

ACTION PLAN FOR JIA BHARALI RIVER NEAR NH- 15 CROSSING PRIORITY V

1. Basic information about the Stretch

The Jia Bharali, one of the major tributaries of the river Brahmaputra, flows down from the lower Himalayas in Arunachal Pradesh in the north-eastern India and runs through the middle of Sonitpur district of Assam for about 66 km before meeting the Brahmaputra at Tezpur ($92^{\circ}53'53''\text{E}$: $26^{\circ}39'15''\text{N}$). The Jia Bharali river catchment area is bounded by longitudes $92^{\circ}00'$ - $93^{\circ}25'\text{E}$ and latitude $26^{\circ}39'$ - $28^{\circ}00'\text{N}$. The river known as Kameng in Arunachal Pradesh flows orthogonal to the Himalayan before debouching into the foreland at Bhalukpong ($92^{\circ}65'\text{E}$: $27^{\circ}01'\text{N}$) where it takes the name of Jia Bharali. Its upper reaches originate in the upper Himalayan range at an elevation of ~5400m and in the lower Panch mile range at an elevation of ~69m. The Jia Bharali basin with a perimeter of 690 km has the shape of a broad leaf with a truncated base. It has a maximum length of 157 km and a maximum width of 143 km. The Jia Bharali River is fed by the perennial waters of numerous feeder streams coming from different Himalayan ranges. Its principal right bank tributaries are the Bichom, Tipi, Nam Sonai, Dharikati and Mansiri, while the left bank tributaries include mainly the Pacha, Papu, Diyu, Namiri, Uppar Dikrai, Khari Dikrai and Bor Dikrai.

The total catchment area is 10289 sq.km. Out of which 4055 sq.km lies in east Kameng district, 5305 sq.km in west kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh and remaining 929 sq.km lies in Sonitpur district of Assam.

1.1 Polluted river stretch/length

The length of the polluted stretch of Jia Bharali River is approximately 5 KM with an area of 20 sq.km. (Fig 1). The stretch identified as polluted is from No 2 Miri Pathar to Kolabari.



Fig 1: Map showing the polluted river stretch of Jia Bharali river near NH 15 crossing

2. Background:

In compliance of the direction of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi in the matter of news published in 'The Hindu' authored by Jacob Koshy, Titled 'More river stretches are now critically polluted CPCB', Government of Assam constituted River Rejuvenation Committee (RRC) vide memorandum 673/2018 dated 19/12/2018 for effective abatement of pollution, rejuvenation, protection and management of the identified polluted stretches, for bringing the polluted river stretches to be fit at least for bathing purposes within six months

3. Basis of Action Plan for Jia bharali river near NH 15 crossing polluted river stretch

The action plan for rejuvenation, protection and management of the identified polluted river stretch of Assam has been prepared based on the following

- As per direction of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi in the matter of news published in 'The Hindu' authored by Jacob Koshy, Titled 'More river stretches are now critically polluted CPCB'
- Comprehensive report on Prevention and Control of Pollution in River Hindon: An Action Plan for Rejuvenation' [Submitted in compliance to Hon'ble National Green Tribunal]

4. Components of Action Plan

(a) Industrial Pollution Control

- Inventorisation of industries
- Categories of industry and effluent quality
- Treatment of effluents, compliance with standards and mode of disposal of effluents
- Regulatory regime.

(b) Identification, Channelization, Treatment and Utilization of Treated Domestic Sewage

- Identification of towns in the catchment of river
- Town-wise Estimation of quantity of sewage generated and existing sewage treatment capacities to arrive at the gap between the sewage generation and treatment capacities;
- Identification of towns for installing sewerage system and sewage treatment plants.
- Storm water drains now carrying sewage and sullage joining river and interception and diversion of sewage to STPs,
- Treatment and disposal of septage and controlling open defecation.

(c) River catchment/Basin Management-Controlled ground water extraction and periodic quality assessment

- Periodic assessment of groundwater resources and regulation of ground water extraction by industries particularly in over exploited and critical zones/blocks.
- Ground water re-charging /rain water harvesting
- Periodic ground water quality assessment and remedial actions in case of contaminated groundwater tube wells/bore wells or hand pumps.
- Assessment of the need for regulating use of ground water for irrigation purposes.

