

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH AT NEW DELHI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 109 OF 2022**

IN THE MATTER OF:

VIVEK KAMBOJ & ANR.

...APPLICANTS

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA AND ORS.

...RESPONDENTS

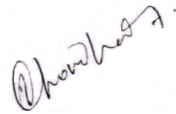
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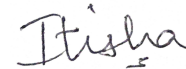
Through



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DATE: 06.07.2026

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**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
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ADDITIONAL AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF THE APPLICANT

I, Vaishali Rana, R/o 1403, T-10 Valley View Estate, Gurugram, Haryana, presently at New Delhi, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under:

1. That I am the Applicant No. 2 in the above titled application and conversant with the facts and circumstances of the case and competent to swear this affidavit.

2. That the above-titled Original Application was filed bringing to the notice of the Hon'ble Tribunal dumping of municipal solid waste in forest areas of Aravallis and discharging of leachate in surrounding areas of Bandhwari landfill site in District Gurugram, Haryana. It was submitted that this action of dumping of waste and discharging leachate is not only in violation of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Punjab Land Preservation Act, 1900 but also in violation of several directions including Order dated 07.04.2021 of this Hon'ble Tribunal passed in O.A. No. 415 of 2015, O.A. No. 514 of 2018 and O.A. No. 606 of 2018. That this act of dumping of waste and discharging leachate is also causing irreversible damage to the ecology and environment of the Aravallis as well as causing nuisance to the people living in the Bandhwari village.



Vaishali Rana

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3. That the Applicant is filing the present Affidavit to place on record significant facts that will be instrumental in adjudicating the matter by this Hon'ble Tribunal. The Applicant had previously filed an Affidavit dated 16.05.2024 highlighting the incidents of fire at Bnadhwari landfill and non-compliance with the guidelines of Central Pollution Control Board.
4. That this Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to take suo motu cognizance of a newspaper article titled "*Gurugram: 3rd Bandhwari fire in April spark concerns of foul play*" appearing in The Hindustan Times dates 22.04.2025 and Original Application No. 221 of 2025 was registered on this basis. The present Application is being heard along with the suo motu matter with respect to landfill fire.
5. That vide Order dated 16.12.2025, the Hon'ble Tribunal had recorded the reply dated 15.12.2025 of Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Gurugram wherein information was provided on the measures which have been taken to prevent the fire in the landfill site. Vide same Order, the Hon'ble Tribunal had recorded the statement of the Central Pollution Control Board that guidelines have been issued to be followed by landfill sites. CPCB was further directed to carry out inspection of Bandhwari Landfill Site and find out if CPCB guidelines on fire are complied with.
6. That on the basis of the inspection so conducted, the CPCB filed Report dated 09.03.2026, where it highlighted the blatant non-compliance with the guidelines for fire control at Bandhwari landfill. The Report records the following non-compliances leading to increased fire incidents:
- i. Fresh waste is being dumped at site.
 - ii. Industrial waste is being dumped leading to fire incidents.
 - iii. No records found to prove that waste that is being unloaded at the site is examined visually for potential fire



Vallu

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sources and fire sources when located are neutralized with cover material immediately.

- iv. No emergency tipping provided at the landfill site.
- v. Methane detectors have not been installed at site.
- vi. No records found for monitoring of temperature at windrows.
- vii. Untreated leachate being used for spraying water on the landfill.
- viii. No fencing has been provided on the rear side adjoining the forest area.
- ix. No arrangement for storage of sand to be used for fire control made at site.
- x. During the inspection, it was found that the MCG is primarily dependent on water as fire extinguishing medium. As per CPCB Guidelines "*Adding water increases the generation of both methane and leachate and is counter-productive, not a long-term solution*".
- xi. Mobile equipment and vehicles operating at the time of inspection were not found to be fitted with spark arresters.
- xii. No records shared with respect to conducting mock drills to prevent fire accidents.
- xiii. Quarterly Fire Safety and Hazardous Emissions Audits are not being conducted.

7. That due to such non-compliances, fresh fire incidents have been reported on Bandhwari landfill site. In a newspaper article titled "*Second fire at Bandhwari landfill this year puts MCG's claims under lens*" dated 26.06.2026 published in The Times of India records that a fire was reported on the Aravalli facing side of Bandhwari landfill:

"The fire was reported on the Aravali-facing side of the landfill, where municipal waste is currently being dumped. Workers said flames were spotted at the top of a waste mound shortly before the end of the night shift. "It quickly



K.S. Kharbanda

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travelled down the slope," said one worker employed by an agency tasked with processing legacy waste at the site."

Copy of article titled "Second fire at Bandhwari landfill this year puts MCG's claims under lens" dated 26.06.2026 published in The Times of India is annexed herewith as **ANNEXURE A-1**.

