# Contents


CHAPTER 1: All dead rivers tell tales 1
National river action plans are in place to clean 34 rivers in India. What strategy and technology have we invested in and how effective have these investments been?

CHAPTER 2: And polluted flows a quiet Yamuna 14
How has the pollution profile of the Yamuna changed? What is the state of the monitoring systems in the towns it flows by and how credible is the data used in planning?

CHAPTER 3: Action taken: still chasing plan targets 24
The judiciary and the government have set several targets and deadlines for pollution mitigation in Yamuna. What measures have implementing agencies taken to handle these deadlines?

CHAPTER 4: Upstream and downstream of Delhi 36
The Yamuna is getting dirtier upstream of Delhi. Which towns are guilty of polluting the Yamuna? What have they done to clean up their act?

CHAPTER 5: The Delhi stretch: a drain capital 88
How much has Delhi invested in treatment capacity? What impact has this made to the river water quality? Are there issues left unaddressed in the National Capital Territory?

CHAPTER 6: Needed: a RAP for Yamuna 126
Is it possible to bring the Yamuna back to life? How do we go about cleaning the river? What will be its underlying principles? How will this be achieved?

CHAPTER 7: The political economy of water and waste: reworking river action plans 145
Will business as usual lead us anywhere? Can we rethink and re-engineer pollution control? What will this new waste management model be all about and how do we go about it?

Annexures 147

List of abbreviation 175

References 176