(d) Flood Plain Zone

- Regulating activities in flood plain zone.
- Management of Municipal, Plastic, Hazardous, Bio-medical and Electrical and Electronic wastes.
- Greenery development- Plantation plan.

(e) Ecological/Environmental Flow (E-Flow)

- Issues relating to E-Flow
- Irrigation practices

(d) Such other issues which may be found relevant for restoring water quality to the prescribed standards.

5. Action Plan as per direction of Hon’ble NGT

The components to be discussed in the action plan for rejuvenation, protection and management of identified polluted stretch of Jia bharali river are as follows

5.1. Industrial Pollution Control

No industrial estate/notified industrial area is located in the Jia bharali river catchment area. There are few villages located in the demarcated catchment area of the polluted river stretch as shown in the map. Details of Industrial Pollution Control is presented in Table I below.

Table I: Details of Industrial Pollution Control

Name of the Industry	Category	Total Water Consumption/ Waste Generation	Without consent/Directives issued	ETPs	CETPs	OCEMS	Gaps	Proposed CETP
No notified industrial area	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

5.2. Number of industries- category Red or water polluting/ Small scale

No major/minor industrial estate/cluster are located on the 500 m periphery of the river bank.

5.3. Industries without consent/authorisation

Not Applicable

5.4 Number of directions issued to industries

Not Applicable

5.5. Total water consumption and the waste water generation by the industries

As there is no any industrial zone/belt in the catchment area, there is no possibility of water consumption and waste water generation.

5.6. Number of industries having captive ETPs and treatment capacity

Not Applicable

5.7. Number of industries are members of the CETPs

Not Applicable

5.8. Number of CETPs existing in the catchment of the polluted river stretch and the treatment capacity

Not Applicable

5.9. OCEMS installation status by industries

Not Applicable

5.10. Gaps in treatment of industrial effluent

There is no gap in treatment of industrial effluent as the catchment area does not fall under any industrial estates/Clusters.

5.11. Present/proposed CETP capacity/ Member unit

Not Applicable

6. Identification, Channelisation, Treatment and Utilization of Treated Domestic Sewage

6.1. Major towns located on the bank

There are few villages located in the catchment area of the river namely Patgaon, Bokagaon miri, Baligaon miri, Bokagaon chapari, Goral, Kekokali, Kolabari, No2 miri pathar. Major towns Tezpur and Biswanath Chariali are situated 21km and 28 km away from the catchment area of the river respectively.

6.2. Town wise estimation of quantity of sewage generated and existing sewage treatment capacities

The population is very less in the catchment area of the river and are highly scattered. Approximate population of the villages in the catchment area of the river is 4543 as per census of India. As the locality is sparsely populated, the individual households construct their own soak pit, artificial pond for the sewage generated by them. Also the land absorbs the sewage during its course.

There is no any existing sewage treatment Plant.

6.3. Identification of towns for installing sewerage system and sewage treatment plants.

There is no requirement of Sewage Treatment Plant at present as the locality is sparsely populated. BOD values from January 2016 to April 2019 suggests that there is no severity of pollution load in the river stretch. Hence can be omitted from the list of polluted stretch.

Table I: Sewage generation and gaps in treatment

S.N	Area (sq.km)	Population as per 2011 census (Catchment villages of Jia Bharali river)	Water Consumption (KLD) @135 lpcd	Sewage Generation (KLD)	No. of STPs	Existing Treatment capacity (KLD)	Gaps in KLD
1	20	Bokagaon miri – 1268 Bokagaon chapari-123 Baligaon miri-291 Goral-550 Kekokati- 281 No2 Miri pathar-828 Patgaon-253 Kolabari-949 Total = 4543	614	490	NIL	NIL	490

6.4. Water Quality of the river stretch

There is one (01) sampling location of Jia Bharali River under NWMP as per the following.

