - d) Change in alignment resulting in an increase in diameter of the gravity main RCC pipeline from I&D-03 to I&D-02.
 - e) Increase in length and diameter of the rising main pipeline for I&D-05 and IPS-02.
 - f) Increase in length and diameter of the gravity main RCC pipeline from I&D-04 to 07 MLD STP.
 - g) Increase in length of the gravity main RCC pipeline from I&D-06 to 03 MLD STP.
 - h) Increase in depth and wall thickness of the MPS, due to change in STP location and gravity main alignment.
 - i) Provision of an additional effluent pipeline (approx. 8.50 m).

Discussion:

The State informed that the proposed variations have become necessary due to the change in the pipeline alignment from I&D-1 to the STP, necessitated by the presence of a highly congested road corridor, heavy traffic movement, and multiple existing underground utilities, including gas pipelines and Jal Jeevan Mission (Nal-Jal Yojana) pipelines. In such utilities, laying of pipeline on the proposed route was not a viable solution and thus revised alignment was explored. The revised alignment also includes the tapping of three additional drains with a combined sewage load of about 1-2 MLD, on the revised alignment route.

Further, the pipeline diameters have been revised based on the flow measurement report and hydraulic design requirements. Additionally, provisions for manholes (MHs), which were not included in the original tender, have been incorporated as part of the revised scope of work. The depth of the Intermediate Pumping Station (IPS) and Main Pumping Station (MPS) has also been increased due to the higher invert level (IL) of the gravity main, and the wall thickness of these structures has been enhanced to meet the revised design and structural requirements.



Decision:

After detailed deliberations, the Executive Committee (EC) approved the proposal for according in-principle approval to the variation proposal for the project titled "Interception & Diversion (I&D) of Drains and Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) at Dehri-on-Sone, Bihar" involving an estimated additional cost of ₹6.86 crore, subject to the third-party appraisal of the detailed proposal.

The revised Administrative Approval & Expenditure Sanction (AA&ES) for the project under the Namami Gange Programme (NGP – Non-EAP) shall be issued after receipt and approval of the detailed third-party appraisal report for the in-principle approved variation components.

Agenda Item No. 72.8: Handholding Support for Preparation of District Ganga Plans of Seven (07) Districts of West Bengal under Institutional Framework between National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) and Jadavpur University, West Bengal

Background:

A proposal of "Handholding Supports for Preparation of District Ganga Plans of Seven (07) Districts of West Bengal" was submitted by Jadavpur University. The original estimated cost of proposal was Rs. 64,30,292/- (incl. of GST). Third party appraisal for the proposal was undertaken by Dr R. S Tolia Uttarakhand Academy of Administration, (UAoA), Nainital which stated that the proposal is in line with the NMCG approved Handbook for District Ganga Plan preparation. They recommended to take up the proposal with proportionate revision of total cost to accommodate the additional training sessions and field visits. Subsequently, Jadavpur University submitted the revised proposal with additional components suggested by TPA at an estimated cost of Rs. 69,91,028 (incl. of GST). The said cost was found to be on higher side and it was eventually brought down to ₹59,22,774/- (incl. of GST) and subsequently, the proposal was placed before the Executive Committee. The brief details of the proposal are as follows:

1. **DPR prepared by and Executing Agency:** Jadavpur University
2. **DPR appraised by:** Dr R. S Tolia Uttarakhand Academy of Administration, (UAoA), Nainital
3. **Estimated Cost:** ₹59,22,774/- (incl. of GST)
4. **Financial Effect:** 100% Central Sector;
5. **Districts covered under the proposal:** North 24 Parganas, South 24 Parganas, Howrah, Purba Bardhaman, Murshidabad, Malda, Purba Medinipur
6. **Implementation Period:** 9 months after approval and financial allocation of the project
7. **Project Components:** Local Travel, Contingency and other miscellaneous expenditure, Interactions for co-creation, Capacity Building, Workshops, Documentations, Courses & Modules, Institute Overhead (10%)



Discussion:

Prof. Asis Mazumdar, Jadavpur University made a presentation on the proposal highlighting the need for technical handholding and capacity building for DGP preparation of West Bengal. He apprised the committee regarding the DGP planning steps, scope of work, methodology for preparation of DGPs, work plan and expected outcomes of the said proposal. He also introduced the team of experts to be engaged for the said project. He assured that the DGPs will be prepared in line with the District Ganga Planning Handbook published by NMCG. The EC enquired that whether such handholding will be extended to all the Districts under Ganga- Main stem. It was informed that GIZ is already involved in preparation of DGPs of more than 35 Districts and proposals have also been received from IIPA and CSE for handholding the preparation of DGPs in various districts of UP and Bihar. It was also discussed that the focus will be on 57 Ganga Main Stem districts for preparation of DGPs.

