



दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण
DELHI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

मुख्य योजना - 2021 की समीक्षा
Master Plan Review-2021

पंजीकरण फार्म
REGISTRATION FORM

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"OPEN HOUSE MEETS"

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प्रतिनिधि : Representing : सरकारी विभाग / फेडरेशन / संघ (एसोसिएशन) / आर डब्लू ए / व्यक्तिगत Government Department/ Federation/Association/RWA/ Individual	Bharat Chachar Nirvaran Samiti, (Regd.), B-5/113, Yamuna Vihar, Delhi
वर्तमान स्थिति Present Position	Chairman, Nirvaran Samiti & Secretary
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तिथि : Date :	29/5/2012

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BHARASTACHAR NIWARAN SAMITI

(Registered Under Societies Registration Act. 1860)

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Date 29/5/2012

PS: CONCLUSION: -

INSANITATION + POLLUTION OF WATER
& AIR INDUSED EPIDEMICS CAUSED
DEATH & DESTRUCTION AND COLLAPSE
OF GREAT CIVILIZATIONS LIKE INDUS
VALLEY ETC. Will we repeat?

Mr. Tapan Mandal,
Director (Plg.), DDA Zone (E&O)
3rd Floor, Vikas Sadan, New Delhi.

Subject: REVIEW OF MASTER PLAN FOR DELHI 2021-PARTICIPATIVE

APPROACH: Objections-suggestions in the matter of draft Zonal Plan for Zone 'O' [River Yamuna] in the National Capital Territory of Delhi and misuse- illegal use of Yamuna River Flood Plane Land in the U.T. of Delhi..

PERILS OF RELIGIONS & RIVERS BRING REVENGE OF NATURE

Reference: Public Notice Published in the Times of India, New Delhi dated 24/5/2012 inviting suggestions from citizens and others.

Dear Sir,

In the context of above cited subject and reference,. May please consider '**Portent of Holocaust**'- A research paper by Er. V.K. Agarwal, a copy of which is enclosed herewith. Also enclosed a copy of new report published in the Hindustan Times, New Delhi dated 04/5/2012, titled **TOXINS FROM YAMUNA CORRODING METRO METAL**.

In continuation to the contents of the aforesaid, it is further stated that the provisions of the draft Zonal Plans are contrary to Constitution of India Article 21, 39, 47, 48-A and 51-A and law stipulated in the Indian Easement Act, 1882, endangering public safety and life – liberty of the future civilization and mankind itself. The public servants of the government i.e. DDA, MCD and Delhi Jal Board etc. are continuously committing crimes u/s 277 and 278 of IPC and other provisions of law stated hereunder.

- (i) Article 21 and Article 51-A of the Constitution of India.
- (ii) Delhi Development Act, 1957 wherefrom the River regulation and control of it's land falls outside the ambit of the said Act.
- (iii) Northern India Canal & Drainage Act, 1873 [Section 22; 23; 24; 26; 30; 55; 57; 68].
- (iv) Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957. All garbage is the legal property of the MCD.

- (v) Indian Panel Code section 276 and 277.
- (vi) The Indian Easement Act, 1882 [Section 7 and 8 makes the Yamuna River regime land use common land for all citizens, therefore, citizens are the co-owners of the said land, not the Government / DDA/ MCD.
- (vii) Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.
- (viii) Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
- (ix) The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- (x) The Plastics Manufacture, Sale & Usage Rules, 1999.
- (xi) The Municipal Solid Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 2001.
- (xii) The National Environment Tribunal Act, 1995.
- (xiii) The National Environment Appellate Authority Act, 1997.
- (xiv) The Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991.
- (xv) The Delhi Panchayat Raj Act, 1954.
- (xvi) The Public Records, 1993.
- (xvii) The Govt. of NCT of Delhi Act, 1991.
- (xviii) The Delhi Jal Board Act.

NATURAL RIVERS, LAKES AND OTHER WATER BODIES HAVE BECOME OPEN AIR DRAINS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNTREATED INDUSTRIAL & DOMESTIC SEWAGE AND OTHER WASTES AND SOLID GARBAGE ETC BY MCDs., NDMC, DELHI JAL BOARD ETC.

