BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
CENTRAL ZONE BENCH, BHOPAL,
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 09/2026

IN THE MATTER OF:

RAKHI BALA SINGARE **…...APPLICANT**

VERSUS

STATE OF MADHYA PRADESH &ORS. **.....RESPONDENTS**

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Date: 30.03.2026

Place: Bhopal

Submitted by MPPCB: -

through Counsel

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FACTUAL REPORT

Joint committee Inspection Report in Original Application No. 09/2026
(Rakhi Bala Singare Vs. State of Madhya Pradesh & Ors.)

That, Hon'ble NGT on dated 23.01.2026 in the matter of OA 09/2026 (CZ), Rakhi Bala Singare Vs. State of Madhya Pradesh & Ors. Vs. State of Madhya Pradesh & Ors given following instructions –

2. *It is further submitted that on 15.10.2013, the permission for establishment of adventurous sports activities over the Champak Lake was granted to the Satpura Adventure Sports Club, Pachmarhi, Hoshangabad which continues to exists till date after subsequent renewals and also the permission for establishment of zipline was granted to Respondent No.7 on 01.09.2015 which continues to exists till date. It is stated that due to the permission granted by these authorities, a number of adventurous sports activities which includes but not limited to zip line, parasailing etc which attracts tourism and the activities, are in continuance till date and that many of the small kiosk centers and restaurant outlets temporary structures like camping tents are built near to the champak lake. Due to this, people do visit these centers and more often harm is caused to the lake due to the human activities near the Lake.*
3. *It is further argued that the Respondent No.6 i.e. District Archaeological, Tourism and Culture Council Narmadapuram, is involved in or permitting tourism related cultural or commercial activities in and around Champak Lake, Pachmarhi, which are adversely affecting the ecology of the said waterbody and are impermissible under the Wetland (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017, and are violative of the Environmental Protection Act, 1986. Public Trust Doctrine as held in M.C Mehta vs. Kamal Nath, 1997, the District Archaeological, Tourism and Culture Council being the trustee of the Champak Lake.*

----------X----------X----------X----------X--------

10. *The Applicant in person has further argued that there are repeated discharge of untreated water and throwing of garbage in the Lake adversely affecting the environment and damage to the said Lake.*

----------X----------X----------X----------X----------

15.We also deem it just and proper to call a report on the matter in issue, in present application, from a Joint Committee consisting of:

(i) One Representative from the Principal Secretary Environment, Govt. of M.P.,

(ii) One Representative from the Member Secretary, State Wetlands Authority, Govt. of M.P.,

(iii) One Representative from the Divisional Forest Officer, Narmadapuram,

(iv) One Representative from the Member Secretary, Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board, (M.P.)

As per the above order of Hon'ble NGT (CZ), a joint committee of following departments are constituted to visit the site and submit the factual report: -

Name of Department	**Name of representative**
One Representative from the Principal Secretary Environment, Govt. of M.P.,	Dr. Dinesh Damde, Assistant Scientific Officer, State Wetlands Authority, Govt. of M.P.
One Representative from the Member Secretary, State Wetlands Authority, Govt. of M.P.,	Dr. Manoj Vishwakarma, Assistant Scientific Officer, State Wetlands Authority, Govt. of M.P.
One Representative from the Divisional Forest Officer, Narmadapuram,	Sh. Sanjeev Sharma, Assistant Director Pachmarhi, Satpura Tiger Reserve Narmadapuram
One Representative from the Member Secretary, Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board, (M.P.)	Sh. Brajesh Sharma, Regional Officer, M P Pollution Control Board, Mandideep, Distt Raisen

That, in compliance with the order of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) dated 23.01.2026; the Joint Committee reviewed the contents of the said order and deliberated upon the issues raised therein prior to conducting the inspection.

During the course of inspection, Shri Rajesh Patidar, Assistant Engineer, and Shri R.K. Mishra, Chemist, from the Regional Office, Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board (MPPCB), Mandideep were also present.

