

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

O.A No. 826/2024

In the case of: News Item titled "Pillars of Ravi-Tawi Canal Bridge and railway bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.06.2024.

V/s

Ganshyam Singh, Member Secretary, JKPC & Ors.

In the Matter of: Additional Reply on the behalf of Deputy Commissioner Kathua

In the matter of:- Index

S. No.	Particulars	Page No.
1.	Additional Reply	1-4.
2.	Affidavit	5-6.
3.	Annexure-I (Copy of order dated 23.09.2025)	7.
4.	Annexure-II (Copy of the letter No. DCK/Legal/2025-26/596 dated 31.03.2026)	8.
5.	Annexure-III (Copy of the report bearing No. DMO/K/NGT/2025-26/02 dated 01.04.2026)	9-15.

Answering Respondent



Rajesh Sharma JKAS
Deputy Commissioner Kathua
M. No. 9797022777
Deputy Commissioner
Kathua

Place: Kathua
Dated:- 30.04.2026.

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

O.A No. 826/2024

In the case of: News Item titled "Pillars of Ravi-Tawi Canal Bridge and railway bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.06.2024.

V/s

Ganshyam Singh, Member Secretary, JKPC & Ors.

In the Matter of: Additional Reply on the behalf of Deputy Commissioner Kathua

May it please your Lordships,

The Answering Respondents most respectfully submits as under:-

1. That the above titled OA is pending disposal before the Hon'ble Tribunal in which the next date of hearing is fixed on 19.05.2026
2. That the Hon'ble Tribunal vide order dated 23.09.2025 in OA No. 826/2024 titled News Item titled "Pillars of Ravi-Tawi Canal Bridge and railway bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.06.2024 ordered as follows:-

"Learned Counsel appearing for respondents no. 4 to 6 submits that though reply on behalf of respondents no. 4 and 5 has been filed but further additional reply is required to be filed which will be filed within two weeks."

Copy of order dated 23.09.2025 is enclosed herewith and marked as **Annexure-I.**

A. A. M. O.
**Deputy Commissioner
Kathua**

3. That in compliance to the order dated 23.09.2025 pronounced by the Hon'ble Tribunal in OA No. 826/2024 titled News Item titled "Pillars of Ravi-Tawi Canal Bridge and railway bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.06.2024 the office of Deputy Commissioner, Kathua vide No. DCK/Legal/2025-26/596 dated 31.03.2026 directed District Mineral Officer, Kathua to furnish an additional reply to this office. Copy of the letter No. DCK/Legal/2025-26/596 dated 31.03.2026 is enclosed herewith and marked as **Annexure-II**.
4. That the District Mineral Officer, Kathua vide No. DMO/K/NGT/2025-26/02 dated 01.04.2026 reported that the following preventive measures are being adopted by the Geology and Mining Department:-
- Day/Night checking nakkas are regularly being laid on multiple locations for ensuring legal transportation of minor minerals besides surprise inspections are also being carried out to check the illegal mining activities. Flying/Monitoring squads are regularly monitoring the mining & transportation activities. In addition to this, Joint enforcement drives with the district administration and police are also carried out on regular intervals.
- Details of penalty realized and vehicles seized/penalized during the last 04 years.

Mawo
Deputy Commissioner
Kathua

Year	Penalty Realized	No. of Vehicle seized/Penalized
2022-23	27550812	344
2023-24	41421679	507
2024-25	24984302	269
2025-26	33077324	1017

The above furnished details are showing significant increase in the number of seized vehicles in 2025-2026, driven by strict enforcement of MM(D&R) Act, 1957 and rules made thereunder.

It is pertinent to mention here that as per the extant rules of Geology & Mining Department, J&K, every minor mineral block/Lease is delineated at a distance of more than 500 meters from the existing bridge(s) after obtaining proper NOCs from all the stake holder departments incorporated in Single Window Clearance System by the Government of J&K in this regard.

