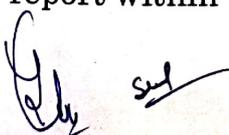


Further, an action plan to curb illegal mining was prepared and spelt out as follows:

- (a) Action initiated against the defaulters by Department of Mining/PPCB shall be monitored and brought to its logical conclusion.
- (b) A duty roster of officials of Departments of Mining, Forest and Police has been prepared for regular checking of their respective areas for effective coordination and synergistic action.
- (c) This team shall be responsible for taking action on complaints received which shall be reviewed on a monthly basis.
- (d) Directions have been issued to the police to put in place Checkposts/Nakas at vulnerable points especially inter-state borders.
- (e) Feasibility of installation of CCTV Cameras at strategic points is being worked out.
- (f) It is proposed that the funds available with the Department of Mining under the head 'District Mineral Foundation' for the restoration and repair of damaged kaccha roads damaged due to illegal mining.
- (g) These villages should be prioritised in the plantation drive being carried out by the Department of Forests.

2. In view of the said report, the Tribunal vide order dated 26.07.2019, disposed of the application. However, thereafter, the applicants again approached the Hon'ble Tribunal stating that illegal mining activities had resumed in the area seeking directions to stop illegal mining in the areas of Villages Abhipur, Kubaheri, MianpurChangar, Tarapur and Gochar, Block Majri, District S.A.S. Nagar.

3. The Hon'ble Tribunal then directed the joint Committee of CPCB, SEIAA, Punjab, Punjab State PCB and the jurisdictional Divisional Commissioner to furnish a factual and action taken report within two months.



4. In compliance of the directions, the Committee convened a meeting on 7.10.2020 in the District Administrative Complex, Mohali wherein the contents of the complaint were thoroughly perused and the main issues identified. It was also decided that the complainant will be heard by the Committee and site visit shall be conducted the following week.
5. The Complainants were heard in detail and site visit was conducted by the Committee on 12.10.2020 wherein it was found that the sites are located in the deep interior of the villages. It was observed that there was also a lack of proper access/pucca roads to most of these sites where illegal mining is alleged to be taking place. However, the Committee members reached the spot on foot and found indications of illegal mining at the given site. There were marks of a big vehicle on the approach path and it was evident that earth had been dug up and removed from the site. The area-SHO was immediately directed to trace the vehicle carrying the illegal mined earth from the given site and launch investigation after registering the FIR.
6. Further, the following directions have been issued in order to check this illegal activity.

S. No.	Direction	Authority Responsible
1.	Inspection of all Stone Crushers-cum-Screening Plants which are operating without the requisite Consent to Establish/Consent to Operate/registration with the Mining Department shall be inspected by the joint team of PPCB, Department of Mining and area SHO within 15 days. This team shall ensure that all unlawfully operating stone crushers	Departments of Mining, PPCB, Police

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	shall be immediately sealed and criminal action be taken against the wrongdoers. Further, follow-up inspections shall be conducted at least twice a month to ensure that the operations are not resumed and seals are not tampered with and electricity connections shall be disconnected in case any violations are found on the spot.	
2.	All those Stone Crushers-cum-Screening Plants which are functioning with the Consent to Establish/Consent to Operate/Registration with the Mining Department shall also be inspected by Mining Department along with representatives of PSPCL (Department of Power) on a fortnightly basis. The electricity bills, fuel consumption and bills of raw materials shall be tallied with the output (invoice/bills) of the given period and discrepancies, if any, shall be followed up with penal action. Random verification of the above said records shall be done with the Excise and Taxation Departments to identify the discrepancies.	Departments of Mining, PSPCL, Excise and Taxation
3.	Prohibitory Orders under Section 144, Code of Criminal Procedure shall be issued to check the operation of stone crushers, screening plants, mining machinery (Excavator/JCB/Loader etc.) and vehicles such as Trucks/Tippers (with a loading capacity exceeding 12 MT) and any other	District Magistrate

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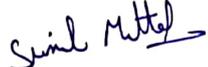
	vehicle carrying mining materials from operating at night time in the affected areas as it has been observed and brought to the notice of the Committee that illegal operations are carried out at night time.	
4.	The officials of Mining and Revenue Departments are directed to intensify the process of recovery of penalties assessed and recover it as arrears of land revenue where it is not paid up by the defaulters.	Departments of Mining, Revenue
5.	The duty roster prepared for regular inspection by teams shall be reviewed and fortnightly inspections shall be ensured under the overall supervision of SDM, Kharar.	Department of Mining, Forest, Police and others who may be deputed for the purpose.
6.	A robust Control Room with 24*7 response shall be established in the office of District Magistrate, SAS Nagar for addressing the complaints relating to mining. The officers responsible along with the levels of escalation shall be clearly outlined so that an effective grievance redressal system can be put into place. Further, the complaints shall be redressed in a time bound manner.	Office of District Magistrate, Department of Mining and Police
7.	SP (Rural) shall be overall-in-charge for	SP (Rural)

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	checking illegal mining activity in the area and shall hold a monthly meeting to review and ensure that actions detailed in para 6 are taking place at a regular basis.	
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Member
CPCB


Member
SEIAA


Member
PPCB


Divisional
Commissioner,
Roopnagar.