BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
Principal Bench, New Delhi

Original Application No. 797/2023

News Item titled "How garbage is choking N-choe in Chandigarh" appearing in The Indian Express dated 15.12.2023

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1.	**Inspection Report** in compliance to the Hon'ble NGT order dated 18.01.2024 in OA No. 797 of 2023 titled as News Item "How garbage is choking N-Choe in Chandigarh" appearing in The Indian Express dated 15.12.2023	
2.	**Annexure-I**: A copy of Photographs of N-Choe taken during the visit.	
3.	**Annexure-II**: A copy of Hon'ble NGT order dated 18.01.2024.	

(Vishal Gandhi)
Scientist-E
Central Pollution Control Board,
Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar
Delhi- 110032.

Date: 19.03.2024
Place: Delhi

Inspection Report in Compliance to the Hon'ble NGT (PB), New Delhi order dated 18.01.2024 in the matter of O.A No. 797 of 2023 titled as News Item "How garbage is choking N-Choe in Chandigarh" appearing in The Indian Express dated 15.12.2023.

1.0 Order of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal Dated 18.01.2024

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in Para Nos. 1, 02, 09 of order dated 18.01.2024 in the Matter of News Item titled "How Garbage is choking N-Choe in Chandigarh" appearing in The Indian Express dated 15.12.2023 has directed as under:

Para-1

This original application is registered suo motu on the basis of the news item titled "How garbage is choking N-Choe in Chandigarh" published in 'The Indian Express' dated 15.12.2023. As per the said news item, in Hibiscus Garden in Sector 36, a wide drain pipe which is only for the storm and rain water, was emitting continuous sewage water, making a small pond where the water fell. The said news report further reveals that N-Choe - a seasonal stream which ideally should be alive only during rain – is buzzing with floating water not of rain but of blackish sewage and that the Chandigarh Administration has failed to prevent the untreated water from entering the seasonal streams passing through the city which finally immerses into the Ghaggar River.

Para-02

Tribunal had considered a similar matter in O.A. No. 736/2022 dated 02.01.2023 and 25.04.2023, Union Territory of Chandigarh observing N-Choe originating from Chandigarh and leading to river Ghaghar after passing through various sectors and villages of Mohali also carry debris and garbage which is resulting in shrinking size of drain causing serious apprehension of flood in Chandigarh in near future.

Para-09

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in Para No. 9 has directed to The Member Secretary, CPCB to get the spot inspected and file the report at least one week before the next date of hearing by email at judicial-ngt@gov.in preferably in the form of searchable PDF/OCR Support PDF and not in the form of Image PDF.

2.0 Background:

In compliance of the NGT order dated 18.01.2024, a team from Central Pollution Control Board, Regional Directorate (Chandigarh) carried out Survey and monitoring of N-Choe Drain to assess the water quality of drain from point of originate to the point of merges into the River

Ghaggar during January 29 & 31, 2024 (**Photographs of N-Choe taken during the visit are attached as Annexure-I).**

This drain (N-Choe) is interstate drain which carry sewage, storm water / over flow of fresh water of Chandigarh and Mohali (SAS Nagar) Punjab. The N- Choe drain originates near Punjab Civil Secretariat in Sector 2 in Chandigarh which passes through various Parks and Sectors of Chandigarh (Bougainvillea Park in Sector 3, Leisure Valley Park in Sector 10, Rose Garden and Shanti Kunj Garden in Sector 16 through Sectors 23, 36, 42) and Chandigarh Sector 53, (Garden of Spring boundary location), then N-Choe drain enters in district Mohali (Punjab) and goes through the various sectors 62, 63, Phase 9, 67, 81 of Mohali (Punjab) and to Chilla Manauli village. The drain then flows towards Rajpura area District Patiala and it is known by the name of Pachisdhara drain and merges into the Ghaggar River at Village Sarala Khurd, Rajpura district Patiala (Punjab). N-Choe/ Pachisdhara drain cover a distance of approx. 70 km from the originating point in Chandigarh to merging point in village Sarala Khurd, Rajpura, Patiala.

