

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
PRINCIPAL BENCH SITTING AT NEW DELHI  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 241 of 2021**

**IN THE MATTER OF:-**

RAJA MUZAFFAR BHAT

...APPLICANT

VERSUS

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR &amp; ORS.

...RESPONDENTS

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**THROUGH**



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**PLACE:        /NEW DELHI****DATE: 24.09.2025**

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PRINCIPAL BENCH SITTING AT NEW DELHI  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 241 of 2021**

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**ADDITIONAL AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF THE APPLICANT**

I, Raja Muzaffar Bhat, aged about 48 years, S/o Bashir Ahmed Bhat, R/o 64, Alamdar Colony, Gopalpura, District Budgam, Jammu & Kashmir, the Deponent herein, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare on oath as under:

1. The Deponent herein is the Applicant in the above titled Original Applicant and conversant with the facts and circumstances of the case and competent to swear this Additional Affidavit.

2. The Deponent herein is filing the present Additional Affidavit to bring on record the present status at Doodhganga River with regard to major erosion as a result of illegal mining as well as persistent dumping of untreated sewage effluents from the 13 pumping stations:

**I. No installation of STPs on River Doodh Ganga Stretch:**

- i. That this Hon'ble Tribunal *vide* order dated 14.10.2022 categorically stated that '*Timeline for the establishing requisite treatment systems in terms of judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court in Paryavaran Suraksha vs. Union of India, supra has long expired*'. The Applicant herein submits that despite specific directions of this Hon'ble Tribunal and till date not a single STP has been installed on the entire stretch of Doodhganga River. That till date, even after passage of 4 long years, the 13 dewatering pumping stations

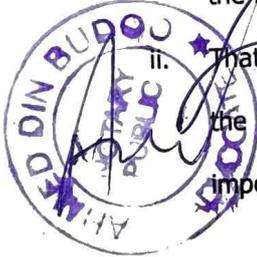


continue to discharge untreated sewage effluents directly into the River DoodhGanga thereby causing persistent damage.

Copy of the recent images taken by the Applicant on 22.09.2025 are annexed herewith as **ANNEXURE A/1.**

**II. Erosion of the embankments of Doodhganga River due to illegal mining:**

- i. That the report dated 14.01.2022 submitted by Housing and Urban Development Department under Para C titled 'Regulation of Mining Activities' categorically states that 'the extraction is limited upto 1 meter depth as per the approved mining plan' but the mining has taken place up to 10-12 meters (approx.) deep inside the river which is much beyond what has been approved thereby posing great threat ultimately leading to soil erosion and the same has been placed on record by the Applicant through photographic evidences annexed in the Response dated 16.08.2022.



ii. That this Hon'ble Tribunal vide order dated 08.03.2022 has recorded the illegal mining activities in Doodhganga and thereafter also imposed compensation for such illegal mining:

*"8. The violations found include dumping of waste on the banks of the river, discharge of untreated sewage into the river, unregulated illegal mining activities and failure to protect the embankments of the river.*

*14. The State is accordingly held liable to pay interim compensation of Rs. One crore each under all the three heads which may be deposited in a separate account to be utilized for restoration of environment. The amount may be deposited with the District Magistrate, Budgam and spent as per plan approved by the Chief Secretary, consistent with the District Action Plan of the concerned area. It will be open to the State to recover the amount from the polluters/erring officers in accordance with law.....For illegal mining, the loss caused to the State in the form of value of minerals as well as the loss caused to the environment for undertaking such activity without requisite clearances needs to be recovered by the State PCB in light of judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court inter-alia in Goa Foundation v Union of India & Ors. (2014) 6 SCC 590 and Common Cause Vs. UOI & Ors., (2017) 9 SCC 499. It is also*

*open to the State PCB to initiate prosecution against the violators."*

- iii. That it is crucial to submit that no necessary action has taken place in the Doodh Ganga River to restore the irrevocable damages caused as a result of such mining activity. There has been major loss of livelihood due to loss of irrigation and among fisher folks. The embankments have been sabotaged completely which will cause major threats to flood during monsoons. It is submitted that the irrigation channels are completely damaged at Kralpur Kul, Doyen Kul and Masar Kul. It is pertinent to note that these irrigation water channels originates from Doodhganga, 3 kms upstream Chadoora Town and eight number of villages of Chadoora Tehsil, Budgam District are dependent on these irrigation channels for agriculture which has been severely effected as a result of the illegal mining in the DoodhGanga River. The images taken by the Applicant shows the irrevocable damages and its impact upon River Doodh Ganga as a result of illegal and unscientific mining.

