

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

Original Application No. 600 of 2025

In the matter of:

SHRI SANATAN DHARAM KUMAR SABHA THROUGH  
ITS PRESIDENT SH. BAL KRISHNA SINGLA

.....Applicant

V/S

STATE OF PUNJAB AND ORS.

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Deponent

Date: 27-04-2026

Place: Patiala

(Himanshu Aggarwal, IAS)  
Deputy Commissioner, Patiala

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

Original Application No. 600 of 2025

In the matter of:

SHRI SANATAN DHARAM KUMAR SABHA THROUGH  
ITS PRESIDENT SH. BAL KRISHNA SINGLA

.....Applicant

V/S

STATE OF PUNJAB AND ORS.

.....Respondent

Compliance report / Short reply by way of affidavit of Himanshu Aggarwal IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Patiala in (Respondent No. 02) in compliance to order dated 06.02.2026.

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

**Respectfully Showeth;**

- 1) That Shri Sanatan Dharam Kumar Sabha through its President Sh. Bal Krishna Singla, has forwarded a letter to the National Green Tribunal by post wherein it was alleged that the Municipal Corporation is unloading the total garbage of the city adjoining the cremation ground at Ghalori Gate, Patiala filled with foul smell and the people who come along for cremation find difficult to stand. In exercise of its Suo Moto jurisdiction, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal has treated and registered the said letter as Original Application No. 600 of 2025 titled as Shri Sanatan Dharam Kumar Sabha v/s State of Punjab and Others.
- 2) That after consideration of the matter, this Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to pass an order dated 04.12.2025 thereby impleading the State of Punjab through Principal Secretary, Environment, Forest and Climate Change,



Government of Punjab; District Magistrate, Patiala; Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB) through Member Secretary; Municipal Corporation, Patiala through its Commissioner as respondents No. 1 to 4 requiring them to file their replies/responses within one month.

This Hon'ble Tribunal was further pleased to constitute a Joint Committee vide the said order dated 04.12.2025 comprising of representatives of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), PPCB and District Magistrate, Patiala with direction to meet and undertake visits to the site, look into the grievances of the applicant, verify the factual position and take appropriate remedial action by following due course of law and submit its report within one month. The PPCB was appointed nodal agency for coordination and compliance.

- 3) That in compliance to the order dated 04.12.2025 a Joint Committee comprising of the following members was constituted:
- i. Smt. Ismat Vijay Singh, Additional Deputy Commissioner (UD) (Member nominated by District Magistrate, Patiala)
  - ii. Er. Kanwaldeep Kaur, Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala (Member nominated by PPCB and nodal agency)
  - iii. Er. Jagdish Prasad Meena, Scientist 'E', CPCB Regional Directorate, Chandigarh (Member nominated by Member Secretary)
- 4) That the site visit was conducted by the Joint Committee on 06.01.2026., but the complainant Shri Sanatan Dharam Kumar Sabha through its President Shri Bal Krishna Singla was not present. However, a representative, Shri Jora Singh, Caretaker of the Ghalori Gate Cremation Ground was present and the Committee interacted with him to understand the issues. Further, two representatives of the Municipal Corporation, Patiala, namely Dr. Navinder Singh, Medical Officer and Sh. Harwinder Singh, Sanitary Inspector, were also present during the site inspection. In the complaint, following two issues were mentioned.



- i. Mountain-like heaps of municipal garbage has been dumped by Municipal Corporation, Patiala adjacent to the Ghalori Gate Cremation Ground, Patiala.
- ii. This causes intense foul smell, making it difficult to perform cremation rituals, with people experiencing vomiting, giddiness, and discomfort.

5) That Sh. Jora Singh, Caretaker of Cremation Ground, Ghalori Gate, Patiala informed the Joint Committee members that the leachate is coming out in the premises of cremation ground from the adjacent dump site, which has destroyed their plants and foul smell makes environment unhealthy, which cause nuisance in the cremation ground. The joint committee has made the following observations during the site visit on 06.01.2026:

- i) The Ghalori Gate Cremation Ground is located adjacent to the Municipal Solid Waste dumping ground of Patiala city.
- ii) A garbage heap of approximately 20 feet in height along one side of the Ghalori Gate Cremation Ground was observed abutting the cremation ground premises.
- iii) The representative of the Municipal Corporation, Patiala informed that a part of the cremation ground land has been leased out for carrying out biomining/bioremediation of the legacy waste dumped at the site.
- iv) During the inspection, the Committee experienced foul smell in the vicinity. The cremation ground workers further stated that the odour intensity increases when the wind direction is towards the cremation ground, resulting in discomfort to the persons present at the site.
- v) During the visit, the Committee interacted with the representatives of the cremation ground, who informed that leachate generated from the adjacent dumped waste is flowing into the cremation ground premises, and that such leachate discharge has resulted in damage to trees and vegetation within the cremation ground area.



