

## BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, PRINCIPAL BENCH AT NEW DELHI

Original Application No. 850 of 2018

Residents of Saila Khurd Raniala

Applicant

Versus

State of Punjab and Ors.

Respondent(s)

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**Submitted by**

Date: 02-07-2025

Place: HOSHIARPUR

  
(Deepak Chadha)  
Environmental Engineer,  
Punjab Pollution Control Board,  
Regional Office, Hoshiarpur  
(On behalf of Punjab Pollution Control  
Board)

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Affidavit of Er. Deepak Chadha, Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Hoshiarpur on behalf of Punjab Pollution Control Board in compliance to order dated 26.05.2025.

I, the above-named deponent, do hereby, solemnly affirm and state as under:

**Respectfully Showeth;**

- 1) That the above-mentioned case relating to the functioning of the industry (M/s Kuantum Paper Ltd., Village Saila Khurd, Tehsil Garhshankar District Hoshiarpur) is pending before this Hon'ble Tribunal.
- 2) That vide Order dated 26.05.2025, this Hon'ble Tribunal has allowed the Board to place on record Orders/Proceedings taken up by the Punjab Pollution Control Board in respect of imposition of Environmental Compensation and other measures.
- 3) That briefly submitted, the Joint Committee constituted by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal vide order dated 19.12.2018 has observed violation of the provisions of the Environmental Laws i.e. the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 in respect of the industry M/s Kuantum Paper Ltd.
- 4) That considering the report of the Joint Committee, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal vide order dated 14.03.2019 has observed that it is clear that violations are serious, but action taken is inadequate. Neither any closure has been ordered till compliance nor damages assessed and recovered. The State Pollution Control Board was directed to take appropriate action in accordance with Law and the Joint Committee was directed to assess the extent of damage caused in monetary

terms on the settled Principles requiring the compensation to be deterrent and adequate to meet the cost of restoration.

- 5) That in compliance to the Order dated 26.05.2025, it is submitted that after the passing of order dated 14.03.2019 of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, the Board has issued notices and extended opportunities of hearing to the industry namely M/s Kuantum Paper Ltd. and the action of the Board in this regard is summarized herein below:
- a) **25.03.2019:** A notice to issue direction u/s 33-A of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 was issued to the industry vide letter no. 1368 dated 25.03.2019 (wherein the findings and conclusions drawn by the Joint Committee in its report were also mentioned) with an opportunity of hearing to the industry before the Chairman of the Board on 09.04.2019. A copy of notice issued vide letter no. 1368 dated 25.03.2019 is enclosed as **Annexure-A**.
- b) **09.04.2019:** Hearing before the Chairman of the Board on 09.04.2019 was attended by Sh. Pavan Khatan, MD of the industry who submitted a written reply dated 08.04.2019. After hearing the representative of the industry and the officers of the Board, the Chairman of the Board has taken the following decisions:
- i) The industry shall critically examine the assessment study report of CRPI chemical recovery plant and ETP conducted by CPPRI and the ground water study conducted by report submitted by the industry, so that the issues and the observations can be discussed in detail.
  - ii) The industry shall submit the point wise detailed compliance report of the above-mentioned observations raised during the hearing proceedings well before the next date of hearing, so that same be discussed in the next hearing.
  - iii) The industry shall be reheard on 24.04.2019 before the Hon'ble Worthy Chairman of the Board
- c) **15.04.2019:** The proceedings of the hearing held on 09.04.2019 were conveyed to the industry vide letter no. 1734 dated 15.04.2019 and a copy of the same is enclosed as **Annexure-B**.
- d) **18.04.2019:** Letter / Notice was issued vide letter no. 1857 dated 18.04.2019 to the industry for hearing before the Chairman of the Board on 24.04.2019 and Mohali in terms of the hearing earlier held on 09.04.2019. A copy of letter /notice no. 1857 dated 18.04.2019 is enclosed as **Annexure-C**.

e) **24.04.2019:** The hearing before the Chairman of the Board on 24.04.2019 was attended by Sh. D.S. Sandhawalia, Director; Sh. R.P Puri, Associate President; Sh. Manoj Aggarwal, Sr. Vice President and Sh. R.K. Dhingra, General, Manager (Environment) on behalf of the industry. The representatives submitted a written reply which was taken on record. After hearing the representatives of the industry and the officers of the Board and considering the material facts on record, the Chairman of the Board has taken the following decisions:

- i). In order to ensure proper and effective operation of the Effluent Treatment Plant and chemical recovery plant and considering the violations mentioned herein above, the industry is hereby directed to curtail 10% production capacity i.e. it shall produce not more than 337.5 TPD on an average (375-375 TPD) Directions in this regard u/s 33-A of the Water Act, 1974 shall be issued separately
- ii) The EE, Regional office. Hoshiarpur is directed to seal the Lignin Precipitation Plant (LPP) of the industry with immediate effect and shall report in this regard to Zonal Office, Jalandhar within 7 days This may also be made a part of the Directions to be issued to the industry u/s 33-A of the Water Act 1974
- iii) The EE. Regional Office. Hoshiarpur is directed to encash the Bank Guarantee of Rs. 10.00 lakhs (Rupees Ten Lakhs Only), which has already been submitted by the industry to the Board as an assurance to comply with the provisions of the Water Act, 1974.
- iv) The industry is given a time period of three months from the date of hearing to remove all the discrepancies / observations of the Board made above and to ensure the compliance of commitments made by the industry orally during the hearing / submitted in writing vide letter dated 24.04.2019.
- v) The industry is directed to furnish a fresh bank guarantee of Rs 50.00 lakhs (Rupees Fifty Lakhs Only) to the Board within 7 days as an assurance to comply with the provisions of Water Act 1974 and to comply with the decisions of the personal hearing including the submissions made orally during the hearing / submitted in writing vide letter dated 24.04.2019 Incase. the industry fails to make the compliance of the observations mentioned above, within a stipulated period of

three months, the BG of Rs 50.00 lakhs shall be encashed and further action under the Water Act, 1974 shall be initiated

- vi) The Board shall grant the application for consent to operate under the Water Act, 1974 and Air Act, 1981 submitted by the industry, for curtailed production of 337.5 TPD of writing and printing paper for a period of three months subject to the suitable conditions.
  - vii) The Senior Environmental Engineer, Zonal Office Jalandhar shall take up matter with NIT, Jalandhar for carrying out hydro geological study at various locations where the treated wastewater is utilized by the industry for irrigation of agricultural fields including in the premises of the unit and on the upstream side of the industry as a reference sample for getting a study conducted within a period of 3 months, to ascertain the effect on the ground water quality due to utilization of treated wastewater for irrigation purposes. The entire cost to be incurred on this study shall be borne by the industry EE RO. Hoshiarpur shall act as a coordinator for getting conducted this study.
  - viii) It was made clear to the representatives of the industry present in the hearing that in case the industry fails to make the compliance of the above-mentioned decisions of the hearing, action as deemed fit under the provisions of the Water Act, 1974 shall be taken without affording any further opportunity /notice.
- f) **25.04.2019:** The proceedings of the hearing held on 24.04.2019 were conveyed to the industry vide letter no. 1936 dated 25.04.2019 for compliance and a copy of the same is enclosed as **Annexure-D**.
- g) **07.05.2019:** The Joint Committee has filed its report before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal vide letter no. 1936 dated 07.05.2019 containing the assessment of damages for the period of violation from 27.05.2018 to 31.03.2019 (309 days) amounting to Rs. 282.60 Lakh. A copy of letter no. 1936 dated 07.05.2019 with report of the Joint Committee is enclosed as **Annexure-E**.
- h) **01.07.2019:** Civil Appeal no. 5957 of 2019 was filed by M/s Kuantum Paper Ltd. before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India against the order dated

14.03.2019 passed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in OA No. 850 of 2018.

- i) **26.07.2019:** The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India was pleased to pass an order dated 26.7.2019 in the Civil Appeal No. 5957 of 2019, which is reproduced herein below:

"Permission to file Civil Appeal is granted.

Issue notice.

Subject to the final decision, let the proceedings by Punjab Pollution Control Board go on. However, in case any order is passed the same may not be given effect to without permission from this Court."

A copy of order dated 26.07.2019 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India passed in Civil Appeal No. 5957 of 2019 is enclosed as **Annexure-F**.

- 6) That the Joint Committee has already assessed the damages for the period of violation committed by M/s Kuantum Paper Ltd. from 27.05.2018 to 31.03.2019 (309 days) amounting to Rs. 282.60 Lakh, as such the Board has to only recover the amount of Environmental Compensation. However, further action to recover the Environmental compensation of Rs.282.60 Lakhs from the industry has not been initiated by the Punjab Pollution Control Board in compliance to the order dated 26.7.2019 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India passed in Civil Appeal No. 5957 of 2019.
- 7) That it is relevant to mention here that the Civil Appeal no. 5957 of 2019 has been filed by M/s Kuantum Paper Ltd. (the appellant) before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India against the State of Punjab through Additional Secretary-cum-Director Governance Reforms. The Department of Governance Reforms is neither the main party nor the contesting or necessary party in the case. The main party in the case was the Punjab Pollution Control Board and the directions in the case have also been issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India to the Punjab Pollution Control Board. After examination of the case and considering the above facts, the Punjab Pollution Control Board has filed two applications in Civil Appeal No. 5957 of 2019 before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India as mentioned below:
- a) **18.07.2022:** An application (IA No. 97779/2022) for impleadment and allowing the applicant Punjab Pollution Control Board to proceed further in the matter. A copy of the application is placed at **Annexure-G**.

- b) **18.07.2022:** An application (IA No. 97760/2022) seeking directions to recover Environmental Compensation pursuant to report of the Joint Committee dated 07.05.2019. A copy of the application is placed at **Annexure-H**.
- 8) That the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has finally decided the Civil Appeal No. 5957 of 2019 titled as M/s Kuantum Paper Ltd. v/s State of Punjab and another by passing an order dated 23.08.2024 and in reference to the applications filed by the Punjab Pollution Control Board following decisions have been taken.
- a) Application for impleadment of the Punjab Pollution Control Board was allowed.
- b) With regard to the recovery of Environmental Compensation, paras no.7 and 8 of the order dated 23.08.2024 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India are reproduced below for kind perusal and reference:
7. Having considered the matter in detail, we are of the opinion that as the order impugned before us is interim in nature, the Tribunal should proceed further and pass final order in the Original Application. In this view of the matter, we dispose of the present appeal and direct the Tribunal to take up the Original Application No. 850 of 2018 and pass appropriate orders after hearing all the parties.
8. We further direct that pending disposal of the Original Application, the interim order passed by this Court directing the order passed by the Punjab Pollution Control Board shall not be given effect to, shall continue till further orders that the Tribunal may pass after giving full opportunities to all the parties.
- A copy of order dated 23.08.2024 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Civil Appeal no. 5957 of 2019 is placed at **Annexure-I**.
- 9) The Environmental Compensation assessed by the Joint Committee has not been given effect to by the Punjab Pollution Control Board as the interim order dated 26.7.2019 passed by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India directing the order passed by the Punjab Pollution Control Board shall not be given effect to was / is continuing in terms of order dated 23.08.2024 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India passed in Civil Appeal No. 5957 of 2019. Vide the said order dated 23.08.2024, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has directed that the interim



protection shall continue till further orders that the Hon'ble Tribunal may pass after giving full opportunities to all the parties.

- 10) That it is relevant to mention here that the Punjab Pollution Control Board has not passed any order for effecting the recovery of Environment Compensation assessed by the Joint Committee @ Rs. 282.60 Lakh for the period of violation of 309 days from 27.05.2018 to 31.03.2019 as the matter was stayed and pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India as explained herein above.
- 11) That the industry has upgraded its effluent treatment by way of installing advanced clarifiers, tertiary treatment units. During recent visits by the officers of the Board, the industry has been found complying with the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, and is operating within the prescribed discharge standards.
- 12) That the reply on behalf of the Punjab Pollution Control Board is hereby filed in compliance of order dated 26.05.2025 for kind consideration and appropriate orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal.