The Executive Committee noted that the Namami Gange Mission II (NGM II) has concluded on 31 March 2026. The EFC note seeking approval for NGM III was circulated on 28 November 2025 for Inter-Ministerial Consultations. The proposal was discussed with the Department of Expenditure (DoE) in a meeting held on 3 February 2026. Based on the advice communicated vide OM dated 4 February 2026, the EFC note has been revised and submitted to DOE. The EFC meeting was held on 9th July 26 and Minutes of the meeting were issued on 28th July 26. The cabinet note is under preparation for seeking approval of recommendations of the EFC. Pending final approval, the NGM has been accorded an interim extension until 30 September 2026. So far as the new sanctions under NGM III are concerned, it was noted that new sanctions can be issued for Projects/ activities within the approved framework of the NGM II and the approved expenditure limits for Q-1 and Q-2. Sanction value of such projects will be adjusted against the approved outlay of NGM III.

Decision:

After detailed deliberations, the Executive Committee (EC) accorded Administrative Approval & Expenditure Sanction (AA&ES) for handholding support for preparation of District Ganga Plans of seven (07) districts of West Bengal under Institutional Framework between National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) and Jadavpur University, West Bengal under Namami Gange Mission-III (subject of the approval of Namami Gange Mission-III) at the estimated cost of Rs. 59,22,774/- for 09 months after approval and financial allocation of the project.

Agenda Item No. 72.9: River Cities Alliance Challenge on Rejuvenating Urban Rivers**1. Project Overview**

The proposal titled "RCA Challenge for Rejuvenating Urban Rivers" was submitted by the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) to NMCG with the objective of promoting innovative, scalable, and replicable urban river management projects across River Cities Alliance (RCA) member cities. The Challenge seeks to support outcome-oriented projects through a competitive funding mechanism, while fostering innovation, institutional strengthening, and knowledge exchange among river cities.

- 2. Executing Agency:** National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)
- 3. Project Cost:** INR 150 Cr /- (Indian Rupees One Hundred and Fifty Crore Only)
- 4. Duration of Project:** 2 Years (24 Months)
- 5. Third-Party Appraisal:** Not undertaken at this stage. Detailed project appraisal shall be carried out after selection of projects under the Challenge, wherever applicable.
- 6. Key Components of the Proposal**

- Rolling out a national challenge for RCA member cities to promote innovative urban river management projects aligned with the ten objectives of the Urban River Management Plan (URMP) Framework.
- Selection of projects through a transparent and competitive evaluation process under Category-I and Category-II city classifications.
- Project maturation support, including preparation of Project Implementation Plans (PIPs), Detailed Project Reports (DPRs), Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning (MEL) Frameworks, Communication Plans, and Environmental & Social Safeguard Plans.
- Financial assistance for implementation of selected projects, coupled with technical handholding, monitoring, and performance-based review.
- Documentation, dissemination, and replication of best practices to strengthen the River Cities Alliance knowledge platform.

Discussion

The Executive Committee noted that the Namami Gange Mission II (NGM II) has concluded on 31 March 2026. The EFC note seeking approval for NGM III was circulated on 28 November 2025 for Inter-Ministerial Consultations. The proposal was discussed with the Department of Expenditure (DoE) in a meeting held on 3 February 2026. Based on the advice communicated vide OM dated 4 February 2026, the EFC note has been revised and submitted to DOE. The EFC meeting was held on 9th July 26 and Minutes of the meeting were issued on 28th July 26. The cabinet note is under preparation for seeking approval of recommendations of the EFC. Pending final approval, the NGM has been accorded an interim extension until 30 September 2026. So far as the new sanctions under NGM III are concerned, it was noted that new sanctions can be issued for Projects/ activities within the approved framework of the NGM II and the approved expenditure limits for Q-1 and Q-2. Sanction value of such projects will be adjusted against the approved outlay of NGM III.

Decision

1. EC approved the rolling out of RCA challenge along with associated cost of INR 150 Cr to be implemented by National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA). The project will be funded through World Bank under EAP component.
2. EC also directed that operational modalities, fund flow arrangement, roles & responsibilities specified under a Memorandum of Understanding be presented in the next EC meeting.



