

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

Original application No. 1119/2024

In the Case of: News item titled "Sindh Nallah Polluted Trout Habitat threatened in Ganderbal" appearing in Greater Kashmir dated 19-08-2024

Applicant...

Versus

Central Pollution Control Board and others

Respondents...

In the Matter Of: Affidavit on behalf of respondent No. 5 in compliance to order dated 30-08-2024 passed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi.

May it please Your Lordships:

I, Ab. Majid Tak, Director Fisheries, J&K Government, Aged 57 years do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under;

Preliminary Submissions


DIRECTOR FISHERIES
J&K Government

1. That I, the Deponent in the above captioned matter, am fully conversant with the facts of the matter and I am competent and authorized to swear in the present affidavit.
2. That I state that the contents of the affidavit have been drafted on my instructions and the contents of the same are true to the best of my knowledge and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

3. That I state that the above captioned matter is pending before the Hon'ble Tribunal and was last listed on 11-12-2024 and the Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to direct as under in para 4 of the said order;

"In spite of service of notice, Respondent No. 4 and 5 are neither represented nor reply has been filed on their behalf. Hence, we direct Respondent No. 4, Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal and Respondent No. 5, commissioner Fisheries Department, Union Territory of J&K to appear virtually on the next date of hearing."

Brief/Background of the case

4. That on receiving the notice from the Hon'ble Tribunal on 24-10-2024 and various communications on the subject from Jammu & Kashmir Pollution Control Committee, the Directorate of Fisheries, J&K constituted a Committee of experts vide order No. 578-Fisheries of 2024 dated 13-11-2024 for ascertaining the impact of pollution on population and habitat of Trout Fish in Sindh Nallah, Ganderbal. The copies of communication from J&K Pollution control committee are annexed herewith as **Annexure A/I**.
5. That the designated committee submitted its detailed report on 25-11-2024 which is reproduced as under;


DIRECTOR FISHERIES
J&K Government

"The Nallah Sindh once a pristine water stream is passing through a number of hamlets of District Ganderbal and a major Tributary of the Jhelum River. During the recent past due to various developmental works, increasing tourist flow, unscientific disposal of garbages and others factors has witnessed an increase in the pollution level of the river. In compliance to the order number mentioned supra, the designated committee visited District Ganderbal on 16/11/2024, to take stock of the Nallah

from Wayil to Sonamarg. The communique from the Office of the Assistant Director Fisheries, Ganderbal was also taken into account for framing of the report. The pollution status of any water body is characterized by the water quality parameters, which was witnessed in the records of the ADF office provided by the APCO in connection with some pollution claims from the officer. The water quality parameters were correlated with the maximum tolerable values for the trout, and it was observed that reported total hardness (173 mg/l) was more than the tolerance range of 80-100 mg/l for trout. Coliforms (MPN) was far more larger (425) than the tolerable limits of 200 MPN by the trout. Coliforms are the bacteria associated with the decomposition of organic matter, which increases ammonical nitrogen, nitrate and nitrite, thereby making the habitat biologically and chemically unsuitable for the trout. The high nitrate, nitrite and ammonia reduce the oxygen content in water because of the oxygen consumption by the decaying bacteria, thereby making the habitat unsuitable for the thriving trout, which is an aggressive fish and needs more than 9 ppm of oxygen for its metabolic activity. The high level of BOD (11 mg/l) than the tolerance limit of 4-5 mg/l for trout is alarming and a clear proof of the destruction of aquatic habitat. The higher COD levels (22.85), as compared to the tolerance limit of 18-20 ppm also supports the occurrence of higher BOD. Iron present in water as Fe^{++} is believed to interfere with the oxygen binding capacity by the fishes, higher concentration (0.11 ppm) than the tolerance limit of 0.05 is also alarming and an indicator of industrial pollution.