8. That another article titled "Activist flags 'failed assurances' to NGT after fire at Bandhwari landfill, seeks probe by pollution control body" published in The Hindu dated 04.07.2026 notes the following regarding repeated fire incidents at the site and lack of preparedness of the authorities:

"According to the complaint, MCG had told NGT that it deployed four portable methane detectors, two fire tenders round-the-clock in summer, four round-the-clock supervisors, 29 closed circuit television cameras (CCTV), high-mast lights, infrared thermometers, and fire extinguishers. It also cited hotspot excavation by backhoe loader, step cutting of waste heaps, and compaction to release trapped methane.

*"Yet **the ground reality has completely contradicted these assurances,**" Ms. Rana wrote to the HSPCB member secretary. Eyewitnesses said the **June 25 fire started around 6 a.m. and lasted till 1 p.m. Another fire in April 2026 reportedly lasted for 50 hours, the complaint said.** The landfill has seen repeated fires over the years, drawing Supreme Court attention."*

- Copy of article titled "Activist flags 'failed assurances' to NGT after fire at Bandhwari landfill, seeks probe by pollution control body" published in The Hindu dated 04.07.2026 is annexed herewith as **ANNEXURE A-2**.

9. That waste deposited at landfill sites undergoes a process of decomposition over time. As part of this process, the waste generates



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methane gas which is a highly flammable gas. When methane accumulates in sufficient concentration, particularly in confined or poorly ventilated areas of the landfill, it becomes susceptible to ignition upon exposure to a heat source, spark, or flame. Given the underground and compacted nature of landfill waste, fire incidents become more frequent and prove fatal. Such fires may continue to smoulder beneath the surface for extended periods and can re-emerge without warning. Therefore, adequate measures are required to be taken to ensure that trapping of methane is minimised in the landfill.

10. That the accumulation of methane gas at the site in question, if left unmonitored and unmanaged, constitutes a foreseeable fire hazard requiring appropriate mitigation measures. The Applicant prays that the authorities ought to conduct a study on methane generation at the site & surrounding areas in Aravallis to ensure that any increase is immediately controlled.

11. That further, in addition to fire incidents, the groundwater around the Bandhwari landfill has been rendered unfit for human consumption due to discharge of leachate from the landfill. As per an article titled "*Bandhwari landfill contaminates Gurugram groundwater; 80 samples fail tests over 12 months*" published in The Tribune dated 06.07.2026 records that more than 80 samples of groundwater taken over the past one year have failed to meet the standards for drinking water:

"The groundwater around Gurugram's Bandhwari landfill site has been rendered unfit for human and animal consumption, with every single water and leachate sample collected over the past 12 months failing laboratory tests — an indictment of years of regulatory non-compliance by the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram that has now drawn prosecution cases, mounting fines and National Green Tribunal intervention.



Kharbanda

Under Pollution Control Board norms, a technical team collects water and leachate samples every month from the landfill site, surrounding tubewells and borewells, and sends them to a government laboratory for testing. All 80-plus samples collected over the past year have failed on every parameter — with chemical compounds and heavy metals found at several times the permissible limit."

Copy of article titled "Bandhwari landfill contaminates Gurugram groundwater; 80 samples fail tests over 12 months" published in The Tribune dated 06.07.2026 is annexed herewith as **ANNEXURE A-3**.

12. That leachate discharge can further degrade the groundwater quality, especially in light of the approaching rains. Therefore, the Hon'ble Tribunal may pass appropriate directions in light of the above facts and circumstances.

DEPONENT

VERIFICATION:-

Verified by Vaishali Rana, D/o Lt. Col. H.S. Rana, aged about 50 years, R/o 1403, T-10, Valley View Estate, Gwalpahari, Gurgaon Faridabad Road, Gurgaon – 122003 that the contents of Paragraphs 1 to 12 are true to my personal knowledge and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

**I, IDENTIFIED THE
DEPONENT WHO HAS
SIGNED IN MY PRESENCE**



DEPONENT

ATTESTED

NOTARY PUBLIC

Second fire at Bandhwari landfill this year puts MCG's claims under lens

TOI timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/gurgaon/second-fire-at-bandhwari-landfill-this-year-puts-mcgs-claims-under-lens/articleshow/132002670.cms

Vishakha Chaman

June 25, 2026

- [News](#)
- Second fire at Bandhwari landfill this year puts MCG's claims under lens



