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**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI  
Original Application No. 735 of 2023  
In (I.A. No. 572 of 2025)**

News Item titled "Ashwani Khad: The Most Polluted River in Himachal Pradesh"  
appearing in News Himachal dated 04.12.2023

Versus

State of Himachal Pradesh & Ors

...Respondent(s)

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**Filed by Advocate Saurabh Balwani**  
(On behalf of Central Pollution Control Board)

New Delhi  
Dated: 20.05.2026

**Progress Report of CPCB in compliance to the order of Hon'ble  
National Green Tribunal dated 12.02.2026 in the matter of  
Original Application No. 735/2023 (I.A. No.572/2025)**

**1. Background and the Orders of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal:**

Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, while considering the latest report dated 09/02/2026 of Chief Secretary, Government of Himachal Pradesh on 12/02/2026, observed as follows:

*Para 3: Chief Secretary in its affidavit dated 03.05.2024 had disclosed the polluted river stretches ...*

...

*Para 9: "The latest report concerning the water quality of Ashwani Khad has not been placed on record. Therefore, we are not in a position to ascertain the improvement, if any, in the pollution level of Ashwani Khad."*

...

*Para 12: The Learned Counsel for HP, SPCB could not answer to the queries of the Tribunal relating to the water quality of Ashwani Khad or different polluted stretches of the rivers ...*

Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in its order dated 12/02/2026 (**Annexure-1**) directed CPCB as follows:

*Para 13: "The CPCB is also directed to carryout the sample analysis of the Ashwani Khad and polluted stretches of the rivers which are mentioned above in the State of HP and submit the report along with affidavit before the next date of hearing."*

**2. Action Taken Report (ATR) and Findings :**

- i.** The six rivers / river stretches of Himachal Pradesh including Ashwani Khad, mentioned in the Order, are as follows:

*1) Sukhna at Parwanoo; 2) Markanda River at Kala Amb; 3) River Sirsa Stretch; 4) River Giri Stretch; 5) Ashwani Khad; 6) Beas River*

- ii. As per the CPCB Report titled “Polluted River Stretches for restoration of water Quality” dated October, 2025, the details of polluted locations/river

stretches identified in the aforesaid rivers in Himachal Pradesh are given in Table 1.

- iii. *Sukhna at Parwanoo* does not have any polluted location/stretch as per CPCB’s report dated October, 2025. A total of 18 polluted locations/stretches have been identified across 05 rivers, as summarized in Table 1 below.

**Table 1: Polluted locations/river stretches in 06 River stretches of Himachal Pradesh**

S. No	Station Code	River Name	Monitoring Locations	Geo-coordinates	Polluted River Stretch/Location
1.	4428	Ashwini Khad	Ashwani Khad U/S of Weir Site of WTP Near Ashwani Bridge	31.07526 7 77.15380 8	Ashwani Khad from U/s of weir site of wtp near Ashwani Bridge to U/s Yashwant Nagar
2.	4429		D/S of Ashwani Khad (After Confluence of Lift Nallah)	31.02769 5 77.17647 6	
3.	4479		Ashwani Khad u/s of Sadhupul village (nearly 800 m U/s of the bridge)	30.99800 9 77.16287 8	
4.	2620		Ashwani Khad u/s of Yashwant Nagar before conf. With River Giri at Yashwant Nagar	30.89021 8 77.20619 9	
5.	2621	Giri	River Giri at D/S Yashwant Nagar After Conf. With Ashwani Khad at Yashwant Nagar, Near Shani Mandir	30.88219 6 77.20969 5	River Giri from D/s yashwant nagar after confluence with Ashwani Khad to D/s Sataun