REDRESSAL OF THE PROBLEM IS IMPERATIVE TO PROTECT THE MANKIND FROM CONSEQUENTIAL EPIDEMICS, DECIMATION AND RESULTANT CURATIVE MEDICAL CARE AND FINANCIAL LIABILITIES.

THE RELIGIOUS ORDAINS HAD FAILED TO MOTIVATE PEOPLE NOW A DAYS AND ARE IN TOTAL DISUSE AS REGARDS TO PREVENTING POLLUTION OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT AND WILD-LIFE.

THE APPLICANT AND OTHERS HAD TRIED BY PLEADING WITH GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITIES AND COURTS WITHOUT REQUISITE RELULTS (FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS RESTRICT AND LIMITS THERIR EFFORTS). EVEN THE GANGA ACTION PLAN AND YAMUNA ACTION PLAN; BOTH HUGELY FINANCED BY INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSATITUTIONS; HAVE FAILED TO GIVE RESULTS DUE TO INEPT PLANNING AND RAMPANT CORRUPTION IN IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES.

THESE OBJECTIONS ARE LIMITED TO SEARCH OF EXISTING MEASURES WHICH ARE IN DISUSE SINCE THEIR INCEPTION. SO FAR WE HAD USED CIVIL LAWS ONLY AND FAILED TO LARGE EFFECT SINCE THE PUBLIC AUTHORITIES ARE NOT RESPONSIVE AND ACCOUNTABLE FOR CIVIL LIABILITIES. HOWEVER, THE CRIMINAL LAW IMPOSES PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND LIABILITIES FOR OFFENCES, THEREFORE CRIMINAL LAW CREATED FEAR IN LAW OFFENDERS COMPELLING HIM / HER TO ACT, HONOUR LAW AND STATE



The foregoing may also please be considered keeping in view the past performance of the DDA' land management and land disposal authorities which used Master Plans; Building Byelaws and acquired land; less for planned development of Delhi and more for illegal creation of unplanned - unauthorized colonies and Jhuggi- Jhopri clusters thereby totally destroying the quality of water and environment endangering the safety of resident population and inviting - bestowing insults and ill will from visitors to this historical city i.e. National Capital: Delhi. Therefore, any Zonal or other planning of land falling in the River bed/ River front of Yamuna shall only be an enabling provision for land sharks / mafias for indulging in more crime and corruption. The Delhi Master Plan-2001 had expired long back as of now Delhi Master Plan-2021 had been notified. The validity of Zonal Plan 'O' is dubious and is baseless without any foundation.

Therefore, understated is recommended for consideration and implementation:

- a) The hydrological profile of the River Yamuna as is existing at present should not be altered, rather understated measures be implemented to improve the same. The backbone of the frame work policy must be in conformity to the laws referred above. Flood Plane Zoning Bill drafted in the Office of the Flood Control Department of the Delhi Govt. and considered in the Standing Committee of the Chief Secretary may be enacted by the Delhi Legislative Assembly without any further delay.
- b) No policy is required for the development of river Yamuna River bed land / river front. Rather the construction viz. Akardham Temple illegally constructed in the bed of the river should be removed at the earliest and the construction of Common Wealth Games Village in the river bed land be removed at once. For channelization of river Yamuna between Wazirabad Barrage and New Okhla Barrage, a water channel of about 600 M width be left and in the residual land strip on both banks, tree be planted; this measure shall create channelized river by nature since the planted trees shall reduce the water flow velocity during high floods, thereby increasing siltation on the river bed land-increasing it's ground level and also increasing the water flow velocity in the mid stream and also increasing mid river bed erosion. Thus, the river channelization could be done without incurring any expenditure and such measure shall also entail betterment of environment.
- c) The operational plan for implementation must be based on law and Flood Plane Zoning Bill as recommended by Rastiya Bar Ayog and the Ministry of Water Resources, GOI. Furthermore, to increase ground water recharge and to protect misuse of river regime land, the water pondage level be raised to RL 210.800 M; RL 204.500 M and RL 202.700 M upstream of Wazirabad Barrage, Yamuna Barrage and Okhla Barrage respectively. These water levels be maintained during all seasons and for this, the river water flow during rainy season be impounded at higher levels to help maintain minimum water level during dry season.
- d) A Regulatory Tribunal [headed by a sitting or retired Judge of the Supreme Court and having members from the engineering departments] be created for co-ordinating storm water drainage schemes, sewage treatment and disposal schemes of various