However, in order to bring in the transparency in the sale-purchase of minor minerals, Department of Geology & Mining, J&K has switched to a designated e-portal and now, all the sale-purchase of minor minerals are being made online through the said e-portal by way of system generated auto-approved QR coded e-challans. Further, GPS devices are being installed on the vehicles associated with the transportation of minor minerals and GPS devices are being integrated with the designated online portal of Geology & Mining Department, J&K for real time satellite monitoring.

Raw
Deputy Commissioner
Kathua

Furthermore, it is also proposed to install High Resolution CCTV cameras on the hotspots/key locations where there is more propensity of illegal transportation of minor minerals.

All the above mentioned preventive measures are being implemented to check the illegal mining activities across the district.

Copy of the report of District Mineral Officer, Kathua bearing vide No. DMO/K/NGT/2025-26/02 dated 01.04.2026 is enclosed herewith and marked as **Annexure-III**.

An affidavit in support of the objections is enclosed herewith.

IN THE PREMISES:

In view of the submissions made herein above and those to be urged at the time of hearing, it is humbly prayed that the Additional Reply in the instant OA may kindly be taken on record.

Answering Respondent



Rajesh Sharma JKAS
Deputy Commissioner Kathua
M. No. 9797022777
Deputy Commissioner
Kathua

Place: Kathua
Dated:- 30.04.2026.



सत्यमेव जयते

234

INDIA NON JUDICIAL

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

e-Stamp

Certificate No. : IN-JK23104222192407Y
Certificate Issued Date : 30-Apr-2026 02:15 PM
Account Reference : NEWIMPACC (SV)/ jk12620704/ KATHUA/ JK-KT
Unique Doc. Reference : SUBIN-JKJK1262070428893210306451Y
Purchased by : RAJESH SHARMA DC KATHUA
Description of Document : Article 4 Affidavit
Property Description : AFFIDAVIT
Consideration Price (Rs.) : 0
(Zero)
First Party : RAJESH SHARMA DC KATHUA
Second Party : NA
Stamp Duty Paid By : RAJESH SHARMA DC KATHUA
Stamp Duty Amount(Rs.) : 10
(Ten only)



Please write or type below this line



Statutory Alert:

1. The authenticity of this Stamp certificate should be verified at 'www.sholestamp.com' or using e-Stamp Mobile App of Stock Holding. Any discrepancy in the details on this Certificate and as available on the website / Mobile App renders it invalid.
2. The onus of checking the legitimacy is on the users of the certificate.
3. In case of any discrepancy please inform the Competent Authority.

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

O.A No. 826/2024

In the case of: News Item titled "Pillars of Ravi-Tawi Canal Bridge and railway bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.06.2024.

V/s

Ganshyam Singh, Member Secretary, JKPC & Ors.

IN THE MATTER OF :- Affidavit in support of Additional Reply.

I, Rajesh Sharma aged 50 years, presently posted as Deputy Commissioner Kathua do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under:-

1. That the contents made in the application duly drafted by the counsel on my instructions, the contents whereof are true and correct upon information derived from official record.
2. I solemnly swear/ affirm that this affidavit is true, no part of this is false and nothing has been concealed herein.

Rajesh
Deponent
Deputy Commissioner
Kathua

Verification:

Verified at Kathua on 30th day of April, 2026 that the contents of this affidavit are true and correct to the best of knowledge and belief and nothing has been concealed herewith.

who is identified by *Rajesh Sharma presently posted as*
witnessed by Sh *Kunal* *Kathua presently posted as*
or sent of this affidavit before me *to the*
on *30th of April 2026* and
I affirm that *the* who
I have read the contents of his affidavit.

Rajesh
Deponent
Deputy Commissioner
Kathua

[Signature]
Naib Tehsildar
Executive Magistrate 1st Class
(P. A. to Deputy Commissioner)
Kathua

Identified by
Kunal

Item No. 13

Court No. 1

**BEFORE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**

Original Application No. 826/2024

News Item titled "Pillars of Ravi Tawi Canal Bridge and railway bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.06.2024.

Date of hearing: 23.09.2025.