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6.	3876		River Giri After Confluence of Ashwani River at Village Maryog	30.87498 4 77.21780 9	
7.	2623		River Giri D/S Sataun	30.55265 8 77.64392 2	
8.	30008	Markanda	River Markanda at Kala Amb U/S (H.P)	30.5065 77.22242 8	River Markanda from u/s Kala Amb to Naraingarh
9.	30007		River Markanda at Naraingarh (Haryana)	30.46986 6 77.17804 2	
10.	1551	Sirsa (Sarsa)	River Sirsa U/S Sitomajri Nallah	30.90482 5 76.80163 1	River Sarsa (sirsa) from U/s Sitomarhi Nallah to Baddi
11.	1552		River Sirsa D/S Nalagarh Bridge	31.02962 4 76.66159 1	
12.	1868		River Sirsa at D/S Nalagarh Town	31.03425 9 76.66852 3	
13.	4485		River Sirsa U/S Sandholi Nallah	30.92422 8 76.78829 1	
14.	4487		River Sirsa D/S Housing Board Nallah	30.94104 8 76.77386 7	
15.	4489		River Sirsa after conf. to River Ratta	30.96752 3	

				76.74652 4	
16.	4435	Beas	River Beas u/s Sujanpur Tihra	31.83840 9 76.51097 8	River Beas from u/s Sujanpur Tihra to d/s Nadaun town after confluence of Maan Khad
17.	4436		River Beas d/s Sujanpur Tihra	31.80991 76.47534 5	
18.	4438		River Beas d/s Nadaun town after confluence of Maan Khad	31.77742 6 76.32735 6	

- iv. 05 Teams were constituted by CPCB Regional Directorate Chandigarh vide Office order dated April 17, 2026 (**Annexure-2**) for collecting the samples from the 18 polluted locations/stretchers listed in the Table 1 during April 20-21, 2026. The water samples collected by CPCB Teams were sent to CPCB Head Office laboratory for analysis of parameters namely pH, EC, Colour, Turbidity, TDS, Cl<sup>-</sup>, COD, BOD, TC, FC, B<sup>+</sup>3, F<sup>-</sup>, NH<sub>3</sub>-N, NO<sub>2</sub>-N, NO<sub>3</sub> - N, PO<sub>4</sub>- P, Total Hardness, Calcium Hardness, Magnesium Hardness, Mg<sup>2+</sup>& Ca<sup>2+</sup> , K<sup>+</sup> , Na<sup>+</sup> , Total Alkalinity, CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>, HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> , Heavy Metal ( As, Co, Cd, Cu, Cr, Ni, Fe, Mn, Pb, Se, Zn).
- v. The Dissolved Oxygen (DO) concentration in the water samples was measured at site at the time of sampling.
- vi. The results of analysis for Heavy Metals and Microbiological parameters have been received whereas the analysis of water samples collected by CPCB team for pH, Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and other

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physico-chemical parameters is under progress and the results of analysis are expected May 30, 2026.

- 3. Submission:** The analysis of water samples collected by CPCB team for pH, Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and other physico-chemical parameters is under progress and the results of analysis are expected May 30, 2026.

In view of the above, it is humbly submitted that this progress/status report of CPCB may kindly be taken on record and 03 weeks may be granted for submission of the final report.



**Nazimuddin  
Scientist 'F'**

**Central Pollution Control Board**

**20.05.2026**

Item No. 09

Court No. 1

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**

Original Application No. 735/2023  
(I.A. No.572/2025)

News Item titled "Ashwani Khad: The Most Polluted River in Himachal Pradesh" appearing in News Himachal dated 04.12.2023

Versus

State of Himachal Pradesh &amp; Ors.

Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 12.02.2026

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRAKASH SHRIVASTAVA, CHAIRPERSON  
HON'BLE DR. A. SENTHIL VEL EXPERT MEMBER**

Respondents: Mr. Saurabh Balwani, Adv. for CPCB  
Mr. Divyanshu Kumar Srivastava, Adv. for the State of HP (Through VC)  
Ms. Anju Sharma, Chief Engineer, JSV, Himachal Pradesh (Through VC)  
Mr. Aaditya Vijaykumar & Mr. Anirudh Anand, Advs. for HP SPCB  
(Through VC)

**ORDER**

1. In this original application, registered *suo-moto*, Tribunal is considering the issue of increasing pollution of Ashwani Khad and also other rivers in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

2. Tribunal while taking up the matter in *suo-moto* exercise of power had noted that pollution in Ashwani Khad is primarily from discharge of effluents from sewage treatment plants and had also noted that contamination in the river in the State can be attributed to unregulated disposal of industrial effluents, untreated sewage and agricultural run-off.