A. Background of the Site: -

The lake, known as "Champak Lake," is a man-made water body situated on the south-western side of Pachmarhi town, having approximate GPS coordinates of 22.45° N latitude and 78.47° E longitude. As per the Wetland Atlas (2021) prepared by the Space Application Centre (SAC), Ahmedabad, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).The total area of Champak Lake is 23.12 hectares, with Wetland Code MP004839 and it is falls under the jurisdiction of the Special Area Development Authority (SADA), Pachmarhi, District Narmadapuram.

As per the petition, the matter pertains to the alleged encroachment and environmental degradation of Champak Lake, located at Pachmarhi, District Narmadapuram, Madhya Pradesh. During the inspection, photographs and visual observations were duly recorded. The photographs taken during the inspection are enclosed as **Annexure–I**.

Further, the geographical locations were recorded using a mobile-based application and subsequently plotted on the Google Earth map. The marked Google Earth imagery is enclosed as **Annexure–II**. The observations recorded during the inspection are as follows:

B. FIELD OBSERVATIONS:

In compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble Tribunal, the Joint Committee conducted a site inspection of Champak Lake on 17.03.2026. The observations recorded during the inspection are as follows:

1. Champak Lake is situated on the south-west side of Pachmarhi town.

2. The lake was found filled with water, spreading naturally across the surrounding terrain.
3. Access to the lake is available from the north-east side via a paved internal road.
4. A recreational park is located on the north-east side of the lake, featuring boating and zip line facilities.
5. A paved parking area with paver blocks is provided. At the entrance, RCC stairs along with a metal gate are constructed.
6. Refreshment outlets are available within the recreational park on the east side. These are temporary structures with metal sheet roofing.
7. Waste bins are installed in front of the outlets for solid waste collection.
8. The outlets were observed serving food in biodegradable disposable materials.
9. A public toilet is located on the east side of the lake near the outlets, equipped with a septic tank and soak pit system.
10. Water near the recreational park appeared clean, transparent, colourless, and odourless.
11. The water surface was clean with no visible floating waste or deposits.
12. No solid waste disposal was observed near the lake.
13. A zip line facility is installed in the park, extending from one side of the lake to the opposite bank at an approximate height of 10 meters above ground level. The operation involves movement via rollers along a wire rope. This activity was not observed to have any impact on water quality.
14. No other adventure sports were operational during the inspection.
15. The Hotel Champak Bungalow, operated by the M.P. Tourism Department, is located on the east side of the lake.
16. The guest house premises are enclosed by a boundary. The lakeside area consists of open green space with grass and a wire mesh barrier supported by an RCC beam at plinth level.
17. The hotel is equipped with a sewage treatment plant (STP) of 15 KLD capacity based on the activated sludge process. The STP was found operational, and treated wastewater is reused for plantation within the premises.
18. An overflow gate for the lake is located on the east side adjacent to the recreational park entrance.

19. The west and south sides of the lake have dense vegetation. Tent houses are established on the south side.
20. The tent houses are connected to septic tanks with soak pits.
21. The land between the lake and tent house area is maintained as clean grassland.
22. No sewage drains were found discharging into the lake during the inspection.
23. No solid waste dumping was observed in or around the lake.
24. The overall environmental condition of Champak Lake was found to be satisfactory based on visual observations.
25. The lake is primarily rain-fed and receives surface runoff from surrounding areas. Additionally, two natural drains join the lake on the west side.
26. Some old, abandoned structures are present on the east side below the lake level.