Six fire tenders were dispatched and the blaze was brought under control by noon

A fresh fire broke out at the Bandhwari landfill on Thursday, barely two months after a major blaze burned for nearly 50 hours — and before MCG could finalise action against the agency held responsible for that earlier incident. The fire was reported on the Aravali-facing side of the landfill, where municipal waste is currently being dumped. Workers said flames were spotted at the top of a waste mound shortly before the end of the night shift. “It quickly travelled down the slope,” said one worker employed by an agency tasked with processing legacy waste at the site. The first call came in at 7.30am. Six fire tenders were dispatched and the blaze was brought under control by noon, with water sprinkling continuing to douse smouldering pockets. The incident raises fresh questions about accountability at a site that has seen repeated fires despite a string of corrective measures announced after the April blaze — including round-the-clock deployment of engineering staff, continuous surveillance, hotspot monitoring and regular inspections. MCG commissioner Pradeep Dahiya had ordered stricter oversight following that incident. Yet the penalty proposed after April remains unacted upon. “A fine of Rs 5 lakh has been proposed against the agency found at fault. The file is currently under approval,” said executive engineer Sandeep Sihag, adding that preliminary findings in Thursday’s fire also point to the same agency. Environmentalist Vaishali Rana questioned the preparedness of systems MCG has repeatedly claimed are operational. “The fire reportedly started early

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morning and continued till noon. If MCG disputes the timeline, it should place the landfill's CCTV footage and firefighting records in the public domain for independent verification," Rana said. Citing an affidavit the MCG commissioner submitted before National Green Tribunal in April, she asked whether fire tenders were stationed and operational, methane detectors functioning and logged, and all 29 CCTV cameras recording continuously at the time of the fire. "MCG must answer these questions through a fresh affidavit before the next NGT hearing on July 7," she said. Officials maintained that safety infrastructure was in place. A TOI visit found CCTV cameras at multiple locations; engineers said four handheld methane detectors were available at the site. Sihag said one fire tender from the fire department is permanently stationed at the landfill, with water tankers deployed by the two waste-processing agencies and an additional vehicle from the DLF fire station. He said that the overall situation had improved. "Since March, only two incidents have been reported and both were controlled. In earlier years, the number of fires was considerably higher," he added. "It is like a volcano that erupts periodically. Even the April fire was ultimately extinguished only after rain," said Bandhwari resident Sanjay Harsana.

End of Article

Activist flags ‘failed assurances’ to NGT after fire at Bandhwari landfill, seeks probe by pollution control body

TH [thehindu.com/news/national/haryana/activist-flags-failed-assurances-tongtafter-fire-at-bandhwarilandfill-seeksprobe-by-pollution-control-body/article71179526.ece](https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/haryana/activist-flags-failed-assurances-tongtafter-fire-at-bandhwarilandfill-seeksprobe-by-pollution-control-body/article71179526.ece)

July 4, 2026

Updated - July 04, 2026 12:02 am IST - GURUGRAM



The Bandhwari landfill has seen repeated fires over the years, drawing Supreme Court attention. | Photo Credit: PTI

A major fire at the Bandhwari landfill last month has triggered a fresh complaint to the Haryana State Pollution Control Board. Environmental activist Vaishali Rana in her July 1 complaint alleged that the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG) failed to honour fire-prevention commitments it gave to the National Green Tribunal last year.

Ms. Rana, the petitioner in an NGT case pertaining to solid waste management at the Bandhwari, said the landfill — located in the ecologically fragile Aravalis — caught fire again on June 25 this year despite MCG’s affidavit dated December 15, 2025, which claimed that “comprehensive fire prevention and monitoring systems” were in place. The NGT had recorded those submissions in its December 2025 order.

According to the complaint, MCG had told NGT that it deployed four portable methane detectors, two fire tenders round-the-clock in summer, four round-the-clock

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supervisors, 29 closed circuit television cameras (CCTV), high-mast lights, infrared thermometers, and fire extinguishers. It also cited hotspot excavation by backhoe loader, step cutting of waste heaps, and compaction to release trapped methane.

“Yet the ground reality has completely contradicted these assurances,”

Ms. Rana wrote to the HSPCB member secretary. Eyewitnesses said the June 25 fire started around 6 a.m. and lasted till 1 p.m. Another fire in April 2026 reportedly lasted for 50 hours, the complaint said. The landfill has seen repeated fires over the years, drawing Supreme Court attention.

Ms. Rana said the recurrence “strongly indicates either serious negligence, non-compliance, failure of monitoring systems, or misrepresentation” of infrastructure status. She has asked HSPCB to conduct a surprise inspection to verify the physical availability and working condition of equipment promised by MCG, and to direct the corporation to produce CCTV footage of the site and firefighting operations for independent review.

The complaint seeks legal action, including environmental compensation and prosecution, if violations or false declarations are found. It also calls for a joint inspection by HSPCB, Central Pollution Control Board, Forest and Wildlife Departments to assess damage to the Aravali ecosystem, wildlife corridors, air quality in nearby villages, and to document daily methane generation at Bandhwari.

