

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 100 OF 2026
(Under Sections 14, 15 & 18 of the National Green Tribunal
Act, 2010)**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Gram Panchayat Galhri,
Village Galhri, District Gurdaspur,
Punjab.
Through its Sarpanch/Authorized Representative,

...Applicant

Versus

Union of India & Ors.
Through the Secretary,
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(MoEF&CC),
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road,
New Delhi – 110003.

....Respondents

INDEX

S. NO.	PARTICULARS	PAGES
1.	Compliance Report by way of an affidavit of Jaspreet Talwar, Additional Chief Secretary, Mines & Geology, Punjab on behalf of Respondent No. 01. (as directed via order dated-11.02.2026) , in O.A. No. 740 of 2024	1-15

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

**Original Application No. 740 of
2024**

Karan Singh

....Applicants

Versus

State of Punjab & Others

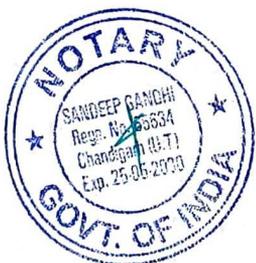
...Respondents

Compliance Report by way of an affidavit of
Jaspreet Talwar, Additional Chief Secretary,
Mines & Geology, Punjab on behalf of
respondent no. 01.

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

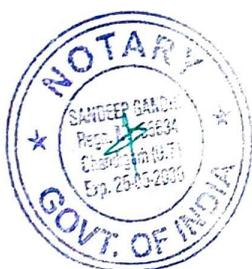
1. That, the above-mentioned Original Application is fixed for
hearing on 01.12.2025 before this Hon'ble Tribunal.
2. That, when this matter last came for hearing on 13.10.2025,
this Hon'ble Court was pleased to pass the following
directions:-

*"In compliance of the previous order dated
29.07.2025, Ms. Jaspreet Talwar, Additional Chief*



Secretary, State of Punjab has appeared virtually and has informed that the Punjab Regulation of Crusher Units, and. Stockists and Retailers Act, 2025 has been enacted and Punjab Minor Mineral (First Amendment) Rules, 2025 thereunder have been framed setting up in place the mechanism for regulating the crushers in the State of Punjab. She submits that the additional affidavit will now be filed within three weeks disclosing the full details of the Act and the Rules. Short affidavit dated 28.08.2025 has been filed by the Respondent No. 1 disclosing the action which has been taken to curb the illegal mining Learned. Counsel for the Applicant submits that the full details of the action required to be taken have not been disclosed. Hence, we permit the Applicant to place on record the details wherein the action is still warranted. Let the same be done within three weeks. List on 01.12.2025.”

3. That, in compliance with the directions of this Hon'ble



Tribunal, it is submitted that the State has enacted the Punjab Regulation of Crusher Units, Stockists & Retailers Act, 2025 (attached as **Annexure-A**) and notified the Punjab State Minor Minerals (Amendment) Policy, 2025 (attached as **Annexure-B**). This act and policy introduce a modern, technology-driven, accountable system for monitoring mining and crusher-related activities. These reforms represent a significant departure from the Mining Policy 2023, strengthening transparency, monitoring, and compliance.

I. **2023 Policy** focused primarily on supply and affordability of sand and gravel. Whereas the Punjab State Minor Minerals (Amendment) Policy, 2025 additionally introduced a new category of mining site, i.e., '**Crusher Owner Mining Sites (CRMS)**'. These are the licensed gravel sites exclusively for registered crusher owners, wherein registered Crusher Owners can apply and opt to mine the gravel as minor mineral themselves. This reform is directly aimed at:

- i. Enabling crusher owners to secure legal source of raw material.



- ii. Controlling illegal gravel mining.
- iii. Linking crushers with dedicated legal mining areas.
- iv. Reducing dependence on riverbeds.
- v. Eliminating illegal cross-border sourcing.
- vi. Reducing dependence on other States.
- vii. Enhancing monitoring & accountability by correlating supply-demand from crushers.