Deponent

Date: 02-07-2025

Place: HOSHIARPUR



(Deepak Chadha)  
Environmental Engineer,  
Punjab Pollution Control Board,  
Regional Office, Hoshiarpur  
(On behalf of Punjab Pollution Control  
Board)

**Verification:**

I, the deponent above named, do hereby verify and state that the contents of the above affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, as derived from the official record. No part of the above affidavit is false and nothing material has been concealed there from.

Date: 02-7-2025

Place: HOSHIARPUR

Deponent



(Deepak Chadha)

Environmental Engineer,  
Punjab Pollution Control Board,  
Regional Office, Hoshiarpur  
(On behalf of Punjab Pollution Control  
Board)



## Punjab Pollution Control Board

Zonal office, Near PSIEC, Water Tank, Focal Point, Jalandhar

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No 1936

Date 25 APR 2019

To

M/s Kauntam Papers Pvt. Ltd.  
Village Salla Khurd, Tehsil Garhshankar,  
Distt. Hoshiarpur

Subject: Proceedings of the personal hearing before Worthy Chairman of the Board on 24/4/2019 at PPCB, Regional office, Mohali u/s 33-A of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 as amended in 1988-.

Following were present :

**On behalf of the Board :**

Er. G.S. Majithia, Chief Environmental Engineer, Jalandhar.  
Er. S.S. Matharu, Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Hoshiarpur.

**On behalf of the Industry :**

Sh.D.S. Sandhwalia, Director  
Sh. R.P. Puri, Associate President  
Sh. Manoj Aggarwal, Sr. Vice President  
Sh. R.K. Dhingra, General Manager (Environment)

The officers of the Board brought out that the industry was granted consent to operate under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act 1974 vide No. R14HSPCTOW1520756 dated 29.08.2014, which is valid upto 31.03.2019 for production of 450 TPD of printing paper and operation of a co-generation power plant of capacity 17.5 MW. The industry was served with notice u/s 33-A of the Water Act (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 vide no. 5557 dated 6/9/2018 alongwith an opportunity of personal hearing on 18/9/2018, since the industry was found not conforming to the standards in respect of BOD as per SMS alert system received from CPCB for the data depicted by the online continuous effluent monitoring system and there was complaint against the industry regarding water pollution caused by the industry in the area. In the said hearing it was decided as under:-

- 1) The Chief Environmental Engineer, Jalandhar shall Co-ordinate the visit of PBTI to the industry within 7 days and PBTI shall collect and analysis the treated trade effluent sample and submit report to the Punjab Pollution Control Board.
- 2) The Chief Environmental Engineer, Jalandhar shall visit the industry & asses the adequacy of pollution control measures / disposal arrangements made by the industry & shall submit report / recommendations before next date of hearing.
- 3) The further action will be taken out after receipt of the report.

It was also informed that in compliance to decisions taken in the hearing held on 18/9/2018, the industry was visited by the team comprising of officers of the Board and PBTI on 15/11/2018 and the recommendations given by this team are enumerated as under:-

1. The industry should upgrade the existing treatment facility such that the treated effluent meets with the norms prescribed by the Board.
2. The industry shall prepare an Irrigation Management Plan and get its approved from Department of Soil Conservation, Punjab and thereafter to impellent the same in time targeted period.
3. As the treated effluent of the industry is utilize onto land for irrigation purpose a study of ground water table be conducted for general, heavy metals parameters from all the Villages where the effluent is being applied for irrigation purpose.

The industry was again given an opportunity of personal hearing on 5/2/2019 in connection with notice issued to industry u/s 33-A of the Water Act (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and in this said hearing it was decided as under:-

- 1) The industry shall engage CPPRI, Saharanpur and get its existing ETP and chemical recovery plant audited and a proposal be prepared for up-gradation required in exiting ETP and chemical recovery plant, so as to meet the effluent standards as prescribed under the law and the report be submitted to the PPCB within 21-days.
- 2) The industry shall prepare an Irrigation Management Plan from a consultant of good repute for the whole of the command area available within the industry and outside the industry where treated effluent of the industry is utilized onto land for irrigation purpose within 15 days and thereafter get it verified and approved from the Department of Soil & Water Conservation, Punjab and submit the same to the Punjab Pollution Control Board within 21 days.
- 3) The industry shall get the ground water study of the whole command area where the treated effluent is utilized onto land for irrigation purpose from any expert institute in the field of Hydrogeology and submit report to Punjab Pollution Control Board within 21 days.
- 4) The industry shall prepare a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the operation of ETP and Chemical Recovery Plant (CRP) and shall maintain the record of operation of ETP on daily basis and shall submit monthly record duly verified by the Designated Authority of the industry to the Punjab Pollution Control Board.
- 5) The industry shall obtain the permission / NOC from Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) regarding abstraction of fresh water from all the existing tube-wells in the industry.
- 6) The industry shall install electromagnetic flow meter at the inlet of the ETP before the equalization tank within 21-days.
- 7) The industry shall commission the Elemental Chlorine Free bleaching (ECF) in the agro based production by 31-03-2019.
- 8) The industry shall install and commission a new soda recovery plant of 500 TPD capacity dry black liquor solids by 31/03/2020.

The officers of the Board also stated that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal vide order dated 19/12/2018 in the matter of O.A No. 850/2018 titled as Residents of Saila Khurd, Raniala v/s State of Punjab passed the following orders:-

*"Let, a joint report be furnished by CPCB and Punjab SPCB on factual aspects of the matter and action taken, if any, to this Tribunal within one month from the date of receipt of copy of this order by email at [nqt.filing@gmail.com](mailto:nqt.filing@gmail.com). The Nodal agency will be PSPCB to the co-ordinate and to comply with the order".*

In compliance to said orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, the industry was visited on 17/1/2019 by the Joint Team comprising of officers of CPCB and PPCB. The report prepared by the Joint Team after conduct of visit to the industry, was placed before Hon'ble NGT. The finding and conclusion drawn by the joint inspection team are given as under:-

1. The Unit is non-complying with the effluent discharge norms stipulated under E(P)Rules, 1986 for BOD, COD & TSS parameters. The final treated effluent showed BOD-106 mg/l (against norms of 30 mg/l), COD- 608 mg/l (against 350 mg/l) and TSS-87 mg/l (against 50 mg/l).
2. The OCEMS display panel at ETP was not showing the ETP outlet discharge flow meters reading during the visit and unit requires to connect or restore the flow meter data connectivity to CPCB server.
3. The quality of ground water collected from tube wells of all three villages showed exceedance w.r.t acceptable norms for parameter, viz, total hardness, total alkalinity, but they are within the permissible limit of BIS Standards. The calcium and magnesium level at the Pansera village showed exceedance w.r.t acceptable norms, however are within the permissible limit.
4. The heavy metals in the groundwater samples are well within the BIS standards for drinking water.
5. The stack monitoring results showed compliance with the emission norms.

The industry vide letter dated 21/2/2019 has asked the Board to furnish a copy of the report of joint team constituted by the Hon'ble NGT and the findings and conclusions drawn by the joint inspection team are mentioned herein above for the ensuring compliance of the same by the industry.

The industry had submitted its reply vide letter dated 7/3/2019 in compliance to the decisions taken in the hearing held on 5/2/2019, which has been taken on record by the Board and the technical details mentioned by the CPPRI, Shaharanpur in its report regarding adequacy assessment of existing ETP and study on the adequacy of chemical recovery system will be discussed in this hearing and the industry shall come prepared to discuss the technical details of said reports in the hearing.

The O.A No. 850/2018 titled as Residents of Salla Khurd, Raniala V/s State of Punjab came for hearing before the Hon'ble NGT on 14/3/2019 and the Hon'ble NGT has taken the findings and recommendations of joint team on record and the relevant part of the said order is reproduced as under:-

1. It is clear that violations are serious but action taken is inadequate. Neither any closure has been ordered till compliance nor damages assessed and recovered. PSPCB has, thus, failed to action upon the "Precautionary" and 'Polluter Pays' principle for preventing further damage and restoring the damage already caused.
2. In view of the above, the PSPCB may now take appropriate action in accordance with law.
3. The Joint Committee may assess the extent of damage caused in monetary terms on settled principles requiring the compensation to be deterrent and adequate to meet the cost of restoration.
4. An action taken report may be furnished by the PSPCB and the Joint Committee in above terms within one month by email at [nqt.filing@gmail.com](mailto:nqt.filing@gmail.com)

The industry is violating various provisions of the Water Act (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 intentionally and deliberately.

The representative of the industry submitted a written reply from land officer, Garhshankar vide letter no. 498 dated 8-4-2019 during the hearing which state that the ask to inspection of STP of industry regarding discharge of effluent from pipeline laid down in the earth. The industry discharge daily effluent @ 21000m<sup>3</sup> and same is used for making of paper. Whereas, @ 17000m<sup>3</sup> water of waste of industry and treated in STP to discharge for other villages through laid down pipelines for irrigation purpose. These water lifted with pump to discharges many villages for irrigation purpose. This pipelines is discharge of water for irrigation 800 hectare of villages and all farmers of villages used this water for irrigation.

Kwantum papers ltd was set up in the year-1980 to manufacture writing & printing paper. Presently, the industry is manufacturing writing & printing paper, about 375 TPD against the permitted capacity of 450 TPD. The management implemented the expansion programme covering chemical recovery plant, cogeneration plant, Wood Pulp Street, paper m/c 4, waste paper/purchase pulp. pulping street after obtaining necessary environment clearance from MOF New Delhi in the year 2009 and capacity of plant has been increased to 450 TPD of writing & printing paper. The industry has also obtained environment clearance under ErA notification dated 14/09/2006 from MOEF on 14th June 2017 for enhancing the use of hard wood pulp from 60 TPD to 200 TPD, Chemical recovery plant to manage black liquid solids from 230 TPD to 580 TPD along with installation of cogeneration power plant of 12 MW in addition to earlier capacity of 17.5 MW and discarding 1.5MW power plant. For substitution elemental chlorine with chlorine dioxide, bleaching sequence shall be chlorine dioxide Stage-I, O<sub>2</sub>, alkali extraction with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and oxygen bleaching and chlorine dioxide Stage-II. This system is also known as multistage bleaching system.

Presently, the industry is consuming 21600 m<sup>3</sup> /day of fresh water from 9 existing tube wells (out of total existing 12 tubewells, 3 are not in use). No extra water shall be abstracted by the industry. For the treatment of wastewater, which is about 17000 m<sup>3</sup> /day, the industry has provided effluent treatment plant consisting of anaerobic biological treatment system, primary clarifier, aerobic biological treatment system, secondary clarifier and tertiary clarifier. The treated effluent conforming to the standards, is discharged onto land for irrigation & plantation.

The present effluent discharge after three stage treatment is about 17000 m<sup>3</sup> per day. The treated effluent of the industry is utilized for irrigation of the fields having an area about 2000 acres of nearby villages. This treated effluent is utilized for irrigation of rice, maize and green fodder in the month of June to October. In the month of November to May, the treated effluent is utilized for irrigation of crops namely wheat, sugarcane and barseen. Besides, the industry has its own plantation area and green area within its premises along with plantation area of the nearby farmers. During no-demand period i.e. 15th November - 15th December (1 month), the treated effluent is

utilized for plantation of eucalyptus trees and gardening maintained within the premises of industry (about 110 Acres) and outside of the nearby villages (85 Acres). During same time period some part of treated effluent is also utilized for irrigation into 950 acres out of 2000 acres of land as mentioned above.

During hearing on: 9.4.2019, the assessment report of CRP and adequacy report of ETP prepared by CPPRI was discussed in detail with regard to following points:-

1. As per assessment report of CRP the industry premises 150-155 TPD of Agro based pulp and 60-65 TPD of wood pulp in its premises and about 76 TPD of readymade pulp is purchased from outside. However, the industry has not submitted any documentary evidence to the effect that its purchases 76 TPD of readymade pulp since the adequacy of the CRP has been checked by the CPPRI considering that the industry purchases said quantity of pulp from outside.
2. As per assessment report of ETP the industry produces 2000 m<sup>3</sup>/day of bio gas from the UASB and the COD reduction in the UASB is 964 mg/ltr. Since, 4000 KLD of waste water is treated in the UASB, as per said report. Therefore, the reduction in the COD load comes to which 3856 Kg/day and corresponding to which the maximum generation of bio gas should be 1465 m<sup>3</sup>/day. Thus, generation of bio gas 2000 m<sup>3</sup>/day does not seem to be in order.
3. In the assessment report nothing has been mentioned about the treatment of efficiency of each component of the ETP.
4. The volumetric load as mentioned in the report for each component is not matching with each other.