C. STATUS OF WATER QUALITY OF THE CHAMPAK LAKE PANCHMARHI

The Regional Office of the Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Mandideep, has been monitoring the water quality of Champak Lake on a monthly basis for a considerable period. For the assessment of the lake water quality, the analytical data for the last six months, i.e., from September 2025 to February 2026, have been compiled and compared. The same are presented in the table below:

D. Water Quality Analysis of Champak Lake, Pachmarhi (Sep 2025 to Feb26)

No	Parameter/ Unit	Sep - 2025	Oct - 2025	Nov - 2025	Dec - 2025	Jan - 2026	Feb - 2026
1.	pH Units	7.68	8.17	7.81	7.82	7.8	7.8
2.	B.O.D (3 Days 27oC) mg/l	1.4	1.2	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.3
3.	COD mg/l	10	10	10	10	10	10
4.	DO mg/l	7.7	8.2	8.1	7.8	8.1	8.1

5.	Total coliform MPN/100 ml	-	-	-	-	-	00

The analysis data shows that the pH ranged between 7.68 to 8.17, which is within the prescribed limits. The Dissolved Oxygen (DO) varied from 7.7 to 8.2 mg/l, indicating good oxygen availability in the lake water which is sufficient to support healthy aquatic environment. Also, the lake is having self-purification capacity. The Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) ranged from 1.2 to 1.6 mg/l, and Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) remained around 10 mg/l, confirming a low level of organic pollution. It is also observed that no total coliform (0 MPN/100 ml) was detected in the month of February 2026, indicating the absence of bacteriological contamination during that period.

The concentrations of alkalinity, total hardness, chloride, and conductivity were found to be within acceptable limits. The levels of nutrients such as nitrate, nitrite, and phosphate were moderate and do not suggest any significant eutrophication. Further, Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), Total Suspended Solids (TSS), and turbidity values indicate good water clarity and low to moderate dissolved solids.

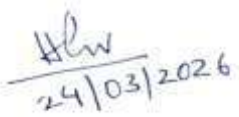
Based on the analysis of all monitored physical, chemical, and biological parameters, the water quality of Champak Lake is found as per the prescribed standards. The water quality conforms to Class 'A' criteria as per CPCB water quality standards. The copy of analysis Report is enclosed as **Annexure 03.**

E. OPINION OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE

In reference to above observations, though the water quality of the Champak lake of Pachmarhi is found as per norms and to maintain the same the committee is humbly submitted following points for environmental conservation of the lake:

1. The District Administration shall ensure strict compliance with the provisions of Rule 4 of the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017.
2. Proper demarcation of the lake boundary shall be carried out, and fencing, signage, and caution boards indicating the restricted zone shall be installed at appropriate locations.
3. The natural drains feeding the lake shall be conserved. Adequate silt removal measures and screening arrangements shall be provided to prevent the entry of forest debris and waste into the lake.

4. Plantation shall be undertaken along the western side of the lake, adjoining the boundary of Champak Bungalow. Grassland should be maintained around lake.
5. To maintain dissolved oxygen (DO) levels in the lake water, suitable aeration measures such as installation of water fountains shall be undertaken.
6. For any development work near lake, prior permission from the concerned department shall be obtained.



(Dr. Dinesh Damde)
Assistant Scientific Officer,
State Wetlands Authority, Govt. of M. P.

(Dr. Manoj Vishwakarma)
Assistant Scientific Officer, State Wetlands Authority, Govt. of M.P.

(Sanjeev Sharma)
Assistant Director Pachmarhi Satpura Tiger Reserve Narmadapuram

(Brajesh Sharma)
Regional Officer
RO, MPPCB, Mandideep

Annexure- 01

Photographs of Joint Committee Visit on Dated 17/03/2026

Photographs of Champak Lake Boating Area


Latitude: 22.458440
Longitude: 78.418519
Elevation: 1066.83±7.99 m
Accuracy: 9.17 m
Time: 17-03-2026 13:07:08
Note: Champak lake, Pachmarhi


Latitude: 22.458156
Longitude: 78.41886
Time: 17-03-2026 13:12
Note: Champak Jhil
Powered by NoteCam

Photographs of Zip Line Activity Area

Photographs of food Court Area

Photographs of food Court Area serving food in biodegradable disposable materials & using Waste bins

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Latitude: 22.458777
Longitude: 78.419364
Elevation: 1067.26±3.00 m
Accuracy: 3.54 m
Time: 17-03-2026 13:20:59
Note: Champak lake, Pachmarhi
NoteCam @ iOS