3. Chief Secretary in its affidavit dated 03.05.2024 had disclosed the polluted river stretches and status of STPs and in flow of sewage as under:-

“

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Polluted River Stretch</i>	<i>STP Location</i>	<i>Status of work completed</i>	<i>Inflow(MLD)</i>

1	Sukhna at Parwanoo	Parwanoo (1.00 MLD)	STP completed	0.30
2	Markanda River at Kala Amb	Kala Amb Moginand Area (1.70 MLD)	STP completed	Applications for sewerage connections awaited.
3	Markanda River at Kala Amb	Tirlokpur and Kheri Area (1.50 MLD)	STP completed	Applications for sewerage connections awaited.
4	River Sirsa Stretch	STP Nalagarh (3.62 MLD)	STP completed	2.24
5	River Giri Stretch	STP Kotkhai Zone-II (0.306 MLD) Zone-III (0.163 MLD)	STP completed	0.06 0.04
6	River Giri Stretch	STP Theog (1.15 MLD)	STP completed	0.05
7	Ashwani Khad.	STP Lalpani (11 MLD) (Capacity will be 18.10 MLD after upgradation).	Upgradation work 98% completed	14
8	Ashwani Khad.	STP Malyana (8.42 MLD)	STP completed	4.5
9	Ashwani Khad.	STP Dhalli (2.26 MLD)	STP completed	1
10	Beas River*	STP Marhi in Distt. Kullu (0.20 MLD)	STP completed	0.2
11	Beas River*	Kullu Town Zone-I Lanka Bekar (2.57 MLD)	STP completed	2.50
12	Beas River*	Kullu Town Zone-II Bhootnath (2.50 MLD)	STP completed	2.42
13	Beas River*	Kullu Town Zone-III Badah (0.38 MLD)	STP completed	0.29

14	Beas River*	Bhunter Zone- III (0.87 MLD)	STP completed	0.81
15	Beas River*	Nadaun (1.69 MLD)	STP completed	0.76
16	Beas River*	Dehra (1.38 MLD)	STP completed	1.05

”

4. The Chief Secretary in its subsequent affidavit dated 30.11.2024 had disclosed the response to the CPCB, observations concerning the violation of STPs in reference to the different rivers in the state as follows:

“1. Ashwani Khad in Shimla Town

CPCB observations	Reply
a. 03 STPs at Lalpani, Malyan Dhalli were operating without valid Consent to Operate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Consent to Operate (CTO) for all STPs has now been obtained on 16.08.2024 and are valid till 31.03.2029 (Copy enclosed as Annexure-II). Previous CTOs were valid till 31.03.2024 Issue date: STP Lalpani-20-09-2022 STP Malyana-08-09-2022 STP Dhalli-22-09-2022</li> </ul>
b. All 03 STPs are found non complying as per the prescribed norms by Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 30.04.2019.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Now all the STPs are upgraded and operating on SBR (Sequencing Batch Reactors) Technology.</li> <li>The upgraded STP Malyana is commissioned in November, 2023, STP Dhalli in June, 2024, and STP Lalpani in August, 2024.</li> <li>The reports of effluent tested by HPSPCB are also within limits except few reports and are attached herewith as Annexure-III.</li> <li>Online Continuous Effluent Monitoring System (OCEMS) are installed at STP Malyana, STP Lalpani, and at STP Dhalli. The OCEMS is connected with CPCB and SPCB server for STP Malyana and STP Dhalli and</li> </ul>