implementing agencies with the sole purpose to ensure that only storm water / surface run-off and treated sewer water flows into the river and nothing else. Polluters including public servants be punished under criminal laws.

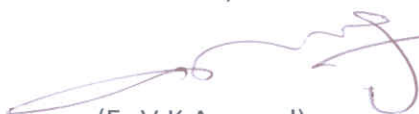
PRAYER:

In the facts and circumstances of the case, it is prayed that:

- a) The DDA must quash all it's actions – proceedings in the impugned matter of Zonal Plan 'O' for the Yamuna River/River front in the U.T.of Delhi. Instead, action in conformity to the above named Northern India Canal & Drainage Act may be taken;
- b) The DDA, the Ministry of Urban Development, the Ministry Water Resources of the Govt. of India should take action in conformity to the Constitution of India and other laws of the land. They must ensure that no sewer /waste/polluted water is drained into storm water drains of DDA, MCD, PWD and Irrigation & Flood Control Department. **Offenders must be charged and prosecuted in terms of law stipulated in Water Act, 1974, Indian Panel Code, Human Rights Act, Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, New Delhi Municipal Council Act etc.**
- c) The Govt. of NCT of Delhi may be requested to enact requisite Flood Plane Zone Bill in conformity to the directions of the Ministry of Water Resources, Govt. of India for management of Yamuna River bed land falling in the U.T. Delhi;
- d) The Municipal Corporation(s) of Delhi must constitute Committee for District Planning in conformity to Article 243-ZD of the Constitution of India for Zonal Plan for the River bed land;
- e) The Directorate of Panchayat, Govt. of NCT of Delhi must act in conformity to Article 234-G and 243-L of the Constitution of India of the purpose of land use of the Yamuna River bed.
- f) **Appropriate additions be made in MPD-2021 to incorporate aforesaid suggestions in Para 3.3, 9.2.1, 14.2.3, 14.3 and 14.4 to improve degraded and polluted environment of U.T. of Delhi**

Thanking You.

Yours truly



(Er.V.K.Agarwal)
Chairman



(C.K.Pandey)
Vice Chairman



(R.P.Sharma)
Secretary

industa

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Toxins from Yamuna corroding Metro metal

UNEASY RIDE Fumes from river damaging cooling system

ht EXCLUSIVE

Subhendu Ray

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NEW DELHI: The Metro — a boon for commuters in Delhi's cruel summer months — is losing its cool on the Yamuna stretch. Blame it on the toxic river.

Delhi Metro Rail Corporation officials claim the air conditioning systems of trains that cross the "dead" Yamuna daily and of those parked at Yamuna Bank depot are badly damaged. "The toxic gases damage the coating on the condenser joints of the AC system, which in turn causes leakage of coolant gas," said DMRC director (operations) Rajkumar.

"Condenser systems of 350 coaches on lines 3 (Dwarka-Noida City Centre) and 4 (Yamuna Bank-Vaishali) and of 100 out of 200 coaches on line 1 (Dilshad Garden-Rithala) have been replaced."

But here's the more worrying aspect: if the river toxins are

POISON IN THE AIR



- Yamuna releases toxic ammonia and hydrogen sulfide fumes
- These corrode metals and electrical equipment such as ACs
- Also cause respiratory tract infections, dizziness, nausea and sore throat

« Metro crossing Yamuna.

Smaller Yamunas

- Toxic drains across Delhi are causing similar problems

- Drains in Najafgarh (west Delhi), Shahdara (east), Defence Colony (south) and Khashak Nallah in Chanakya-puri (south) are major pollutants

affecting the Metro, imagine the damage they are causing your respiratory system (see box).