Latitude: 22.452206
Longitude: 78.416169
Elevation: 1072.95±3.00 m
Accuracy: 3.53 m
Time: 17-03-2026 13:53:26
Note: Champak lake, Pachmarhi
NoteCam @ iOS

Photographs of STP of Hotel Champak Bungalow

Photographs of Back side of Hotel Champak Bungalow

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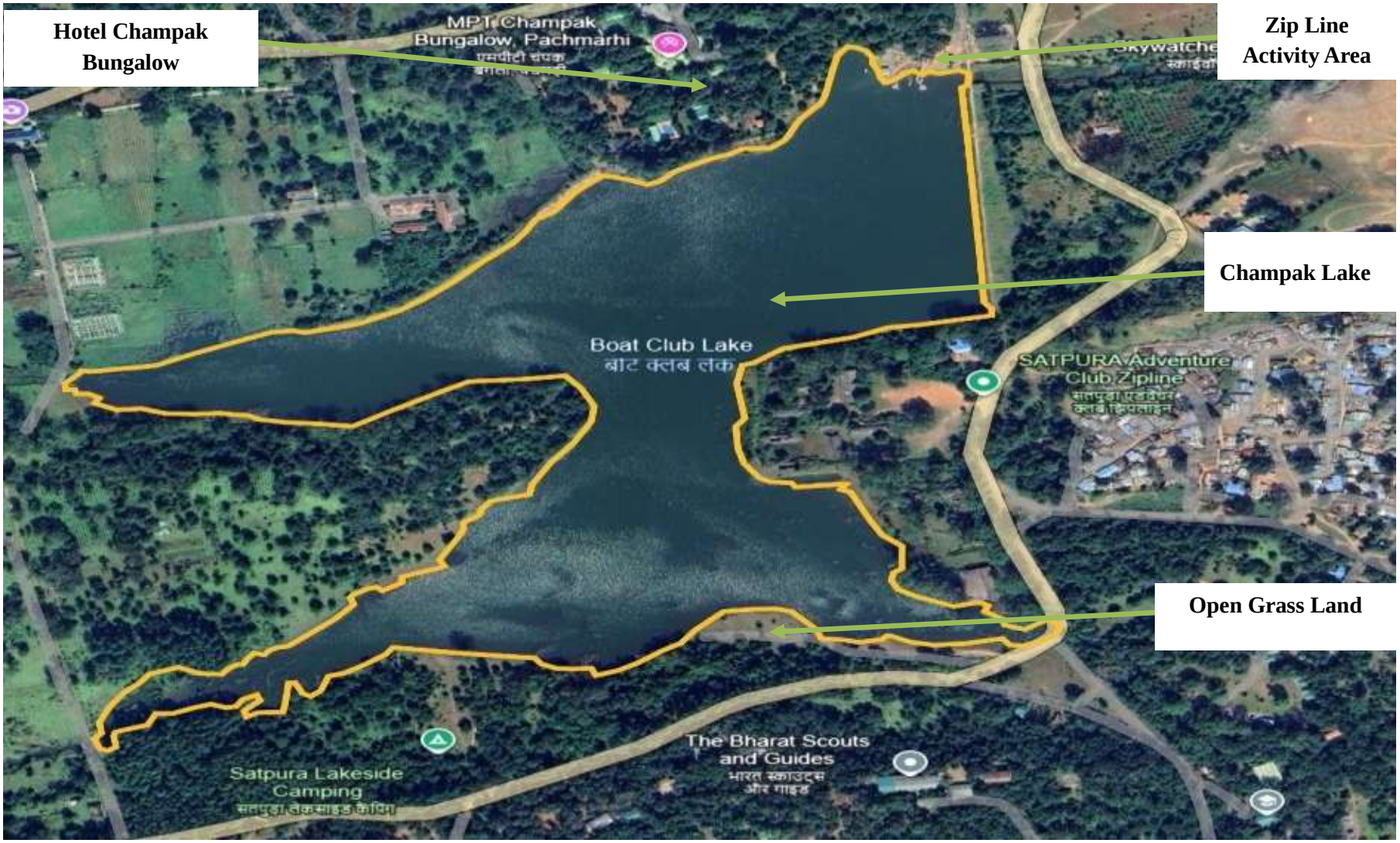
Latitude: 22.452190
Longitude: 78.415200
Elevation: 1070.00±6.78 m
Accuracy: 9.83 m
Time: 17-03-2026 13:59:49
Note: Champak lake, Pachmarhi