Agenda Item No. 72.10: Corrigendum to the Administrative Approval & Expenditure Sanction (AA&ES) for the Project "Development of Ghats and Crematorium at Paonta Sahib, District Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh" under the Namami Gange Programme

The Executive Committee (EC) of the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) had accorded approval to the project titled "Development of Ghats and Crematorium at Paonta Sahib, District Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh" under the Namami Gange Programme-II with 100% Central Sector Assistance. Pursuant to the approval, the Administrative Approval & Expenditure Sanction (AA&ES) for the project was issued by NMCG on 14.03.2024.

The Directorate of Urban Development, Government of Himachal Pradesh, vide its letter dated 10.06.2026, informed that, while examining the AA&ES and the communication issued by NMCG, it was observed that the implementing Urban Local Body (ULB) had inadvertently been mentioned as "Municipal Corporation, Sirmaur at Nahan." The Directorate clarified that no Urban Local Body by this name exists in the State. It further informed that the approved project is to be implemented through Municipal Council, Paonta Sahib, District Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh, whose administrative head is the Executive Officer. Accordingly, the Directorate requested NMCG to issue a corrigendum incorporating the correct name of the implementing Urban Local Body to facilitate opening of the Treasury Single Account (TSA) and the subsequent implementation of the project. The proposed corrigendum involves no change in the project scope or financial implication.

Discussion:

The representative of the Government of Himachal Pradesh requested the Executive Committee to approve the issuance of a corrigendum to the AA&ES, replacing the name of the implementing Urban Local Body with Municipal Council, Paonta Sahib, District Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh, whose administrative head is the Executive Officer.

Decision:

The Executive Committee approved the proposal and accorded approval for issuance of a corrigendum to the Administrative Approval & Expenditure Sanction (AA&ES), incorporating the correct name of the implementing Urban Local Body as Municipal Council, Paonta Sahib, District Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh, in place of the erroneously mentioned entity. The corrigendum shall facilitate opening of the TSA account and the smooth implementation of the project. The Committee further noted that the corrigendum is purely administrative in nature and does not entail any financial implication or change in the approved scope of the project.



Agenda Item No. 72.11: Minutes of 71st meeting of the Executive Committee of NMCG held on 13th July 2026 for information

The Executive Committee was informed that the minutes of 71st meeting of the Executive Committee of NMCG held on 13th July 2026 were circulated among all the committee members on 21st July 2026.

Agenda Item No. 72.12: Action Taken Report on the decisions of the Executive Committee taken in the 71st meeting held on 13th July 2026

The Executive Committee was informed that requisite action has been taken on the decisions taken in the 71st meeting of the EC held on 13th July 2026.

Agenda Item No. 72.13: "Green Ganga Corridor at Haridwar, Uttarakhand under Namami Gange Programme".

1. **DPR Prepared by** Department of Irrigation, Government of Uttar Pradesh.
2. **DPR Cost:** Rs 26.95 crores
3. **Project components:**
 - a) Green Path Development from Haridwar Dam to Astha Path;
 - b) Green Path Protection Embankment from Existing Astha Path to Chandi Ghat;
 - c) Strengthening of existing embankment and development green front in Belwala bund area from Chandi bridge to Kankhal bund with additional development of a gathering area approximately 20,000 sq.mts, for holding and resting crowd;
 - d) Strengthening of existing embankment for biodiversity and green front from Kankhal bund to Bairaagi camp.
4. **DPR appraised by:** IIT Roorkee.
5. **TPA recommended cost:** Rs 29.12 crore
6. **Project cost placed for approval:** Rs 28.98 crore, including GST;
7. **Financial Effect** – 100% central sector;
8. **Time for Implementation:** 05 months, including bidding & awarding of the project
9. **Bidding Process:** EPC mode

Discussion:

The proposal for the "Green Ganga Corridor at Haridwar, Uttarakhand under the Namami Gange Programme" was presented before the Executive Committee (EC) by the Mela Adhikari, Haridwar. During the deliberations, the EC sought clarification on whether the proposed project area falls within the notified floodplain zone of the River Ganga and permission/approval needed regarding the construction in the project area.



The State Government/implementing agency was advised to seek permission under the provisions contained para 6(3) and 42 of the River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities Order, 2016 for the temporary/permanent construction proposed under the project.

Decision:

After detailed deliberations, the Executive Committee (EC) decided to accord approval at the cost of ₹28.98 crore, including GST, subject to submission of the requisite applicable permissions/NOC under para 6(3) and 42 of the River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities Order, 2016. The State also needs to submit an undertaking from HDA/NNH regarding commitment for the maintenance and upkeep of the Green Corridor, post Kumbh 2027.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the Chair.