S.N.	Water Parameter	Unit	Tolerance Limit	Reference	APCO 1	APCO 2	APCO 3	
3.	TDS	mg/l	800-1000	Currie <i>et al.</i> 1998	249	176	187	204
4.	Conductivity	μ S/cm	100-300	Ana <i>et al.</i> , 2019	269	287		278
5.	Total Hardness (As $CaCO_3$)	mg/l	80-100	Anadu <i>et al.</i> 1989	133	141		137
7.	Chloride (as Cl ⁻)	mg/l	80-100	Ana <i>et al.</i> , 2019	18.3	16.9		17.6
8.	Sulphate (SO_4)	mg/l	80-100	Ana <i>et al.</i> , 2019	16.9			16.9
9.	Fluoride (as F)	mg/l	2.7-4.7	Ana <i>et al.</i> , 2019				

10.	Ammoniacal Nitrogen (NH ₃ N)	mg/l	30-40	Hellawell 1986				
11.	Nitrite (NO ₂ ⁻)	mg/l	0-40	Westin, 1974				
12.	Total Phosphate (as PO ₄ ⁻)	mg/l	0.8-1.0	Barton, 1996				
12.	Coliform (Organisms)	MPN	200	Ana <i>et al.</i> , 2019	350	500		425
13.	Dissolved Oxygen	mg/l	8.0-9.0	Thurston <i>et al.</i> 1981	6.9			6.9
14.	Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD)	mg/l	4-5 ppm	Elisa <i>et al.</i> , 2020	11	09	2	11
15.	Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)	mg/l	18-20 ppm	Elisa <i>et al.</i> , 2020	24.3	21.4		22.8 5
16.	Iron as Fe	mg/l	0.00-0.05	Sayer <i>et al.</i> 1991	0.08	0.08	0.14	0.11

Besides the chemical parameters, the assessment of the optimum habitat for the fishes is ascertained by the catch per unit effort (CPUE). Since many anglers visit the Sindh river for fishing, it has been found over time that the stretch from Wayil to Mammar has considerably got damaged and affected the Trout fish. From Mammar to Kulan to Gagangir there is mixed stock of rainbow and brown trout, with rainbow trout marginating the total catch. The APCO discharge the treated water at Gagangir, which becomes a barrier for the fishes and there is no catch of rainbow or brown trout possible from Gagangir upwards. Pertinent to mention that Kulan area is blessed with some large pools of calm waters from October to January, which helps the trout fish to breed, however, despite having the ability and tendency of the rainbow and brown trout to upwell the stream waters or linearly swimming against the current, there are no traces of movement due to the beyond tolerance pollution strate in Gagangeer region. Hotliers drain the kitchen and bathroom wastes into the river Sindh directly, without any pretreatment. The construction of hotels along the bank of river discharge grey and black water immensely into the river Sindh, which increases the pollution strata to the subtle regions of the river and gets added to the river habitat slowly, giving rise to the bacterial load. Moreover, the houses constructed along the river banks contribute to the kitchen waste, domestic sewage, animal wastes and human faecal matter of the river Sindh, which is an important contributor to the pollution status of the river, by higher MPN of coliform and faecal coliforms. Such pollutants primarily destroy the aquatic habitat and make the fishes prone to infections because of the deterioration in water quality parameters and invasion of bacteria through the primary and secondary immune barriers. The open

*defecation evident on the banks of the river is also the cause of the pollution, making river Sindh more vulnerable to the anthropogenic pressures. Mining in various parts of the river destroys the feeding and breeding grounds of the trout, which compels trout to migrate to the safer zones with optimum water quality parameters. The garbage dumping in the river not only adds to the pollution strata to the river, but also increases the biological degradation of organic deposits, which finally becomes reservoirs of bacteria, fungi and viruses, making the habitat completely adverse for the aquatic inhabitants. Report is hereby submitted with the remarks that concrete steps need to be taken by the administration for safeguarding the natural habitat of trout in Sindh River, by collaborative efforts of different Departments. Pertinent to mention that the report has been framed after consultation with various stakeholders and for the scientific confirmation about the destruction of trout life in River Sindh should be mandated to the faculty of fisheries, SKUAST (K), Rangil Ganderbal, which is equipped with latest provisions for estimation of pollution, diseases and population dynamics of trout in river Sindh. The copy of report submitted by the designated committee of Fisheries Department is annexed herewith as **Annexure A-II**.*

6. That the Directorate of Fisheries in response to the communications from J&K Pollution Control Committee, aforementioned report was forwarded to the J&K pollution Control committee vide this office letter No. DOF-Tech/84/2024-05 dated 25-11-2024. Copy of letter No. DOF-Tech/84/2024-05 dated 25-11-2024 is annexed herewith as **Annexure A-III**.