- vi) The Committee additionally observed leachate flow and stagnation towards the cremation ground side abutting the dump site. The cremation ground representatives further informed that the volume of leachate increases during the rainy season, and therefore the possibility of leachate runoff entering into the cremation ground premises cannot be ruled out, posing potential environmental and public health concerns.
- vii) The Committee observed that the Municipal Corporation, Patiala has not provided any catch pit or leachate collection drain for managing the leachate generated from the dumped solid waste. The committee noted that no leachate collection and treatment system has been installed, and the leachate remains stagnated within the dump site, posing a potential environmental and groundwater contamination risk.
- viii) As informed by the Municipal Corporation, Patiala, approximately 2.5 lakh metric ton (MT) of legacy waste has been dumped at the site, covering an area of about 8 acres. The biomining/bioremediation work is stated to be carried out through a tendered agency, and it was further informed that around 33,000 MT of legacy waste has been remediated so far.
- ix) It was observed that no buffer zone or green belt has been maintained by the Municipal Corporation, Patiala along the boundary abutting the cremation ground and other side, which is essential to minimize odour nuisance, prevent leachate migration, and mitigate environmental impacts.
- x) At the time of the visit, the committee observed that bioremediation and bio-mining processes were carried out at these dump sites. Further, representatives of the Municipal Corporation, Patiala informed that the screened fractions generated from the bioremediation/biominning process, i.e.,



RDF and other screened fractions, have accumulated at the dump site.

6) That the Joint Committee has given the following suggestions in its report submitted to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal:

- i) The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall ensure bio-remediation and bio-mining of the existing legacy waste dump sites within its jurisdiction, in compliance with the CPCB directions issued under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, dated January 27, 2021, regarding biomining of legacy waste.
- ii) The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall install an appropriate leachate collection and effluent treatment system at the dump site to ensure proper treatment of the leachate prior to disposal.
- iii) The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall construct a catch-pit drain around the dump site to ensure proper collection of leachate prior to treatment/disposal.
- iv) The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall develop a dense green belt adjoining the cremation ground, with the assistance of the Forest Department and/or the Municipal Corporation Horticulture Department, to minimize odour-related issues and to function as a buffer zone.
- v) The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall ensure the immediate removal of waste dumped towards the cremation ground, prohibit any further dumping at this location, and undertake restoration of the area in compliance with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- vi) The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall prepare and implement an adequate plan for the disposal and management of the screened fractions accumulated at the site in an environmentally sound manner.



- 7) That after considering the violations being committed by Municipal Corporation, Patiala and the report of the Joint Committee, office of undersigned has issued a letter to the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Patiala vide letter no 278/D-2 dated 25.03.2026 for implementation of suggestion of Joint Committee. A copy of letter no.278/D-2 dated 25.03.2026 is enclosed as **Annexure R-2/A**
- 8) That Hon'ble National Green Tribunal has passed an order dated 06.02.2026 in Original Application no. 600 of 2025 directing the State of Punjab and Deputy Commissioner, Patiala to specifically mention the action taken / contemplated in compliance of rule 11 and 12 of the Solid Waste Management Rules 2016.
- 9) It is pertinent to mention here that as per the Rule 12 of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, the Duties of District Magistrate or District Collector or Deputy Commissioner. - The District Magistrate or District Collector or as the case may be, the Deputy Commissioner shall, -
- (a) facilitate identification and allocation of suitable land as per clause (f) of rules 11 for setting up solid waste processing and disposal facilities to local authorities in his district in close coordination with the Secretary-in-charge of State Urban Development Department within one year from the date of notification of these rules;
- (b) review the performance of local bodies, at least once in a quarter on waste segregation, processing, treatment and disposal and take corrective measures in consultation with the Commissioner or Director of Municipal Administration or Director of local bodies and secretary-in-charge of the State Urban Development.
- 10) That in the above reference, the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Patiala was asked to intimate any additional land requirements (if any) for setting up solid waste processing and disposal facilities in the District and any other assistance from District Administration, Patiala for implementation of Solid Waste Management Rules vide letter no. 327/D.2 dated 16.4.2026. A copy of letter no.327/D-2 dated 16.4.2026 is enclosed as **Annexure R-2/B**.



