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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

+ **W.P.(C) 8772/2025**

ADV. DHARUV GUPTA

.....Petitioner

Through: Ms. Indira Unninar, Ms. Nina
Bhalla and Ms. Apoorva Agarwal,
Advocate alongwith petitioner.

versus

GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI & ANR.Respondents

Through: Mr. Sameer Vashisht, Standing
Counsel (Civil) with Ms. Harshita
Nathrani, Advocate for GNCTD.
Ms. Sangeeta Bharti, Standing
Counsel with Mr. Deepak, EE, Mr.
Bijender Kumar, SE and Mr. A.P.
Rathi, AE for Delhi Jal Board.

CORAM:

HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANISH DAYAL

ORDER

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04.07.2025

1. Pursuant to our order dated 02.07.2025 a Status Report has been filed on behalf of the Delhi Jal Board, which is taken on record. The Status Report is based on some kind of survey and study.
2. It is admitted by the Delhi Jal Board, as is apparent from the perusal of the Status Report, that there are old and damaged water supply lines and house service connections in House No. C-378, Yojna Vihar and adjoining areas.
3. Addressing the said issue, the Status Report in *paragraph 5* suggests



that, for replacing old and damaged water supply lines and house service connections in House No. C-378, Yojna Vihar and adjoining areas, tender will be invited by 07.07.2025 and the contract is expected to be awarded by 17.07.2025. The Status Report further depicts that the said project is likely to be completed within thirty days from the date of award, i.e. by 16.08.2025. Paragraph 5 of the Status Report is extracted hereunder:

“An estimate for replacing the old and damaged water supply lines and house service connections in C-378 and the adjoining area has been prepared. Tenders for this work will be invited by 07.07.2025, with the contract expected to be awarded by 17.07.2025 i.e., by 16.08.2025. Upon completion, the issue of water contamination in the affected area is expected to be permanently resolved.”

4. While noticing the aforesaid statement made on behalf of the Delhi Jal Board, we direct that work relating to replacement of old and damaged water supply lines and house service connections in and around House No. C-378, Yojna Vihar shall be completed in any case by 16.08.2025; any failure whereof may be viewed seriously by the Court.

5. Another aspect which contributes to contaminated water supply is the under-capacity operation of the only Sewage Treatment Plant on account of silt accumulation in its effluent channels, as has been admitted in *paragraph 6* of the Status Report filed by the Delhi Jal Board, which is extracted hereunder:

“The other cause of water contamination has been identified as surcharged sewer lines, resulting from the under-capacity operation of the Kondli Sewage Treatment Plant due to silt accumulation in its effluent channels. Desilting work is in progress and is expected to be completed by August 2025. This will restore the plant’s optimal capacity, eliminating sewer surcharges in the command area and mitigating the risk of water contamination due to sewerage issues.”

6. In respect of the said Sewage Treatment Plan, the Status Report



assures that desilting work is in progress and is expected to be completed by August, 2025. We thus direct that, in terms of what has been stated in *paragraph 6* of the status report, desilting work shall be completed by the end of August, 2025.

7. In *paragraph 8* of the Status Report filed by the Delhi Jal Board, it has been stated that the Water Distribution Network in Yojna Vihar was installed 35 years ago, which has exceeded its operational life and hence requires comprehensive replacement. The only averment made in this regard in the Status Report is that Delhi Jal Board is undertaking the work relating to replacement of Water Distribution Network in a phased manner and prioritizing damaged sections based on the availability of the budget.

8. Admittedly, the Water Distribution Network in Yojna Vihar has exceeded its operational life and accordingly requires replacement. The issue raised in *paragraph 6* of the Status Report thus requires urgent attention, and accordingly we direct the Delhi Jal Board to file an affidavit in this regard stating therein the timeline within which the entire Water Distribution Network in Yojna Vihar shall be replaced.

9. We also direct that the necessary Detailed Project Report ('DPR') for the replacement of Water Distribution Network in Yojna Vihar and the estimate therefor shall also be prepared, which shall be submitted to the appropriate authority seeking its administrative and financial approval. Once the DPR and the estimate are presented before the authority concerned, the same shall be considered for grant of necessary administrative approvals, considering the admission made by the Delhi Jal Board that the Water Distribution Network in Yojna Vihar has already exceeded its operational life and, therefore, is required to be replaced.



10. We also direct that the authorities of the Delhi Jal Board shall be vigilant and take appropriate measures to ensure that booster pumps are not used during non-supply hours by the residents of the area. If any resident is found erring in this regard, necessary legal action, as may be permissible under law, shall also be taken.

11. List on 13.08.2025, by which date the up-to-date Status Report in the form of an affidavit shall be filed by both, the Delhi Jal Board as also by the learned counsel representing the GNCTD.

DEVENDRA KUMAR UPADHYAYA, CJ

ANISH DAYAL, J

JULY 4, 2025

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