3.0 Monitoring locations of N-Choe / Pachisdhara drain:

During the survey, the drain was found dry at the originating point (Bougainvillea Garden area Sector 3). It was observed that 04 tail ends in Bougainvillea Garden and 03 tail end points at Leisure Valley Park in Sector 10 Chandigarh was found tapped. Team collected 04 samples of N-Choe drain, 02 samples of river Ghaggar and 01 sample of STP. The details are discussed as below:

1. Team observed fresh water leakage and meager flow of water at Sector 36 Hibiscus Garden near Central Forensic Science laboratory and therefore, first sample were taken at Sector 36.
2. The team collected second sample at the exit point of N-Choe drain located at Garden of Spring, Sector 53, Chandigarh after this point the N-Choe drain enters into Mohali (Punjab).
3. Further, the team surveyed the N-Choe drain in Mohali area and observed that domestic untreated sewage was being discharged into drain through different locations. The team collected third sample at Sector 83, backside Industrial Area (I.A) Mohali (SAS Nagar), Punjab and fourth sample at 1KM Before Confluence point at Sarala Khurd, Rajpura, district Patiala (Punjab).
4. Team also collected sample of the STP of 45 MLD capacity located at village Chilla, Sector 83 (District Mohali) which is adjacent to N-Choe drain.
5. The samples of river Ghaggar before and after confluence of N-Choe were also

collected.

Representative samples were collected for analysis of Physico-chemical, Biological & Heavy Metal parameters to assess the pollution load in the drain. During the field visit, the team collected representative samples from identified locations which are mentioned in table-1. Schematic Diagram depicting sampling location is shown in figure 1.

Table-1

S. No.	Field Code	Source	Monitoring Locations	Co-ordinate location	
				Latitude	Longitude
1.	NCC-01	N-Choe Drain	Sector 36, adjacent Government School, Chandigarh	30.73082	76.751379
2.	NCC-02	N-Choe Drain	Sector 53, Garden of Spring boundary, Chandigarh	30.721836	76.731728
3.	NCM-03	N-Choe Drain	Sector 83,backside Industrial Area (I.A) Mohali (SAS Nagar), Punjab	30.658143	76.724407
4.	NCM-04	Final outlet of STP-45 MLD	UASB based STP of 45 MLD capacity Sector 83, Chilla Village, Mohali (SAS Nagar), (Punjab)	30.65295	76.72189
5.	NCP-06	N-Choe / Pachisdhara drain	1KM Before Confluence point at Sarala Khurd, Rajpura, district Patiala (Punjab)	30.315357	76.628347
6.	NCP-07	River Ghaggar	River Ghaggar before meeting N-Choe / Pachisdhara drain at Sarala Khurd, Rajpura, district Patiala (Punjab)	30.031831	76.635388
7.	NCP-05	River Ghaggar	River Ghaggar after meeting N-Choe/ Pachisdhara drain at Sarala Khurd, Rajpura, district Patiala (Punjab)	30.305502	76.62738