7. That the answering respondent was under the impression that the report submitted to the J&K Pollution Control committee will be treated as reply on behalf of respondent No. 5.

8. That the reply submitted by J&K Pollution Control Board as reflected in the order of the Hon'ble Tribunal dated 11-12-2024 is purely based on the report of Fisheries Department.

9. That a report was also sought from Assistant Director Fisheries District Ganderbal vide communication NO. DOF-Tech/84/2024-05 dated 23-10-2024 and 05-11-2024. The Assistant Director Fisheries Ganderbal submitted his report vide letter No. ADF/GBL/2024-25/1731-33 dated 05-11-2024, the copy of which is annexed herewith as **Annexure A-IV.**
10. That the Deponent has been authorized by Administrative Department vide communication No. ASHF-FISHOMGAZ/3/2025 (7614316) dated 24-01-2025 to appear and submit the affidavit on behalf of respondent No. 5 in the above titled matter. Copy of communication No. No. ASHF-FISHOMGAZ/3/2025 (7614316) dated 24-01-2025 is annexed herewith as **Annexure A-V.**
11. That the strict preventive measures, at District Administration Level are required to be put in place to control the pollution, protect the water body and to restore the glory of the river Sindh.


DIRECTOR FISHERIES
J&K Government

Verification:

Verified at Srinagar on _____ day of _____ that the contents of the above reply/affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and nothing material has been concealed therein.


Deponent
DIRECTOR FISHERIES
J&K Government


Deponent
DIRECTOR FISHERIES
J&K Government

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

Original application No. 1119/2024

In the Case of: News item titled "Sindh Nallah Polluted Trout
Habitat threatened in Ganderbal" appearing in
Greater Kashmir dated 19-08-2024

Applicant...

VS

Central Pollution Control Board and others

Respondents...

I N D E X

S. No.	Particulars	Pages No.s	
		From	TO
01	Affidavit on behalf of respondent No. 5 in compliance to order dated 30-08-2024	01	06
02	Annexure A-I	07	11
03	Annexure A-II	12	14
	Annexure A-III	15	15
	Annexure A-IV	16	17
	Annexure A-V	18	18
	Total	01	18

Respondent No.5

**Jammu and Kashmir
Pollution Control Committee**
chairman87jkspcb@gmail.com
membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com
0191 - 2472881, 2476925



Parivesh Bhavan, Forest
Complex
Transport Nagar, Jammu, 180
006
Silk Factory Road
Rajbagh, Srinagar, 190 008

**Director,
Fisheries,
Jammu & Kashmir.**

No.: JKPC/Sc./OA 1119-2024/24/993

Date: 12-09-2024

Sub: News Item titled "Sindh Nallah Polluted trout habitat threatened in Ganderbal" appearing in Greater Kashmir dated 19.08.2024

Ref: Hon'ble NGT order dated 30.08.2024.