"There is no oxygen in the Yamuna, just sewage. Toxic fumes, including ammonia and hydrogen sulfide, emanating from the polluted water corrodes metals," said DD Basu, senior scientist, Central Pollution Control Board.

The DMRC has asked the coach manufacturer to coat coolant tubes with anti-corrosion paint.

Inside

P3

- » An uneasy crossing
- » No study to check air
- » Home ACs damaged



quotemartial

The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) has been entrusted with mono rail project because of its professionalism.

SHEILA DIKSHIT, chief minister, Delhi

DEADLY RIVER

Quietly flows the dirty, poisonous Yamuna

NOXIOUS FUMES Dangerous gases released by the river a health hazard

Rhythm Kaul

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NEW DELHI: Have you felt nausea, difficulty in breathing, headache or dizziness while crossing the Yamuna on your way to work or while returning home?

If yes, then it is a good time to visit a doctor and get yourself examined for an infection of the upper respiratory tract. The highly polluted water, mostly sewage, that flows into the river releases highly toxic gases which are a serious health hazard to anybody coming in direct contact with them.

Noxious gases such as ammonia and hydrogen sulphide emanated by the Yamuna are poisoning the air for people living around the river belt.

Health experts said Yamuna, in Delhi, is a little different from highly-polluted drain. The gravity of the problem can be gauged from the fact that one does not need scientific instrument to detect the presence of these gases as any body breathing near the river's can smell the poisonous gases.

"These gases are released by the sewage which is dumped into the river from across the city. The river is no better than a sewer now. Both ammonia and hydrogen sulphide are extremely toxic and can pose grave health problems for the people living around the water," said Ravi Agarwal, founder director, Toxics Link, a Delhi-based NGO working for clean environment.

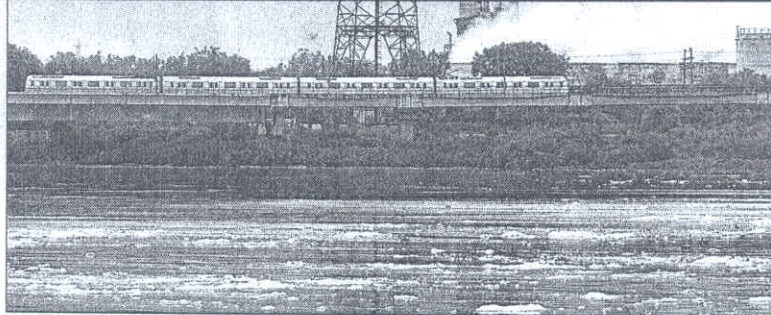
Hospitals and nursing homes situated near the river caters to a regular stream of patients suffering from various upper respiratory tract infections.

"We get about 10-15 people suffering from bronchitis, aggravated asthma, interstitial lung disease and diseases of the upper respiratory tract each

(Yamuna is no better than a sewer now. It poses a serious health hazard.)

RAVI AGARWAL
Director, Toxics Link

TOXIC SPOT ON DELHI'S LUNGS



TOXIC FACTS

The Yamuna in Delhi is called 'dead' river because there is no trace of life-supporting oxygen

18 Number of drains that empty untreated, partially treated and treated sewage into the Yamuna

22 kms stretch downstream of Wazirabad barrage in Delhi

WHAT YAMUNA RELEASES INTO THE AIR

AMMONIA GAS

- A severe respiratory tract irritant, prolonged exposure to which can cause fluid accumulation in lungs
- Symptoms include stiffness and difficulty in breathing
- Also dissolves in moisture on the skin, forming corrosive ammonium hydroxide
- Can cause burns and blisters
- Over time, cause permanent damage to lungs

HYDROGEN SULPHIDE

(the gas smells like rotten eggs)

- Irritation of eyes (acute conjunctivitis), nose, and throat.
- Bronchitis, aggravated asthma.
- Headache
- Dizziness
- Nausea, vomiting
- Coughing, difficulty in breathing

month. Though it is difficult to tell the exact cause as it may vary from case to case, environmental pollution could be a major contributor," said a doctor at Jeevan Anmol Hospital in Mayur Vihar, Phase-I.