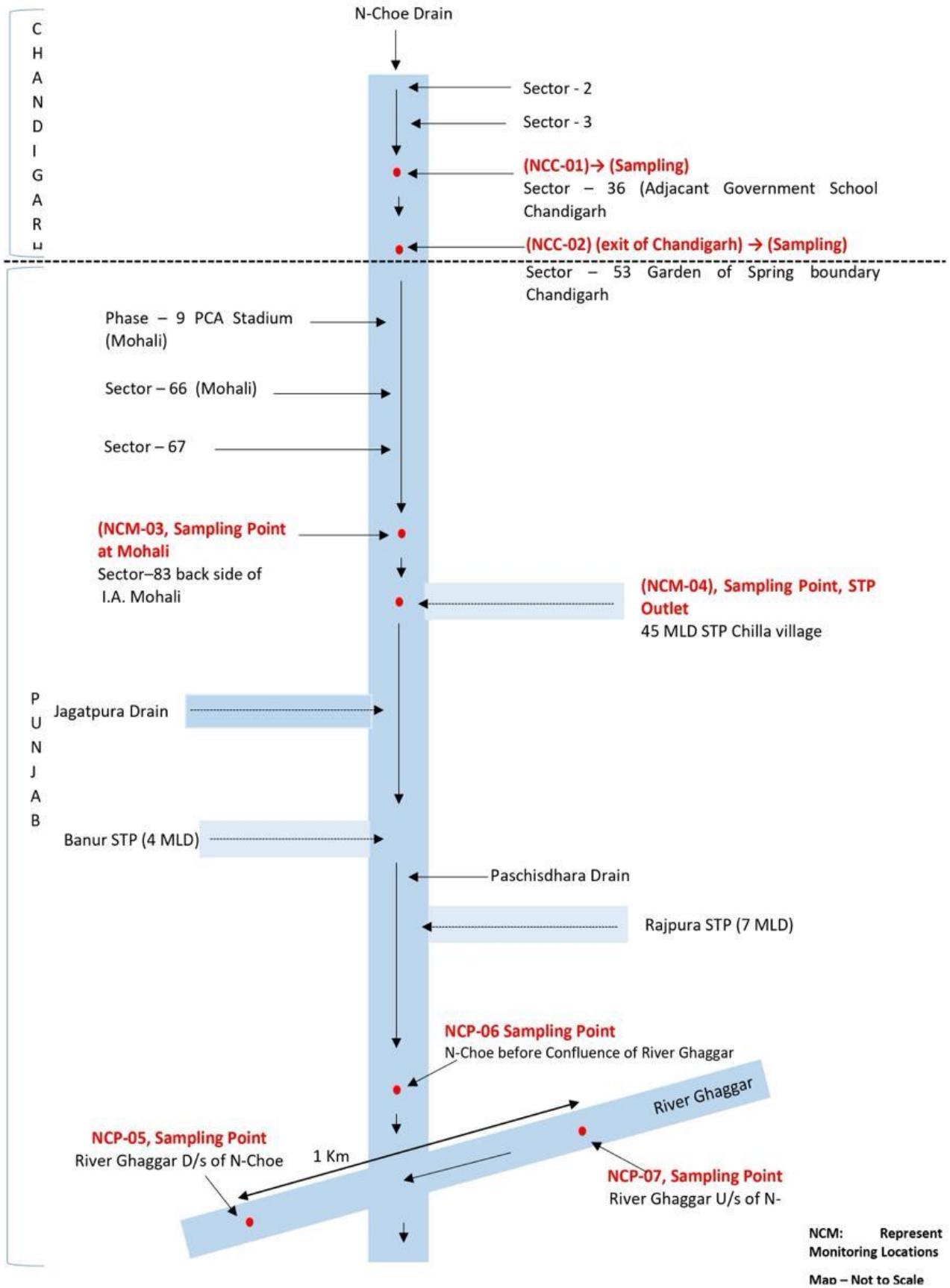

Figure 1: Schematic Diagram depicting Sampling Points

3.1 Monitoring Results

As mentioned above, the team had taken samples from N- Choe / Pachisdhara drains, final outlet of STP-45 MLD (Sector 82- Chilla Manauli Village, Mohali) as treated sewage is discharged into N- Choe & River Ghaggar before & after confluence of drain to assess water quality of drain, River Ghaggar and compliance status of STP. The Physico-chemical biological analysis results of the same are presented in table-2 below:

