Run incineration plants in Delhi at optimum capacity: NGT

NEW DELHI: In order to deal with huge quantities of trash, the National Green Tribunal has warned of imposing environmental compensation of Rs 5 lakh per violation on Delhi civic authorities whenever the waste-to-energy plants at Narela and Ghazipur are not run at their optimum capacity.

A Bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Swantaner Kumar also noted that there was no clear roadmap ready to deal with the massive quantity of waste generated in the city which remains with the municipal corporations after part of it is sent to these plants.

“We expect both these plants to operate to their optimum capacity without causing any pollution either in their processing or through their emissions. They shall operate strictly as per the prescribed norms in relation to ambient air quality, stack emissions provided under the Air Act and collect and dispose of waste strictly in terms of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.”

In the event, they are found at default at any one point of time, they shall be liable to pay environmental compensation of Rs 5 lakh for each default,” the Bench said.

The tribunal said the default would be determined by the joint inspection team comprising member secretaries of Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi Pollution Control Committee, senior scientist from Environment Ministry and a member to be nominated by the Director of IIT, Delhi.

The Bench also reserved its order on a petition filed by residents of Sukhdev Vihar, alleging that the plant in their area was releasing “toxic” emissions, affecting their health. The residents had submitted that the plant had obtained an environmental clearance, authorisation and consent to operate (CTO) on the condition that it would use RDF and biogas technology to convert waste to energy.

But contrary to its promise, it has allegedly been incinerating mixed waste, which has lowered its efficiency and causing air pollution, it said.

Sharp fall in offers at IITs this year

Sondattaa Basu & Udit Prasanna Mukherji | IWN

Kolkata: Job offers have dwindled sharply at some of the country’s top technology campuses in the first phase of recruitment. IITs at Kharagpur, Kanpur and Roorkee have registered a significant slump in recruitments. At IIT Mumbai, Madras and Guwahati, the total number of offers has gone up, but offers per firm have reduced. Large recruiters like Coal India, Microsoft and Goldman Sachs have been conservative in handing out letters.

IIT Kharagpur got 1,080 offers against 1,300 last year while IIT Kanpur has seen the number fall to 725 from 860. India Inc, has not directly linked this to note ban, but most of them have adopted a wait-and-watch policy owing to lower growth forecast for this fiscal. "Companies which reduced offers informed that it is due to the global slowdown," said a member of the All-IIT Placement Committee. Microsoft made only nine offers at IIT Kharagpur (25 last year), six at IIT Kanpur (21 last year) and 17 at IIT Roorkee (30 last year).

Debashis Deb, placement cell chairman at IIT Kgp, said the slump could be due to the absence of startups this year.
कब तक साफ हो पाएगी गंगा?

नेसनल ग्रीन ट्रियूमनल के समस्यायांकन को बेहद अनुचित प्रभावित करता है।

तामाम सिफारिशों के मुताबिक, गंगा में प्रदूषण का सुधार करने के लिए, लगभग पत्तों के अंतर्गत अर्थव्यवस्था में प्रायोगिक उपकरण रखने के लिए एक कैडर कार्यकर्ता उपलब्ध होता है। इसी कारण से 2009 में नेसनल ग्रीन इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर कार्यकर्ता की सेवा प्रदान किया गया।

तटस्थ निर्माण के उपरांत, गंगा में प्रदूषण का स्तर कम होता है और जीवन में सुधार होता है।

जब प्रदूषण पर एक सराहना स्फोट तैयार करना के लिए निर्देश दिया गया तो यह सफलता के रूप में प्रदर्शन किया गया। तट स्तर का वाइकिंग, जो गंगा में प्रदूषण का स्तर कम होता है, वह गंगा के लिए अनुकूल होता है।

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अंत में, गंगा को स्वच्छन्द रूप से रखने के लिए निर्देशित करने का प्रयास करना जरूरी है।
RBI gets its youngest dy guv post-reforms

Mumbai: A 42-year-old IITian, he is passionate about Kishore Kumar songs, has an album to his credit, and has now set a new record at the Reserve Bank of India.

Viral Acharya, named by RBI as its new deputy governor on Wednesday, comes with an unusual bag of talents and a formidable academic profile. The youngest deputy governor to be appointed after liberalisation, Acharya is the C V Starr professor of economics at New York University's Stern School of Business and earlier taught at London Business School.

Acharya fills in the vacancy created by the elevation of Urjit Patel as RBI governor.

Acharya closely associated with Rajan

Continued from PI

Of the four RBI deputy governors, two are internal appointees, NS Vishwanathan and R Gandhi. The one in charge of banking operations, SS Mundra, is a former bank chief. The fourth, who gets the portfolio of monetary policy and research, is always an economist.

Viral Acharya, who refers to fellow IITian Raghuram Rajan as "a great source of inspiration", has co-authored papers along with the erstwhile RBI chief. As a solo artist, Acharya has scored compositions and lyrics for a Hindi music album called 'Yaadon Ke Silsile: An ode to friends and some romantic moods.'

Known for his work in financial stability — an area of regulation which came into focus during the global financial crisis — the new RBI deputy governor is remembered for his views on public sector banks, which were published in a 2015 report that he jointly authored. Describing their condition as precarious, his report recommended recapitalisation, improved governance and privatisation of some of the banks in the long run. The list of papers published by him runs into 20 pages.

An Indian-born, post-liberalization professional, Acharya went to college in the year in which Manmohan Singh delivered his epochal budget speech of 1991. He stood fifth in the joint entrance exam of the Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai and went on to graduate in computer science. After graduation, he moved to the US where he pursued a Ph.D in computer science for a year before deciding to shift gears to finance. He obtained his doctorate in finance.

In a post online, Acharya describes music as his passion. "I have a slight preference for Indian and Western classical music and a strong preference for light Indian film music, especially the songs composed by SD Burman and RD Burman and rendered by Kishore Kumar.""Acharya has had a close association with former governor Raghuram Rajan with whom he has authored half a dozen papers including one on "Sovereign Debt, Government Myopia and the Financial Sector" in 2013. The former governor is also one of his references in his CV. Like Rajan, Acharya also comes from an academic background and has also co-authored at least three papers with the former RBI governor.

Just like Rajan, Acharya has also been a strong votary of the independence of central banks and favoured them being "democratically accountable, yet be operationally independent from political influence."