Till date, applications of 238 Crusher Owner Mining Sites (CRMS) have been received, out of which 26 sites are in the approved DSRs and their Letter of Intent has been issued. For the rest of the 212 sites, they are being included in the new DSRs which are in the process of being finalized. The total area of these 238 sites for which CRMS applications have been received is 891 Hectares, which signifies the increase in area under legal mining.

II. **Strengthening of the Mining Rights Framework**

The 2025 Amendment introduces:

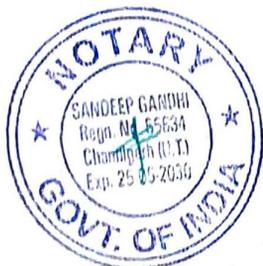
- i. Five-year mining rights for CRMS.



- ii. Defines a Strict 'Environmental Clearance' timeline (6 months + 6 months extension with applicable fee).
- iii. Automatic forfeiture of fees on non-compliance.
- iv. Transparent procedure for allotment of Letter of intent to applicants.
- v. Mandatory inclusion of adjoining land for CRMS so as to prevent illegal untagged mining pockets.

III. The Department of Water Resources Punjab has identified 85 de-silting sites in the state of which 36 de-silting sites comprising of 3,19,46,482 Sq feet area and 25,55,05,547 cft of material, are being auctioned out. This de-silted material shall open one more legal source for sale and processing of minor minerals in the open market.

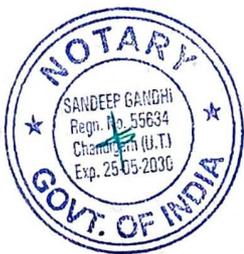
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4. That, in further compliance with the last order, the answering Respondent submits additional details of Punjab Regulation of Crusher Units, and Stockists and Retailers Rules, 2025 (attached as **Annexure-C**) and monitoring mechanisms thereunder:



I. That the State of Punjab has undertaken comprehensive regulatory reforms for the scientific, transparent, and accountable regulation of stone crusher units by enacting the Punjab Regulation of Crusher Units, and Stockists and Retailers Act, 2025 and notifying the rules thereunder on 14.07.2025. These statutory instruments constitute the first dedicated legal framework in the State exclusively governing the establishment, registration, functioning, monitoring, and environmental compliance of crusher units.

II. That under the aforesaid Act and Rules, mandatory registration of all crusher units has been introduced, requiring detailed scrutiny of ownership, location, capacity of machinery, environmental consent, and compliance with siting criteria. No crusher unit is permitted to operate without valid registration and annual renewal. Further, as per Rule 3, every Crusher Unit in the State has now been allotted a Crusher Unique Registration Number (CURN). CURN ensures unique identity, scientific record-keeping, and real-time visibility of each crusher's operations. It

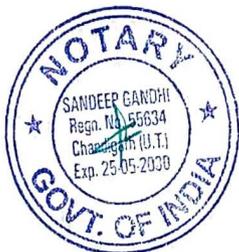
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enables end-to-end monitoring of raw material inflow and outgoing processed material, thereby eliminating scope of unaccounted operations.

III. That the Rule 9 mandates verification of both input and output of minor minerals at crusher units through monthly returns filed on the Mining Portal. These returns include details of raw material received, quantity processed, finished material dispatched, and closing stock. The system enables cross-verification with Transit Passes and Interstate Checkpost records, thereby substantially reducing the scope of illegal extraction or undisclosed processing. Further, as per rule 11, every Crusher Unit must maintain daily and monthly stock registers, and departmental officers are mandated to conduct periodic physical verification (monthly by Junior Engineer, quarterly by Assistant District Mining Officer, six-monthly by District Mining Officer, and annually by Superintending Engineer). Any excess, unaccounted or unclaimed material is deemed illegal and liable for seizure and penal action. These provisions ensure continuous monitoring, eliminate scope

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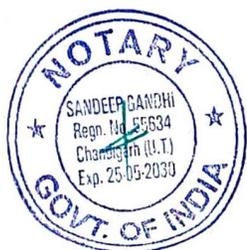


of manipulation, and enable detection of irregularities.