- 11) That in response to letter no. 327/D.2 dated 16.4.2026, Municipal Corporation, Patiala vide letter no. 1309/MOD dated 24.4.2026 informed that Municipal Corporation, Patiala does not require any additional land and other assistance from District Administration, Patiala for remediation work of Solid Waste. A copy of letter no. 1309/MOD dated 24.4.2026 is enclosed as **Annexure R-2/C**.
- 12) That regular review of performance of Municipal Corporation, Patiala w.r.t. implementation of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 is being taken in the monthly meetings as well as in meetings of District Environment Committee constituted to review the District Environment Plan for District Patiala.
- 13) That the deponent may kindly be allowed to place on record, the short reply by way of affidavit in compliance to order dated 04.12.2025 and 06.02.2026 for kind consideration of Hon'ble Nation Green Tribunal.



Date: 27-04-2026

Place: Patiala

**Verification:**

Verified that the contents of Para No. 1 to 12 of the above reply by way of affidavit of the deponent are true and correct as derived from the official record. No part of the above reply is false and no material has been concealed therein.

Date: 27-04-2026

Place: Patiala

Deponent

(Himanshu Aggarwal, IAS)  
Deputy Commissioner, Patiala

Deponent

(Himanshu Aggarwal, IAS)  
Deputy Commissioner, Patiala

**ATTESTED**  
Executive Magistrate  
PATIALA

**Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Patiala  
(Development Branch)**

To

The Commissioner,  
Municipal Corporation, Patiala.

Letter No...278...../D-2

Dated...25/03/2025

**Subject: To submit compliance report of Joint Committee constitute in Original Application No. 600 of 2025 titled as Shri Sanatan Dharam Kumar Sabha v/s State of Punjab and Others".**

It is submitted that in OA No. 606 of 2018 titled as "Compliance of Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016" came up for hearing before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal on 10.01.2020, wherein the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal issued certain directions, the relevant part of which are reproduced as under: -

1. *In view of the fact that most of the statutory timelines have expired and directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and this Tribunal to comply with Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 remain unexecuted, compensation scale is hereby laid down for continued failure after 31.03.2020. The compliance of the Rules requires taking of several steps mentioned in Rule 22 from Serial No. 1 to 10 (mentioned in para 12 above). Any such continued failure will result in liability of every Local Body to pay compensation at the rate of Rs. 10 lakh per month per Local Body for population of above 10 lakhs, Rs. 5 lakh per month per Local Body for population between 5 lakhs and 10 lakhs and Rs. 1 lakh per month per other Local Body from 01.04.2020 till compliance. If the Local Bodies are unable to bear financial burden, the liability will be of the State Governments with liberty to take remedial action against the erring Local Bodies. Apart from compensation, adverse entries must be made in the ACRs of the CEO of the said Local Bodies and other senior functionaries in Department of Urban Development etc. who are responsible for compliance of order of this Tribunal.*
2. *Legacy waste remediation was to 'commence' from 01.11.2019 in terms of order of this Tribunal dated 17.07.2019 in O.A. No. 519/2019 para 2853 even though statutory timeline for 'completing' the said step is till 07.04.2021 (as per serial no. 11 in Rule 22), which direction remains unexecuted at most of the places. Continued failure of every Local Body on the subject of commencing the work of legacy waste sites remediation from 01.04.2020 till compliance will result in liability to pay compensation at the rate of Rs. 10 lakh per month per Local Body for population of above 10 lakhs, Rs. 5 lakh per month per Local Body for population between 5 lakhs and 10 lakhs and Rs. 1 lakh per month per other Local Body. If the Local Bodies are unable to bear financial burden, the liability will be of the State*

*Governments with liberty to take remedial action against the erring Local Bodies. Apart from compensation, adverse entries must be made in the ACRs of the CEO of the said Local Bodies and other senior functionaries in Department of Urban Development etc. who are responsible for compliance of order of this Tribunal.*

In compliance to the Orders of Hon'ble NGT, a Joint Committee comprising of the following members was constituted:

- i. Smt. Ishmat Vijay Singh, Additional Deputy Commissioner (UD) (Member nominated by District Magistrate, Patiala)
- ii. Er. Kanwaldeep Kaur, Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala (Member nominated by PPCB and nodal agency)
- iii. Er. Jagdish Prasad Meena, Scientist 'E', CPCB Regional Directorate, Chandigarh (Member nominated by Member Secretary)

The site visit was conducted by the Joint Committee on 06.01.2026. The complainant has raised the following two main issues in its complaint:

- i. Mountain-like heaps of municipal garbage has been dumped by Municipal Corporation, Patiala adjacent to the Ghalori Gate Cremation Ground, Patiala.
- ii. This causes intense foul smell, making it difficult to perform cremation rituals, with people experiencing vomiting, giddiness, and discomfort.