Table-2: Analytical Results

S. No.	Parameters	Units	Sampling Locations/ Field Code *(The codes of the locations are as per Table-1)*						
			NCC-01	**NCC-02**	**NCM-03**	**NCM-04**	**NCP-06**	**NCP-07**	**NCP-05**
Source			**N-Choe**	**N-Choe**	**N-Choe**	**STP**	N- Choe / Pachisdhara drains	River Ghaggar	River Ghaggar
01	pH		7.6	7.9	7.6	7.4	7.3	7.7	7.5
02	COD	mg/l	90	76	111	172	156	87	99
03	BOD	mg/l	28	22	31	68	50	27	31
04	TSS	mg/l	23	22	49	105	81	73	109
05	TDS	mg/l	380	412	484	424	460	584	476
06	Conductivity	mg/l	815	780	920	1017	983	1220	1030
07	Chloride	mg/l	46	34	29	65	75	123	87
08	Phosphate-P	mg/l	0.7	0.7	02	4.5	03	1.3	2.6
09	NO_2-N	mg/l	0.06	0.08	BDL	BDL	BDL	0.04	BDL
10	NO_3-N	mg/l	BDL	0.7	0.5	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL
11	NH_3-N	mg/l	07	06	13	--	26	17	22
12	SO_4	mg/l	72	66	47	42	58	46	46
13	Colour	CU	BDL	BDL	BDL	--	BDL	BDL	BDL
14	TKN	mg/l	09	07	16	--	29	19	26
15	T-Coliform	MPN/ 100 ml	35×10^4	35×10^3	79×10^5	92×10^5	28×10^7	13×10^4	33×10^6

3.2 The analysis results of samples for heavy metals are presented in table-03 below:

Table-3

S. No.	Parameters	Unit	Sampling Locations/ Field Code *(The codes of the locations are as per table 1)*					
			NCC-01	**NCC-02**	**NCM-03**	**NCP-06**	**NCP-07**	**NCP-05**
Source			**N-Choe**	**N-Choe**	**N-Choe**	N- Choe / Pachisdhara drains	River Ghaggar	River Ghaggar
01	Antimony (Sb)	mg/l	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL
02	Arsenic (As)	mg/l	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL
03	Cadmium (Cd)	mg/l	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL
04	Chromium (Cr)	mg/l	0.016	0.019	0.032	0.024	0.033	0.026
05	Cobalt (Co)	mg/l	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	0.002	BDL
06	Copper (Cu)	mg/l	BDL	BDL	BDL	0.019	BDL	0.020
07	Iron (Fe)	mg/l	0.479	0.565	0.543	2.402	2.498	2.359
08	Lead (Pb)	mg/l	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	0.009	BDL
09	Manganese (Mn)	mg/l	0.669	0.332	0.194	0.210	0.850	0.215
10	Nickel (Ni)	mg/l	BDL	0.010	0.017	0.016	0.021	0.015
11	Selenium (Se)	mg/l	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL
12	Vanadium (V)	mg/l	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL
13	Zinc (Zn)	mg/l	0.023	0.021	0.026	0.072	0.030	0.090

4.0 Findings

4.1 Status of N- Choe Drain at Chandigarh (UT) :

1. During survey, it was found that originating point of N-Choe at Bougainvillea Garden area Sector 3 was found in dry condition.
2. ***The team observed that in Chandigarh sector 36 end point sewage pipe line crossing the drain has been repaired now which was broken earlier and sewage flowing in N-Choe drain. All the discharge points located at Sector 36 (Hibiscus garden) and sector 42 were found tapped. No discharge of the sewage was observed, at the time of visit which was mentioned in article of the Indian Express dated 15.12.2023.***
3. At the time of visit team had taken sample from N-Choe Drain at Chandigarh area to assess the water quality at upstream (NCC-01, Sector 36, adjacent Government School, Chandigarh) and downstream (exit point) (NCC-02, Sector 53, Garden of Spring boundary, Chandigarh). Sample analysis results of Chandigarh area is presented in table-2 (NCC-01 & NCC-02).
4. The BOD of N-Choe drain in Chandigarh was found 28 mg/l at entry point and 22 mg/l at exit point respectively.
5. The monitoring parameters i.e. BOD, COD, TSS, Total Coliform showing decreasing trends in the sector 53 Chandigarh area.
6. During the visit, team observed that a small heap of solid and C&D waste was disposed on the bank of the drain at Sector 36 Hibiscus garden (Near Central Forensic Science laboratory).