Table III: Monitoring Locations Details

Sampling Location	Coordinates
Jia Bharali River near NH 15 crossing	26°48'37.8" N 92°52'46.16" E

The latest water quality trend of in terms of BOD value from January 2016 till April 2019 is presented below:

Table IV: BOD value in mg/l of Jia bharali river near NH 15 crossing

Year	BOD Value (mg/l)	Year	BOD Value (mg/l)	Year	BOD Value (mg/l)	Year	BOD Value (mg/l)
Jan-16	1.0	Jan-17	0.7	Jan-18	1.4	Jan-19	2.4
Feb-16	1.4	Feb-17	0.6	Feb-18	1.8	Feb-19	2.8
Mar-16	1.5	Mar-17	2.3	Mar-18	1.6	Mar-19	2.8
Apr-16	0.4	Apr-17	0.7	Apr-18	2.0	Apr-19	1.5
May-16	0.9	May-17	1.3	May-18	1.2		
Jun-16	1.4	Jun-17	1.1	Jun-18	2.8		
Jul-16	2.1	Jul-17	3.0	Jul-18	1.4		
Aug-16	1.6	Aug-17	2.9	Aug-18	1.6		
Sep-16	1.9	Sep-17	2.1	Sep-18	1.1		
Oct-16	1.0	Oct-17	1.8	Oct-18	1.8		
Nov-16	0.8	Nov-17	1.5	Nov-18	2.4		

The above data indicates that the BOD load is 3 mg/l only at one (01) occasion out of Forty (40) samplings carried out from January 2016 till April 2019. This stretch do not show any severity of pollution load and can be omitted from the list of polluted stretch.

6.5. Drains contributing to pollution

There is no any sewer line/major or minor drain connecting to the Jia bharali river. However many small rivulets are seen joining the river which do not contribute to the pollution load of the river.

6.6. Treatment and Disposal of Septage and controlling Open Defecation

Individual households in the villages are equipped with septic tanks. However, around 1182 toilets have been constructed in the Sonitpur district under the 'IHHL' mission which is an initiative of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan to achieve open defecation free area.

Following remedial actions will be taken in consideration of treatment and disposal of sewage

- Public awareness to control open defecation and understand the importance of toilets.

7. Controlled Ground water Extraction and quality Assessment

Table V: Estimation of ground water resource in the Sonitpur district

Net Ground Water Availability	5324.04 mcm	Ground water recharging mechanism	Rain water harvesting
Gross Ground Water Draft	376.47 mcm	Recharging of groundwater are done by creation of Pond/lakes under government schemes.	The roof top rainwater harvesting is practiced.
Net Annual Ground Water Draft	37647 mcm		
Projected demand for domestic and industrial uses up to 2025	59.98 mcm		
Stage of Ground Water Development	16%		
Future Provision for Irrigation Use	1958.72 mcm		

Irrigation Practices in Sonitpur District

Some of the ongoing irrigation schemes of Chariduar tehsil of Sonitpur district are as follows

Table VI: Irrigation Practices in Sonitpur District

S.No	Name of Scheme	Command Area/Irrigation potential (Ha) created/ to be created	Concerned Ministry/ Department
1	Deonabari DTW IS (1 Pt)	30	NABARD

S.No	Name of Scheme	Command Area/Irrigation potential (Ha) created/ to be created	Concerned Ministry/ Department
2	Gopsaguri DTW IS (1 Pt)	30	NABARD
3	Sonalibari DTW IS (1 Pt)	30	NABARD

7.1. Status of Ground Water

In Sonitpur district, ground water of dug well of the district is slightly alkaline (pH= 7.1 to 8.0). Electrical conductance (EC) of ground water varies from 295 to 870 μ S/cm. The ground water is soft. Fluoride content is within permissible limit (0.2-0.4 mg/l). Iron content is generally high which varies from 1.8 to 2.2 mg/l.

The district is under safe category and sufficient resources are still available for development

7.2. Remedial Actions

The following remedial actions will be taken in consideration of contaminated ground water sources, controlled ground water extraction and periodic quality assessment

- Ground water of deeper aquifers should be analysed for periodic assessment of Iron.
- Alternate sources of drinking water should be explored and prioritized.
- Awareness campaigns about health hazards due to intake of excessive Iron is the need of the time.
- Role of pesticides used for agricultural activity should be carefully observed.
- Survey should be conducted regarding ground water uses for domestic purposes and also to identify the over exploited and critical areas in the river stretches with respect to ground water extraction.
- Effective management of sewage for preventing contamination of ground water sources.
- Roof top rain water harvesting techniques should be encouraged for industrial, commercial or individual households and community.