	<p><i>process of connectivity for STP Lalpani is in progress. The effluent test report of both STPs connected through OCEMS for the last 06 months are well within limit and are attached as Annexure-IV.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The STPs are meeting the MoEF, 1986 and CC 2017 norms. However the attempts are being consistently made to adhere to the 2019 norms as the plants have been upgraded from Extended Aeration technology with latest SBR technology. The plants are now fully automated with online Continuous Effluent Monitoring System (OCEMS) and the EPC contractor has been asked to adhere to the 2019 norms.</i></li> <li>• <i>The copy of the NGT norms, 2019 is attached.</i></li> </ul>
<p><i>c. Records for sludge disposal were only maintained by STP Malyana. And records of sludge disposal were not maintained at STP Lalpani and Dhalli.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Sludge is dried in beds and is provided to farmers/horticulturist for use as manure. The record of sludge generation and disposal of STP Dhalli and STP Lalpani is being maintained and is enclosed as Annexure-V and already Complied for STP Malyana.</i></li> </ul>

## 2. Pabbar River STP Rohru

CPCB observations	Reply
<p><i>a. STP at Rohru was operating without valid Consent to Operate.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The STP at Rohru has obtained Consent to Operate from HPSPCB till 31.03.2025 (Copy enclosed as Annexure-II)</i></li> </ul>
<p><i>b. STP is found non-complying as per the prescribed norms of Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 30.04.2019.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The STP was commissioned during the year 2000 and it was designed as per old norms of 1986. However, the STP is being upgraded to comply with the latest MoEF &amp; CC norms of 2017 in a phased a manner as per availability of funds.</i></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The reports of effluent tested by HPSPCB are attached herewith as Annexure-III.</li> <li>• The upgradation work to improve the working of STP being undertaken is as under:-             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Aeration: Non-functional diffusers have been replaced to ensure adequate aeration.</li> <li>➤ Standby Equalization Tank: Construction of an additional equalization tank is underway.</li> <li>➤ Chlorination: A chlorination contact tank has been installed at the effluent outlet to ensure proper mixing, with residual chlorine maintained at 0.2-0.5 mg/L to control fecal coliform levels.</li> <li>➤ Tertiary Treatment: Media in the tertiary units.(ACF and PSF) has been replaced for better suspended solids removal, improving effluent quality.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>c. Records for sludge disposal were not maintained.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Sludge disposal record has now been maintained since 01-04-2024. The record of sludge maintained is annexed at Annexure V.</li> <li>• Sludge is dried in beds and provided to farmers for use as manure. The department is also coordinating with local horticulture authorities to promote its use.</li> </ul>

3A. Pabbar River STP Jubbal

CPCB observations	Reply
<p>d. STP Jubbal was operating without valid Consent to Operate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The STP has obtained Consent to Operate from HPSPCB till 31.03.2027 (Copy enclosed Annexure-II)</li> </ul>

<p><i>e. STP is found non-complying as per the prescribed norms of Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 30.04.2019.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The STP was commissioned during the year 2010 and it was designed as per old norms of 1986. However the STP is being upgraded to comply with the latest MoEF &amp; CC norms of 2017 in a phased a manner as per availability of funds.</i></li> <li>• <i>The reports of effluent tested by HPSPCB are attached herewith as Annexure-III.</i></li> <li>• <i>The upgradation work to improve the working of STP being undertaken is as under:-</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>Maintenance: the damaged components of the STP including diffusers and blowers have been replaced and restored to ensure proper aeration.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Sludge Drying Bed: A new drying bed is now operational for proper sludge management.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Seasonal Adjustments: Lab-grown bacteria are now being added to aid MLSS formation in winter, addressing issues due to low temperatures.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Chlorination: Bleaching powder dosage is now being controlled to maintain residual chlorine levels between 0.2-0.5 mg/L to keep faecal coliform within limits.</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><i>f. Record of Sludge disposal were not maintained.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Sludge disposal record has now been maintained since 10-04-2024. The record of sludge maintained is annexed at Annexure V.</i></li> <li>• <i>Sludge is dried and given to farmers for agricultural use.</i></li> </ul>

### 3. SukhanaKhad STP Parwanoo

<i>CPCB observations</i>	<i>Reply</i>
<p><i>a. STP was operating with valid Consent to Operate.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The STP has obtained Consent to Operate from HPSPCB till 31.03.2025 (Copy enclosed as Annexure-II).</i></li> </ul>