IV. That the State has operationalised a fully digital “Crusher Module” on the Mining Portal for automated scrutiny of returns, generation of e-Transit Passes, calculation of Mineral Processing Fee (MPF), and real-time monitoring of material movement. The system generates alerts for mismatch, excess processing, or abnormal stock patterns, enabling immediate field action.

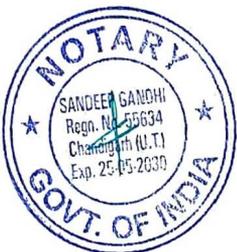
V. That the Rules further require installation of ‘Smart Meters’ on crusher units to digitally record the power consumption and thereby calculate the quantum of raw material processed by the crusher. These meters shall transmit real-time data to the server, ensuring transparent monitoring of production and preventing clandestine operations. Material processed by the crusher unit will be matched as per the electricity consumption to avoid any kind of undisclosed processing.

VI. That the Rules expressly prohibit the use of diesel generators at crusher units. All units are required to shift to electricity supply, thereby eliminating any chance of



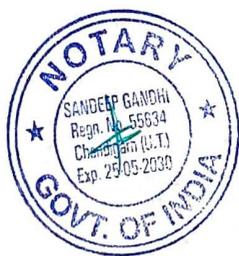
illegal processing by the crusher units. The State has already issued notices for removal of gensets, and compliance is being enforced in a strict manner.

VII. That the State has established and further strengthened the interstate check posts along the borders of Punjab. These check posts are equipped with CCTV surveillance systems to monitor the movement of vehicles transporting minor minerals. Furthermore, the Department of Mines and Geology, Punjab, vide Notification dated 15.10.2025 (the Punjab Minor Mineral (Third Amendment) Rules, 2025), has mandated that every vehicle transporting minor minerals shall obtain a Confirmation Receipt (CR) Form at the interstate check post, which shall serve as a valid transit pass for movement within the State of Punjab. This mechanism ensures that only legally extracted and duly recorded minor minerals are permitted to enter the State boundaries. The Department also proposes to install Automatic License Plate Recognition (ALPR) cameras and RFID readers at these check posts with the objective of further curbing and eliminating the movement of illegal



mineral-laden vehicles. Further, the Department has also made deterrent provision in the Rule 75 of PMMR 2013 vide notification dated 29.10.2022 (attached as **Annexure-D**), under which heavy penalty ranging from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 2,00,000 is being imposed on the illegal transportation of minerals.

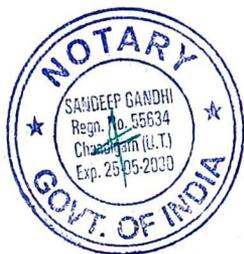
VIII. That in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 4(3) of the Punjab Regulation of Crusher Units, Stockists and Retailers Act, 2025, read with Rule 8 of the Rules framed thereunder, the Government has prescribed a Mineral Processing Fee (MPF) payable by all Crusher Units. The said fee is intended to compensate for the damage caused to roads and public infrastructure due to continuous movement of heavy vehicles engaged in transportation of raw material to the crusher units and processed material therefrom. The MPF has been made applicable on all Transit Passes generated by crusher units w.e.f. 22.10.2025. It is further submitted that the MPF shall be utilized strictly for restoration, strengthening, and improvement of road and other public infrastructure in and



around the crusher zones, so as to mitigate adverse impacts on residents living in the vicinity and to ensure safe and durable public infrastructure. A comprehensive Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) dated 26.11.2025 for the utilization of Mineral Processing Fee (MPF) funds has been duly formulated and issued by the Department (attached as **Annexure-E**). The SOP has been circulated to all stakeholder departments for uniform implementation and for ensuring that expenditure is incurred strictly on eligible projects in a transparent and accountable manner.