4.2 Status of N-Choe Drain in Punjab :

1. The team surveyed the N-Choe drain in Mohali area and observed that domestic untreated sewage was being discharged into drain through different locations. Discharge points observed in the Mohali area are given in table-4 below:

Table-4

S. No	Locations/Points	Date of visit	Latitude	Longitude	Status as on 31.01.2024
1.	Phase 08 near Punjab School Shiksha Board District Mohali Punjab	31.01.24	30.6978	76.73695	At this point sewage pipe line was damaged and discharged into N-Choe drain.
2.	Mohali Hockey Stadium District Mohali Punjab	31.01.24	30.68716	76.73272	02 discharge points were observed & Solid waste also dumped at this point.
3.	Central of Innovative applied Bio processing village	31.01.24	30.668902	76.720686	During visit, team observed that the high volume of untreated sewage is being

	Chilla Manauli (near Sector 82 back side of industrial area District Mohali Punjab				discharged into N-Choe drain through pipe line. Solid waste also dumped at this point.

2. Team has taken sample from N-Choe Drain at Sector 83, backside I.A., Mohali (at entry point at SAS Nagar) & 1km before confluence to River Ghaggar at village Sarala Khurd, Rajpura, District Patiala to assess the water quality. Sample analysis results of the Punjab area is presented in table-02 (NCM-03 & NCP-06).
3. The sample analysis result indicate that BOD (31 mg/l), COD (111 mg/l) of N-Choe drain at entry point of Mohali (backside I.A Mohali) whereas it increased to BOD (50 mg/l) and COD (156 mg/l) at village Sarala Khurd, Rajpura, Patiala before 01 km of confluence point in river Ghaggar.
4. The monitoring parameters i.e. BOD, COD, TSS, Total Coliform showing increasing trends in the Punjab area which indicate that untreated waste water is discharged into N- Choe drain.
5. The team also interacted with local people and it was informed that drain carries domestic untreated waste water of the villages located in the adjacent areas of the N-Choe drain.
6. As informed by PPCB about 3.306 MLD domestic untreated effluent from rural area villages (Kharar & Banur) are being discharged into N- Choe drain.
7. As informed by PPCB that treated effluent of 04 MLD STP based on MBBR technology which is located at Banur also discharge into N-Choe / Pachisdhara drain. Further treated effluent of Rajpura STP of 8 MLD capacity based on SBR technology is also discharging into N-Choe / Pachisdhara drain.
8. The drain passes through the agriculture fields of villages of Mohali district SAS Nagar and Rajpura, Patiala as well as some part of industrial area located in Mohali, Banur, Rajpura (Patiala district).
9. In Rajpura village Sarala Khurd (Rajpura, district Patiala), the team interacted with local farmers nearby the meeting point of drain in river and it was informed that this drain and river remain mostly dry in the summer season. The team also observed that the farmers had made arrangements through pump set for lifting the drain water for irrigation of the crops which is mostly used for Kharif season.
10. The team carried out measurement of the flow of the drain and it was about 19 MLD at exit point of Chandigarh whereas it was found about 500 MLD before confluence the river Ghaggar (approx 1 km before) on the day of visit.

11. Municipal Solid waste was found disposed on both bank of the N-Choe drain at Sector 82 of Mohali (back side of the I.A., Mohali). Further team observed that the solid waste is dumped in the drain which create the hindrance in the natural flow as well as affect the water quality.

4.3 Water Quality of River Ghaggar before and after mixing of the drain:

1. At time of visit, team carried out monitoring of river Ghaggar before and after mixing of the drain to assess the impact on the water quality.
2. BOD levels in River Ghaggar were increased from 27mg/l to 31 mg/L in downstream after confluence of the drain. BOD levels were found non-complying to Primary Water Quality Criteria for Outdoor Bathing at monitored locations.
3. Fecal Coliform (FC) levels in river Ghaggar were found in the range of 13×10^4 - 33×10^6 MPN / 100 ml. Total Coliform levels were also found non-complying to Primary Water Quality Criteria for Outdoor Bathing at monitored locations.