"I have been experiencing difficulty in breathing for the past few years. I do not know the reason, but I have a feeling the pollution has taken its toll on me," said YC Wadehra, 78, a resident of Mayur Vihar, Phase-II.

Dr Rukamani Nair, medical superintendent of an alternative therapy hospital, Bapu Nature Cure Hospital and Yogashram, in Mayur Vihar, Phase-I also claimed that two in 20 people who visit the hospital every day have symptoms of nose, throat and lung infections.

"Pollution is obviously a leading cause for these diseases. We run a very busy OPD and treat people using natural therapy and yoga," she said.

No study to check air above Yamuna

Nivedita Khandekar

■ nivedita.khandekar@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: It doesn't take an environmentalist to know that Yamuna is one of the most polluted rivers in the country. But what has escaped the attention of all government agencies and NGOs alike is to assess the effect of the toxic fumes emanated by the water on the air quality above the river.

Yamuna's water is fully diverted to the Western Yamuna Canal up stream of Hathni Kund. Downstream of Wazirabad barrage, it is mostly sewage — treated, partially treated and untreated — emptied into the river by 18 drains.

"Yamuna is no longer an ecological entity. There is no oxygen...It is a dead (river), anaerobic. It releases ammonia and hydrogen sulphide among other toxic gases," explained Dr DD Basu, senior scientist from Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). But neither Delhi Pollution Control Committee nor any NGO has carried out any study to assess the damage being caused by the dangerous gases that hung over the river water. The CPCB has carried out certain investigations for measuring ammonia at a few places. "(Now) we are carrying out an exhaustive study for ammonia. Later, we would do it for hydrogen sulphide," Basu said.

Gases damage ACs in nearby areas

Rajat Arora and Vinod Rajput

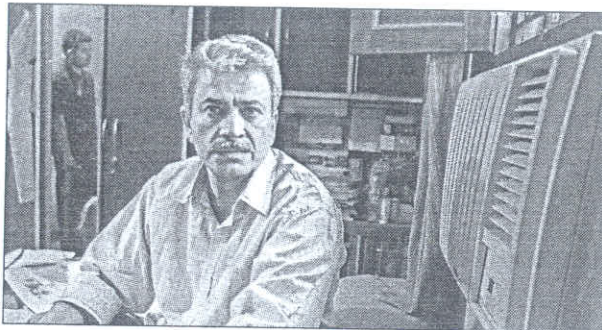
■ htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI/NOIDA: The fact that their house is situated near a river is no consolation in this torrid heat for those who have their abode near the Yamuna.

Apart from the air-conditioning systems of Metro trains, which have been affected by the toxic gas emanated by the extremely polluted Yamuna, the cooling machines of the people living along the river belt have been hit by the noxious gases that the sewage-filled water of the Yamuna releases into the air.

The air conditioners installed in homes at Mayur Vihar, Vasundhara Enclave and Noida collapse within a year of purchase due to the toxic gases being released by the Yamuna.

"We have to get the gas of our



■ **Sanjay Mago, a resident of Mayur Vihar, says he has to get his AC repaired after every three-four months.**

RAJ K RAJ/HT PHOTO

AC refilled twice in one season as the gas pipe leaks due to corrosion. The AC mechanic told us that it is due to the polluted air in our area," said RK Saxena, a resident of DDA flats, Mayur Vihar-I.

The residents claim that with-

in a month of purchase, the cooling capability of their air-conditioner goes down. "The AC repair shops in the locality are doing brisk business as the number of complaints has gone up considerably. "I get more than 10 calls every day. There's too

much pollution in the air in this area that damages the ACs. The life of ACs has been reduced to a couple of years in this area," said Shambu Deb, who has been running an AC repair shop in Mayur Vihar phase I for more than a decade.

