

# NGT forms committee for rejuvenation of Ganga tributaries

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The National Green Tribunal recently formed a committee for rejuvenation of Varuna and Assi rivers in Varanasi which join Ganga after taking note of a plea alleging discharge of untreated sewage and unauthorised constructions.

## **Key Highlights**

- A bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel constituted an independent Monitoring Committee for the purpose comprising members from Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), State Pollution Control Board, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) and District Magistrate, Varanasi.
- Based on the report of the Committee, the NMCG may give an action taken report in the matter before August 4, the next date of hearing.
- The tribunal was hearing a plea filed by Saurabh Tiwari against pollution of rivers Varuna and Assi in Varanasi by discharge of untreated sewage and unauthorised constructions.
- The plea said that Varuna and Assi rivers are tributaries of Ganga and cleaning of river Ganga cannot be imagined without first ensuring prevention of pollution of these two rivers.
- The pollution of the said rivers is subject matter of various media reports and water

quality of river Ganga at Varanasi is in bad condition, the plea said.

- The petitioner further stated that there is concrete construction inside Ganga water channel at Lalita Ghat.

**SOURCE:** *The Hindu*