It was pointed out that the SOP of ETP submitted by the industry nothing has been mentioned about the operating parameters to be maintained for effective operation of various components of the ETP. The ground water study got conducted by the industry from Super Links Water Well Company Mohali was also discussed and it was observed that high concentration of sodium, SAR and RSC has been analyzed in the ground water sample where the treated waste water of the industry is used for irrigation purposes. Therefore, during hearing on 9.4.2019, it was pointed out that the industry is required to submit its submissions in the above regard. In addition to above the industry is required to comply with the following observations of the Board.

1. The industry has not yet installed EMF at the inlet of the ETP to ascertain as to how much quantity of untreated waste water is treated in the ETP.
2. The industry yet to commission the elemental chlorine free bleaching process as decided in the hearing held on 5/2/2019.
3. The industry is yet to connect the EMF installed at the outlet of ETP with the server of the CPCB & PPCB.
4. As informed by the industry, the secondary sludge is utilized to use it as manure but the industry is yet to get this sludge analyzed for these parameters as mentioned in schedule 2 of the Solid Waste Management Rules 2016 to ascertain the route of its disposal.
5. The industry is yet to intimate as to how much quantity of steam condensate is recovered.
6. The industry is to increase the retention time of the tertiary clarifier for better removal of TSS as suggested by CPPRI.
7. The industry is required to ensure the compliance of SOP framed by the CPCB to use primary sludge of the ETP for manufacturing of mill board.
8. The industry is required to provide properly designed repaired mixing mechanism for proper and complete reaction of chemicals to the biological treated effluent, before tertiary clarifier to reduce COD.
9. The industry required to submit PERT chart for installation of new chemical recovery plant.
10. The industry is required to explore the possibility to provide TRP in BSW section to reduce organic loading as well as Kappa no. of the pulp.

After hearing on 9.4.2019, the officer of the Board and representative of the industry were heard and on the basis of the facts as stated above, the Chairman of the Board decided that:-

- 1) The industry shall critically examine the assessment study report of CRP chemical recovery plant and ETP conducted by CPPRI and the ground water study conducted by report submitted by the industry, so that the issues and the observations can be discussed in detail.

- 2) The industry shall submit the point wise detailed compliance report of the above mentioned observations raised during the hearing proceedings well before the next date of hearing, so that same be discussed in the next hearing.
- 3) The industry shall be reheard on 24/4/2019 before the Hon'ble Worthy Chairman of the Board.

The industry was issued notice u/s 33-A of the Water Act, 1974 vide no. 1368-69 dated 25.3.2019 to appear before the Chairman of the Board on 9.4.2019 at Patiala, which was postponed to 24.4.2019 alongwith the change of venue of hearing to R.O., Mohali.

The representatives of the industry during hearing on 24.4.2019 submitted a written reply vide their letter UCI:SKG:2019-2020 dated 24.4.2019 stating that :-

1. The Company uses imported hard wood, imported soft wood & indigenous bagasse pulp to supplement fiber for producing paper. During the year 2018-19 company had purchased following quantities.
 

a. Imported Hardwood Pulp	-	8829.75MT
b. Imported Soft Wood Pulp	-	12228.71MT
c. Indigenous Bagasse Pulp	-	2652.37MT
2. Bio Gas Generation from UASB Reactor on an average is 2000m<sup>3</sup>/Day, which is approximately 0.4 m<sup>3</sup>/Kg of COD reduction. CPPRI taken data for one day only.
3. **For CPPRI Adequacy Report:** They approached CPPRI again for the same and they responded that the kind of Report which is now being asked is a 'Performance Report', whereas previously PPCB had asked us only for 'Adequacy Report' which the Company had accordingly submitted vide their letter dated 8<sup>th</sup> March addressed to Chief Environmental Engineer-Jalandhar with CC to Environmental Engineer-Hoshiarpur. They have contacted CPPRI again but as they were engaged in election duties so they were not able to give them date not before 16<sup>th</sup> April, CPPRI team collected the samples on 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> April from our mill and report likely to be ready by 26<sup>th</sup> April, accordingly they will submit the Performance Report by 29<sup>th</sup> April'19.
5. **Revised SOP for ETP Operation:** Revised SOPs as per good practices of Effluent Treatment Plant are attached.
6. **Groundwater Reports:** Test report says that Ground water samples are within the norms for all the locations except Rampur Village. Here they wish to inform you that village Rampur is on upstream location beyond railway track and our effluent is never discharge in that area. Ground water slope is from North-East to South-West in our factory area. It is pertinent to mention here that we were advised by the PPCB to get sampling done both in Upstream and Downstream location to establish the impact on ground water quality by our treated effluent. It is to be recorded that Rampur Village is on Upstream location, whereas RSC Values are within range for all downstream location, which clearly establish that our treated water is infect bettering the quality of water in the area. At present the treated effluent going to near wise villages for cultivation by 6 pipes. Details of cultivated by each line is enclosed as annexure 3
7. **Influent flow measurement device:** Installation of EMF at Inlet of ETP is not possible as the reputed supplier of EMF regretted for such application. However, the Company has located latest technology of Parshall Flume with Ultrasonic Transmitter. Order for the same had been placed for Siemens Make System. Technical Literature and Order Copy enclosed.
8. ECF Bleaching for Agro Street Trials have been completed and now waiting for 'Consent' to operate from PPCB. Erection of ECF bleaching for Wood Street is in progress shall be commissioned by March'2020.
9. **Connecting Outlet flow meter with CPCB directly:** Instrumentation for OCEMS display panel of all ETP outlet discharge flow meters already ordered, this will be connected to CPCB server. PO is attached.
10. **Secondary Sludge:** It was discussed during hearing to test Secondary Sludge for suitability for different Crops. Secondary Sludge is in general considered fit for soil. The test report dated 22.04.2019, as per schedule 2 of solid waste

management rule 2016, Envirotech laboratory Mohali is attached. Report sa the secondary sludge is suitable as organic compost for crops.

11. **Condensate Recovery and uses of foul condensate:** With respect to the questioning on these points, the Company replied during Hearing that Condensate Recovery is 60% & foul condensate is being used in system, as that the condensate is being consumed in the mill, as a part of fresh water saving. Details attached
12. **Retention time of Tertiary Clarifier :** They have hired a consultant M/ OrdenPlatz for Possible solution to reduce TSS. However company is taking in process correction to reduce TSS inlet to Primary Clarifier. In house study is also being done for addition of Coagulant & Flocculent to reduce TSS.
13. **Primary Sludge Manufacturing of Board.** As per SOP of CPCB we are consuming the ETP sludge for using Board. Quantity produced in 2018-2019 is 7091.7 MT. Submitted in Your Regional office Hoshiarpur vide our letter dtd. 3 April-2019. Attached. SOP for Board Mill operation enclosed.
14. **Flash Mixer before Tertiary Clarifier:** They have installed a flash Mixer between Secondary & Tertiary. Photographs enclosed.
15. **Bar Chart of New Recovery Plant –** Enclosed with the report.
16. **Twin Roll Press vs Vacuum Drum Washer:** They have enclosed a detailed note giving unique features of our installed Brown Stock Drum Washers procured from M/s GL&V, who are global leader for Vacuum Drum Washers.

The officers of the Board present in the hearing informed as under :

- 1) The industry has installed capacity of 450 TPD of writing and printing paper but on an average the production capacity remains about 375 TPD.
- 2) For production of 375 TPD of writing and printing paper, the industry produces 150-155 TPD of agro pulp by using agro residue such as bagasse / sarkanda / Kahi grass / wheat straw etc. and 60-65 TPD of wood pulp. In addition the industry procures about 70-75 TPD of ready made pulp.
- 3) From production of 150-155 TPD of agro based pulp, about 210 TPD of black liquor solids are generated and installed capacity of recovery boiler in terms of solids is 230 TPD. Further, the capacity of the chemical recovery boiler in terms of pulp production at 95% recovery efficiency is 165 TPD. Therefore, it is clear that the capacity of the recovery boiler is at par with production of agro based pulp. Since, the industry takes 5-6 shut downs of recovery boiler in a year for cleaning purpose and there may be mechanical fault in this system at any point of time, thus, the industry in such a situation collects the black liquor in the collection tanks and treat it in the lignin recovery plant. However, when lignin plant is operated, wastewater of high COD is generated which causes shock loading on the effluent treatment plant and disturbs the operation of the same. Therefore, in order to ensure that the entire effluent treatment plant runs in a proper manner and no wastewater having high COD goes to the ETP, there is need to curtail the production capacity of the industry atleast by 10% and to restrain the operation of lignin recovery plant which produces high COD effluent, despite the fact that lignin recovery plant is a stand by arrangement to handle the black liquor.
- 4) From production of 65 TPD of wood based pulp, the total generation of black liquor solids is about 99 TPD. Thus, it is clear that the capacity of chemical recovery boiler is adequate as mentioned in the study carried out by Central Pulp & Paper Research Institute, Saharanpur regarding adequacy of chemical recovery plant.

The submissions made by the representatives of the industry during the hearing which are mentioned herein above, were discussed in detail. It was also informed by the offices of the Board that a Bank Guarantee of Rs. 10.00 lakhs (Rupees Ten Lakhs Only) has already been submitted by the industry as an assurance to comply with the provisions of the Water Act, 1974.

After hearing the representatives of the industry and officers of the Board and considering material facts on record, the Chairman of the Board decided as under :

- (i) In order to ensure proper and effective operation of the Effluent Treatment Plant and chemical recovery plant and considering the violations mentioned herein above, the industry is hereby directed to curtail 10% production

- capacity i.e. it shall produce not more than 337.5 TPD on an average (375 – 37.5 TPD). Directions in this regard u/s 33-A of the Water Act, 1974 shall be issued separately.
- (ii) The EE, Regional office, Hoshiarpur is directed to seal the Lignin Precipitation Plant (LPP) of the industry with immediate effect and shall report in this regard to Zonal Office, Jalandhar within 7 days. This may also be made a part of the Directions to be issued to the industry u/s 33-A of the Water Act, 1974.
  - (iii) The EE, Regional Office, Hoshiarpur is directed to encash the Bank Guarantee of Rs. 10.00 lakhs (Rupees Ten Lakhs Only), which has already been submitted by the industry to the Board as an assurance to comply with the provisions of the Water Act, 1974.
  - (iv) The industry is given a time period of three months from the date of hearing to remove all the discrepancies / observations of the Board made above and to ensure the compliance of commitments made by the industry orally during the hearing / submitted in writing vide letter dated 24.4.2019.
  - (v) The industry is directed to furnish a fresh bank guarantee of Rs. 50.00 lakhs (Rupees Fifty Lakhs Only) to the Board within 7 days as an assurance to comply with the provisions of Water Act, 1974 and to comply with the decisions of the personal hearing including the submissions made orally during the hearing / submitted in writing vide letter dated 24.4.2019. In case, the industry fails to make the compliance of the observations mentioned above, within a stipulated period of three months, the BG of Rs. 50.00 lakhs shall be encashed and further action under the Water Act, 1974 shall be initiated.
  - (vi) The Board shall grant the application for consent to operate under the Water Act, 1974 and Air Act, 1981 submitted by the industry, for curtailed production of 337.5 TPD of writing and printing paper for a period of three months subject to the suitable conditions.
  - (vii) The Senior Environmental Engineer, Zonal Office, Jalandhar shall take up matter with NIT, Jalandhar for carrying out hydro geological study at various locations where the treated wastewater is utilized by the industry for irrigation of agricultural fields including in the premises of the unit and on the upstream side of the industry as a reference sample for getting a study conducted within a period of 3 months, to ascertain the effect on the ground water quality due to utilization of treated wastewater for irrigation purposes. The entire cost to be incurred on this study shall be borne by the industry. EE RO, Hoshiarpur shall act as a coordinator for getting conducted this study.
  - (viii) It was made clear to the representatives of the industry present in the hearing that in case the industry fails to make the compliance of the above mentioned decisions of the hearing, action as deemed fit under the provisions of the Water Act, 1974 shall be taken without affording any further opportunity / notice.