4.4 Status of STP installed at Mohali, Punjab

The team visited the STP of 45 MLD capacity located at village Chilla, Sector 83 (District Mohali) which is adjacent to N-Choe drain. The STP is installed based on UASB process.

1. At the time of visit, team observed that the STP of capacity 45 MLD is being upgraded to 70 MLD capacity on SBR technology. Construction work of the same was found under progress.

2. As informed by the operator that STP treated water is discharged into N-Choe drain through pipeline.

3. Team observed that final polishing ponds of the STP and Chlorine contact tank unit of STP were found in anaerobic condition.

4. The team had taken sample from final outlet of STP of 45 MLD (UASB) to verify the compliance of norms. The analysis result of the same is presented below:

Sampling Location / Field code	**Parameters**					
	pH	**TSS**	**COD**	**BOD**	**PO_4-P**	**F-Coliform**
Final outlet of STP (NCM-04)	7.2	105	172	68	4.5	92×10^5
Prescribed Norms as per NGT directions	6.5-9.0	10	50	10	5	230

All values are in mg/l except pH & Fecal Coliform MPN/100 ml

5. It evident from the above analysis results that the STP is not complying with stipulated norms (prescribed by NGT) w.r.t TSS, COD, BOD, and Fecal Coliform.

5.0 Recommendations

1. The Municipal Corporation Chandigarh shall ensure that all leakage/overflow of fresh water which leads to N-Choe must be tapped / plugged.

2. The Municipal Corporation, Mohali/ Drainage department shall carry out survey and monitoring of the N-Choe drain to identify the discharge points of untreated waste water and submit a time bound action plan to PPCB to plug /tap all source of untreated sewage.
3. Punjab Pollution Control Board shall issue directions to the operator of STP of 45 MLD located at village Chilla, Sector 83 District Mohali to ensure compliance within prescribed norms.
4. Punjab Pollution Control Board shall issue direction to the Municipal Corporation, Mohali and Municipal Council, Rajpura to take corrective measures in time bound manner to ensure that there is no disposal of untreated waste water and solid waste in the N-Choe / Pachisdhara drain.
5. The Municipal Corporation Chandigarh shall carry out survey and identify the spot area of solid waste thrown and '**Net Jalli'** be fitted along the road side of the N-Choe drain in order to prevent dumping of the solid waste into the drain.
6. The Municipal Corporation Mohali shall carry out survey and identify the spot area of solid waste thrown into N-Choe drain and 'Net Jalli' be fitted along the road side of the N-Choe drain in order to prevent dumping of the solid waste into the drain.

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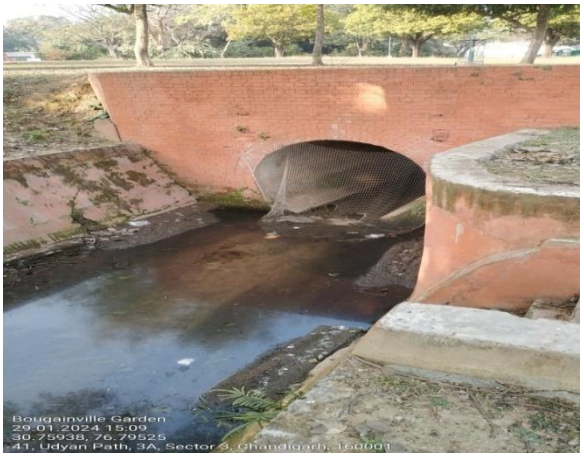
Annexure-I

Photographes taken of N-Choe / Pachisdhara drain during the visit :

	
Bougainvillea Garden, Sector 3B, Chandigarh	Bougainvillea Garden, sector 3A, Chandigarh
	
Bougainvillea Garden, sector 10, Chandigarh	Bougainvillea Garden, sector 10, Chandigarh
	