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IX. That in addition to MPF, an Environment Management Fund (EMF) has been levied on crusher units, as they fall under the 'Orange Category' of industries under the Punjab Pollution Control Board norms. The EMF is being collected for environmental mitigation, pollution control measures, dust-suppression systems, and green-belt development in and around crusher zones. An SOP dated 17.11.2025 (attached as **Annexure-F**) has also been issued for uniform, transparent and need-based utilization of EMF funds.



X. That the Mining Policy was also amended vide Notification dated 30.04.2025 enabling the allotment of "Crusher Owner Mining Sites (CRMS)" exclusively for supply of raw material to crusher units. This policy reform will reduce dependence on unauthorized sources and will significantly curb illegal mining. Till date, 24 Letters of Intent (LoIs) have been issued for such sites, and the applicants are at various stages of obtaining Environmental Clearance. After operationalisation of these sites, the dependence on unregulated sources of raw material will significantly reduce, as crusher owners shall have regulated, compliant and assured sources of supply.

XI. That under Rule 13, registration of Crusher Units can be suspended for violations, including non-submission of returns, illegal mining notices, breach of statutory provisions, or non-payment of Government dues. Suspension empowers the DMO to seal the premises and halt all operations, preventing continuation of illegal activity. Further, Rule 14 provide for termination of registration in cases of repeated violations, criminal



conviction for mining offences, failure to comply with notices, or default in payment of assessed dues. Upon termination, the unit is barred from re-registration for up to three years, thereby permanently dismantling illegal operations. Also rule 26 empowers the District Mining Officer to seize illegally procured minor minerals, along with machinery, tools, and vehicles used for illegal activities. Seized material will be disposed off through public auction in accordance with law, ensuring that illegal operations are not financially rewarded.

XII. That the cumulative effect of the above reforms-mandatory registration, digital monitoring, smart meters, elimination of gensets, strengthened checkpoints, MPF and EMF levies, and allotment of Crusher Owner Mining Sites-is the creation of a transparent, traceable, and scientifically regulated regime for the operation of crusher units, thereby substantially minimizing illegal mining and associated environmental damage.

XIII. That the State, through these statutory measures, technological interventions, and policy reforms, has



ensured that the functioning of crusher units is environmentally compliant, legally regulated, and aligned with the principles of sustainable mining.

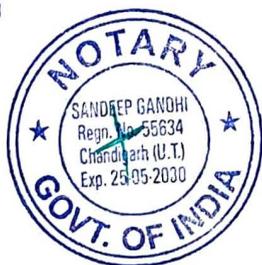
5. That, the above statutory measures, read with the enforcement actions already placed on record (FIRs, challans, suspension notices, and recovery amounts), show that the State is fully cognizant of the problem and fully committed to minimizing/eliminating the menace of illegal mining and has established a comprehensive, technology-driven, multi-layered regulatory framework to curb illegal mining and ensure environmental compliance. The answering Respondent therefore prays that the additional details submitted herein in compliance with the order dated 13.10.2025 may kindly be taken on record and the OA 740 may kindly be disposed off.

Place: Chandigarh

Date: 28/11/25

28 NOV 2025

28 NOV 2025



ATTESTED. 14

Sandeep Gandhi
Notary Chandigarh (UT)

DEPONENT

(Jaspreet Talwar)

Additional Chief Secretary,
Department of Mines and Geology,
Punjab.

The contents of this Affidavit / Document has been explained to the deponent/executor he/she has admitted the same to be correct The deponent/executor has signed register

at Sr. No. 9 P. No. 2 dated 28 NOV 2025

Identify the deponent department of mines and geology Punjab has signed the document in my presence

VERIFICATION

Verified that the contents of para nos. 1 to 5 of the reply of my above affidavit are true and correct to my knowledge and as per information derived from the official record. No part of it is false and nothing relevant has been concealed or mis-stated therein.

Place: Chandigarh

Date: 28/11/25

28 NOV 2025

DEPONENT

(Jaspreet Talwar)

Additional Chief Secretary,
Department of Mines and Geology,
Punjab.



ATTESTED.


Sandeep Gandhi
Notary, Chandigarh (UT)