Rising level of pollution in the Shahdara drain, a major drain that flows through the city and finally empties out into the Yamuna, has been damaging ACs, refrigerators, coolers, gold and silver jewellery, besides cars in Noida as well.

"The servicing cost of the air conditioners has shot up manifold in the past two-three years. We either have to buy a new AC every season or spend almost half its cost on the repairing," said Sanjay Mago, a resident of pocket 4, Mayur Vihar Phase I.

PORTENT OF HOLOCAUST

The population residing in U.T. of Delhi is passing through epidemic situation with cholera, viral hepatitis, gastro-enteritis and meningitis during the current year. Almost 1314 people died in Delhi due to these epidemics, of these, gastro-enteritis alone took the maximum lives of 717 followed by meningitis 407 and viral-hepatitis 103. Almost one lac citizens were forced to go for hospitalisation.

The despoiling of environment and pollution of ground water is the root cause of these deaths and sufferings which is the end result of callousness and inept execution of developmental works by various agencies in total disregard to the law of the land. The non-enforcement of accepted governmental policies and adoption of faulty norms has driven this national capital towards perpetual decay and decimation. This pollution and despoilment of environment is worst than the Bhopal gas disaster which was one time tragedy whereas the pollution in U.T. of Delhi is a continuing affair in the lives of present and future generations. This has caused permanent injury of continuing nature to public and the tortuous liabilities arising out is attributable to chief executive (s) and head of department (s) respectively in terms of section 16 & 17 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 inviting prosecution U/S 133 of Cr. C.P.

The policy adopted by the local civic authorities lead by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi for garbage disposal is the main culprit for spreading cholera and partly responsible for mosquito-breeding causing meningitis. The present policy of storing garbage at certain bins for number of days and thereafter collecting, transporting by motor vehicles and dumping at sanitary fill yards is not only causing avoidable waste-full expenditure but also despoiling environment in the neighbourhood and also giving breeding grounds to flies and mosquitoes. Secondly, where is the land in this small U. T. of Delhi where more and ever increasing garbage disposal yards could be laid. By present policies, the urban waste is being dumped on the rural people depriving them of natural surroundings and

bringing them nearer to un-natural deaths. The better and economical method for garbage disposal is the time tested old method of providing small size 'Incinerators' at each garbage bin. This simple low cost garbage disposal system shall eliminate storage of garbage in residential localities thereby wipe-off fly-mosquito breeding grounds; free civic services from high cost of collection and transportation of garbage to long distances and most importantly, give relief to rural people on whose lands and lives this urban garbage is disposed off.

This year, the gastro-enteritis expectedly took aggravated form and caused maximum miseries to the public and brought bad name to the government. The only cause of this wide spread disease is the pollution of sub-soil water due to faulty construction of sewers and drains; more importantly, non provision of proper disposal arrangements for wastes confirming to Section 250 of Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957. The maximum decimation took place in the surrounding colonies of D.D.A.'s Dilshad Garden and Yamuna Vihar. It's a fact that these two colonies developed by Delhi Development Authority remained free of gastro-enteritis where piped water supply, sewers and storm water drains are available but the neighbouring un-authorised regularised and resettlement colonies where the residents have to use sub-soil water, suffered the maximum. The ground water/sub-soil water in the Trans-Yamuna area got polluted due to faulty planning and construction of sewers and drains against the law of the land. Section 242 and 248 of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957 prescribe for separate drains for storm water and sullage but the DDA connected sullage drains of unauthorised/regularised colonies carrying sullage, animal and human excreta and chemical discharges from unauthorised factories with the storm water drains of Yamuna Vihar and Dilshad Garden, instead of providing suitable traps and connections with the nearest sewer manhole to violate the law and degrade the environment, inviting the provisions of Section 2, 12 and 13 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974; Section 7 & 8 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Section 55 of the Northern

