

Policy of Zero Discharge into Our River Mothers 25 June 2020

Dear friends,

Please note the following points about our demand for the policy of Zero Discharge into our River Mothers.

Point No. 1

One of the most important recommendations of our Save Ganga Movement is: Since our rivers are the source of drinking water for crores of our people and also for the animals, we must adopt throughout our country the following policy of Zero Discharge: (A) Promote Reuse and Recycle of waste water after tertiary- level treatment. Sewers must be separated from rivers, Sewage must be converted into natural manure and treated sewage-water must be used only for non-drinking , non-cooking purposes such as irrigation, industrial, nonpotable domestic and commercial uses, ground water recharge, etc.; (B) Industrial effluents and hospital wastes, treated or untreated, must never be allowed to enter into the rivers and must not also be allowed to mix with the sewage which should be converted into manure for organic farming. Industries must treat their effluents and use recycled water; and (C)Organic/ Natural Farming must be promoted in a massive way for decreasing the non- point source of pollution of rivers such as hazardous chemicals from agricultural run-off into the rivers, and also maintaining soil fertility, checking the ground water degradation, reducing water requirement for crops, producing health-friendly crops. The National Ganga Basin Management Plan prepared by the Consortium of 7 IITs has also made such Recommendations.

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Save Ganga Movement