<p><i>b. STP is found non-complying as per the prescribed norms of Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 30.04.2019.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The STP was commissioned during the year 2022 and was designed as per MoEF &amp; CC Notification 2017.</i></li> <li>• <i>The STP is complaint to most of the parameters except faecal coliform for which options are being worked out for shifting from bleaching powder based chlorination to automated gaseous chlorination to minimize human error and ensure proper dosage of chlorination.</i></li> <li>• <i>The reports of effluent tested by HPSPCB are attached herewith as Annexure-III.</i></li> </ul>
<p><i>C . Record of Sludge disposal was maintained by the STP. As reported, sludge was utilized for soil application in gardening within the premises of STP.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Complied.</i></li> </ul>

#### 4. River Ratta STP Nalagarh

<i>CPCB observations</i>	<i>Reply</i>
<p><i>a. STP was operating without valid Consent to Operate.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The STP at Nalagarh holds valid consent to operate up to 31.03.2026 (Copy enclosed as Annexure-II).</i></li> </ul>
<p><i>b. STP is found non-complying as per the prescribed norms of Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 30.04.2019.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The STP was commissioned during the year 2020 and was designed as per MoEF &amp; CC Notification 2017.</i></li> <li>• <i>The STP is complaint to most of the parameters except faecal coliform for which options are being worked out by continuously monitoring the STP and increasing the chlorination as per requirement.</i></li> <li>• <i>The reports of effluent tested by HPSPCB are attached herewith as Annexure-III.</i></li> </ul>
<p><i>C . Records of Sludge disposal were maintained by STP. As reported, sludge was given to</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Complied.</i></li> </ul>

*parks of Irrigation and Public Health Department.*

*5. River Beas of Mandi*

<i>CPCB observations</i>	<i>Reply</i>
<p><i>a. 02 STP at BBMB Sunder were Nagar, Joginder operating with valid Consent to Operate. Another 05 STPs at Sarkaghat, Raghunathka Padhar, Khaliar, Sunder Nagar, BBMB Pandoh were not operating without valid Consent to Operate.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>2 STPs of BBMB, are located at Sundernagar and Pandoh. STP BBMB Pandoh is non-operational. CTO of BBMB Sundernagar is valid. There is no STP of BBMB at Jogindernagar.</i></li> <li>• <i>Valid Consent to Operate for 04 STPs i.e. Sarkaghat, Raghunath ka Padhar, Khaliar, Sunder Nagar has now been obtained. (Copy enclosed as Annexure-II).</i></li> </ul>
<p><i>b. All 06 STPs are found non-complying for the prescribed norms of Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 30.04.2019.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>2 STPs of BBMB, are located at Sundernagar and Pandoh. STP BBMB Pandoh is non-operational. CTO of BBMB Sundernagar is valid. There is no STP of BBMB at Jogindernagar.</i></li> <li>• <i>STP Jogindernagar: The STP was commissioned during the year 2008-09 and was designed as per the old norms of 1986. However, STP is being upgraded to comply with MoEF &amp; CC norms of 2017 in phased a manner as per availability of funds.</i></li> <li>• <i>STP Sarkaghat: The STP was commissioned during the year 2015 and was designed as per the old norms of 1986. However, STP is being upgraded to comply with MoEF &amp; CC norms of 2017 in phased manner as per availability of funds.</i></li> <li>• <i>STP Raghunath ka Padhar: The STP was commissioned during the year 1998 and was designed as per the old norms of 1986. However,</i></li> </ul>

	<p><i>STP is being upgraded to comply with MoEF &amp; CC norms of 2017 in phased manner as per availability of funds.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>STP Khaliyar: The STP was commissioned during the year 1998 and was designed as per the old norms of 1986. However, STP is being upgraded to comply with MoEF &amp; CC norms of 2017 in a phased manner as per availability of funds.</i></li> <li>• <i>STP Sundernagar: The STP was commissioned during the year 2006 and was designed as per the old norms of 1986. However, STP is being upgraded to comply with MoEF &amp; CC norms of 2017 in a phased manner as per availability of funds.</i></li> <li>• <i>The above STPs have generally been compliant as per the test conducted by HP State Pollution Control Board from time to time the results are annexed at Annexure-III. The work of upgradation as per MoEF &amp; CC norms of 2017 of STP Rangunath ka Pathar, STP Khaliyar and STP Sundernagar is in progress which will further improve the performance of these STPs.</i></li> </ul>
<p><i>C . Records of Sludge disposal were maintained by 01STP. STP namely STP Khaliar, and sludge was given to farmers. In remaining 05 STPs, records of Sludge disposal were not maintained.”</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>STP Jogindernagar: Sludge disposal record. has now been maintained since 01-01-2024, The record of sludge maintained is annexed at Annexure V.</i></li> <li>• <i>STP Sarkaghat: Sludge disposal record has now been maintained since 01-06-2023. The record of</i></li> </ul>