Sir,

Please refer to the subject and reference captioned above. In this connection, I am to convey that Hon'ble NGT have pointed out certain observations in its order dated 30.08.2024, which are as follows:

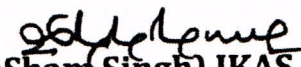
1. "The news item relates to rampant pollution in the Sindh nallah in Ganderbal District of Kashmir. As per the article, Sindh nallah was once a pristine source of fresh water and a habitat for trout but is now heavily polluted due to the unchecked garbage dumping from Wayil to Sonamarg."
2. "Despite its significance, authorities have shown indifference to the growing pollution problem. The article highlights that the Sindh Nallah is a major tributary of the River Jhelum and plays an essential role in the region, contributing to irrigation, hydropower generation, and supplying drinking water to Srinagar via the Rangil Water Treatment Plant. Yet, despite its significance, the nallah's banks are increasingly tainted by heaps of waste, particularly plastic and other refuse, which remain unattended."

gobal

3. *"The article states that the pollution threatens the trout fish population and the overall water quality, causing irretrievable damage to the habitat.*

As such, you are requested to share the factual Status Report w.r.t extent of effect of pollution on the population & habitat of the trout with J&K PCC, so as to expedite further course of action in the matter.

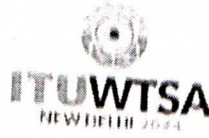
Yours Sincerely,


(GhanSham Singh) JKAS
Member Secretary 12.9.24

328

**Jammu and Kashmir
Pollution Control Committee**

chairman@jkpcb@gmail.com
membersecretary@jkpcb@gmail.com
0191 - 2472881, 2476025



Parivesh Bhavan, Forest
Complex
Transport Nagar, Jammu, 180
006

Bilk Factory Road
Rajbagh, Srinagar, 190 008

Director,
Fisheries,
Jammu & Kashmir.

No: JKPCC/Sc./OA-1119-2024/24/ 1257

Dated:- 21 -10-2024

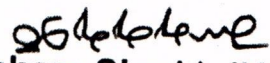
Sub:- News Item titled "Sindh Nallah Polluted trout habitat threatened
in Ganderbal" appearing in Greater Kashmir dated 19-08-2024.

Ref:- JKPCC/SC/OA 1119-2024/24/993 dated 12-09-2024

Sir,

Please refer to this office No. JKPCC/Sc./OA-1119-2024/24/993
dated 12-09-2024, wherein you were requested to share the factual status
report w.r.t. extent of effect of pollution on the population and habitat of the
trout fish, which may kindly be expedited and shared with this office by or
before 30-10-2024.

Yours faithfully,


(Ghansham Singh) JKAS
Member Secretary 21.10.24

**Jammu and Kashmir
Pollution Control Committee**

chairman87jkspcb@gmail.com
membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com

0191 - 2472881, 2476925



Parivesh Bhavan, Forest
Complex
Transport Nagar, Jammu, 180
006

Silk Factory Road
Rajbagh, Srinagar, 190 008

Director,
Fisheries,
Jammu & Kashmir.

No: JKPC/Sc./OA-1119-2024/24/1299

Dated:- 04 -11-2024

Sub:- News Item titled "Sindh Nallah Polluted trout habitat threatened in Ganderbal" appearing in Greater Kashmir dated 19-08-2024.

Sir,

With reference to this office No. JKPC/Sc./OA-1119-2024/24/1257 dated 21-10-2024 and No. JKPC/Sc./OA-1119-2024/24/993 dated 12-10-2024, information w.r.t. extent of effect of pollution on the population and habitat of the trout fish is still awaited, which may kindly be expedited and shared with this office by or before 05-11-2024.

Yours faithfully,

DAC
wjnt / Rmng
[Signature]

Ghansham Singh
(Ghansham Singh) JKAS
Member Secretary 4.11.24

**Jammu and Kashmir
Pollution Control Committee**

chairman87jkspcb@gmail.com
membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com
0191 – 2472881, 2476925



Parivesh Bhavan, Forest Complex
Transport Nagar, Jammu, 180 006

Silk Factory Road
Rajbagh, Srinagar, 190 008

Director,
Fisheries,
Jammu & Kashmir.

URGENT

No: JKPCC/Sc./OA-1119-2024/24/1384

Dated:- 19 -11-2024

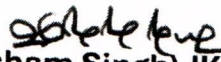
Sub:- News Item titled “Sindh Nallah Polluted trout habitat threatened in Ganderbal” appearing in Greater Kashmir dated 19-08-2024-report regarding.