At the time of the visit, the complainant, Shri Sanatan Dharam Kumar Sabha through its President Shri Bal Krishna Singla, was not present. However, a representative, Shri Jora Singh, Caretaker of the Ghalori Gate Cremation Ground, was present and the Committee interacted with him to understand the issues. Further, two representatives of the Municipal Corporation, Patiala, namely Dr. Navinder Singh, Medical Officer and Sh. Harwinder Singh, Sanitary Inspector, were also present during the site inspection. During visit, it was observed as under:

1. At the time of the visit, the Committee observed that the Ghalori Gate Cremation Ground is located adjacent to the Municipal Solid Waste dumping ground of Patiala city.
2. During the site visit, the Committee observed a garbage heap of approximately 20 feet in height along one side of the Ghalori Gate Cremation Ground, abutting the cremation premises.
3. It was further informed by the representative of the Municipal Corporation, Patiala that a part of the cremation ground land has been leased out for carrying out biomining/bioremediation of the legacy waste dumped at the site.
4. During the inspection, the Committee experienced foul smell in the vicinity. The cremation ground workers further stated that the odour intensity increases when the wind direction is towards the cremation ground, resulting in discomfort to the persons present at the site.
5. During the visit, the Committee interacted with the representatives of the cremation ground, who informed that leachate generated from the adjacent dumped waste is

- flowing into the cremation ground premises, and that such leachate discharge has resulted in damage to trees and vegetation within the cremation ground area.
6. The Committee additionally observed leachate flow and stagnation towards the cremation ground side abutting the dump site. The cremation ground representatives further informed that the volume of leachate increases during the rainy season, and therefore the possibility of leachate runoff entering into the cremation ground premises cannot be ruled out, posing potential environmental and public health concerns.
  7. The Committee observed that the Municipal Corporation, Patiala has not provided any catch pit or leachate collection drain for managing the leachate generated from the dumped solid waste. The committee noted that no leachate collection and treatment system has been installed, and the leachate remains stagnated within the dump site, posing a potential environmental and groundwater contamination risk.
  8. The Committee further visited the dump site and observed that the Municipal Corporation, Patiala is dumping mixed municipal solid waste, indicating non-compliance with the provisions of segregation and scientific handling under the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
  9. As informed by the Municipal Corporation, Patiala, approximately 2.5 lakh metric tonnes (MT) of legacy waste has been dumped at the site, covering an area of about 8 acres. The biomining/bioremediation work is stated to be carried out through a tendered agency, and it was further informed that around 33,000 MT of legacy waste has been remediated so far.
  10. It was observed that no buffer zone or green belt has been maintained by the Municipal Corporation, Patiala along the boundary abutting the cremation ground and other side, which is essential to minimize odour nuisance, prevent leachate migration, and mitigate environmental impacts.
  11. At the time of the visit, the committee observed that bioremediation and bio-mining processes were carried out at these dump sites. Further, representatives of the Municipal Corporation, Patiala informed that the screened fractions generated from the bioremediation/biomining process, i.e., RDF and other screened fractions, have accumulated at the dump site.
  12. At the time of the visit, the committee observed that ragpickers were collecting recyclable material from the dump site, which indicates that the existing material recovery facility is not operating properly and that segregation of waste in the city is inadequate.

The committee has given following suggestions in the Hon'ble NGT:

1. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall ensure bio-remediation and bio-mining of the existing legacy waste dump sites within its jurisdiction, in compliance with the CPCB directions issued under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, dated January 27, 2021, regarding biomining of legacy waste.
2. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall install an appropriate leachate collection and effluent treatment system at the dump site to ensure proper treatment of the leachate

prior to disposal.

3. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall construct a catch-pit drain around the dump site to ensure proper collection of leachate prior to treatment/disposal.
4. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall develop a dense green belt adjoining the cremation ground, with the assistance of the Forest Department and/or the Municipal Corporation Horticulture Department, to minimize odour-related issues and to function as a buffer zone.
5. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall ensure the immediate removal of waste dumped towards the cremation ground, prohibit any further dumping at this location, and undertake restoration of the area in compliance with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
6. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall ensure that no fresh waste is disposed of at the dump site under any circumstances.
7. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall prepare and implement an adequate plan for the disposal and management of the screened fractions accumulated at the site in an environmentally sound manner.

