

Report of Roundtable to be submitted to Joint Committee of National Green Tribunal Chennai in case no. OA 85/2015 by Petitioner on 3 march 2021 at TSPCB Regional office, Begumpet

ROUND TABLE ON 'SURVAL OF HUSSAIN SAGAR' HELD ON 2 MARCH 2021 FROM 12 NOON TO 3.30PM, AT THE HYDERABAD BOATS CLUB, HYDERABAD

List of participants in the roundtable:

- 1- Dr Lubna Sarwath, state general secretary, Socialist Party(India)
- 2- Sagar Dhara, former United Nations Environment Panel and twice author of Supreme Court Committee Reports on Hussain Sagar (in absentia sent a statement for joint committee)
- 3- Dr Jasveen Jairath, founder convenor, Save Our Urban Lakes,
- 4- Omim Maneckshaw Debara, Environmentalist and Heritage Activist and PIL activist;
- 5- Brig Ganesham, Founder director, Palle Srujana
- 6- BV Seshagiri, State President, Swaraj Abhiyan
- 7- Sanghamitra, Poetess and activist
- 8- Muhammd Afzal, Telangana Jana Samiti TJS party
- 9- Ramakrishna,, Retd Chief Engineer, Telangana State electricity board,
- 10- Dharma Rao, Retd Chief Engineer, Irrigation
- 11- Naresh, Phd scholar from UOH , South Asian People Action against Climate Crisis(SAPACC),
- 12- Hasini, Phd Scholar fin political science, rom UOH, South Asian People Action against Climate Crisis(SAPACC),
- 13- Syed Bilal, Vice President, Human Rights Forum,
- 14- Syed Ashfaq, President, CHATRI,
- 15- Maqbool Ahmad, National President, United Citizens Forum,
- 16- Father Sudhakar, President, Bosco Seva Kendra,
- 17- Mohan Krishna, Founder, Praja Sankampam,
- 18- Dr Sudhakar, National General Secretary, All India Peace and Solidarity Organization,
- 19- Preeti Nagam, Artist and State Vice President, All India Peace and Solidarity Organization,
- 20- Jagan Mohan, Secretary, Lok Satta Party,
- 21- Talha Jabeen, IT Professional and consultant, activist
- 22- Madhusudhan Raj, Secretary, high court colony, Nacharam
- 23- Keerthi, National Institute of Smart Governance
- 24- Amjad Ali, BBN Channel

After introduction, round table started with power point presentation by dr lubna sarwath, the petitioner for zero-pollution , zero encroachment, honest governance on Hussain Sagar, at National green tribunal.

As petitioner has been invited by the Joint Committee to present her objections/suggestions before the Joint Committee on 3 march 2021, the petitioner called for the round table to share knowledge on the objections/suggestions offered by her to the National green tribunal on the steps being taken by the government of telangana in, on or around hussain sagar; And further to take opinions/suggestions of all the participants from all walks of society and submit them to the Joint Committee on 3 march 2021.

Below are gist of suggestions from participants:

- 1- Dr Lubna sarwath: gave power point presentation and taking down suggestions/opinions of all participants; (ppt enclosed)
- 2- Sagar Dhara: Statement by Sagar Dhara in absentia: I was a member two committees setup by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India--Special Committee of Hussain Sagar Lake, 2005, and the Expert Committee on YSR Memorial, 2010. Both reports were accepted by the Supreme Court and the Andhra Pradesh Government without any amendment whatsoever. It is unfortunate that the Andhra Pradesh Government and its successor Telangana Government have not followed the committees recommendations. For a healthy survival of Hussain Sagar Lake and that of the remaining lakes in and around Hyderabad, the recommendations made in the two Supreme Court reports mentioned above should be followed scrupulously in letter and spirit. Signed Sagar Dhara.
- 3- Dr Jasveen Jairath: Constructions inside lakes is illegal. There are no two opinions on that. No dearth of information, knowledge, resources on how the hussain sagar can be kept clean and free from encroachment and restored completely. Challenge is the financial accountability just as in JICA project. Not laying of pipes or I&D structures but end result matters. Technological choices are becoming political consideration thus breeding corruption. How many STPs are there in catchment of Hussain sagar and totally and how many are functional?
- 4- Omim Maneckshaw Debara: Joint Committee/NGT should declare emphatically that no longer any more cremation grounds in Hussain Sagar. I had opposed the allotting of 23 acres to YSR memorial. High Court orders should be implemented.
- 5- Brig Ganesham: Pollution from Hussai sagar into Moosi nadi impacting more than 100 villages of Nalgonda. Livelihood of villagers affected due to Hyderabad pollution. There is a alternative hyacinth cleaner from rural invention and such low cost methods should be used. Is there a strategy to reduce the area and shrink the hussain sagar? We need a committee to work and form a plan to protect hussain sagar for coming 100 years. Committees should have petitioners included. Channels of hussain sagar should carry only clean water.

