

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,

PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 797 OF 2023

IN THE MATTER OF :-

"HOW GARBAGE IS CHOKING N-CHOE IN CHANDIGARH"

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & OR .

...RESPONDENT(S)

NDOH: 17.05.2024

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THROUGH


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PLACE: NEW DELHI

DATE: 10 .05.2024.

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**ADDITIONAL AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT
NO.4/MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, CHANDIGARH.**

I, Harjit Singh, Superintending Engineer, Public Health Circle, Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh, being well conversant with the facts of the case in my official capacity and being competent to swear this affidavit on behalf of Respondent No. 4/name, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under:

1. That I am the authorized representative of Respondent No. 4, Harjit Singh, Superintending Engineer, Public Health Circle, Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh, I am filing this affidavit in terms of order of this Hon'ble notice dated 18.01.2024 on behalf of Respondent No. 4 hereby making submissions in the case.



STATUS OF THE N-CHOE

2. The Municipal Corporation Chandigarh is continuously monitoring and taking measures to ensure that no untreated sewage flows into the N-choe.
3. That on 03.01.2024, a joint inspection was conducted comprising of officers from Public Health wing, MOH wing of Municipal Corporation and Engineering wing of Chandigarh Administration who surveyed the N-choe starting from the Boungainvillea Garden, Sector 3, Chandigarh to the last point upto Sector 53, Chandigarh and no waste water found.
4. Thereafter, on 25.03.2024, another inspection was carried out by SE MC (PH) along with concerned SDE, EE & staff at N-choe, no wastewater was found being discharged into the N-choe and discharge of only fresh water and tertiary treated water was detected at few points.
5. There is no untreated sewage leaking into the N-choe at present, and all issues regarding leakages detected, have been rectified by Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh.
6. That again, on 08.04.2024, joint inspection comprising of officers from CPCC, Public Health & MOH wing of Municipal Corporation and Engineering wing of Chandigarh Administration, surveyed the entire length of N-choe for installation of chain link, MS grating and jali to avoid throwing of garbage into N-choe.



7. The Municipal Corporation Chandigarh MCC is making sincere efforts to stop the flow of even fresh or tertiary water into the N-choe and any incident of sewerage flow in the choe is rectified immediately after identification.
8. That in order to ensure no incidents of discharge take place all J.E.'s have been directed to file an undertaking every week to certify that no discharge is taking place in any of the N-choe under his jurisdiction.

Dumping of Construction&Demolition(C&D) waste and garbage:

9. That as all the choes in Chandigarh fall in the jurisdiction of the Engineering Department, UT Administration, steps to secure the choe to prevent dumping of C & D waste and garbage are to be taken by CE UT. However, the Municipal Corporation is making constant efforts through night vigil and challaning, to prevent the same. This is done by the Medical Officer of Health of Municipal Chandigarh.
10. **That in order to stop illegal dumping C&D waste into the N-choe Net/ jallis have been installed at various tail ends of the N-choe. Around 30 outlet points have been identified and plugged to arrest any flow of plastic / litter into the N-choe through the storm water drains. The jallis are being repaired continuously as the same get damaged due to wear and tear.**



11. It is humbly submitted that the Municipal Corporation Chandigarh has made significant progress in waste water management through up-gradation of all 6 of its STPs to SBR technology to meet the norms prescribed by Hon'ble NGT. Further, all sewage points have been diverted to STP's and no sewage release is made into the N-choe. Further there is no treated waste water discharged from the STP's into the N-choe in Chandigarh.
12. It would be pertinent to mention here that Municipal Corporation has started the work of strengthening of Tertiary Treated Water distribution system wherein old TT water lines are being replaced and new pipe lines are being laid in left out areas of Chandigarh. Around 154 Kms pipeline are to be laid under the project. After the completion of the project, leakage from the old tertiary treated water pipelines will be completely stopped and the use of the tertiary treated water will increase to 20 MGD from the present usage of 8-10 MGD. The tertiary treated sewage water will be used for secondary purposes to cover all parks, roundabouts, berms and educational institutions and Industrial processes. Further, active and continuous monitoring and corrective measures are taken to prevent untreated sewage from flowing into the Natural Choes.
13. It is submitted that all the directions of the Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee have been complied with.



HIGH CONCENTRATION OF FECAL MATTER.

14. The N-Choe is a natural formation starting from Bougainvillea Garden through the Leisure valley in Sector 10 and all the way to Sector 53, where it exits Chandigarh and enter in Punjab. The N-choe passes through the parks which line the N-Choe and in these parks there are animals which live within vicinity. The fecal matter of these animals ultimately falls directly into the N-choe.
15. That no human waste or sewage flowing into the N-Choe at any juncture within the city of Chandigarh.
16. Therefore, the Fecal Coliform levels are due to the aforementioned factors and not due to any human intervention or sources.
17. That the deponent prays that he may further be allowed to file a detailed affidavit, if so required and if so directed by this Hon'ble Tribunal.



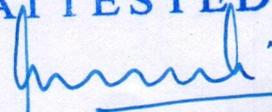
DEPONENT

Superintending Engineer
Public Health Circle,
Municipal Corporation
CHANDIGARH (M.T.)

VERIFICATION:

I, Harjit Singh, the deponent above named do hereby verify and declare that the facts stated in the above paras are true to my knowledge.

Verified at _____ on this _____ day of May, 2024.

ATTESTED


Executive Magistrate
U.T., CHANDIGARH



DEPONENT

Superintending Engineer
Public Health Circle,
Municipal Corporation
CHANDIGARH (M.T.)