Ref:- No. JKPCC/Sc./OA-1119-2024/24/1346 dated 12-11-2024

Sir,

With reference to this office No. JKPCC/Sc./OA-1119-2024/24/1346 dated 12-11-2024, wherein you have been requested to share information regarding “Impact of pollution on population and habitat of trout fish,” you are again requested to expedite and share with J&K PCC the requisite information by or before 25-11-2024 for needful action.

Yours faithfully,


(Ghansham Singh) JKAS
Member Secretary

19.11.24

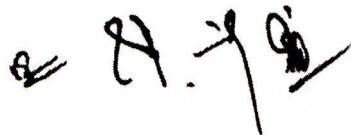
**Committee Report regarding the impact of pollution on population and habitat of
trout fish in Sindh Nallah**

Ref: Order No. 578 Fisheries of 2024, Dated 13-11-2024

The Nallah Sindh once a pristine water stream is passing through a number of hamlets of District Ganderbal and a major Tributary of the Jhelum River. During the recent past due to various developmental works, increasing tourist flow, unscientific disposal of garbages and others factors has witnessed an increase in the pollution level of the river.

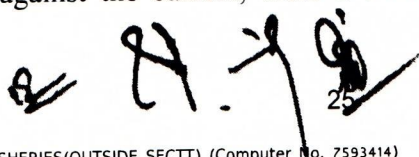
In compliance to the order number mentioned supra, the designated committee visited District Ganderbal on 16/11/2024, to take stock of the Nallah from Wayil to Sonamarg. The communique from the Office of the Assistant Director Fisheries, Ganderbal was also taken into account for framing of the report.

The pollution status of any water body is characterized by the water quality parameters, which was witnessed in the records of the ADF office provided by the APCO in connection with some pollution claims from the officer. The water quality parameters were correlated with the maximum tolerable values for the trout, and it was observed that reported total hardness (173 mg/l) was more than the tolerance range of 80-100 mg/l for trout. Coliforms (MPN) was far more larger (425) than the tolerable limits of 200 MPN by the trout. Coliforms are the bacteria associated with the decomposition of organic matter, which increases ammonical nitrogen, nitrate and nitrite, thereby making the habitat biologically and chemically unsuitable for the trout. The high nitrate, nitrite and ammonia reduce the oxygen content in water because of the oxygen consumption by the decaying bacteria, thereby making the habitat unsuitable for the thriving trout, which is an aggressive fish and needs more than 9 ppm of oxygen for its metabolic activity. The high level of BOD (11 mg/l) than the tolerance limit of 4-5 mg/l for trout is alarming and a clear proof of the destruction of aquatic habitat. The higher COD levels (22.85), as compared to the tolerance limit of 18-20 ppm also supports the occurrence of higher BOD. Iron present in water as Fe^{++} is believed to interfere with the oxygen binding capacity by the fishes, higher concentration (0.11 ppm) than the tolerance limit of 0.05 is also alarming and an indicator of industrial pollution.



S.N	Water Parameter	Unit	Tolerance Limit	Reference	APC O 1	APC O 2	APC O 3	
3.	TDS	mg/l	800-1000	Currie <i>et al.</i> 1998	249	176	187	204
4.	Conductivity	μS/cm	100-300	Ana <i>et al.</i> , 2019	269	287	NA	278
5.	Total Hardness (As CaCO ₃)	mg/l	80-100	Anadu <i>et al.</i> 1989	133	141	NA	137
7.	Chloride (as Cl ⁻)	mg/l	80-100	Ana <i>et al.</i> , 2019	18.3	16.9	NA	17.6
8.	Sulphate (SO ₄)	mg/l	80-100	Ana <i>et al.</i> , 2019	16.9	NA	NA	16.9
9.	Fluoride (as F)	mg/l	2.7-4.7	Ana <i>et al.</i> , 2019	NA	NA	NA	NA
10.	Ammoniacal Nitrogen (NH ₃ N)	mg/l	30-40	Hellawell 1986	NA	NA	NA	NA
11.	Nitrite (NO ₂ ⁻)	mg/l	0-40	Westin, 1974	NA	NA	NA	NA
12.	Total Phosphate (as PO ₄ ⁻)	mg/l	0.8-1.0	Barton, 1996	NA	NA	NA	NA
12.	Coliform (Organisms)	MPN	200	Ana <i>et al.</i> , 2019	350	500	NA	425
13.	Dissolved Oxygen	mg/l	8.0-9.0	Thurston <i>et al.</i> 1981	6.9	NA	NA	6.9
14.	Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD)	mg/l	4-5 ppm	Elisa <i>et al.</i> , 2020	11	09	2	11
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16.	Iron as Fe	mg/l	0.00-0.05	Sayer <i>et al.</i> 1991	0.08	0.08	0.14	0.11

