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

+ **W.P.(C) 17064/2024**

RAVINDER YADAV

.....Petitioner

Through: Petitioner joined through VC.

versus

GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI & ORS.

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Dhruv Rohatgi, Panel Counsel (Civil), GNCTD with Mr. Dhruv Kumar and Mrs Chandrika Sachdev, Advocates.

Mr. Manu Chaturvedi, standing counsel for MCD.

Mr. Tushar Sannu, Mr. Vaibhav Tripathi, Ms. Rajabala, Ms. Payal Rajput, Mr. Praveen Bansal, from department of DJB Ravi Prakash - EE CDR 14 and Manoj Kumar Bairwa AE care of EE C27.

CORAM:

JUSTICE PRATHIBA M. SINGH

JUSTICE MANMEET PRITAM SINGH ARORA

ORDER

% **30.06.2026**

1. This hearing has been done through hybrid mode.
2. *Vide* order dated 29th May, 2026, this Court directed as under:

“11. The IDMC Cell shall be entrusted with the responsibility of undertaking, supervising, coordinating, and ensuring the effective implementation of the following functions and activities, which shall constitute its mandate:

- i) *It shall oversee and supervise the issues relating to waterlogging, drain*



management, sewage management, water pipes, any encroachments on drains, unauthorised constructions, cleaning, maintenance, management and any other connected related issues in Delhi.

ii) The cell, under the supervision of Mr. Sandeep Mishra, shall meet every Friday at 11:30 A.M. for the first three months from the date of this order, in order to take stock of the forthcoming monsoon season, including the decanting of drains, clearing of roads, footpaths and pedestrian areas, removal of unauthorised vending over drains, removal of encroachments, and to review the status of compliance of all measures required to be undertaken in this regard.

iii) The IDMC Cell which shall also act as the STF for this purpose shall be free to include in its meetings any other Departments or Authorities whose services would be required for the purposes of ensuring that waterlogging does not take place in Delhi.

iv) Whenever any agency carrying out any work on the above aspects faces any difficulty in coordination with other agencies, the same shall be brought to the notice of the IDMC cell who shall enable coordination and resolve the issue.

v) The concerned officials from all department are to be sensitised that they ought not to engage in a blame game situation and shift the burden or blame to non-cooperation from any agency. Officials including Executive Engineers shall be sensitised to this Order, so that any works that are pending can be executed with



promptitude, in required, with the intervention of the IDMC cell.

12. *The IDMC Cell shall file periodic reports on work being carried out from time to time before this Court.*

13. *The work of the STF/IDMC Cell is of utmost importance, especially, for the next three months during the monsoon season. It is made clear that if more than one weekly meeting is required, the IDMC cell is free to call for such a meeting.*

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16. *Insofar as the photographs handed over by the Petitioner is concerned, a status report has been handed over by Mr. Dhruv Rohatgi, Id. Counsel wherein it is stated that side drains are being constructed to ensure the water does not flow into the houses, offices and shops.*

17. *Let a copy of the said status report be handed over to the Petitioner -Mr. Ravinder Yadav.*

18. *At this stage, the Petitioner- Mr. Ravinder Yadav has handed over certain photographs to show that the level of the drain is not proper considering the lowest point in the area. Let the Petitioner explain the same to the concerned officials of the Irrigation & Flood Control Department, who may consider the submission made by Mr. Yadav and take remedial measures, if required.”*

3. Today, certain minutes of meetings have been handed over by Mr. Dhruv Rohatgi, Id. Counsel for the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (hereinafter, ‘GNCTD’) to show the manner in which the newly constituted Special Task Force (hereinafter, ‘STF’) is functioning.

4. A perusal of the minutes of meeting would show that various action



points have been given to the various agencies. However, there is no clarity as to what is the actual action that has in fact been taken on the ground by the STF. Let the same be clarified by the next date of hearing by way of a status report.

5. Insofar as the objections raised by Mr. Ravinder Yadav-Petitioner is concerned *i.e.*, the level of the drain is higher than that of the road, Mr. Surain Kumar, Executive Engineer, Irrigation and Flood Control Department (hereinafter, '*I&FCD*') submits that the level of the road would be the same as the drains. Moreover, Mr. Kumar submits that bell mouths would be made from the side of the colonies, buildings abutting the drain, flowing into the drain so that the water can flow into the drain.

6. Certain photographs which have been handed over to the Court which would show that the work of construction of the drain is still incomplete. The team from the I&FCD has assured that within the next week or ten days the work would be completed and the water which would be accumulating in the said area would flow into the drain.