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRAKASH SHRIVASTAVA, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE DR. A. SENTHIL VEL, EXPERT MEMBER**

Respondents: Mr. Gautam Singh, Adv. for UT of J&K
Ms. Soni Singh, Adv. for CPCB (Through VC)
Mr. Attin Shankar Rastogi, Adv. for MoEF & CC

ORDER

1. Learned Counsel appearing for respondents no. 4 to 6 submits that though reply on behalf of respondents no. 4 and 5 has been filed but further additional reply is required to be filed which will be filed within two weeks.
2. List on 19.11.2025.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

September 23, 2025
JG

237



Government Of India

8

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER KATHUA

District Mineral Officer,
Geology and Mining Department,
Kathua.

No. DCK/Legal/2025-26/596.

Dated: 31.03.2026.

Subject: Original Application No. 826/2024 titled "Pillars of Ravi-Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.06.2024.

Sir,

Kindly refer your office letter No. DMO/K/NGT/2024-25-995 dated 16.10.2024 regarding the subject cited above, wherein you have furnished a point-wise reply which was submitted before Hon'ble National Green Tribunal Principal Bench, New Delhi on 14.05.2025.

Hon'ble National Green Tribunal Principal Bench, New Delhi on 23.09.2025 ordered as follows:

Learned Counsel appearing for respondents no. 4 to 6 submits that though reply on behalf of respondents no. 4 and 5 has been filed but further additional reply is required to be filed which will be filed within two weeks.

Accordingly, you are requested to furnish an additional reply to this office at an earliest, so that same will be filed before the Hon'ble Tribunal.

Matter may please be treated as most urgent.

Yours faithfully,

Assistant Commissioner (Rev)
Kathua

238

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MINERAL OFFICER, KATHUA

Ph: 01922-233033

Email Id: dmokathua@gmail.com

Assistant Commissioner Revenue

Kathua

Dated: 01/04/2026

No: DMO/K/NGT/2025-26/02

Subject: Original Application No. 826/2024 titled "Pillar of Ravi-Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basntar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02-06-2026.

Reference: DCK/Legal/2025-26/596 dated: 31-03-2026.

Sir,

In reference to the subject cited above, the desired information regarding preventive measures being adopted by Mining Department to cope with the illegal mining is enclosed herewith alongwith some photographs for further necessary action at your good end please.

Yours faithfully


District Mineral Officer
Kathua

In the case of:

News Item titled "Pillars of Ravi-Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river in Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.06.2024.

Details of penalty realized and vehicles seized/penalized during the last 04 years

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All the above mentioned preventive measures are being implemented to check the illegal mining activities across the district.