Leisure Valley, sector 10, Chandigarh	Leisure Valley, sector 10, Chandigarh

	
Leisure Valley, sector 10, Chandigarh	Sector 10C (10) point, Chandigarh
	
Sector 10 point, Chandigarh	Rose Garden, Shanti Kunj, Sector 23, Chandigarh
	
Traffic Park, Sector 23, Chandigarh	Traffic Park, Sector 23, Chandigarh

	
View of drain at Sector 23 end Point, Chandigarh	View of drain at Hibiscus Garden, Sector 36, Chandigarh
	
Hibiscus Garden, Chandigarh	Drain near Hibiscus Garden, Sector 36, Chandigarh
	
View of drain near Guru Nanak Public School, Sector 36, Chandigarh & Sample taken- NCC-01 also	View of C & D Waste Dumping at the bank of drain near Guru Nanak Public School, Sector 36, Chandigarh

	
View of drain at Sector 36 end point, Chandigarh	Repaired Sewage pipeline seen near Sector 36, Chandigarh
	
View of drain at Attawa, Sector 42B, Chandigarh	View of drain at Garden of Spring, Phase 3A, Sector 53, Mohali & Sample taken- NCC-02 also
	
Mohali sewage meeting in drain at Punjab entry point, Phase 3A, Sector 53, Mohali,	View of drain near Burail Jail & seen Broken pipeline sewage also meet in drain

View of Drain at Sector 82 backside of industrial area, Mohali & sample taken-NCM-03

View of C & D Waste Dumping at the bank of drain, Sector 82 backside of industrial area, Mohali

View of Solid Waste Dumping at the bank of drain, Sector 82 backside of industrial area, Mohali

Outlet of STP at Chilla Manauli Village, Sector 83, Mohali & sample taken-NCM-04 also

Anaerobic condition found at STP outlet after Chlorination

Drain before 1KM of confluence at Sarala Khurd Village, Rajpura, Patiala & Foam and Blackish colour observed also

	
Pump set installed in drain for lifting water for irrigation at Sarala Khurd Village, Rajpura & Sample taken- NCP-06 also	View of Meeting point of N-Choe and River Ghaggar at Sarala Khurd Village, Rajpura, Patiala
	
View of River Ghaggar after meeting the N-Choe drain (after 500m) & sample taken-NCP-05 also	View of R. Ghaggar before meeting the drain at Sarala Khurd Village, Rajpura, Patiala & sample taken-NCP-07 also

Item No. 02 Court No. 1

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

Original Application No. 797/2023

News Item titled "**How garbage is choking N-choe in Chandigarh**" appearing in The Indian Express dated 15.12.2023

Date of hearing: 18.01.2024

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRAKASH SHRIVASTAVA, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDHIR AGARWAL, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR TYAGI, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. AFROZ AHMAD, EXPERT MEMBER

Respondent: Mr. Shubham Bhalla, Adv. for DC, Chandigarh & CPCC
Mr. Atif Suhrawardy, Adv. for CPCB (Through VC)

ORDER

1. This original application is registered *suo motu* on the basis of the news item titled "**How garbage is choking N-choe in Chandigarh**" published in 'The Indian Express' dated 15.12.2023. As per the said news item, in Hibiscus Garden in Sector 36, a wide drain pipe which is only for the storm and rainwater, was emitting continuous sewage water, making a small pond where the water fell. The said news report further reveals that N-Choe - a seasonal stream which ideally should be alive only during rain – is buzzing with floating water not of rain but of blackish sewage and that the Chandigarh Administration has failed to prevent the untreated water from entering the seasonal streams passing through the city which finally immerses into the Ghaggar River.

2. Tribunal had considered a similar matter in O.A. No. 736/2022 dated 02.01.2023 and 25.04.2023, Union Territory of Chandigarh observing N-choe originating from Chandigarh and leading to river Ghaghar after passing through various sectors and villages of Mohali also

carry debris and garbage which is resulting in shrinking size of drain causing serious apprehension of flood in Chandigarh in near future.