	<p><i>sludge maintained is annexed at Annexure V.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>STP Raghunath ka Padhar: Sludge disposal record has now been maintained since 03-06-2024. The record of sludge maintained is annexed at Annexure V.</i></li> <li>• <i>STP Khaliyar: Sludge disposal record has now been maintained since 01-04-2024. The record of sludge maintained is annexed at Annexure V.</i></li> <li>• <i>STP Sundernagar: Sludge disposal record has now been maintained since 06-01-2022. The record of sludge maintained is annexed at Annexure V.</i></li> <li>• <i>BBMB Sundernagar: It is certified that, the digester tank at STP Bhrajwanu BBMB Sundernagar having diameter 15.80 m and depth 6 m have sufficient capacity to accommodate sludge and the overflow of sludge from tank enter through pipes into the sludge drying beds. Thereafter the sludge in drying beds as manure is sold to local farmers as well as utilized in nursery BBMB Colony Sundernagar.</i></li> </ul>
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6. River Bald/Sirsa Baddi CETP

<i>CPCB observations</i>	<i>Reply</i>
<p><i>a. STP cum CETP was operating without valid Consent to Operate.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>STP cum CETP at Baddi is a Single Integrated Unit, and Consent has now been obtained on 27.05.2024 valid upto 31.03.2025. (Copy enclosed as Annexure-II)</i></li> </ul>
<p><i>b. STP cum CETP is found non-complying as per the prescribed norms notified by</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The compliance status of the CETP is enclosed herewith as Annexure-III.</i></li> </ul>

<p><i>MoEF&amp;CC Notification dt.01/01/2016 for CETP. The STP cum CETP has been granted CTO by HPSPCB for meeting the prescribed norms of CETP for discharge of treated effluent.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The CETP is meeting all the norms notified by MoEF&amp;CC Notification dt. 01/01/2016 except Bio-assay test.</i></li> <li>• <i>3 MLD Effluent Refractory Management &amp; TDS Reduction in in the CETP is proposed. The technology as per the Revised DPR for the Project "Phase-I-API Removal as part of Refractory Management" has been duly verified and validated, by the technical experts of IIT Ropar &amp; PU Chandigarh after conducting Final Pilot Plant trials at Ahmedabad and the same has been submitted to the Govt. of India and Govt. of HP for their information and records. Date of completion of the project is Mav/June 2025,</i></li> </ul>
<p><i>C . Record of Sludge disposal were maintained by STP cum CETP. As reported, sludge was disposed in TSDF</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Complied.</i></li> </ul>

”

5. Latest report filed by Chief Secretary, Government of Himachal Pradesh dated 09.02.2026 discloses that out of 15 STPs, 01 STP i.e. STP BBMP, Pandoh is non-functional and it also discloses that there is a pending work of constructing sewer network of 30.91 kms for connection with the 06 STPs of Jal Shakti Department.

6. Ms. Anju Sharma, Chief Engineer, JSV, Himachal Pradesh appearing virtually submitted that this sewer network of 30.91 kms will be completed by December 2026.