Copy of the images are annexed herewith as **ANNEXURE A/2.**

- iv. That the recent news article published on 22.09.2025 titled **"DoodhGanga Illegal Mining washed away irrigation channels, farmers warn of agri crisis on 3000 kanals"** categorically states that three vital irrigation channels sourced from Doodhganga stream washed away threatening 3000 kanals of agricultural land and the same are the consequences of years of illegal and unscientific riverbed mining in River Doodhganga. As a result the livelihood and food security of the farmers are at stake.

Copy of the news article dated 22.09.2025 is annexed herewith as **ANNEXURE A/3.**

3. That the abovementioned facts and circumstances are submitted by the Deponent in the above captioned matter and hence considering the above



submissions, necessary orders may be passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal in the best interest of justice.



DEPONENT

**VERIFICATION**

Verified on this day 24<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2025 that the contents of the above-mentioned Additional Affidavit are true and correct to my knowledge and no part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.



DEPONENT

Certified that the statement was declared on oath before me at Srinagar on this day of 24-9-25 by Ravla Musaffar Bhat who is identified by Rachal Choudhary

IDENTIFIED BY

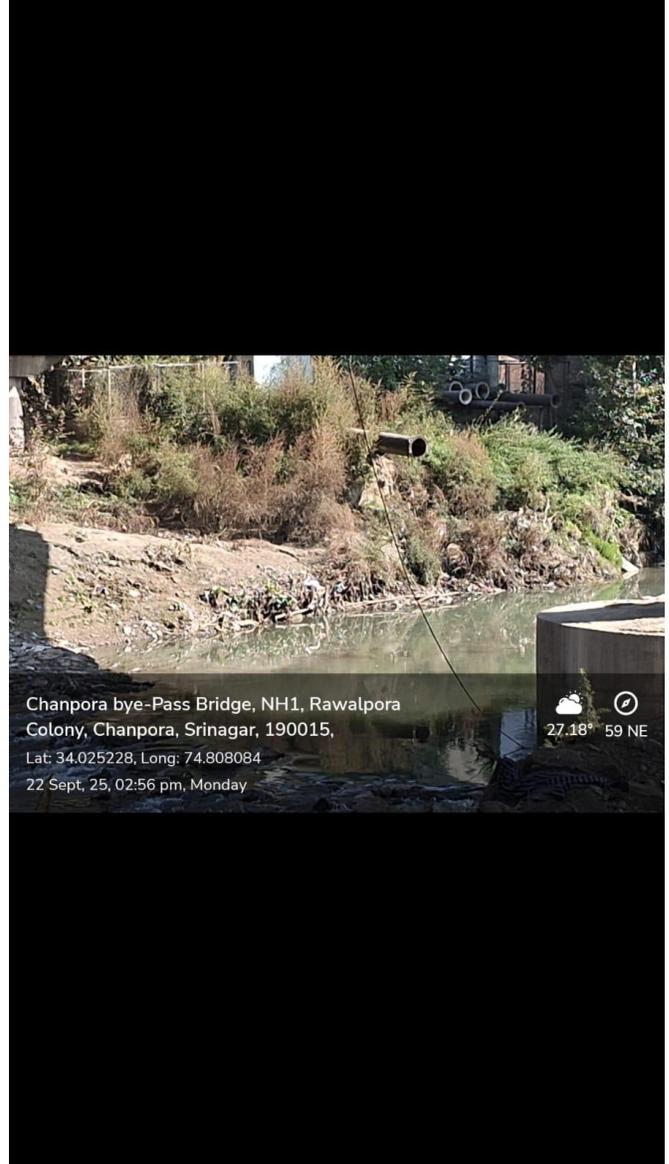
AHMED DIN BLODD  
Advocate, Wodany Public