8. Flood Plain Zone

The following are the identified flood prone area for the polluted Jia bharali river stretch

Name of River	Flood plain areas
Jia bharali River	Patgaon, Bokagaon miri, Baligaon miri, Bokagaon chapari, Gorali, Kekokali, Kolabari, No2 miri pathar

The Jia Bharali river embankment details are as follows

S.N	Embankment	Length (km)
1	Left bank	14.00
2	Right Bank	12.75

8.1. Regulating activities in the Flood Plain Zone

Further following activities need to be regulated in the flood plain zones.

S.No	Action points	Responsible authority
1	Plantation in the flood plain zone	Forest Department
2	Checking Encroachment	Local administration
3	Demarcation of the flood plain zone	Water Resource Department
4	Prohibition of disposal of all kinds of wastes	District Administration

8.2. Waste management status and proposed actions for Municipal solid waste, industrial waste and Bio medical waste management

Table VII: Waste management status and proposed actions

Type	Status	Proposed Action	Authority
Industrial Waste	➤ No notified industrial area/cluster have been identified within 500 meters periphery of the catchment area.	➤ Not Applicable	Pollution Control Board Assam
Municipal waste management	➤ Since the catchment area of the river does not fall under any municipal bodies, the villagers manage and treat their own solid wastes by constructing composting pit and other vermi composting practices etc in their household.	➤ Village Panchayat concerned should collect municipal solid waste generated from the villages of the catchment area.	Village Panchayat

Type	Status	Proposed Action	Authority
		➤ Awareness generation regarding solid waste management rule.	
Plastic waste	➤ Plastic wastes are being burnt by the villagers in their household	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Village panchayats to segregate and collect plastic waste and initiate necessary steps to channelize the waste to authorized agencies for recycling and reprocessing. ➤ Awareness campaign regarding health and other issues related to burning of plastics. 	Village Panchayat
Hazardous waste	➤ No notified industrial area/cluster have been identified within 500 meters periphery of the catchment area.	➤ Not Applicable	Pollution Control Board Assam
Bio-Medical waste	➤ No notified industrial area/cluster have been identified within 500 meters periphery of the catchment area.	➤ Not Applicable	Health & Family Department
E –waste	➤ No bulk consumers and generators have been identified.	➤ Not Applicable	Producer Extended Responsibility

8.3. Gaps identified in waste management

No gaps has been identified in waste management

8.4. Greenery development - Plantation Plan

State has initiated afforestation in the degraded forestland, also raising roadside plantation besides creating check dams/embankments in the river catchment areas to combat erosion and soil conservation.

The following remedial actions has to be initiated in consideration of greenery development

- Raise plantation along the river bank to control the flow run off water directly to the river
- Bamboo species to be raised as it is a good soil binder thereby stabilize the banks of the river from erosion

9. Environmental Flow (E-Flow)

9.1. Stretch of river perennial or non- perennial/flow available/water usage in the stretch

The entire river stretch is perennial. The discharge of Jia Bharali river as per the master plan of Brahmaputra Board is 3369.038 Cum. It is also observed that even during the dry season, the river maintains 50% of the average flow recorded. All the major tributaries of Brahmaputra river are perennial in nature and maintains 50% of the average flow even during non-monsoon season.

9.2. Irrigation practices in the river

The high volume of discharge and water level of the river can be of great use for good irrigation practices for the people.

10. Identified organisations responsible for preparation and execution of the action plans

Organisations responsible for preparation and execution of the action plans are as follows:

- Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Environment and Forest department
- Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Urban Development department
- Commissioner, Industries and Commerce, Assam
- Member Secretary, Pollution Control Board Assam
- Commissioner, Guwahati Municipal Corporation
- Commissioner to the Govt. of Assam, Water Resource Department
- Divisional Forest officer, Social Forestry, Basistha, Guwahati -29

11. Monitoring mechanism proposed for implementation of action plans

The water quality assessment and evaluation of impacts is necessary to understand the river state at various stages of the project implementation and post implementation of the project. Therefore the water quality assessment and evaluation of the project achievements is essential component for the long term

benefit of the project. The monitoring and evaluation also indicate for taking corrective measure at appropriate time. The ill effects may be controlled by taking step at right time for right cause. The monitoring & evaluation schedule and plan proposed is as under.

11.1 Water Quality Stations (WQS):

The water quality monitoring will include following parameters, which shall be monitored at monthly interval or as and when required. The one complete unit to be purchased and identified parameters to be monitored at defined sampling stations.