7. The disclosure so made by Chief Secretary, State of Himachal Pradesh in the affidavit dated 09.02.2026 is as under:-

- “2. That it is humbly submitted that out of the 15 Sewerage Treatment Plants (STPs) referred to in the report of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), 3 STPs are being managed by the Shimla Jal Prabandhan Nigam Limited (SJPNL), 9 STPs are being managed by the Jal Shakti Vibhag (JSV), 2 STPs are being managed by the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB), and 1 Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CEPT) is being managed by Baddi Infrastructure Limited, a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) of the BBN Industries Association.
3. That it is humbly submitted that out of the aforesaid 15 STPs 14 STPs are presently operational, whereas 1 STP is non-operational i.e. STP BBMB Pandoh, which is being managed by BBMB.
4. That it is respectfully submitted that in the previous Affidavit filed on 20-11-2022, it was submitted that out of 14 operational STPs, only in 9 STPs, 96.41 kilometres of sewer network was to be connected with STPs.
5. That it is humbly submitted that as per the status report submitted by the Shimla Jal Prabhandhan Nigam Ltd. (SJPNL), 26 50.8 Kms. of sewer network is projected for the year 2039. At present in SJPNL, there is no shortfall in network connection w.r.t. STP Lal Pani, STP Malyana, STP Dhalli respectively. Hence, the remaining sewer work of aforesaid 3 STPs of SJPNL is projected to be completed by 2039.
6. That it is respectfully submitted that out of 45.61 Kms. remaining sewer network of Jal Shakti Vibhag (JSV), 14.70 Kms, sewer network has now been connected with three STPs i.e. STP Sundernagar, STP Mandi (Raghunath ka Padhar) and STP Khaliar. Therefore, 30.91 Kms, sewer network is now yet to be connected with 6 STPs of Jal Shakti Vibhag.
7. That the timelines for remaining sewer network of 30.91 Kms., yet to be connected with the 6 STPs of Jal Shakti Vibhag submitted by Chief Engineer Shimla Zone, Mandi Zone and Hamirpur Zone and status of 50.8 Kms, sewer network to be connected with 3 STPs of SJPNL by 2039 are enclosed as Annexure RB-I for the kind perusal of this Hon'ble Tribunal please.”

8. In the catchment area of Ashwani Khad, there are 03 STPs. Along with the latest report dated 09.02.2026, the Chief Secretary has enclosed the status of these 03 STPs as under:-

“

Annexure-R B (I)							
SJPNL							
Status of Sewerage Network for Operational STP							
S. No.	Name of STP	Capacity Details		Total network (in km)	Network Connected to STP(in km)	Network non-Connected to STP(in km)	The action plan for connecting left out i.e. non-connected sewer
		Installed Capacity (MLD)	Capacity Utilization of STPs as on Aug 2025(MLD)				

							network to the STP
1	2	3(a)	3(b)	4(a)	4(b)	4(c)	5
1	STP Lalpani	25.2	13	236	220	16	Presently, there is no shortfall as STP is catering to current population and 17494 connections has been released before upgradation of STP and new DPR has been prepared in the year 2024 for the projected year 2039, As per new DPR 9973 connections has been proposed and 3000 connections has been released till date and the balance connection will be completed by 2039 as per requirement time to time.
2	STP Malyana	8.42	3.9	61	39	22	The designed capacity of the STP Malyana is for the year 2039. Presently, there is no shortfall in network connection the balance connection to be connected with STP is projected for the year 2039.
3	STP Dhalli	2.36	1.2	29.8	17	12.8	The designed capacity of the STP Dhalli is for the year 2039. Presently, there is no shortfall in network

							connection the balance connection to be connected with STP is projected for the year 2039.
Total		35.88	18.1	326.8	276	50.8	”

9. The latest report concerning the water quality of Ashwani Khad has not been placed on record. Therefore, we are not in a position to ascertain the improvement, if any, in the pollution level of Ashwani Khad.