You are requested to comply with the suggestion of Joint Committee and submit compliance report to undersigned.

Deputy Commissioner  
Patiala



**Office of Deputy Commissioner, Patiala****(Development branch)****Court case/Urgent**  
**Reminder-1**

To,

The Commissioner,  
Municipal Corporation,  
PatialaNo-327/ D.2Dated-16/04/2026**Sub- Original Application No 600 of 2025 titled as Shri Sanatan Dharam  
Kumar Sabha vs State of Punjab and ors.****Ref. This Office letter no. 306/D-2 Dated 02.04.2026.**

In Reference to above cited subject, vide letter no 306/D-2 dated 02.04.2026, you were requested to submit compliance of rule 12 and also submit any facilitation required from this office to comply with rule 12 of solid waste management rules, 2016 within one week but no report has been sent by your office yet.

The above case is listed on dated 04.05.2026 in Hon'ble NGT (Order Dated 30.03.2026 of Hon'ble NGT is attached). You are requested to kindly sent the above report within two days so that reply can be submitted in compliance of orders of Hon'ble NGT.

Treat it as most urgent.

  
**Additional Deputy Commissioner(UD),****Patiala**dc 



## ਨਗਰ ਨਿਗਮ ਪਟਿਆਲਾ

ਨੰਬਰ.....1393/MOD

ਮਿਤੀ 24/04/2026

ਸੇਵਾ ਵਿਖੇ

ਡਿਪਟੀ ਕਮਿਸ਼ਨਰ,  
ਪਟਿਆਲਾ।

ਵਿਸ਼ਾ- Original Application No. 600 of 2025 titled as Shri Sanatan  
Dharam Kumar Sabha vs State of Punjab and Ors.

ਹਵਾਲਾ- ਪੱਤਰ ਨੰ. 327/D.2 ਮਿਤੀ 16.04.2026 ਸਬੰਧੀ।

ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵਿਸ਼ੇ ਦੇ ਹਵਾਲੇ ਅਧੀਨ ਆਪ ਜੀ ਦੇ ਦਫਤਰ ਵਲੋਂ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਪੱਤਰ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਦਸਿਆ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਸੇਲਿਡ ਵੇਸਟ ਮੈਨੇਜਮੈਂਟ 2016 ਦੇ ਰੂਲ ਨੰ. 12 ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਫਿਲਹਾਲ ਨਗਰ ਨਿਗਮ ਪਟਿਆਲਾ ਨੂੰ ਰੈਮਿਡੇਸ਼ਨ ਦੇ ਕੰਮ ਲਈ ਕੋਈ ਜਮੀਨ ਅਤੇ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਦੀ ਜਰੂਰਤ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੈ। ਜੇਕਰ ਭਵਿੱਖ ਵਿੱਚ ਨਗਰ ਨਿਗਮ ਪਟਿਆਲਾ ਨੂੰ ਰੈਮਿਡੇਸ਼ਨ ਦੇ ਕੰਮ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਕੋਈ ਵੀ ਜਰੂਰਤ ਪਵੇਗੀ ਤਾਂ ਨਗਰ ਨਿਗਮ ਪਟਿਆਲਾ ਵਲੋਂ ਸਮੇਂ ਸਿਰ ਪੱਤਰ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਆਪ ਜੀ ਦੇ ਦਫਤਰ ਨੂੰ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਭੇਜ ਦਿਤੀ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ।

ਸਯੁੱਕਤ ਕਮਿਸ਼ਨਰ,  
ਨਗਰ ਨਿਗਮ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ।

Municipal Corporation, Patiala

No. 1393/MOD

Dated- 24.04.2026

To,

Deputy Commissioner,

Patiala

Subject- Original Application No. 600 of 2025 titled as Shri Sanatan Dharam Kumar Sabha vs State of Punjab and Ors.

Ref.- Regarding letter no. 327/D.2 Dated 16.04.2026.

With reference to the above subject, it is informed that as per Rule No. 12 of Solid Waste Management 2016, Municipal Corporation Patiala does not require any land or any other assistance for the remediation work at present. If in future, the Municipal Corporation Patiala needs any assistance, then the Municipal Corporation Patiala will send a timely notice to your office.

Sd/-

Joint Commissioner,

Municipal Corporation, Patiala