Endst. No.....

For Sr. Environmental Engineer

dated.....

A copy of the above is forwarded to Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Hoshiarpur for information and necessary action as per the above decision.

For Sr. Environmental Engineer



# Punjab Pollution Control Board

Zonal office, Near PSIEC, Water Tank, Focal Point, Jalandhar

www.ppcb.gov.in Email ID - seezojal.ppcb@punjab.gov.in

Phone No. 0181-2601612

Date \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

To

M/s Kauntam Papers Pvt. Ltd.  
Village Sailsa Khurd, Tehsil Garhshankar,  
Distt. Hoshiarpur.

1202  
25/4/19

ਮਾਣਯੋਗ (ਸੇ.)  
ਨਵੀਂ ਡਿਵੀਜ਼ਨ  
ਹਾਠਾ ਡਿਵੀਜ਼ਨ

Subject:

Proceedings of the personal hearing before Worthy Chairman of the Board on 09-4-2019 at Head office Patiala u/s 33-A of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 as amended in 1988.

26/4  
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Following were Present:-

On behalf of the Board:-

- 1) Er. G.S Majithia, CEE, Jalandhar.
- 2) Er. Harbir Singh, SEE, Jalandhar.
- 3) Er. S S Matharu, EE, R O Hoshiarpur.

On behalf of industry:-

Sh. Pavan Khatan (M.D.)

The officer of the Board brought out that the industry was granted consent to operate under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act 1974 vide No. R14HSPCTOW1520756 dated 29.08.2014, which is valid upto 31.03.2019 for production of 450 TPD of printing paper and operation of a co-generation power plant of capacity 17.5 MW. The industry was served with notice u/s 33-A of the Water Act (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 vide no. 5557 dated 6/9/2018 alongwith an opportunity of personal hearing on 18/9/2018, since the industry was found not conforming to the standards in respect of BOD as per SMS alert system received from CPCB for the data depicted by the online continuous effluent monitoring system and there was complaint against the industry regarding water pollution caused by the industry in the area. In the said hearing it was decided as under:-

- 1) The Chief Environmental Engineer, Jalandhar shall Co-ordinate the visit of PBTI to the industry within 7 days and PBTI shall collect and analysis the treated trade effluent sample and submit report to the Punjab Pollution Control Board.
- 2) The Chief Environmental Engineer, Jalandhar shall visit the industry & asses the adequacy of pollution control measures / disposal arrangements made by the industry & shall submit report / recommendations before next date of hearing.
- 3) The further action will be taken out after receipt of the report.

In compliance to decisions taken in the hearing held on 18/9/2018, the industry was visited by the team comprising of officers of the Board and PBTI on 15/11/2018 and the recommendations given by this team are enumerated as under:-

1. The industry should upgrade the existing treatment facility such that the treated effluent meets with the norms prescribed by the Board.
2. The industry shall prepare an Irrigation Management Plan and get its approved from Department of Soil Conservation, Punjab and thereafter to impellent the same in time targeted period.
3. As the treated effluent of the industry is utilize onto land for irrigation purpose a study of ground water table be conducted for general, heavy metals parameters from all the Villages where the effluent is being applied for irrigation purpose.

The industry was again given an opportunity of personal hearing on 5/2/2019 in connection with notice issued to industry u/s 33-A of the Water Act (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and in this said hearing it was decided as under:-

- 1) The industry shall engage CPPRI, Saharanpur and get its existing ETP and chemical recovery plant audited and a proposal be prepared for up-gradation required in exiting ETP and chemical recovery plant, so as to meet the effluent standards as prescribed under the law and the report be submitted to the PPCB within 21-days.

Contd....

- 2) The industry shall prepare an Irrigation Management Plan from a consultant of good repute for the whole of the command area available within the industry and outside the industry where treated effluent of the industry is utilized onto land for irrigation purpose within 15 days and thereafter get it verified and approved from the Department of Soil & Water Conservation, Punjab and submit the same to the Punjab Pollution Control Board within 21 days.
- 3) The industry shall get the ground water study of the whole command area where the treated effluent is utilized onto land for irrigation purpose from any expert institute in the field of Hydrogeology and submit report to Punjab Pollution Control Board within 21 days.
- 4) The industry shall prepare a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the operation of ETP and Chemical Recovery Plant (CRP) and shall maintain the record of operation of ETP on daily basis and shall submit monthly record duly verified by the Designated Authority of the industry to the Punjab Pollution Control Board.
- 5) The industry shall obtain the permission / NOC from Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) regarding abstraction of fresh water from all the existing tube wells in the industry.
- 6) The industry shall install electromagnetic flow meter at the inlet of the ETP before the equalization tank within 21-days.
- 7) The industry shall commission the Elemental Chlorine Free bleaching (ECF) in the agro based production by 31-03-2019.
- 8) The industry shall install and commission a new soda recovery plant of 500 TPD capacity dry black liquor solids by 31/03/2020.

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal vide order dated 19/12/2018 in the matter of O.A No. 850/2018 titled as Residents of Saila Khurd, Raniala Vs State of Punjab passed the following orders:-

"Let, a joint report be furnished by CPCB and Punjab SPCB on facts and aspects of the matter and action taken, if any, to this Tribunal within one month from the date of receipt of copy of this order by email at [ngt.filing@gmail.com](mailto:ngt.filing@gmail.com). The Nodal agency will be PSCB to the co-ordinate and to comply with the order".

In compliance to said orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, the industry was visited on 17/1/2019 by the Joint Team comprising of officers of CPCB and PPCB. The report prepared by the Joint Team after conduct of visit to the industry, was placed before Hon'ble NGT. The finding and conclusion drawn by the joint inspection team are given as under:-

1. The Unit is non-complying with the effluent discharge norms stipulated under E(P)Rules, 1986 for BOD, COD & TSS parameters. The final treated effluent showed BOD-106 mg/l (against norms of 30 mg/l), COD- 608 mg/l (against 350 mg/l) and TSS-87 mg/l (against 50 mg/l).
2. The OCEMS display panel at ETP was not showing the ETP outlet discharge flow meters reading during the visit and unit requires to connect or restore the flow meter data connectivity to CPCB server.
3. The quality of ground water collected from tube wells of all three villages showed exceedance w.r.t acceptable norms for parameter, viz, total hardness, total alkalinity, but they are within the permissible limit of BIS Standards. The calcium and magnesium level at the Pansera village showed exceedance with acceptable norms, however are within the permissible limit.
4. The heavy metals in the groundwater samples are well within the BIS standards for drinking water.
5. The stack monitoring results showed compliance with the emission norms.

The industry vide letter dated 21/2/2019 has asked the Board to furnish a copy of the report of joint team constituted by the Hon'ble NGT and the findings and conclusions drawn by the joint inspection team are mentioned herein above for ensuring compliance of the same by the industry. The industry has submitted its reply vide letter dated 7/3/2019 in compliance to the decisions taken in the hearing held on 5/2/2019, which has been taken on record by the Board and the technical details mentioned by the CPPRI, Shaharanpur in its report regarding adequacy assessment of existing ETP and study on the adequacy of chemical recovery system will be discussed in this hearing and the industry shall come prepared to discuss the technical details.

said reports in the hearing. The O A No. 850/2018 titled as Residents of Saila Khurd, Raniala V/s State of Punjab came for hearing before the Hon'ble NGT on 14/3/2019 and the Hon'ble NGT has taken the findings and recommendations of joint team on record and the relevant part of the said order is reproduced as under:-

1. It is clear that violations are serious but action taken is inadequate. Neither any closure has been ordered till compliance nor damages assessed and recovered. PSPCB has, thus, failed to action upon the "Precautionary" and "Polluter Pays" principle for preventing further damage and restoring the damage already caused.
2. In view of the above, the PSPCB may now take appropriate action in accordance with law.
3. The Joint Committee may assess the extent of damage caused in monetary terms on settled principles requiring the compensation to be deterrent and adequate to meet the cost of restoration.
4. An action taken report may be furnished by the PSPCB and the Joint Committee in above terms within one month by email at [ngt\\_filing@gmail.com](mailto:ngt_filing@gmail.com)

The industry is violating various provisions of the Water Act (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 intentionally and deliberately

The representative of the industry submitted a written reply from land officer, Garhshankar vide letter no. 498 dated 8-4-2019 during the hearing which state that the ask to inspection of STP of industry regarding discharge of effluent from pipeline laid down in the earth. The industry discharge daily effluent @ 21000m<sup>3</sup> and same is used for making of paper. Whereas, @ 17000m<sup>3</sup> water of waste of industry and treated in STP to discharge for other villages through laid down pipelines for irrigation purpose. These water lifted with pump to discharges many villages for irrigation purpose. This pipelines is discharge of water for irrigation 800 hectare of villages and all farmers of villages used this water for irrigation.

Kuantum papers ltd was set up in the year-1980 to manufacture writing & printing paper. Presently, the industry is manufacturing writing & printing paper, about 375 TPD against the permitted capacity of 450 TPD. The management implemented the expansion programme covering chemical recovery plant, cogeneration plant, Wood Pulp Street, paper m/c 4, waste paper/purchase pulp. pulping street after obtaining necessary environment clearance from MOF New Delhi in the year 2009 and capacity of plant has been increased to 450 TPD of writing & printing paper. The industry has also obtained environment clearance under ErA notification dated 14/09/2006 from MOEF on 14th June 2017 for enhancing the use of hard wood pulp from 60 TPD to 200 TPD, Chemical recovery plant to manage black liquid solids from 230 TPD to 580 TPD along with installation of cogeneration power plant of 12 MW in addition to earlier capacity of 17.5 MW and discarding 1.5MW power plant. For substitution elemental chlorine with chlorine dioxide, bleaching sequence shall be chlorine dioxide Stage-O, alkali extraction with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and oxygen bleaching and chlorine dioxide Stage-I. This system is also known as multistage bleaching system.

Presently, the industry is consuming 21600 m<sup>3</sup> /day of fresh water from 9 existing tube wells (out of total existing 12 tubewells, 3 are not in use). No extra water shall be abstracted by the industry. For the treatment of wastewater, which is about 17000 m<sup>3</sup> /day, the industry has provided effluent treatment plant consisting of anaerobic biological treatment system, primary clarifier, aerobic biological treatment system, secondary clarifier and tertiary clarifier. The treated effluent conforming to the standards, is discharged onto land for irrigation & plantation.

Kuantum papers ltd was set up in the year-1980 to manufacture writing & printing paper. Presently, the industry is manufacturing writing & printing paper, about 375 TPD against the permitted capacity of 450 TPD. The management implemented the expansion programme covering chemical recovery plant, cogeneration plant, Wood Pulp Street, paper m/c 4, waste paper/purchase pulp. pulping street after obtaining necessary environment clearance from MOF New Delhi in the year 2009 and capacity of plant has been increased to 450 TPD of writing & printing paper. The industry has also obtained environment clearance under EIA notification dated 14/09/2006 from MOEF on 14th June 2017 for enhancing the use of hard wood pulp from 60 TPD to 200 TPD, Chemical recovery plant to manage black liquid solids from 230 TPD to 580 TPD along with installation of cogeneration power plant of 12 MW in addition to earlier capacity of 17.5 MW and discarding 1.5MW power plant. For substitution elemental chlorine with chlorine dioxide, bleaching sequence shall be chlorine dioxide Stage-O, alkali extraction with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and oxygen bleaching and chlorine dioxide Stage-1. This system is also known as multistage bleaching system.

Presently, the industry is consuming 21600 m<sup>3</sup> /day of fresh water from 12 existing tube wells (out of total existing 12 tubewells, 3 are not in use) shall be abstracted by the industry. For the treatment of wastewater, which is about 17000 m<sup>3</sup> /day, the industry has provided effluent treatment plant consisting of anaerobic biological treatment system, primary clarifier, aerobic biological treatment system, secondary clarifier and tertiary clarifier. The treated effluent, conforming to standards, is discharged onto land for irrigation & plantation.