240



 **GPS Map
Camera Lite**

8CR2+74W, Salal Pur, 184151

Latitude
32.33945918°

Longitude
75.39801772°

Local 03:19:29 PM
GMT 09:49:29 AM

Altitude 276 meters
Wednesday, 01.04.2026

241



 **GPS Map**
Camera Lite

8CR2+74W, Salal Pur, 184151

Latitude
32.33936759°

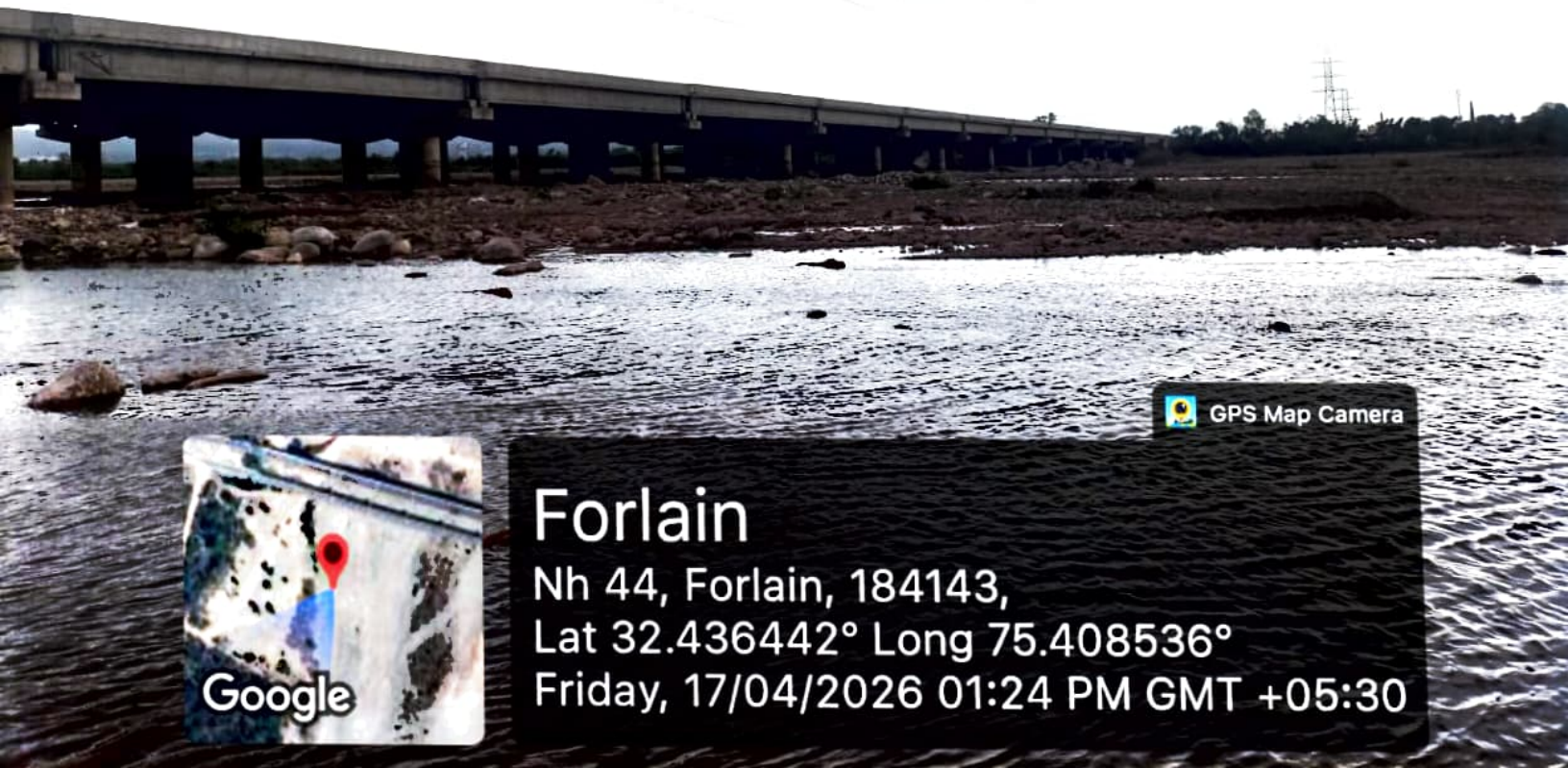
Longitude
75.39830772°

Local 03:18:10 PM
GMT 09:48:10 AM

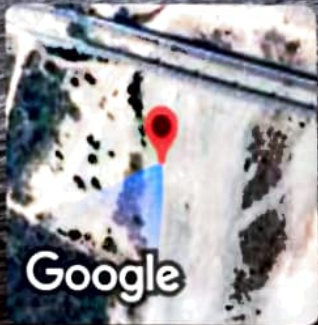
Altitude 278 meters
Wednesday, 01.04.2026

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242



GPS Map Camera



Forlain

Nh 44, Forlain, 184143,

Lat 32.436442° Long 75.408536°

Friday, 17/04/2026 01:24 PM GMT +05:30


243

Latitude: 32.436036
Longitude: 75.412771
Elevation: 368.35±16.6 m
Accuracy: 6.864 m
Time: 04-17-2026 11:56

Powered by NoteCam

244



 GPS Map Camera



Forlain

Nh 44, Forlain, 184143,

Lat 32.436739° Long 75.408536°

Friday, 17/04/2026 01:21 PM GMT +05:30

Google