Besides the chemical parameters, the assessment of the optimum habitat for the fishes is ascertained by the catch per unit effort (CPUE). Since many anglers visit the Sindh river for fishing, it has been found over time that the stretch from Wayil to Mammar has considerably got damaged and affected the Trout fish. From Mammar to Kulan to Gagangir there is mixed stock of rainbow and brown trout, with rainbow trout marginating the total catch. The APCO discharge the treated water at Gagangir, which becomes a barrier for the fishes and there is no catch of rainbow or brown trout possible from Gagangir upwards. Pertinent to mention that Kulan area is blessed with some large pools of calm waters from October to January, which helps the trout fish to breed, however, despite having the ability and tendency of the rainbow and brown trout to upwell the stream waters or linearly swimming against the current, there are no traces of movement due to the beyond


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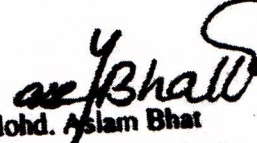
tolerance pollution strate in Gagangeer region. Hotliers drain the kitchen and bathroom wastes into the river Sindh directly, without any pretreatment. Taking the cognizance, the ADF has fined the hotelliers along the sindh and warned them to treat black and grey water before discharging into the Sindh River.


The construction of hotels along the bank of river discharge grey and black water immensely into the river Sindh, which increases the pollution strata to the subtle regions of the river and gets added to the river habitat slowly, giving rise to the bacterial load. Moreover, the houses constructed along the river banks contribute to the kitchen waste, domestic sewage, animal wastes and human faecal matter of the river Sindh, which is an important contributor to the pollution status of the river, by higher MPN of coliform and faecal coliforms. Such pollutants primarily destroy the aquatic habitat and make the fishes prone to infections because of the deterioration in water quality parameters and invasion of bacteria through the primary and secondary immune barriers. The open defecation evident on the banks of the river is also the cause of the pollution, making river Sindh more vulnerable to the anthropogenic pressures. Mining in various parts of the river destroys the feeding and breeding grounds of the trout, which compels trout to migrate to the safer zones with optimum water quality parameters. The garbage dumping in the river not only adds to the pollution strata to the river, but also increases the biological degradation of organic deposits, which finally becomes reservoirs of bacteria, fungi and viruses, making the habitat completely adverse for the aquatic inhabitants.

Report is hereby submitted with the remarks that concrete steps need to be taken by the administration for safeguarding the natural habitat of trout in Sindh River, by collaborative efforts of different Departments. Pertinent to mention that the report has been framed after consultation with various stakeholders and for the scientific confirmation about the destruction of trout life in River Sindh should be mandated to the faculty of fisheries, SKUAST (K), Rangil Ganderbal, which is equipped with latest provisions for estimation of pollution, diseases and population dynamics of trout in river Sindh.


Dr. Salman Raulof Chalkoo
Assistant Director Fisheries
Kupwara


Showkat Ahmad Bhat
Assistant Director Fisheries
Baramullah


Mohd. Aslam Bhat
Assistant Director Fisheries
Ganderbal


Gh. Jeelan Pandith
Chief Project Officer
NFSI, Manasbal

Annexure A-III

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
DIRECTORATE OF FISHERIES, J&K

Tourist Reception Centre, Srinagar/Nowabad Canal Road, Jammu
(Email-jkfdkmr@gmail.com, Phone No. 0194-2500106, 0191-2951670)

The Member Secretary,
J&K Pollution Control Committee.

