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**Supreme Court takes up the suo moto case on 'remediation of polluted rivers'.**



Meenakshi Arora (amicus curiae) : The water quality level as on January 18 was excellent. Ammonium levels were in control. If that can be maintained, it will be good.

Arora submits that the NGT has appointed a river monitoring committee for Yamuna river and requests court to call for a report from the committee.

"They could assist us in a big manner", Arora submits.

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Arora : Haryana has said they are in the process of upgrading certain STPs and CETPs.

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CJI : Alright. Today we will pass an order calling for a report from the committee you mentioned.

Arora : One more thing. Haryana has brought down the Ammonium level to excellent level (0.3 ppm). The acceptable point is 0.9 ppm. This means, if there is a will, there is a way. If they can maintain these standards, it will be good. It is a matter of drinking water for Delhi.

Syam Divan for Haryana submits that the petition filed by Delhi Jal Board @DelhiJalBoard is not maintainable and there are many facts which need to be disputed.

CJI : What is the problem in making an order that the present levels must be maintained.

Divan opposes Court making any observation. He says the problems happen within Delhi and not from Haryana. The points of discharge are not from Haryana, Divan adds.

@DelhiJalBoard

CJI : We can pass the order in the suo moto case.

Divan : No one wants pollution. The whole notion being projected that it is due to Haryana's acts is wrong.

CJI : We won't pass any order. We will give you time for counter.

The bench grants one week time to Haryana Govt to file counter to the writ petition filed by the Delhi Jal Board @DelhiJalBoard

The bench directs the NGT appointed committee for river monitoring to submit a copy of its report on Yamuna River and also the extent to which its recommendations have been implemented. The committee also added as a party in the suo moto case.

Arora submits that there is an ongoing dispute between Haryana and Delhi regarding the quantum of water to be released. That issue must not be dragged here and the matter should be confined to measures to reduce pollution, she adds.

Cases adjourned for two weeks.