“The fire from the landfill releases toxic gases and particulate matter, impacting villages, residents, wildlife habitats and groundwater,” Ms. Rana said, urging the HSPCB to submit its findings to NGT.

Repeated calls and messages to Joint Commissioner, Swachh Bharat Mission, MCG, Preetpal Singh, to seek his response went unanswered.

Published - July 04, 2026 12:00 am IST

Bandhwari landfill contaminates Gurugram groundwater; 80 samples fail tests over 12 months

tribuneindia.com/news/gurugram/bandhwari-landfill-contaminates-gurugram-groundwater-80-samples-fail-tests-over-12-months

Sumedha Sharma

June 17, 2026

The Haryana State Pollution Control Board has imposed a total environmental compensation of Rs 6.3 crore on the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram for violations at the Bandhwari landfill site

Gurugram, Updated At : 02:34 PM Jun 17, 2026 IST





Bandhwari landfill site in Gurugram. File photo

The groundwater around Gurugram's Bandhwari landfill site has been rendered unfit for human and animal consumption, with every single water and leachate sample collected over the past 12 months failing laboratory tests — an indictment of years of regulatory non-compliance by the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram that has now drawn prosecution cases, mounting fines and National Green Tribunal intervention.

The Haryana State Pollution Control Board has imposed a total environmental compensation of Rs 6.3 crore on the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram for violations at the Bandhwari landfill site since April 2020, at the rate of Rs 10 lakh per month, in compliance with NGT orders. Of this, the MCG has deposited only Rs 2.80 crore, leaving Rs 3.5 crore unpaid.

Under Pollution Control Board norms, a technical team collects water and leachate samples every month from the landfill site, surrounding tubewells and borewells, and sends them to a government laboratory for testing. All 80-plus samples collected over the past year have failed on every parameter — with chemical compounds and heavy metals found at several times the permissible limit.

Scientific studies have confirmed that contaminants from the landfill site have made their way into the groundwater of surrounding areas, with parameters including total dissolved solids, total hardness, chemical oxygen demand, and heavy metals including cadmium and lead exceeding both Bureau of Indian Standards and World

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Health Organisation limits — despite the quartzite geological setup and deep aquifer structure of the area.

The NGT has flagged that no arrangements for proper leachate treatment existed at the site and that leachate was instead being released into manholes leading to public sewers without testing, in violation of Environmental Protection Rules. The MCG had claimed the landfill generates about 200 kilolitres of leachate per day but data from the Behrampur sewage treatment plant showed only 125.2 kilolitres was received in June 2025 — raising concerns about large volumes of leachate being unaccounted for.

Environmentalists allege that toxic leachate is being dumped openly into the Aravalli forests. Flowing down the hills and slopes into forested areas, the contaminated liquid is not only threatening wildlife but also slowly percolating into the water table. Residents of Bandhwari, Gwalpahari and Mangar villages have reported a sharp rise in cases of cancer, skin diseases and gastrointestinal illness, which they directly link to contaminated water sources. They warn that with the monsoon approaching, the situation could worsen as rainwater carries leachate into adjoining NCR areas.

The clean-up of the landfill has repeatedly hit roadblocks. Two firms contracted to process legacy waste were sacked and fined Rs 9.02 crore for non-performance — having processed just 2.31 lakh metric tonnes of a 14 lakh metric tonne target, a mere 16.5 per cent, before their deadline expired in July 2025. Legacy waste disposal is now not expected to be completed before 2028.

Urban Local Bodies Minister Vipul Goel said the government would review all reports related to the Bandhwari site and that agencies contracted for the work would be penalised for non-performance.

A senior official of the Haryana State Pollution Control Board said leachate disposal at Bandhwari was being carried out as per norms, adding that if any agency continued to show negligence, action would be taken. MCG Executive Engineer Sandeep Singh Sihag maintained that leachate was being disposed of in compliance with rules.

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Litigation . <litigation@dclawchambers.com>

Additional Affidavit on behalf of the Applicant in OA No. 109 of 2022 Vivek Kamboj & Anr. Versus. Union of India & Ors.

1 message

Litigation . <litigation@dclawchambers.com>

Mon, Jul 6, 2026 at 2:28 PM

To: rkhranalegal@gmail.com, Advocate Raj Kumar <advraj कुमार@gmail.com>

Dear Sir/madam,

Please find attached- Additional Affidavit on behalf of the Applicant in OA No. 109 of 2022 Vivek Kamboj & Anr. Versus. Union of India & Ors.

Thanks & Regards
Counsel for the Applicant

**Vivek Kamboj Additional Affidavit.pdf**

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