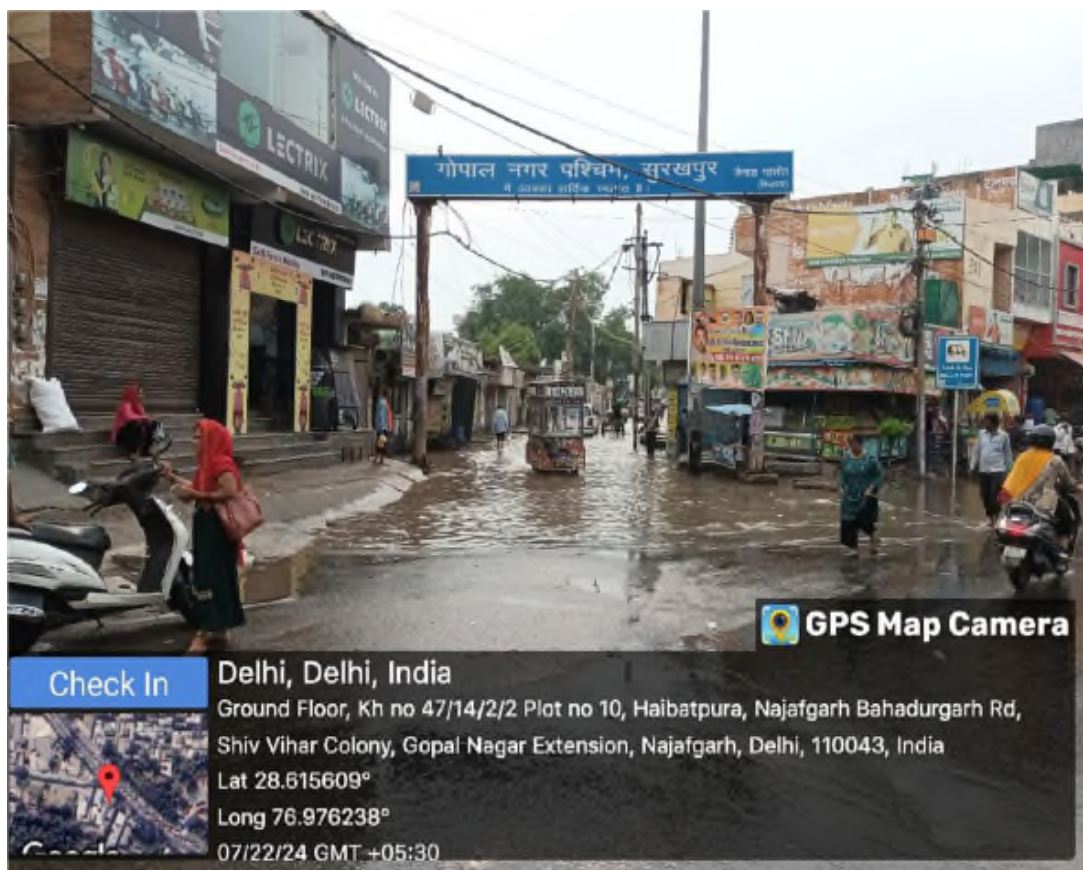
7. Accordingly, let an updated status report be filed in this regard by the next date of hearing. Let the making of the bell mouths and covering of the drain with stone slabs be also completed by the next date of hearing.

8. Serious issues have also been raised in respect of *Surakhpur Mod* and *Surakhpur Area*, where the photographs of 2024 depict the following position prevailing during the rainy season:-





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9. Mr. Dhruv Rohatgi, Id. Counsel submits that the work of the I&FCD commences from the end point where the road of the Public Works Department (hereinafter, 'PWD') ends in the said area and the I&FCD has already commenced its work, in respect whereof photographs have been placed on record.

10. Insofar as the road of the PWD is concerned, Mr. Manish Singh, Executive Engineer, PWD is present in Court and submits that the tender has been floated for the construction of the drain in this area. On being questioned as to why there has been so much delay from the last monsoon, he submits that the specifications had to be finalised and there was delay in receiving sanction. Mr. Singh submits that the tender has now been opened and the technical bid has also been opened.



11. It is completely unacceptable to the Court that despite the issue having remained pending for the last two years, the tender is stated to have been floated only now and even the said tender is yet to be finalised. The monsoon has already commenced, and the construction of the drain by the I&FCD in the further area would serve no meaningful purpose if the contiguous area does not have any drain. Mr. Dinesh Prakash, Assistant Engineer and Mr. Krishan Gopal Meena, Executive Engineer from the PWD who are not present in Court today shall file personal affidavits by the next date of hearing explaining the following:-

- i) The timeline for construction of the drain;
- ii) Reasons for the delay; and
- iii) As to whether there is co-ordination with the I&FCD so that there is continuation in the water flow in the drain as well.

12. Mr. Dinesh Prakash, Assistant Engineer and Mr. Krishan Gopal Meena, Executive Engineer from the PWD shall also be personally present on the next date of hearing.

13. Mr. Mishra from the STF has assured the Court that in the next meeting of the STF, he would look into this matter.

14. List on 24th July, 2026.

PRATHIBA M. SINGH, J.

MANMEET PRITAM SINGH ARORA, J.

JUNE 30, 2026/MR/ck