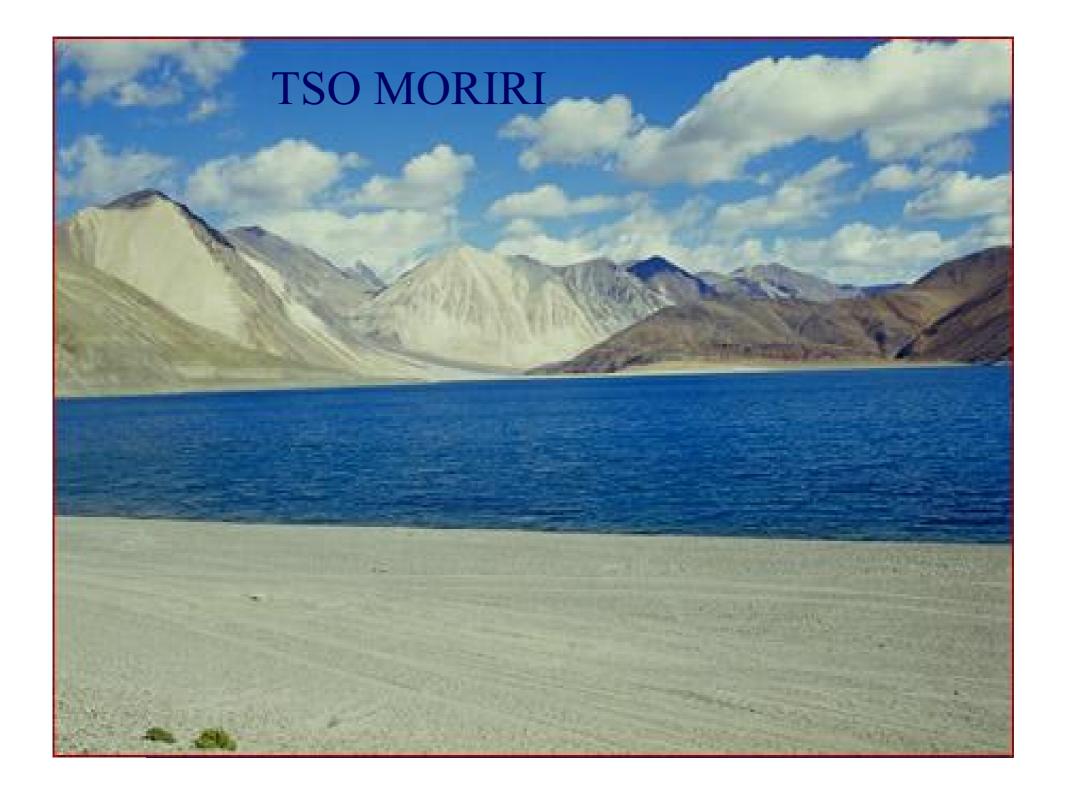
International Conference on

"Environment Audit-Concerns about Lake Pollution"

Presented by Mridula Sapru SAI INDIA















Environmental Legislation in India

- ▶ Indian Constitution provides for the States commitment to protect the environment
- Article 48A Directive Principles of State Policy
- Article 51A(g)
- Lakes and Wetlands not covered by any specific legal statute
- Many legislations have provisions for conservation of lakes

National Lake Conservation Programme

- NLCP was launched in June 2001 to restore and conserve the urban and semi urban lakes degraded due to waste water discharge into them
- NLCP being coordinated and implemented through MoEF's National River Conservation Directorate (NRCD)

National Lake Conservation Programme

- Prevention of pollution by intercepting, diversion of sewage and establishment of sewage treatment plants
- Measures of lake cleaning such as de-silting, deweeding and bioremediation
- Catchment area treatment which may include afforestation, storm water drainage, silt traps etc
- Strengthening of bund, lake fencing, shoreline development etc

NLCP (contd)

- Prevention of pollution from nonpoint sources by providing low cost sanitation
- Public awareness and public participation
- Capacity building, training and research in the area of Lake Conservation

National Lake Conservation Programme (contd)

Covering 57 lakes and 13 States

- Sanctioned Cost Rs 856.57 cr
- Projects sanctioned 40 nos and 57 lakes
- Projects completed 8 nos and 18 lakes (as on 31 March 2009)
- Amt released by MOEF Rs 284.07 cr (as on 31 March 2009)

- Planning
 - NRCD and States differ on prioritization of restoration of lakes
 - Lack of planning
 - Bellandur lake
 - Dal lake
 - Kodaikanal lake

- Funding
 - Out of 28 states and 7 Union Territories,
 NRCD had funded projects in 13 states only
 - Underutilization of funds
 - Delay in release of funds by state to implementing agency
 - Diversion of funds
 - States not releasing proportionate share (30% project cost) hampering project completion

- Implementation
 - Considerable delay in implementation of both ongoing and completed projects
 - Wasteful expenditure
 - Chilika lake
 - Bellandur lake

- Monitoring and Evaluation
 - NRCD unaware of actual funds spent yearwise on cleaning up lakes, as NRCD treated all funds released as expenditure
 - NRCD did not effectively monitor these projects at the apex level
 - State level and citizen monitoring committees not set up
 - Monitoring report of water quality of completed lakes available only for few projects
 - NRCD did not evaluate completed projects
 - Despite spending Rs 284.07 crore, the impact of NLCP in improving water quality of lakes is not clear

Audit of Lake Pollution- some critical issues

- •Complete inventory of lakes type, water sources, habitations, land use in catchment, sources of pollutants, quality of water etc and regular updation of the same
- Criticality and risk assessment of degradations – prioritization of conservation plan

Audit of Lake Pollution- some critical issues

Coordination – among various agencies responsible for planning, implementation and monitoring of the project

Monitoring of Compliance to legislations by regulatory authorities

Periodical monitoring of restored lakes

THANKS