Latitude: 22.452358
Longitude: 78.415751
Elevation: 1071.58±4.03 m
Accuracy: 4.75 m
Time: 17-03-2026 13:54:11
Note: Champak lake, Pachmarhi

Photographs of Temporary Tents Area

Annexure- 02

Google Map of Champak Lake Area



Annexure- 03

REGIONAL OFFICE MADHYA PRADESH POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD MANDIDEEP DISTRICT RAISEN

Water Quality Analysis During September 2025 to February 2026

Natural Water Resource : Pachmarhi Lake, Pachmarhi. XGN ID: 22156

Sr. No	Par	Unit	Sep - 2025	Oct - 2025)	Nov - 2025	Dec - 2025	Jan - 2026	Feb - 2026
1	Alkalinity as CaCO3	mg/l	188	150	152	154	202	198
2	Ammonical Nitrogen	mg/l	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL
3	B.O.D (3 Days 27oC)	mg/l	1.4	1.2	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.3
4	Boron	mg/l	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL
5	Calcium	mg/l	68.88	NA	59.27	47.25	61.67	72.08
6	Calcium Hardness as CaCO3	Mg/Lts	172	130	118	118	154	180
7	Chemical Oxygen Demand	mg/l	10	10	10	10	10	10
8	Chloride	mg/l	18.4	12.81	16.5	16.6	16.5	12.6
9	Colour	Pt.Co.Scale	Colourless	Colourless	Colourless	Colourless	Colourless	Colourless
10	Conductivity	micromho/cm	264	236	252	268	252	212
11	Dissolved Oxygen	mg/l	7.7	8.2	8.1	7.8	8.1	8.1
12	Fecal Coliform	MPN/100 ml	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	00
13	Fluoride	mg/l	BDL	ND	ND	BDL	BDL	BDL
14	Magnesium	mg/l	8.25	NA	6.31	5.34	8.74	7.28
15	Magnesium Hardness as CACO3	Mg/Lts	34	26	26	22	36	30
16	Nitrate	mg/l	2.2	1.72	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.4
17	Nitrite	mg/l	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL
18	pH	pH Units	7.68	8.17	7.81	7.82	7.8	7.8
19	Phosphate	mg/l	0.14	0.116	0.2	0.2	0.13	0.3
20	Potassium	mg/l	2.4	0.72	1.21	1.2	1.34	1.4
21	Sodium	mg/l	14.4	10.4	9.4	9.8	11.6	11.6
22	Sulphate	mg/l	10.8	12.2	14.2	16.6	10.4	8.4
23	Suspended Solids	mg/l	28	26	32	25	12	22
24	Temperature	Centigrade	25	25	21	22	18	20
25	Total coliform	MPN/100 ml	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	00
26	Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	172	152	190	165	190	180
27	Total Hardness as CaCO3	mg/l	206	156	144	140	190	210
28	Total Nitrogen	mg/l	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
29	Total Solids	mg/l	200	178	222	190	202	202
30	Turbidity	N.T.U.	2.2	2.7	1.6	1.4	3.1	3.1

राजेन्द्र कुमार मिश्रा
रसायनज्ञ
क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय
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WATER ANALYSIS REPORT