The sampling stations are:

- Jia bharali river near NH 15, Biswanath district

The parameters to be monitored are as follows.

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 1 | pH | 6 | Bio-Chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) |
| 2 | Turbidity | 7 | Faecal coliform |
| 3 | Conductivity | 8 | Total coliform |
| 4 | Temperature | | |
| 5 | Dissolved
Oxygen (DO) | | |

Most of the parameters will be monitored manually and will be incorporated in database.

12. Public Mass awareness etc.

Any river conservation project to be implemented successfully, public awareness is of utmost importance. Unless the public are made aware about the irreversible damage and pollution caused by indiscriminate littering and dumping of waste and garbage in drain and water bodies connected to Jia bharali River, the project cannot be implemented in true sense of the word to achieve conservation. Some members of the communities are already aware that there is a need for river conservation programme and that they will be benefitted. Hence, it should be ensured with the following points

- The communities are effectively involved in all the stages of the project cycle from conceptualization, to preparation, to finalization, to implementation and finally O & M.

- Public Awareness & Public Participation should be affront-end activity of the project
- The entire programme of conservation should be conceived, formulated, implemented, monitored and evaluated in close consultation with the stake holding communities.
- Therefore, education and awareness programmes are key to the sustainability of the various components implemented as part of the river restoration project.

13. Action Plan

Table VIII: Action Points

Type	Action Points	Responsible Authority	Time Targeted
Industries	a) No industrial units have been identified within 500 meters periphery of the catchment area.	Not Applicable	
Interception and treatment of raw sewage	a) No Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) has been proposed at these villages.	Not Applicable	
Ground Water Assessment	a) Conducting survey regarding ground water usage by category wise such as domestic, community, etc. and also identification of over exploited and critical blocks in the river stretches with respect to the ground water extraction. b) Carry out assessment of ground water survey in the catchment area of the identified polluted stretch once in a year to ensure quality. c) To promote roof top rain water harvesting by individual households	PCBA/CGWA	Continuous

Type	Action Points	Responsible Authority	Time Targeted
<p style="text-align: center;">Flood Plain Zone</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Conservation of the river through watershed management. b) Cleaning of the river bed and bank. c) Afforestation on both the banks to prevent soil erosion d) Recreational activities to be promoted. e) Erection of pathway of the river banks. f) Checking encroachment in the flood plain zone of the polluted river stretch g) Prohibition of disposal of municipal, plastic, biomedical and other wastes in the polluted stretch of the river bank h) Demarcation of the flood plain zone. 	<p>Soil Conservation Department/Water Resource/Forest Department/Tourism Department/PWD Assam/Local Administration</p>	<p>6 Months (February, 2020 to July, 2020)</p>
	<p>The plan for the polluted stretches of the river may be implemented in a time bound manner by fragmenting activities as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Assessment of water quality of the polluted stretches on monthly basis has already been commencing b) The monitoring committee may convene meeting of Stakeholder organizations on Quarterly basis with under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary 	<p>Pollution Control Board Assam</p>	<p>3 Months (June, 2019 to August, 2020)</p> <p>a) Monthly Basis</p>
<p>Solid Waste</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Prohibition of direct disposal of solid waste in the river banks. 	<p>Village Panchayats/Water</p>	<p>3 Months (November, 2019 to</p>

Type	Action Points	Responsible Authority	Time Targeted
	b) Frequent River Surface cleaning by removal of debris, plastics etc.	Resource Department	January, 2020)
Environmental Flow	<p>a) Flow measurement of the river should be carried out by the concerned department and the record has to be maintained</p> <p>b) Fresh water flowing through escape channels/small barrages should be checked.</p> <p>c) The river can be of good potential for irrigation practices and should be carried out by the farmers.</p>	Water Resource Department	Continuous
Public Awareness	<p>a) Awareness programs to highlight the issues related with the direct discharge of solid waste and open defecation.</p> <p>b) Mass awareness to conserve water.</p>	Village Panchayats/PC BA/NGOs	Continuous

Members of River Rejuvenation Committee (RRC)



Secretary to the Govt of Assam
Environment & Forest Department



Secretary to the Govt of Assam
Urban Development Department



Commissioner
Industries and Commerce Assam



Member Secretary
Pollution Control Board Assam