The present effluent discharge after three stage treatment is about 17000 m<sup>3</sup> per day. The treated effluent of the industry is utilized for irrigation of the fields having an area about 2000 acres of nearby villages. This treated effluent is utilized for irrigation of rice, maize and green fodder in the month of June to October. In the month of November to May, the treated effluent is utilized for irrigation of crops namely wheat, sugarcane and barseen. Besides, the industry has its own plantation area and green area within its premises along with plantation area of the nearby farmers. During no-demand period i.e. 15th November - 15th December (1 month), the treated effluent is utilized for plantation of eucalyptus trees and gardening maintained within the premises of industry (about 110 Acres) and outside of the nearby villages (85 Acres). During same time period some part of treated effluent is also utilized for irrigation into 2000 acres out of 2000 acres of land as mentioned above.

The assessment report of CRP and adequacy report of ETP prepared by CPPRI was discussed in detail with regard to following points -

1. As per assessment report of CRP the industry premises 150-155 TPD of Agro based pulp and 60-65 TPD of wood pulp in its premises and about 76 TPD of readymade pulp is purchased from outside. However, the industry has not submitted any documentary evidence to the effect that its purchases 76 TPD of readymade pulp since the adequacy of the CRP has been checked by the CPPRI considering that the industry purchases said quantity of pulp from outside.
2. As per assessment report of ETP the industry produces 2000 m<sup>3</sup> /day of bio gas from the UASB and the COD reduction in the UASB is 964 mg/ltr. Since, 4000 KLD of waste water is treated in the UASB, as per said report. Therefore, the reduction in the COD load comes to which 3856 Kg/day and corresponding to which the maximum generation of bio gas should be 1465 m<sup>3</sup>/day. Thus, generation of bio gas 2000 m<sup>3</sup>/day does not seem to be in order.
3. In the assessment report nothing has been mentioned about the treatment efficiency of each component of the ETP.
4. The volumetric load as mentioned in the report for each component is not matching with each other.

In the SOP of ETP submitted by the industry nothing has been mentioned about the operating parameters to be maintained for effective operation of various components of the ETP.

The ground water study got conducted by the industry from Super Link Water Well Company Mohali was also discussed and it was observed that high concentration of sodium, SAR and RSC has been analyzed in the ground water samples where the treated waste water of the industry is used for irrigation purposes. Therefore the industry is required to submit its submissions in this regard.

In addition to above the industry is required to comply with the following observations of the Board.

1. The industry has not yet installed EMF at the inlet of the ETP to ascertain as how much quantity of untreated waste water is treated in the ETP.
2. The industry yet to commission the elemental chlorine free bleaching process as decided in the hearing held on 5/2/2019.
3. The industry is yet to connect the EMF installed at the outlet of ETP with the server of the CPCB & PPCB.
4. As informed by the industry, the secondary sludge is utilized to use it as manure but the industry is yet to get this sludge analyzed for these parameters as mentioned in schedule 2 of the Solid Waste Management Rules 2016 to ascertain the route of its disposal.
5. The industry is yet to intimate as to how much quantity of steam condensate is recovered.
6. The industry is to increase the retention time of the tertiary clarifier for better removal of TSS as suggested by CPPRI.
7. The industry is required to ensure the compliance of SOP framed by the CPCB to use primary sludge of the ETP for manufacturing of mill board.

8. The industry is required to provide properly designed repaired mixing mechanism for proper and complete reaction of chemicals to the biological treated effluent, before tertiary clarifier to reduce COD.
9. The industry required to submit PERT chart for installation of new chemical recovery plant.
10. The industry is required to explore the possibility to provide TRP in BSW section to reduce organic loading as well as Kappa no. of the pulp.

After hearing, the officer of the Board and representative of the industry, the Chairman of the Board decided that:-

- 1) The industry shall critically examine the assessment study report of CRPI chemical recovery plant and ETP conducted by CPPRI and the ground water study conducted by report submitted by the industry, so that the issues and the observations can be discussed in detail.
- 2) The industry shall submit the point wise detailed compliance report of the above mentioned observations raised during the hearing proceedings well before the next date of hearing, so that same be discussed in the next hearing.
- 3) The industry shall be reheard on 24/4/2019 before the Hon'ble Worthy Chairman of the Board.

Endst. No.....1735

For Sr. Environmental Engineer  
dated...15 APR 2019

A copy of the above is forwarded to Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Hoshiarpur for information and necessary action as per the above decision.

Samita  
12/4/19  
For Sr. Environmental Engineer

676

ANNEXURE-C



# Punjab Pollution Control Board

Zonal office, Near PSIEC, Water Tank, Focal Point, Jalandhar

Phone No. 0181-2601612

[www.ppcb.gov.in](http://www.ppcb.gov.in) Email ID - [seezojal.ppcb@punjab.gov.in](mailto:seezojal.ppcb@punjab.gov.in)

No \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

To

M/s Kauntam Papers Pvt. Ltd.  
Village Saila Khurd, Tehsil Garhshankar,  
Distt. Hoshiarpur.

Subject:

Proceedings of the personal hearing before Worthy Chairman of the Board on 09-4-2019 at Head office Patiala u/s 33-A of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 as amended in 1988

Ref:-

Zonal office letter No 1734 dated 15-4-2019.

In continuation to the above referred letter, it is intimated that earlier hearing was given to the industry before the Worthy Chairman of the Board on 24/04/2019 at 11:30 AM in his office at Head office, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Nabha Road, Patiala. Now, the said venue has been changed due to some administrative reasons and now has been fixed on 24/4/2019 at 10:00 AM at Mohali.

It is therefore, you are requested to attend the said hearing before the Chairman of the Board on 24/4/2019 at 10:00 AM, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional office, Plot No. 55, Phase-II, Opposite Bassi Theater, Mohali, to explain the position, failing which the said notice shall be confirmed without giving any further notice/opportunity.

For Sr. Environmental Engineer

Dated. 18 APR 2019

Endst No. 1858

A copy of the above is forwarded to the Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office Hoshiarpur. He is requested to inform the industry regarding new date of hearing.

For Sr. Environmental Engineer



# Punjab Pollution Control Board

Zonal office, Near PSIEC, Water Tank, Focal Point, Jalandhar

Phone No. 0181-2601612

www.ppcb.gov.in Email ID - seezojal.ppcb@punjab.gov.in

ANNEXURE-D

No. 1936

Date 25 APR 2019

To

M/s Kauntam Papers Pvt. Ltd.  
Village Salla Khurd, Tehsil Garhshankar,  
Distt. Hoshiarpur

**Subject:** Proceedings of the personal hearing before Worthy Chairman of the Board on 24/4/2019 at PPCB, Regional office, Mohali u/s 33-A of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 as amended in 1988-

Following were present :

**On behalf of the Board :**

Er. G.S. Majithia, Chief Environmental Engineer, Jalandhar.  
Er. S.S. Matharu, Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Hoshiarpur.

**On behalf of the Industry :**

Sh.D.S. Sandhwalia, Director  
Sh. R.P. Puri, Associate President  
Sh. Manoj Aggarwal, Sr. Vice President  
Sh. R.K. Dhingra, General Manager (Environment)

The officers of the Board brought out that the industry was granted consent to operate under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act 1974 vide No. R14HSPCTOW1520756 dated 29.08.2014, which is valid upto 31.03.2019 for production of 450 TPD of printing paper and operation of a co-generation power plant of capacity 17.5 MW. The industry was served with notice u/s 33-A of the Water Act (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 vide no. 5557 dated 6/9/2018 alongwith an opportunity of personal hearing on 18/9/2018, since the industry was found not conforming to the standards in respect of BOD as per SMS alert system received from CPCB for the data depicted by the online continuous effluent monitoring system and there was complaint against the Industry regarding water pollution caused by the industry in the area. In the said hearing it was decided as under:-

- 1) The Chief Environmental Engineer, Jalandhar shall Co-ordinate the visit of PBTI to the industry within 7 days and PBTI shall collect and analysis the treated trade effluent sample and submit report to the Punjab Pollution Control Board
- 2) The Chief Environmental Engineer, Jalandhar shall visit the industry & asses the adequacy of pollution control measures / disposal arrangements made by the industry & shall submit report / recommendations before next date of hearing.
- 3) The further action will be taken out after receipt of the report.

It was also informed that in compliance to decisions taken in the hearing held on 18/9/2018, the industry was visited by the team comprising of officers of the Board and PBTI on 15/11/2018 and the recommendations given by this team are enumerated as under:-

1. The industry should upgrade the existing treatment facility such that the treated effluent meets with the norms prescribed by the Board.
2. The industry shall prepare an Irrigation Management Plan and get its approved from Department of Soil Conservation, Punjab and thereafter to impellent the same in time targeted period.
3. As the treated effluent of the industry is utilize onto land for irrigation purpose a study of ground water table be conducted for general, heavy metals parameters from all the Villages where the effluent is being applied for irrigation purpose.

319 24/11/2019 Brief Note CCB

The industry was again given an opportunity of personal hearing on 5/2/2019 in connection with notice issued to industry u/s 33-A of the Water Act (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and in this said hearing it was decided as under:-

- 1) The industry shall engage CPPRI, Saharanpur and get its existing ETP and chemical recovery plant audited and a proposal be prepared for up-gradation required in exiting ETP and chemical recovery plant, so as to meet the effluent standards as prescribed under the law and the report be submitted to the PPCB within 21-days.
- 2) The industry shall prepare an Irrigation Management Plan from a consultant of good repute for the whole of the command area available within the industry and outside the industry where treated effluent of the industry is utilized onto land for irrigation purpose within 15 days and thereafter get it verified and approved from the Department of Soil & Water Conservation, Punjab and submit the same to the Punjab Pollution Control Board within 21 days.
- 3) The industry shall get the ground water study of the whole command area where the treated effluent is utilized onto land for irrigation purpose from any expert institute in the field of Hydrogeology and submit report to Punjab Pollution Control Board within 21 days.
- 4) The industry shall prepare a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the operation of ETP and Chemical Recovery Plant (CRP) and shall maintain the record of operation of ETP on daily basis and shall submit monthly record duly verified by the Designated Authority of the industry to the Punjab Pollution Control Board.
- 5) The industry shall obtain the permission / NOC from Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) regarding abstraction of fresh water from all the existing tube-wells in the industry.
- 6) The industry shall install electromagnetic flow meter at the Inlet of the ETP before the equalization tank within 21-days.
- 7) The industry shall commission the Elemental Chlorine Free bleaching (ECF) in the agro based production by 31-03-2019.
- 8) The industry shall install and commission a new soda recovery plant of 500 TPD capacity for black-liquor solids by 31/03/2020.

The officers of the Board also stated that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal vide order dated 19/12/2018 in the matter of O.A No. 850/2018 titled as Residents of Saila Khurd, Raniala V/s State of Punjab passed the following orders:-

*"Let, a joint report be furnished by CPCB and Punjab SPCB on factual aspects of the matter and action taken, if any, to this Tribunal within one month from the date of receipt of copy of this order by email at [nat.filing@gmail.com](mailto:nat.filing@gmail.com). The Nodal agency will be PSPCB to the co-ordinate and to comply with the order".*

In compliance to said orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, the industry was visited on 17/11/2019 by the Joint Team comprising of officers of CPCB and PPCB. The report prepared by the Joint Team after conduct of visit to the industry, was placed before Hon'ble NGT. The finding and conclusion drawn by the joint inspection team are given as under:-

1. The Unit is non-complying with the effluent discharge norms stipulated under E(P)Rules, 1986 for BOD, COD & TSS parameters. The final treated effluent showed BOD-106 mg/l (against norms of 30 mg/l), COD- 608 mg/l (against 350 mg/l) and TSS-87 mg/l (against 50 mg/l).
2. The OCEMS display panel at ETP was not showing the ETP outlet discharge flow meters reading during the visit and unit requires to connect or restore the flow meter data connectivity to CPCB server.
3. The quality of ground water collected from tube wells of all three villages showed exceedance w.r.t acceptable norms for parameter, viz, total hardness, total alkalinity, but they are within the permissible limit of BIS Standards. The calcium and magnesium level at the Pansera village showed exceedance w.r.t acceptable norms, however are within the permissible limit.
4. The heavy metals in the groundwater samples are well within the BIS standards for drinking water.
5. The stack monitoring results showed compliance with the emission norms.