6- BV Seshagiri: Cost effective methods should be used for restoration of Hussain Sagar. Permanent body in Telangana for restoration and protection of lakes. Joint Committee should seek from government all changes in pollution and encroachment and holding capacity since 2015 from when this PIL is filed in NGT.

7- Sanghamitra: Construction in the name of beautification of lake must stop. We must ponder how a drinking water body became this polluted and take proper measures.

8- Muhammd Afzal: Supreme Court Committee report of 2005 should be complied. Court/Tribunal must take Hussain Sagar under its aegis for restoration. CBI inquiry should be directed for in Matrix Environmental corruption case.

9- Ramakrishna: When Hussain Sagar encroachment and pollution matter is already adjudicated through the Supreme court committee report of 2005 and 2010 why the report is not implemented. Joint committee should recommend contempt of supreme court by government of Telangana and its agencies.

10- Dharma Rao: Joint Committee report has vindicated the petitioner and people's stand. Dilution of the pollution will not happen if the lake holding capacity is reduced. More structures in the lake and buffer zone will only add to the pollution load. After spending crores of money Moosi nadi is not clean. Same conventional technology being used. Alternative Solutions/technology/methodology proposals should be taken for cleaning of lakes. People of knowledge and integrity should be involved. 50000 crores spent on Ganga river but still not clean.

11- Naresh: Joint Committee visit and touring of Hussain Sagar should be widely circulated on social media for awareness and creating responsibility among government and citizens.

12- Hasini,: Clearly laid down realistic goals not being submitted by government. Committees come and go. Executive process should be clean. Lake Management Board including experts should be formed.

13- Syed Bilal: Restoration of Hussain Sagar is important for health of Moosi nadi. Instead of restoring Moosi nadi that saved city during October 2020 floods government is laying roads , parks inside Moosi nadi river bed.

14- Syed Ashfaq: Hussain Sagar should be restored to good quality water lake as its pollution has affected ground water and soil far and around the lake .

15- Maqbool Ahmad: Source of pollution not being addressed rather capital intensive projects being taken up by government after pollution occurs. Research and Development is the responsibility of the government. Joint Committee should seek suggestions and opinions from wide range of experts and people of high integrity;

16- Father Sudhakar: Hussain sagar's original purpose is drinking water so that Hyderabad never goes dry or thirsty. Its not meant for boat riding that seems to have become a priority now. Any building is constructed far off from FTL boundaries and how such a huge Secretariat complex boundary is being allowed inside FTL boundary of Hussain sagar? If government is not taking care of Hussain sagar people should do with help of NGT and joint committee. Joint committee can recommend all the flexis around Hussain sagar only about the Hussain sagar restoration and not other commercial flexis.

17- Krishna Mohan : Judicial authorities should take cognizance of all that is being brought to the Tribunal.

18- Dr Sudhakar: Natural methods of cleaning should be used. A pilot project can be undertaken through cost effective methods natural methods in small ponds rather than go after huge projects of fund wastage.

19- Preeti Nagam: Joint Committee's public hearing can create more public awareness and people participation for restoration of Hussain sagar.

20- Jagan Mohan: Joint Committee visit should be widely publicized so that more people become aware of the work being done on Hussain Sagar to stop pollution;

21- Talha Jabeen,: Law is being broken by law-makers and officials. National institute of technology, Warangal, had come up with report that Hussain sagar has lost its ability to purify itself. That report must be consulted. There has to be transparency of money.

22- Madhusudhan Raj,: Hussain sagar is iconic lake of Hyderabad. Lake Tribunal should be established for protection. Government is disregarding nature. Detailed study of water quality is required. When we are asking government to stop pollution government is diverting pollution using public money. Nacharam lake toxic foams going into Moosi nadi. Government steps such as walking track and cycling track inside FTL or other beautifications and food courts in FTL is not a

solution for lake restoration and for restoration of water quality and removal of encroachments. Huge loss of aesthetic values due to pollution and encroachment of Hussain Sagar.

23- Keerthi: Monitoring system of the Hussain Sagar is very important which is not in place. Verification of end use of funds and result of project on Hussain Sagar should be in public domain. End-Objective and Achievable results should be stated in the commencement of the project itself so that success can be measured, which means Key Performance Indicators of the project on Hussain Sagar should be mentioned clearly for effective followup and accountability.

24- Amjad Ali: Government is always promising stopping of idol immersion in Hussain Sagar that is causing lead poison in water body but government is itself going against law. In fact, the number of festival occasions for idol immersions has increased between 2015 to 2021.

Prepared by Dr. Lubna Sarwath
Petitioner in case no. OA 85/2015 at National Green Tribunal Chennai for restoration of Hussain Sagar and its hydrology