3. The news item raises substantial issue relating to compliance of the environmental norms.

4. Power of the Tribunal to take up the matter in *suo-motu* has been recognized by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of *"Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai vs. Ankita Sinha & Ors." reported in 2021 SCC Online SC 897.*

5. On advance notice, reply on behalf of Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee (CPCC) has been filed taking following stand:

> *"7. That CPCC had earlier observed such issues and had directed the Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh to take corrective measures to ensure that there is no disposal of waste in the N-Choes.*
>
> *8. The CPCC requested the Engineering Department, Chandigarh Administration and Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh to provide an Iron Net (Iron Jallis) on these culverts where the Choes are in close proximity to the roads, so that people may not be able to dispose of the solid waste from these points. True copies of letters dated 09.05.2019 are annexed herewith as ANNEXURE R-1 (COLLY) @ PGS. 07 to 08.*
>
> *9. That similarly CPCC highlighted this issue to the Engineering Department, Chandigarh vide letter dated 03.01.2024 that at places where the iron nets have been installed are not found up to the mark and to install the Iron Nets at all places where it is required to be installed. A true copy of the letter dated 03.01.2024 is annexed wherewith as ANNEXURE R-2 (COLLY) @ PGS. 09.*
>
> *10. That during a recent inspection on 03.01.2024, it was again observed that solid waste is being dumped along the bank of choes (Photographs attached). True copies of the photographs are annexed herewith as ANNEXURE R-3 (COLEY) @ pgs. 10 to 13.*
>
> *11. That although Iron Net (iron jallis) have been provided at some places but due to improper installation or non-installation there are still places along the Choe where waste is still being dumped unauthorizedly by some unknown persons.*

12. The cleaning and management of the N-Choe in the city of Chandigarh falls within the ambit of engineering department of Chandigarh Administration. During the inspection it was also observed that some people had thrown their waste furniture material in the choe.

Liquid West in N-Choe

13. That with respect to the discharge of liquid waste in the N-Choe, it is submitted that earlier there were around 15 points from where waste water was being discharged into N-Choe, which have since been closed and tapped in light of the directions issued by this Hon'ble Tribunal, which is apparent from the data incorporated in the letter dated 03.01.2024. A true copy of the letter dated 03.01.2024 is annexed wherewith as ANNEXURE R-4 (COLLY) @ PGS. 14.

14. That recently there was a collapse of the sewage system at one point near Sector 36 due to which, waste water was diverted to storm water channel which ultimately mixes with the N-Choe and affected the water quality of N-Choe. However, during the recent monitoring in the month of January 2024 it has been observed that the said point has been plugged which is clearly visible in the improved water quality of N-Choe.

15. The sewerage line near sector 36 has now been repaired by the Municipal Corporation Chandigarh and the latest inspection shows that the BOD value is 4.4 mg/I which is much below the 30 mg/I."

6. Learned Counsel appearing for the Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee has submitted that subsequently the problem has been remediated and, therefore, he wants to file a fresh report indicating the current status on the spot.

7. Having regard to the nature of grievance raised, we implead following as respondents in the matter:

i. Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

ii. Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee (CPCC) through the Member Secretary.

iii. Deputy Commissioner/District Magistrate, Chandigarh.

iv. Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh.

8. Since Respondents No. 1 to 3 are already represented in the matter, let notice be issued to Respondent No. 4.

9. The Member Secretary, CPCB is directed to get the spot inspected and file the report atleast one week before the next date of hearing by e-mail at judicial-ngt@gov.in preferably in the form of searchable PDF/OCR Support PDF and not in the form of Image PDF.

10. Let the report be also filed by Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee within two weeks by e-mail at judicial-ngt@gov.in preferably in the form of searchable PDF/OCR Support PDF and not in the form of Image PDF.

11. List on 20.03.2024.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Sudhir Agarwal, JM

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. Afroz Ahmad, EM

January 18, 2024
Original Application No. 797/2023
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