The industry vide letter dated 21/2/2019 has asked the Board to furnish a copy of the report of joint team constituted by the Hon'ble NGT and the findings and conclusions drawn by the joint inspection team are mentioned herein above for the ensuring compliance of the same by the industry.

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utilized for plantation of eucalyptus trees and gardening maintained within the premises of industry (about 110 Acres) and outside of the nearby villages (85 Acres). During same time period some part of treated effluent is also utilized for irrigation into 950 acres out of 2000 acres of land as mentioned above.

During hearing on 9.4.2019, the assessment report of CRP and adequacy report of ETP prepared by CPPRI was discussed in detail with regard to following points:-

1. As per assessment report of CRP the industry premises 150-155 TPD of Agro based pulp and 60-65 TPD of wood pulp in its premises and about 76 TPD of readymade pulp is purchased from outside. However, the industry has not submitted any documentary evidence to the effect that its purchases 76 TPD of readymade pulp since the adequacy of the CRP has been checked by the CPPRI considering that the industry purchases said quantity of pulp from outside.
2. As per assessment report of ETP the industry produces 2000 m<sup>3</sup>/day of bio gas from the UASB and the COD reduction in the UASB is 964 mg/ltr. Since, 4000 KLD of waste water is treated in the UASB, as per said report. Therefore, the reduction in the COD load comes to which 3856 Kg/day and corresponding to which the maximum generation of bio gas should be 1465 m<sup>3</sup>/day. Thus, generation of bio gas 2000 m<sup>3</sup>/day does not seem to be in order.
3. In the assessment report nothing has been mentioned about the treatment of efficiency of each component of the ETP.
4. The volumetric load as mentioned in the report for each component is not matching with each other.

It was pointed out that the SOP of ETP submitted by the industry nothing has been mentioned about the operating parameters to be maintained for effective operation of various components of the ETP. The ground water study got conducted by the industry from Super Links Water Well Company Mohali was also discussed and it was observed that high concentration of sodium, SAR and RSC has been analyzed in the ground water sample where the treated waste water of the industry is used for irrigation purposes. Therefore, during hearing on 9.4.2019, it was pointed out that the industry is required to submit its submissions in the above regard. In addition to above the industry is required to comply with the following observations of the Board.

1. The industry has not yet installed EMF at the inlet of the ETP to ascertain as to how much quantity of untreated waste water is treated in the ETP.
2. The industry yet to commission the elemental chlorine free bleaching process as decided in the hearing held on 5/2/2019.
3. The industry is yet to connect the EMF installed at the outlet of ETP with the server of the CPCB & PPCB.
4. As informed by the industry, the secondary sludge is utilized to use it as manure but the industry is yet to get this sludge analyzed for these parameters as mentioned in schedule 2 of the Solid Waste Management Rules 2016 to ascertain the route of its disposal.
5. The industry is yet to intimate as to how much quantity of steam condensate is recovered.
6. The industry is to increase the retention time of the tertiary clarifier for better removal of TSS as suggested by CPPRI.
7. The industry is required to ensure the compliance of SOP framed by the CPCB to use primary sludge of the ETP for manufacturing of mill board.
8. The industry is required to provide properly designed repaired mixing mechanism for proper and complete reaction of chemicals to the biological treated effluent, before tertiary clarifier to reduce COD.
9. The industry required to submit PERT chart for installation of new chemical recovery plant.
10. The industry is required to explore the possibility to provide TRP in BSW section to reduce organic loading as well as Kappa no. of the pulp.

After hearing on 9.4.2019, the officer of the Board and representative of the industry were heard and on the basis of the facts as stated above, the Chairman of the Board decided that:-

- 1) The industry shall critically examine the assessment study report of CRPI chemical recovery plant and ETP conducted by CPPRI and the ground water study conducted by report submitted by the industry, so that the issues and the observations can be discussed in detail.

management rule 2016, Envirotech laboratory Mohali is attached. Report says the secondary sludge is suitable as organic compost for crops. 322  
25/10/2019 Brief Note 024

11. **Condensate Recovery and uses of foul condensate:** With respect to the questioning on these points, the Company replied during Hearing that Condensate Recovery is 60% & foul condensate is being used in system, and that the condensate is being consumed in the mill, as a part of fresh water saving. Details attached
12. **Retention time of Tertiary Clarifier :** They have hired a consultant M/S OrdenPlatz for Possible solution to reduce TSS. However company is taking in-process correction to reduce TSS inlet to Primary Clarifier. In house study is also being done for addition of Coagulant & Flocculent to reduce TSS.
13. **Primary Sludge Manufacturing of Board.** As per SOP of CPCB we are consuming the ETP sludge for using Board. Quantity produces in 2018-2019 is 7091.7 MT. Submitted in Your Regional office Hoshiarpur Vide our letter dtd. 3<sup>rd</sup> April-2019. Attached. SOP for Board Mill operation enclosed.
14. **Flash Mixer before Tertiary Clarifier:** They have installed a flash Mixer between Secondary & Tertiary. Photographs enclosed.
15. **Bar Chart of New Recovery Plant – Enclosed with the report.**
16. **Twin Roll Press vs Vacuum Drum Washer:** They have enclosed a detailed note giving unique features of our installed Brown Stock Drum Washers, procured from M/s GL&V, who are global leader for Vacuum Drum Washers.

The officers of the Board present in the hearing informed as under :

- 1) The industry has installed capacity of 450 TPD of writing and printing paper but on an average the production capacity remains about 375 TPD.
- 2) For production of 375 TPD of writing and printing paper, the industry produces 150-155 TPD of agro pulp by using agro residue such as bagasse / sarkanda / Kahi grass / wheat straw etc. and 60-65 TPD. of wood pulp. In addition the industry procures about 70-75 TPD of ready made pulp.
- 3) From production of 150-155 TPD of agro based pulp, about 210 TPD of black liquor solids are generated and installed capacity of recovery boiler in terms of solids is 230 TPD. Further, the capacity of the chemical recovery boiler in terms of pulp production at 95% recovery efficiency is 165 TPD. Therefore, it is clear that the capacity of the recovery boiler is at par with production of agro based pulp. Since, the industry takes 5-6 shut downs of recovery boiler in a year for cleaning purpose and there may be mechanical fault in this system at any point of time, thus, the industry in such a situation collects the black liquor in the collection tanks and treat it in the lignin recovery plant. However, when lignin plant is operated, wastewater of high COD is generated which causes shock loading on the effluent treatment plant and disturbs the operation of the same. Therefore, in order to ensure that the entire effluent treatment plant runs in a proper manner and no wastewater having high COD goes to the ETP, there is need to curtail the production capacity of the industry atleast by 10% and to restrain the operation of lignin recovery plant which produces high COD effluent, despite the fact that lignin recovery plant is a stand by arrangement to handle the black liquor.
- 4) From production of 65 TPD of wood based pulp, the total generation of black liquor solids is about 99 TPD. Thus, It is clear that the capacity of chemical recovery boiler is adequate as mentioned in the study carried out by Central Pulp & Paper Research Institute, Saharanpur regarding adequacy of chemical recovery plant.

The submissions made by the representatives of the industry during the hearing which are mentioned herein above, were discussed in detail. It was also informed by the offices of the Board that a Bank Guarantee of Rs. 10.00 lakhs (Rupees Ten Lakhs Only) has already been submitted by the industry as an assurance to comply with the provisions of the Water Act, 1974.

After hearing the representatives of the industry and officers of the Board and considering material facts on record, the Chairman of the Board decided as under :

- (i) In order to ensure proper and effective operation of the Effluent Treatment Plant and chemical recovery plant and considering the violations mentioned herein above, the industry is hereby directed to curtail 10% production

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2019

- capacity i.e. it shall produce not more than 337.5 TPD on an average (375 – 37.5 TPD). Directions in this regard u/s 33-A of the Water Act, 1974 shall be issued separately.
- (ii) The EE, Regional office, Hoshiarpur is directed to seal the Lignin Precipitation Plant (LPP) of the industry with immediate effect and shall report in this regard to Zonal Office, Jalandhar within 7 days. This may also be made a part of the Directions to be issued to the industry u/s 33-A of the Water Act, 1974.
  - (iii) The EE, Regional Office, Hoshiarpur is directed to encash the Bank Guarantee of Rs. 10.00 lakhs (Rupees Ten Lakhs Only), which has already been submitted by the industry to the Board as an assurance to comply with the provisions of the Water Act, 1974.
  - (iv) The industry is given a time period of three months from the date of hearing to remove all the discrepancies / observations of the Board made above and to ensure the compliance of commitments made by the industry orally during the hearing / submitted in writing vide letter dated 24.4.2019.
  - (v) The industry is directed to furnish a fresh bank guarantee of Rs. 50.00 lakhs (Rupees Fifty Lakhs Only) to the Board within 7 days as an assurance to comply with the provisions of Water Act, 1974 and to comply with the decisions of the personal hearing including the submissions made orally during the hearing / submitted in writing vide letter dated 24.4.2019. In case, the industry fails to make the compliance of the observations mentioned above, within a stipulated period of three months, the BG of Rs. 50.00 lakhs shall be encashed and further action under the Water Act, 1974 shall be initiated.
  - (vi) The Board shall grant the application for consent to operate under the Water Act, 1974 and Air Act, 1981 submitted by the industry, for curtailed production of 337.5 TPD of writing and printing paper for a period of three months subject to the suitable conditions.
  - (vii) The Senior Environmental Engineer, Zonal Office, Jalandhar shall take up matter with NIT, Jalandhar for carrying out hydro geological study at various locations where the treated wastewater is utilized by the industry for irrigation of agricultural fields including in the premises of the unit and on the upstream side of the industry as a reference sample for getting a study conducted within a period of 3 months, to ascertain the effect on the ground water quality due to utilization of treated wastewater for irrigation purposes. The entire cost to be incurred on this study shall be borne by the industry. EE RO, Hoshiarpur shall act as a coordinator for getting conducted this study.
  - (viii) It was made clear to the representatives of the industry present in the hearing that in case the industry fails to make the compliance of the above mentioned decisions of the hearing, action as deemed fit under the provisions of the Water Act, 1974 shall be taken without affording any further opportunity / notice.

For Sr. Environmental Engineer  
25/4/19

Endst. No.....

dated.....

A copy of the above is forwarded to Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Hoshiarpur for information and necessary action as per the above decision.

-ed-  
For Sr. Environmental Engineer



# Punjab Pollution Control Board

## Regional Office

E-18-A Focal Point, Hoshiarpur

E-mail : ppcbhoshiarpur@gmail.com

website www.ppcb.gov.in

Phone/FAX : 01882-248020

No. 1936

Dated 07/05/2019

To

The Registrar,  
Hon'ble National Green Tribunal,  
New Delhi.

**Sub:- Joint Report by CPCB & PPCB regarding assessment of extent of damage caused by M/s Kuantam Papers Ltd., Village Saila Khurd, Tehsil Garhshankar, Distt Hoshiarpur in monetary terms on settled principles.**

Respected Sir,

It is respectfully submitted that the Joint Report regarding assessment of extent of damage caused by M/s Kuantam Papers Ltd., Village Saila Khurd, Tehsil Garhshankar, Distt Hoshiarpur in monetary terms on settled principles prepared by the CPCB & PPCB in compliance to orders passed by the Hon'ble NGT on 14.03.2018 in OA No. 850/2018 titled as Residents of Saila Khurd, Raniala v/s State of Punjab, is attached herewith for placing the same on record, please.

DA/As above.

Endst no. 1937

*[Signature]*  
o/c Environmental Engineer

Dated 07/05/2019

A copy of above is forwarded to the Senior Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Zonal Office, Jalandhar for information please.

*[Signature]*  
o/c Environmental Engineer

ITEM NO.61

COURT NO.4

SECTION XVII

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A  
R E C O R D O F P R O C E E D I N G S

CIVIL APPEAL Diary No(s). 22822/2019

(Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 14-03-2019  
in OA No. 850/2018 passed by the National Green Tribunal)

M/S. KUANTUM PAPERS LTD

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

THE STATE OF PUNJAB &amp; ANR.