File No. DOF-TECH/84/2024-05

Dated: 25/11/2024

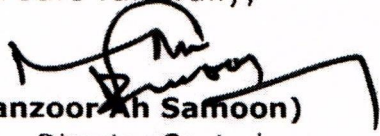
Subject: News Item titled "Sindh Nallah Polluted Trout habitat threatened in Ganderbal" appearing in Greater Kashmir dated 19.08.2024 – report regarding.

Reference: JKPCC/Sc./OA 1119-2024/24/1384 dated 19-11-2024

Sir,

Kindly refer to aforementioned subject and reference. In this context, I am directed to forward herewith the desired detailed report regarding impact of pollution on population and habitat of trout fish as submitted by the committee constituted for the purpose vide Order No. 578-Fisheries of 2024; dated: 13.11.2024. Hence, the same is submitted for favour of information and further necessary action at your end.

Yours faithfully,


(Manzoor Ah Samoon)
Dy. Director Central,
Fisheries, Srinagar

Copy to the:

1. Chairman, J&K Pollution Control Committee for kind information.
2. Private Secretary to the Principal Secretary to Govt., Agriculture Production Department for information of the Worthy Principal Secretary.
3. P.A to Director Fisheries J&K for information of the Director Fisheries.



**OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FISHERIES
GANDERBAL (MINI SECRETARIAT)**



Email: fisheriesganderbal@gmail.com

the risks posed by pollution to aquatic life particularly the Trout species. Sign boards shall also be placed in key locations near the stream.

4. Strict enforcement of penalties: Stringent fines and penalties are being imposed on individuals, business establishments who are caught dumping waste into the Nallah. These regulations shall enforce rigorously to deter further pollution.

5. Improved waste management system-: Local waste collection and mechanism is being enhanced in collaboration with Municipal authorities to improve garbage collection to ensure that waste does not accumulate near the Nallah.

6. Plantation and conservation initiatives: Afforestation drives along the river bank has been taken up by various departments to enhance the natural filtration of pollutants and prevent soil erosion into the stream.

7. Engage local communities: Local community members and Panchayats are being engaged in preserving the health of the Nallah.

In conclusion concerted efforts are being taken up to preserve the ecological health of Sindh Nallah and prevent any degradation of this vital resource.

As such the report is submitted for favour of information and further necessary action please.

Yours faithfully

(Signature)
Assistant Director Fisheries
District Ganderbal

Copy to the:

1. District Development Commissioner, Ganderbal for information and necessary action please.
2. Joint Director Fisheries, North Kashmir for information please.

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Annexure A-V

www.JKash.nic.in

Ph No. 0191-2564189(J)
0194-2506251 (S)



**Government of Jammu and Kashmir
Agriculture Production Department
Civil Secretariat, Jammu/ Srinagar**

**The Director.
Fisheries Department, J&K.**

No. ASHF-FISHONGAZ/3/2025 (7614316)

Dated: 24.01.2025

**Subject :- O.A No.1119/2024 News Item titled "Sindh Nallah
Polluted trout habitat threatened in Ganderbal"
appearing in Greater Kashmir dated 19-08-2024.**

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith the copy of OM No. FST-LIT/613/2024 (7606909) dated 09.01.2025 received from the Department of Forest, Ecology & Environment, Civil Secretariat Srinagar alongwith order dated 11.12.2024 passed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi and request you to kindly appear before the Tribunal on behalf of Respondent No. 05 (Commissioner, Fisheries Department, UT of J&K) on next date of hearing (i.e 08.04.2025). Besides, file the reply in the instant case immediately, under intimation to this department.

Yours faithfully,


(Fayaz Ahmad Bhat)

Under Secretary to the Government

24/1/25 24/01