India Canal and Drainage Act, 1873. Further, the water supply mains are passing over the bed of these drains in the face of Section 236 of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957 providing for keeping away water mains to a minimum distance of ten feet to prevent the possibility of pollution. The Delhi Development Authority failed to take any lesson from its past mis-deeds in Janakpuri where similar violation of law caused epidemic in the year 1973-74 resulting in deaths due to jaundice. The quality of planning and construction of drains could be seen in full glare in the D.D.A.'s Yamuna Vihar Colony where the bed level of the culvert between B & C Blocks is almost five feet above the bed level of the drain giving the drain bed the shape of camel's back and creating permanent pondage in the up-side drains resulting in drowning of children, percolation of sullage water and mixing with the sub-soil water, causing pollution. This pondage and stagnation of sullage full of animal and human excreta takes to organic decay giving best environ to breeding of flies and mosquitoes and the release of pungent gases/stink with this natural decay process makes the residents ill with respiratory distresses. Toxic gases generated with organic decay process in the drains causes slow internal secretions resulting in lungs cloggings and spasmodic constrictions of bronchial tubes. The ground water has been polluted with biological contamination such as guinea worms, cholera, typhoid as well as contaminations such as fluoride, backishness and iron etc. What are the long term effects with regard to physiological functioning of various systems and the severity of damages caused to the resident population exposed to these toxic and pungent gases is to be assessed by an independent competent expert authority. However, such type of pollution is certainly reducing the normal life-span of the resident population.

The resident population of D.D.A. colonies is alive to the grave situation and is constantly approaching all authorities of Government of India, Delhi Administration, Delhi Development Authority, Delhi Municipal Corporation but alas, all authorities including government officers and elected representatives have become impervious to the sufferings of the public. The only

result that came out of these public pleadings coupled by four drowning cases was that the Lt. Governor, Delhi ordered 'Magistrate Enquiry' which was made by S.D.M. (New Delhi) in the year 1986 and reported about massive corruption and defrauding of public money by engineers in the drainage works executed for Yamuna Vihar.

And these 'Sulabh Sauchalayas' are being scattered throughout this Union Territory, less said, the better. These Sauchalayas are Sulabh only in one respect and that is that the human excreta of these Sauchalayas is injected direct into sub soil water channels cause worst form of pollution.

The government came out of slumber when hundreds of residents died this year in the Trans-Yamuna localities and when the Prime Minister himself made repeated inspections. The end result of the Prime Minister's endurances is also not satisfactory due to basic faults creeping into our governance systems i.e. finding alibis and scapegoats, appointing committees and allocating huge funds for ad-hoc arrangements. This only speaks like fire-fighting operation and gives nothing like permanent solution to basic flaws. The Committee headed by Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development, Govt. of India (D.M. Suktankar Committee) has drawn wrong conclusions for the spread of epidemic of cholera and gastro-enteritis and made wrong recommendations for counter measures. The Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking of M.C.D. is wasting public money to the tune of almost five crores of rupee for providing Hindustan Mark-II type hand pumps with deeper intake-pipes. Here, it's to be known that the ground water channels are inter-connected in each water bearing strata and the water bearing stratas in the natural form are inter-connected at different levels. Thus, the intake of water from the deeper levels is no sure guarantee for safe drinking water. This should be considered on the face of site conditions. The Trans-Yamuna area is a river regime where the ground soil is sandy and the sub-soil water table is at shallower depths. The sewers and manholes with leaking joints are laid on the same level where the sub-soil water level exist thereby creating conditions for intermixing of sewage

th sub-soil water, being used by public for day-to-day survival. This intermixing of sullage is also helped by non functioning of sewerage system as the faulty construction of this system fails the sullage reaching its signed disposals point i.e. oxidation ponds and gets sorbed in the ground itself.

The agony and anxiety of the public as regards to pollution of water and environment to dangerous limits is well within the knowledge of Central Pollution Control Board and Ministry of Environment, Govt. of India in May, 1988 itself much before the onslaught of epidemic as they were in receipt of requisite notices under Sec. 19 (b) of the Environment (Protection) Act 1986, but failed to act.