Respondent(s)

(IA No.108876/2019-EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED  
JUDGMENT and IA No.108874/2019-STAY APPLICATION and IA  
No.108877/2019-EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T. and IA No.108873/2019-  
PERMISSION TO FILE APPEAL)

Date : 26-07-2019 This petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN MISHRA  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE M.R. SHAHFor Petitioner(s) Mr. Mukul Rohatgi, Sr. Adv.  
Ms. Kanika Agnihotri, Adv.  
Ms. Eeshan Chaturvedi, Adv.  
Mr. Aman Shanker, Adv.  
Mr. Gagandeep Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Amit Agrawal, AOR  
Ms. Aanchal Tikmani, Adv.

For Respondent(s)

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following  
O R D E R

Permission to file civil appeal is granted.

Issue notice.

Subject to the final decision, let the proceedings by Punjab  
Pollution Control Board go on. However, in case any order is  
passed the same may not be given effect to without permission from  
this Court.

Signature Not Verified

Digitally signed by  
NARENDRA PRASAD  
Date: 2019.07.29  
17:15:21 IST  
Reason:(NARENDRA PRASAD)  
COURT MASTER(JAGDISH CHANDER)  
COURT MASTER

IN THE HON'BLE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA  
 CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION  
 I.A. NO.                      OF 2022  
 IN  
 CIVIL APPEAL NO. 5957 OF 2019

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

M/s Kuantum Papers Ltd.

... Appellant

VERSUS

State of Punjab & Anr.

... Respondents

**AND**

Punjab Pollution Control Board,  
 through its Environmental Engineer  
 Regional Office, Hoshiarpur, Punjab

... **Applicant**

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I.A NO.                      OF 2022

**An Application Seeking Impleadment Of Punjab Pollution  
 Control Board**

**PAPER -BOOK**  
 (For index Please see inside )

Advocate for the Applicant

**UTTARA BABBAR**

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IN THE HON'BLE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA  
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION  
I.A. NO. OF 2022  
IN  
CIVIL APPEAL NO. 5957 OF 2019

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

M/s Kuantum Papers Ltd. ... Appellant

VERSUS

State of Punjab & Anr. ... Respondents

**AND**

Punjab Pollution Control Board,  
through its Environmental Engineer  
Regional Office, Hoshiarpur, Punjab ... **Applicant**

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Place: New Delhi  
Date: 16.07.2022

Filed By:

Advocate for the Applicant

**UTTARA BABBAR**

IN THE HON'BLE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA  
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION  
I.A. NO. OF 2022  
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State of Punjab & Anr.

... Respondents

**AND**

Punjab Pollution Control Board,  
through its Environmental Engineer  
Regional Office, Hoshiarpur, Punjab

... Applicant

**AN APPLICATION SEEKING IMPLEADMENT OF PUNJAB POLLUTION  
CONTROL BOARD**

To  
The Hon'ble Chief Justice of India  
and his Hon'ble Companion Justices  
of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India

The humble Application of  
the Applicant above-named

**MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:**

1. That the aforesaid Civil Appeal under Section 22 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 has been filed against order dated 14.03.2019 passed by the Ld. National Green Tribunal in Original Application No. 850 of 2018, whereby the Ld. National Green Tribunal directed that the Joint Committee of Central Pollution Control Board and the applicant Punjab State Pollution Control Board to assess the extent of damage caused in monetary terms on settled principles.
2. That facts and circumstances have already been set out and explained in the Civil Appeal filed by the appellant and therefore are not repeated for the sake of brevity.

3. That the appellant industry namely M/s Kuantum Papers Ltd., situated at Saila Khurd, Tehsil Garhshakar, District Hoshiarpur falls under the area and jurisdiction of the applicant Punjab Pollution Control Board through its Environmental Engineer serving in the Regional Office at Hoshiarpur.
4. That this Hon'ble Court was pleased to pass an order dated 26.07.2019 in the aforesaid Civil Appeal, which is reproduced herein below for kind perusal and reference:

*"Permission to file Civil Appeal is granted.  
Issue notice.*

*Subject to the final decision, let the proceedings by Punjab Pollution Control Board go on. However, in case any order is passed the same may not be given effect to without permission from this Court."*

5. That the present case relates to the functioning of the appellant industry wherein violation of the provisions of the Environmental Laws i.e. the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 were observed by the Joint Committee constituted by the Ld. National Green Tribunal vide order dated 19.12.2018. Vide order dated 19.12.2018, a joint Report was sought from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the Punjab State Pollution Control Board (PSPCB) on factual aspects with action taken Report.
6. The Joint Committee filed its report before the Ld. Tribunal. Considering the report of the Joint Committee, the Ld. National Green Tribunal in its order dated 14.03.2019 observed that it is clear that violations are serious, but action taken is inadequate. It was observed that neither any closure has been ordered till compliance nor damages assessed and recovered. It was further observed that Punjab State Pollution Control Board has thus failed to act upon the Precautionary and Polluter Pays Principle for preventing further damage and restoring the damage already caused. The State Pollution Control Board was directed to take appropriate action in accordance with Law and the Joint Committee was directed to assess the extent of damage caused in monetary terms on the settled Principles requiring the compensation to be deterrent and adequate to meet the cost of restoration.

7. Ld. Tribunal directed that:

*"6. The Joint Committee may assess the extent of damage caused in monetary terms on settled principles requiring the compensation to be deterrent and adequate to meet the cost of restoration.*

*7. An action taken report may be furnished by the PSPCB and the joint Committee in above terms within one month by email at ngt.filing@gmail.com."*

8. That in compliance to the order dated 14.03.2019 of the Ld. National Green Tribunal, the appellant industry was afforded an opportunity of hearing on 24.04.2019 by the Punjab Pollution Control Board. After hearing the representative of the industry certain decisions were taken by the Chairman of the Board and the proceedings of the hearing were conveyed to the appellant industry *vide* letter no. 1936 dated 25.04.2019 which is also annexed in the appeal paperbook at page nos. 349-352. The Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Hoshiarpur has filed Status/Action Taken Report in compliance of order dated 14.03.2019 before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in Original Application No. 850 of 2018 titled as *Residents of Saila Khurd, Raniala v. State of Punjab*.
9. That in further compliance to the order dated 14.03.2019 of the Ld. National Green Tribunal, the Joint Committee has assessed the Environmental Compensation on the basis of the formula devised by the Central Pollution Control Board and the Environmental Compensation for the period from 27.05.2018 to 31.03.2019 (309 days) was assessed and calculated to be Rs. 282.60 Lakhs.
10. That the further action to recover the Environmental compensation of Rs. 282.60 Lakhs from the appellant industry has not been initiated by the Punjab Pollution Control Board in view of order dated 26.07.2019 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
11. In the civil appeal, the Punjab Pollution Control Board or the Central Pollution Control Board have not been made as parties despite the fact

that the report was jointly filed by the abovementioned Boards in compliance of order of the Ld. Tribunal. It is submitted that *vide* order 26.07.2019, this Hon'ble Court has directed that no effect shall be given to the proceedings conducted by PPCB without permission of this Hon'ble Court. In compliance of above order, the Punjab Pollution Control Board is filing the present application seeking impleadment in the matter. The PPCB is also filing an accompanying application for directions seeking permission to recover EC of Rs. 282.60 Lakhs assessed by the Joint Committee.

12. It is submitted that the Punjab Pollution Control Board, after verification of the status of the industry, has granted and renewed the Consent to Operate with effect from 10.08.2020 valid up to 30.06.2025 for operation of the industrial unit under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
13. That the civil appeal has been filed by the appellant against the State of Punjab through Additional Secretary-cum-Director Governance Reforms. The Department of Governance Reforms is neither the main party nor the contesting or necessary party in the case. The main party in the case is the Punjab Pollution Control Board and the directions in the case have also been issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India to the Punjab Pollution Control Board. Hence, Punjab Pollution Control Board is required to be impleaded as necessary party in the case.
14. That therefore, it would be in the interest of justice fair play and equity that the applicant may be allowed to intervene in the matter and also allowed to proceed further in the matter to recover the environmental compensation amounting to Rs. 282.60 Lakhs as is prayed in the accompanying application for directions.

**PRAYER**

In the above circumstances it is therefore most respectfully prayed that this

---

Hon'ble Court may please to:

- a) Allow the application and implead the applicant in the aforesaid Civil Appeal as party respondent and/or ;
- b) Pass such other order or orders as this Hon'ble Court would deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case.

Place: New Delhi  
Date: 16.07.2022

Filed By:

*UTTARA BABBAR*

**UTTARA BABBAR**  
Advocate for the Applicant

IN THE HON'BLE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA  
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION  
I.A. NO. \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_  
IN  
CIVIL APPEAL NO. 5957 OF 2019

IN THE MATTER OF:

M/s Kuantum Papers Ltd.

... Appellant

VERSUS

State of Punjab & Anr.

... Respondents

AND

Punjab Pollution Control Board,  
through its Environmental Engineer  
Regional Office, Hoshiarpur (Punjab)

... Applicant

AFFIDAVIT

I, Shiv Kumar aged about 55 years, s/o Sukh Ram working as Environmental Engineer in the office of Punjab Pollution Control Board and is posted at Regional Office, Hoshiarpur, Punjab do hereby solemnly state and affirm as under:

- 1) I say that I am the authorized representative of the Applicant in the above mentioned Civil Appeal and as such, I am fully conversant with the facts, proceedings and circumstances of the case and hence competent to swear this affidavit.
- 2) I say that I have read and understood the contents of the accompanying Application and state that the facts stated therein are true to my knowledge and belief.
- 3) I say that the Annexures filed along with the accompanying Application Defense are true copies of their respective originals.
- 4) I say that the averments of fact stated herein above are true to my knowledge and records, no part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

*Shiv Kumar*  
DEPONENT

VERIFICATION:

I, the deponent abovenamed, do hereby verify and state that the contents of the above affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, no part of its is false and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

Verified on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 2022 at \_\_\_\_\_.



This contents of the affidavit document have been read over and explained to the deponent who after accepting the same has signed his name and has also marked the affidavit with his thumb and has also signed the affidavit. Serial No. 353 dated 19/4/22. She was personally identified by Sh. Venkatesh Rajant known to me. 19 APR 2022

*Shiv Kumar*  
DEPONENT

IN THE HON'BLE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA  
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION  
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through its Environmental Engineer  
Regional Office, Hoshiarpur, Punjab ...

**Applicant**

**I.A No OF 2022**

**An Application seeking directions to recover environmental compensation pursuant to the report of the Joint Committee with Supporting Affidavit.**

**PAPER -BOOK**

**For index Please see inside**

**ADVOCATE FOR THE APPLICANT :-UTTARA BABBAR**

**IN THE HON'BLE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA  
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION  
I.A. NO. OF 2022  
IN  
CIVIL APPEAL NO. 5957 OF 2019**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

M/s Kuantum Papers Ltd.

... Appellant

VERSUS

State of Punjab & Anr.

... Respondents

**AND**

Punjab Pollution Control Board,  
through its Environmental Engineer  
Regional Office, Hoshiarpur, Punjab

... Applicant

**AN APPLICATION SEEKING DIRECTIONS TO RECOVER ENVIRONMENTAL  
COMPENSATION PURSUANT TO REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE**

To  
The Hon'ble Chief Justice of India  
and his Hon'ble Companion Justices  
of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India

The humble Application of  
the Applicant above-named

**MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:**

1. That the aforesaid Civil Appeal under Section 22 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 has been filed against order dated 14.03.2019 passed by the Ld. National Green Tribunal in Original Application No. 850 of 2018, whereby the Ld. National Green Tribunal directed that the Joint Committee of Central Pollution Control Board and the applicant Punjab State Pollution Control Board to assess the extent of damage caused in monetary terms on settled principles.
2. That facts and circumstances have already been set out and explained in the Civil Appeal filed by the appellant and therefore are not repeated for the sake of brevity.
3. That the appellant industry namely M/s Kuantum Papers Ltd., situated at Saila Khurd, Tehsil Garhshakar, District Hoshiarpur falls under the area

and jurisdiction of the applicant Punjab Pollution Control Board through its Environmental Engineer serving in the Regional Office at Hoshiarpur.