Badral Duya  
Advocate  
TK 382/2021



**ANNEXURE A/1**

**COPY OF THE RECENT IMAGES TAKEN BY THE APPLICANT ON 22.09.2025  
SHOWING DISCHARGE OF SEWAGE FROM PUMPING STATIONS:**



**ANNEXURE A/2**

**COPY OF THE IMAGES SHOWING THE DAMAGE TO THE EMBANKMENT OF DOODHGANGA AS A RESULT OF ILLEGAL MINING:**



## Doodh Ganga Illegal Mining Washed-Away Irrigation Channels, Farmers Warn of Agri Crisis on 3,000 Kanals

[kashmirilife.net/doodh-ganga-illegal-mining-washed-away-irrigation-channels-farmers-warn-of-agri-crisis-on-3000-kanals-406379/](https://www.kashmirilife.net/doodh-ganga-illegal-mining-washed-away-irrigation-channels-farmers-warn-of-agri-crisis-on-3000-kanals-406379/)

KL News Network

22 September 2025

**SRINAGAR:** Farmers in Chadoora sub-division of central Kashmir's Budgam district are up in arms after three vital irrigation channels sourced from the Doodh Ganga stream were washed away in recent floods, threatening more than 3,000 kanals of agricultural land. The protesting farmers blame years of illegal riverbed mining for the large-scale erosion and landslides along the stream, warning that unless the channels are restored before March next year, both their livelihoods and food security will be at risk.

Farmers from nearly 10 villages staged a protest near the Doodh Ganga a few days ago, accusing authorities of turning a blind eye to unchecked mining that has ravaged the river embankments. "Illegal sand and boulder mining has been going on for the last five to six years using heavy machinery. Though it was partially halted last year after the National Green Tribunal's orders, the damage had already been done," said Abdul Rashid Sheikh, a farmer from Doyan Chadoora.

Sheikh alleged that while the mining block in Chadoora upstream was auctioned for a mere Rs 1.33 crore, material worth more than Rs 300 crore was extracted illegally using L&T and JCB cranes, tippers and dumpers. "The heavy machinery damaged embankments and the small irrigation channels, locally known as kuls. Three of them — Kralpur Kul, Masar Kul and Doyan Kul — were washed away in the floods. If not repaired before March, over 3,000 kanals of agricultural land will be directly affected and nearly 6,000 kanals indirectly hit," he said.

The case of illegal mining and pollution in the Doodh Ganga is already under litigation before the National Green Tribunal (NGT) for the past four years. The tribunal has imposed penalties on several government agencies, including Rs 1 crore on the Mining Department Budgam and Rs 50 lakh on the Municipal Committee, Chadoora. In the same matter, the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) was last year directed to pay Rs 42 crore in environmental compensation for discharging untreated sewage into the stream through 13 pumping stations in areas like Chanapora Bypass, Natipora, Barzulla, Bulbulbagh and Tengpora.

To address the sewage pollution, the Jammu and Kashmir government has sanctioned a Rs 140 crore project for two sewage treatment plants (STPs) at Chanapora and Chadoora. The Urban Environmental Engineering Department (UEED) has already issued tenders for the first phase worth Rs 67 crore, but officials admit the work is stalled due to poor response from bidders.

The Doodh Ganga case, titled Raja Muzaffar Bhat v/s Govt of J&K and others, is listed for its next hearing before the NGT on September 25, 2025.

For the farmers, however, the urgency is immediate. They warn that if the irrigation channels are not restored before the next agricultural cycle, they will intensify protests against the administration. "We will not remain silent spectators as our lands are destroyed. The authorities who allowed this loot and plunder must be held accountable," Sheikh said.

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## DOODHGANGA

1 message

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**Kol Office** <kol\_office@dclawchambers.com>  
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Wed, Sep 24, 2025 at 11:19 AM

ANNEXURES

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Best Regards,  
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Associate Litigator



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### 3 attachments

 **ANNEXURE A1.pdf**  
544K

 **ANNEXURE A2.pdf**  
719K

 **ANNEXURE A3.pdf**  
63K