Foregoing leads us to nightmare and our own annihilation, caused basically due to faulty planning and construction of drains and sewers, wastage of very hard public money. The manner these development works are designed and executed, any Administrator, Town Planner, Architect and Engineer worth his salt shall feel ashamed. In the name of development, the greed of officers/engineers has converted the whole U.T. of Delhi into slum and death-traps for its residents longing for average living environment. The political masters are also responsible for this sad state. They are people responsible for laying down policies and priorities. The Delhi Development Authority develops colony and lays the system for drains and sewers. Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking of C.D. erect Sewage Treatment Plant but no trunk sewer line is laid to connect the sewers of the DDA colonies with the Sewage Treatment Plant of MCD and such happenings are the routine affairs. The DDA's residential colonies namely Dilshad Garden and Yamuna Nagar were developed almost ten years back and Kondli Sewage Treatment Plant was commissioned about three years back, but, lo-behold, the work of laying trunk sewers to connect the sewers of the said colonies with Sewage Treatment Plant has not started yet. This is the fate of Prime Minister's eagerness to provide relief to suffering public. And, who is responsible for all these happenings? Are the persons according Administrative Approvals and Expenditure Sanctions for various schemes not responsible for such sad affairs? No

doubt, the engineers, who form the cutting edge level of the government delivery system, responsible for causing deaths and disease but the administrators and political masters are also equally responsible. This should be considered on the face of the realities existing in engineering services where persons with mediocre professional/technical qualifications are allowed to bypass requisite essential technical qualifications and promoted to men the superior posts resulting in unprofessional products and services and this ultimately hammers down public interest. The second factor responsible for inferior public utilities is the routine and institutionalised corruption prevailing in grass-root organisations, the engineering departments, despite counter measures established by the Government. The successful functioning of internal and concurrent technical audit units to their full stipulated potential has not been allowed. The measures to make these audit units meaning-full as approved by the government has failed to take shape due to failure of bureaucracy to bureaucracy. This aspect needs closer scrutiny by students of Public Administration.

The only redeemable feature is the democratic set up of our government. In the face of decay and demoralisation, the public out-cry and pressure is likely to increase and force its elected representatives and thereby the government to bring in some semblance of reforms towards public good for which the pre-requisite requirement shall be of an end to reward mediocrity and making effective technical audits to account for every rupee spent on good public services. Administration should note that the population has been perpetually under duress. Citizens are the innocent victims, have neither the time nor the money for dilatory forensic process. Maintenance of essential service, the drainage one of them, are the primary duty of state and no government worth the name can abdicate this function and put life of citizen in jeopardy. After this year's human tragedy, no static thinking will do and the administration should take dynamic decisions and tender justice by directing various engineering departments to strengthen their organisations with professionals with best available technical qualifications and to use effectively to full potential the existing internal and concurrent technical audit units.

May the cry of suffering citizens became louder and louder. May the traces of trauma these deaths has left behind on public psyche, force the government to act even at this belated stage. Victims can not be expected to wait till the process of meticulous collection of data is complete. If the local civic bodies are guilty of violation of laws of the land, the Central Government and Delhi Administration also failed to fulfil their obligations. The Delhi Administration should have an enlightened approach adopted. There must be a 'consortium approach' towards laying down facilities and services and the Administration should come forward with positive response to help speedier implementation of metropolitan drainage.

By the proviso of Section 55 and 57 of the Northern India Canal and Drainage Act, 1873, a Unified Drainage Agency already exist at apex in the office of Deputy Commissioner : Delhi-cum-District Canal and Drainage Officer. The re-activation of this apex authority to curb over-lapping of functions and cropping of chaotic conditions due to multiplicity of authorities is imperative. Local civic bodies and autonomous authorities including Irrigation and Flood Control Department are the horizontally constituted agencies while the District Canal and Drainage Officer under the over all command of Lt. Governor have mandatory and statutory functions as the vertical climb for the unified and co-ordinated implementation of the drainage schemes. Armed with such elaborate mandatory and statutory provisions available at command with the Delhi Administration, it's not out of reach to overcome the "portent of holocaust". The only need is strong will power to act as envisaged in law, in rational and logical manner, to give credit for higher expertise and to make effective stipulated technical internal and concurrent audit. ★

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October, 1988

PORTENT OF HOLOCAUST

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