Report No 1724

Sample From	Champak Lake Pachmari , Distt- Narmadapuram
Sample Details	Lake Water
Sample Quantity	2.0 Ltr.
Sample collected by	RK Mishra (Chemist)
Date of Collection	17-03-2026
Date of Analysis	17-03-2026
Analyzed by	Bhagat Singh Bhadoriya(Chemist)

S. No.	Parameters	Unit	Results
1.	Appearance	-	Clear
2.	Temperature	°C	24
3.	Turbidity	NTU	3.0
4.	Colour	-	Colourless
5.	Odour	-	Odourless
6.	pH	pH Unit	7.75
7.	Sp. Conductivity	µMhos/cm	208
8.	Total Solids	mg/l	254
9.	Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	234
10.	Suspended Solids	mg/l	20
11.	Amm. Nitrogen	mg/l	BDL
12.	Nitrite Nitrogen	mg/l	BDL
13.	Nitrate Nitrogen	mg/l	1.6
14.	Phosphate (PO_4)	mg/l	0.40
15.	Chloride	mg/l	15.4
16.	Sulphate (SO_4)	mg/l	7.8
17.	Total Alkalinity	mg/l	202
18.	Total Hardness	mg/l	184
19.	Calcium Hardness	mg/l	164
20.	Mg. Hardness	mg/l	20
21.	D. Oxygen	mg/l	7.8
22.	BOD (3 days at 27°C)	mg/l	1.2
23.	COD	mg/l	10.0
24.	Sodium	mg/l	14.5
25.	Potassium	mg/l	1.8
26.	Boron	mg/l	BDL
27.	Calcium	mg/l	65.46
28.	Magnesium	mg/l	4.85
29.	Fluorides	mg/l	BDL
30.	Total Coliform	MPN/100ml	00
31.	Fecal Coliform	MPN/100ml	00

Analyzed by

भगत सिंह भदौरिया
रसायनज्ञ
क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय
म.प्र. प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड
भदौरिया जिला- रायसेन

for Lab Incharge

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Ph. 07480-232803,E-mail :- romppcbmandideep@gmail.com

WATER ANALYSIS REPORT

Report No 1725

Sample From	Champak Lake Pachmari , Distt- Narmadapuram
Sample Details	Drainage outlet Water
Sample Quantity	2.0 Ltr.
Sample collected by	RK Mishra (Chemist)
Date of Collection	17-03-2026
Date of Analysis	17-03-2026
Analyzed by	RK Mishra (Chemist)

S. No.	Parameters	Unit	Results
1.	Appearance	-	Clear
2.	Temperature	°C	24
3.	Turbidity	NTU	3.2
4.	Colour	-	Coloursless
5.	Odour	-	Odourless
6.	pH	pH Unit	7.84
7.	Sp. Conductivity	µMhos/cm	222
8.	Total Solids	mg/l	270
9.	Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	240
10.	Suspended Solids	mg/l	30
11.	Amm. Nitrogen	mg/l	BDL
12.	Nitrite Nitrogen	mg/l	BDL
13.	Nitrate Nitrogen	mg/l	1.8
14.	Phosphate (PO_4)	mg/l	0.60
15.	Chloride	mg/l	17.6
16.	Sulphate (SO_4)	mg/l	8.1
17.	Total Alkalinity	mg/l	212
18.	Total Hardness	mg/l	190
19.	Calcium Hardness	mg/l	160
20.	Mg. Hardness	mg/l	30
21.	D. Oxygen	mg/l	7.6
22.	BOD (3 days at 27^0C)	mg/l	1.4
23.	COD	mg/l	10.0
24.	Sodium	mg/l	15.6
25.	Potassium	mg/l	2.1
26.	Boron	mg/l	BDL
27.	Calcium	mg/l	64.07
28.	Magnesium	mg/l	7.28
29.	Fluorides	mg/l	BDL
30.	Total Coliform	MPN/100ml	00
31.	Fecal Coliform	MPN/100ml	00

Analyzed by
राजेन्द्र कुमार मिश्रा
रसायनज्ञ
क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय

Lab Incharge