4. That the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India was pleased to pass an order dated 26.07.2019 in the aforesaid Civil Appeal, which is reproduced herein below for kind perusal and reference:

*"Permission to file Civil Appeal is granted.*

*Issue notice.*

*Subject to the final decision, let the proceedings by Punjab Pollution Control Board go on. However, in case any order is passed the same may not be given effect to without permission from this Court."*

5. That the present case relates to the functioning of the appellant industry wherein violation of the provisions of the Environmental Laws i.e. the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 were observed by the Joint Committee constituted by the Ld. National Green Tribunal vide order dated 19.12.2018. Vide order dated 19.12.2018, a joint Report was sought from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the Punjab State Pollution Control Board (PSPCB) on factual aspects with action taken Report.
6. The Joint Committee filed its report before the Ld. Tribunal. Considering the report of the Joint Committee, the Ld. National Green Tribunal in its order dated 14.03.2019 observed that it is clear that violations are serious, but action taken is inadequate. It was observed that neither any closure has been ordered till compliance, nor have damages been assessed and recovered. It was further observed that Punjab State Pollution Control Board has thus failed to act upon the Precautionary and Polluter Pays Principle for preventing further damage and restoring the damage already caused. The State Pollution Control Board was directed to take appropriate action in accordance with Law and the Joint Committee was directed to assess the extent of damage caused in monetary terms based on the settled principles requiring the compensation to be deterrent and adequate to meet the cost of restoration.

A true copy of order dated 14.03.2019 of the Ld. National Green Tribunal passed in O.A No. 850 of 2018 is marked and annexed herewith as **Annexure A-1. Page No. (7-10)**

7. Ld. Tribunal directed that:

*"6. The Joint Committee may assess the extent of damage caused in monetary terms on settled principles requiring the compensation to be deterrent and adequate to meet the cost of restoration.*

*7. An action taken report may be furnished by the PSPCB and the joint Committee in above terms within one month by email at ngt.filing@gmail.com."*

8. That in compliance to the order dated 14.03.2019 of the Ld. National Green Tribunal, the appellant industry was afforded an opportunity of hearing on 24.04.2019 by the Punjab Pollution Control Board. After hearing the representative of the industry certain decisions were taken by the Chairman of the Board and the proceedings of the hearing were conveyed to the appellant industry *vide* letter no. 1936 dated 25.04.2019 which is also annexed in the appeal paperbook at page nos. 349-352. The Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Hoshiarpur has filed Status/Action Taken Report in compliance of order dated 14.03.2019 before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in Original Application No. 850 of 2018 titled as *Residents of Saila Khurd, Raniala v. State of Punjab*.

A true copy of the Status/Action Taken Report in compliance of order dated 14.03.2019 is marked and annexed herewith as **Annexure A-2.**  
**Page No. (11-17 )**

9. That in further compliance to the order dated 14.03.2019 of the Ld. National Green Tribunal, the Joint Committee has assessed the Environmental Compensation on the basis of the formula devised by the Central Pollution Control Board and the Environmental Compensation for the period from 27.05.2018 to 31.03.2019 (309 days) was assessed and calculated to be Rs. 282.60 Lakhs.

A true copy of the Joint Committee Report dated 07.05.2019 is marked and annexed herewith as **Annexure A-3. Page No. (18-30 )**

10. That further action to recover the Environmental compensation of Rs. 282.60 Lakhs from the appellant industry has not been initiated by the Punjab Pollution Control Board in view of order dated 26.07.2019 of the

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

11. In the civil appeal, the appellant has taken a ground that it was not heard before the Joint Committee submitted its report before the Ld. Tribunal. In this regard, it is submitted that, as admitted by the appellant itself in the appeal, even before the Ld. Tribunal's order impugned herein, the applicant PPCB had issued various notices under Section 33A of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 to the appellant and had also afforded personal hearing on each and every occasion before passing any order. Various directions have been issued from time to time to the appellant which have also been mentioned in both the Joint Report and the Action Taken Report.
12. The visit of the Joint Committee was as per orders of the Ld. Tribunal and was carried out in accordance with law. The Joint Committee has assessed the Environmental Compensation as per prescribed guidelines and formula. Even otherwise, the State PCBs are empowered under Section 33A of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and under Section 31A of the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 to impose Environmental Compensation from erring industries. Proceedings had already been initiated by the PPCB when the Ld. Tribunal took cognizance of the matter and directed assessment of compensation.
13. That the Punjab Pollution Control Board, after verification of the status of the industry, has granted and renewed the Consent to Operate with effect from 10.08.2020 valid up to 30.06.2025 for operation of the industrial unit under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

A true copy of Consent to Operate dated Nil under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 is marked and annexed herewith as **Annexure A-4. Page No. ( 31-36 )**

A true copy of Consent to Operate dated Nil under the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 is marked and annexed herewith as **Annexure A-5. Page No. (37-43 )**

14. That the civil appeal has been filed by the appellant against the State of Punjab through Additional Secretary-cum-Director Governance Reforms. The Department of Governance Reforms is neither the main party nor the contesting or necessary party in the case. The main party in the case is the Punjab Pollution Control Board and the directions in the case have also been issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India to the Punjab Pollution Control Board. Hence, the Applicant, i.e. Punjab Pollution Control Board, is required to be impleaded as necessary party in the case.
15. That therefore, it would be in the interest of justice fair play and equity that this Hon'ble Court may be pleased to permit the Applicant to proceed further in the matter to recover the environmental compensation amounting to Rs. 282.60 Lakhs, which has been imposed on the Appellant.

**PRAYER**

In the above circumstances it is therefore most respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble Court may please to:

- a) Allow the Applicant to proceed further in the matter and to recover the Environmental Compensation amounting to Rs. 282.60 Lakh on the basis of the Joint Committee report and/or;
- b) Pass such other order or orders as this Hon'ble Court would deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case.

Place: New Delhi  
Date: 16.07.2022

Filed By:

*UTTARA BABBAR*

**UTTARA BABBAR**  
Advocate for the Applicant

IN THE HON'BLE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA  
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION  
I.A. NO. \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_  
IN  
CIVIL APPEAL NO. 5957 OF 2019

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

M/s Kwantum Papers Ltd. ...

Appellant

VERSUS

State of Punjab & Anr. ...

Respondents

**AND**

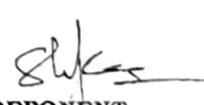
Punjab Pollution Control Board,  
through its Environmental Engineer  
Regional Office, Hoshiarpur (Punjab) ...

Applicant

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, Shiv Kumar aged about 55 years, s/o Sukh Ram working as Environmental Engineer in the office of Punjab Pollution Control Board and is posted at Regional Office, Hoshiarpur, Punjab do hereby solemnly state and affirm as under:

- 1) I say that I am the authorized representative of the Applicant in the above mentioned Civil Appeal and as such, I am fully conversant with the facts, proceedings and circumstances of the case and hence competent to swear this affidavit.
- 2) I say that I have read and understood the contents of the accompanying Application and state that the facts stated therein are true to my knowledge and belief.
- 3) I say that the Annexures filed along with the accompanying Application Defense are true copies of their respective originals.
- 4) I say that the averments of fact stated herein above are true to my knowledge and records, no part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

  
DEPONENT

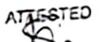
**VERIFICATION:**

I, the deponent abovenamed, do hereby verify and state that the contents of the above affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, no part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

Verified on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 2022 at \_\_\_\_\_

This contents of the affidavit/document have been read over and explained to the deponent/document who after accepting the same to be correct has signed/ thumb marked the affidavit/document before me and has also signed/ thumb marked the same on Page No. 20  
Serial No. 352 dated 19/4/2022 He/She was been identified by Sh. Varun who is personally known to me.

ATTESTED

  
SANDEEP KUMAR

  
DEPONENT

19 APR 2022



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA  
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CIVIL APPEAL NO(S). 5957 OF 2019

M/S KUANTUM PAPERS LTD

Appellant(s)

VERSUS

THE STATE OF PUNJAB & ANR.

Respondent(s)

O R D E R

1. Application for impleadment is allowed.
2. This appeal is against the order passed by the Principal Bench of the National Green Tribunal (for short, 'the Tribunal') in Original Application No. 850 of 2018 dated 14.03.2019. The issue before the Tribunal related to environmental pollution caused by the appellant M/s. Kuantum Paper Mill adversely affecting the inhabitants of Saila Khurd, Raniala, Saila Kalan, Jassoval, Majari, Paddi Khusi and Pensara village, District Hoshiarpur, Punjab.
3. By the order dated 19.12.2018, the Tribunal called for a joint report from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and Punjab State Pollution Control Board (PSPCB), on factual aspects and on the action, if any, taken pursuant to the

Signature Not Verified  
Digitally signed by  
Date: 19.12.2018  
Reason:

directions of the Tribunal. Accordingly, a joint report was filed before the Tribunal indicating the position as it were. The Tribunal has extracted the findings of the joint report in the impugned order before us.

4. The Tribunal by its order dated 14.03.2019, was of the opinion that the environmental transgressions are serious in nature but the action taken is inadequate. Having noticed that neither any closure has been ordered nor damages assessed and recovered, the Tribunal directed PSPCB to take appropriate action. The Tribunal also directed the Joint Committee to assess the quantum of damages payable in view of the environmental degradation caused by the Kuantum Paper Mill. In conclusion, the Tribunal directed a report to be filed within a period of one month and the case to be listed on 20.05.2019. It is at this stage that the appellant filed the present Civil Appeal.

5. In the present appeal filed by M/s Kuantum Papers Ltd., this Court by its order dated 26.07.2019 passed the following order:

"Permission to file civil appeal is granted.  
Issue notice.

Subject to the final decision, let the proceedings by Punjab Pollution control Board go on. However, in case any order is passed the same may not be given effect to without permission from this Court."

6. Mr. P.S. Patwalia, learned senior counsel appearing on behalf of the appellant(s) submitted that in view of pendency of the matter before this Court, the amount to be quantified towards the environmental compensation has not been recovered from them and also that the Original Application is still pending before the Tribunal.

7. Having considered the matter in detail, we are of the opinion that as the order impugned before us is interim in nature, the Tribunal should proceed further and pass final order in the Original Application. In this view of the matter, we dispose of the present appeal and direct the Tribunal to take up the Original Application No. 850 of 2018 and pass appropriate orders after hearing all the parties.

8. We further direct that pending disposal of the Original Application, the interim order passed by this Court directing the order passed by the Punjab Pollution Control Board shall not be given effect to, shall continue till further orders that the Tribunal may pass after giving full opportunities to all the parties.

9. As the complaint against the appellant seems to be continuing from 2018, we request the Tribunal to dispose of the Original Application within a period of six months from the date of the receipt of this order. Needless to say, we have not expressed any opinion on the merits of the case.

10. The Civil Appeal is accordingly disposed of.
11. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

.....J.  
[PAMIDIGHANTAM SRI NARASIMHA]

.....J.  
[PANKAJ MITHAL]

New Delhi  
August 23, 2024.

ITEM NO.33

COURT NO.15

SECTION XVII

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A  
R E C O R D O F P R O C E E D I N G S

Civil Appeal No(s). 5957/2019

M/S KUANTUM PAPERS LTD

Appellant(s)

VERSUS

THE STATE OF PUNJAB &amp; ANR.

Respondent(s)

IA No. 97760/2022 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS

IA No. 108876/2019 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED  
JUDGMENT

IA No. 108877/2019 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

IA No. 97779/2022 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT

IA No. 108874/2019 - STAY APPLICATION

Date : 23-08-2024 These matters were called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PAMIDIGHANTAM SRI NARASIMHA  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PANKAJ MITHALFor Appellant(s) Mr. P.S. Patwalia, Sr. Adv.  
Ms. Natasha Dalmia, AOR  
Ms. Anisha Jain, Adv.For Respondent(s) Mr. Siddhant Sharma, AOR  
Ms. Sheetal Dubey, Adv.Mr. Prateek K Chadha, AOR  
Mr. Sreekar Aechuri, Adv.  
Mr. Arjun Nayyar, Adv.UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following  
O R D E R

1. Application for impleadment is allowed.
2. The Civil Appeal is disposed of in terms of the Signed Order.
3. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

(KAPIL TANDON)  
COURT MASTER (SH)(NIDHI WASON)  
COURT MASTER (NSH)

(Signed Order is placed on the file)