10. The HP, SPCB has also filed the report dated 09.02.2026 disclosing the details of Environmental Compensation (EC) which has been levied as follows:-

- “3. That regarding the progress made for recovery of environmental compensation from defaulting STPs, it is submitted that the Jal Shakti Vibhag, Government of H.P. has now deposited 2,91,97,500 (Two Crores, Ninety One Lakhs, Ninety Seven Thousand and Five Hundred Rupees) out of the total EC amount of \*4,27,72,034 (Four Crores, Twenty Seven Lakhs, Seventy Two Thousand and Thirty Four Rupees) levied on the STPs maintained by Jal Shakti Vibhag, Government of H.P. A total EC amount of \*3,79,78,860 (Three Crores, Seventy Nine Lakhs, Seventy Eight Thousand, Eight Hundred and Sixty Rupees) was imposed on defaulting STPs of Shimla Jal Prabandhan Nigam Limited (SJPNL) and \*30,54,500 (Thirty Lakhs, Fifty Four Thousand and Five Hundred Rupees) was imposed on Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB). However, SJPNL and BBMB have not deposited any EC amount imposed on their defaulting STPs. The STPs wise details of EC imposed and amount recovered is annexed as Annexure-I.
4. That as mentioned in para supra, Jal Shakti Vibhag has partially deposited the amount of EC imposed on STPs maintained by it. However, Shimla Jal Prabandhan Nigam Limited (SJPNL) and Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) have not deposited any EC. In fact, SJPNL had filed Appeals before the Appellate Authority constituted under section 28 (1) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 against the EC orders of the HPSPCB. Thereafter, the Appeals were withdrawn by SJPNL and a Civil Writ Petition was filed before the Hon'ble High Court of H.P. for setting aside of orders of HPSPCB imposing EC on STPs of the SJPNL. (The orders passed in the cases filed by the SJPNL before the Appellate Authority and Hon'ble High Court of H.P. are annexed as Annexure-II for the perusal of Hon'ble NGT).
5. That HPSPCB has issued further reminders to Jal Shakti Vibhag, Shimla Jal Prabandhan Nigam Limited (SJPNL) and BBMB for

*depositing the Environmental Compensation at the earliest. (Annexure-III). HPSPCB is also following up with the concerned revenue authorities/District Collectors i.e. Deputy Commissioner, Shimla, Deputy Commissioner, Mandi and Deputy Commissioner, Solan, H.P. regarding recovery proceedings against the defaulting units/STPs.*

*(Copy of communications between HPSPCB and the Deputy Commissioners are annexed as Annexure-IV.)”*

11. A perusal of the above report reveals that HP, SPCB is not taking effective steps to recover the EC amount.

12. The Learned Counsel for HP,SPCB could not answer to the queries of the Tribunal relating to the water quality of Ashwani Khad or different polluted stretches of the rivers or the efforts for recovery of EC or action taken for imposition of EC for the subsequent violation. Hence, we require some responsible officer of HP,SPCB to appear virtually on the next date of hearing to assist the Tribunal.

13. The CPCB is also directed to carryout the sample analysis of the Ashwani Khad and polluted stretches of the rivers which are mentioned above in the State of HP and submit the report along with affidavit before the next date of hearing.

14. The Jal Shakti Vibhag is also directed to file affidavit before the next date of hearing disclosing the progress in the construction of the remaining sewage network.

15. List on 22.05.2026.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

February 12, 2026  
Original Application No.735/2023  
JG.

## Central Pollution Control Board Regional Directorate, Chandigarh

### Office Order

File No. CPCB/RD/CHD/NGT/

April 17, 2026

**Subject:** Monitoring of polluted River stretches/locations in Himachal Pradesh, in compliance with Hon'ble NGT Order dated 12.02.2026 in O.A. No. 735 of 2023 (IA No. 572/2025)

This has reference to the Hon'ble NGT Order dated 12.02.2026 in the matter of O.A. No. 735 of 2023 (IA No. 572/2025); News Item titled "Ashwani Khad: The Most Polluted River in Himachal Pradesh" appearing in News Himachal dated 04.12.2023, wherein CPCB was directed to carry out the sample analysis of the Ashwani Khad and polluted stretches of the rivers, which are mentioned in the Hon'ble NGT Order.

In compliance with the said orders of the Hon'ble NGT, the monitoring of polluted River stretches/locations in Himachal Pradesh will be carried out by teams of CPCB Regional Directorate Chandigarh, as per the details given in Section A and B.

#### A) Parameters to be Analyzed

Parameters	
Laboratory Analysis	Field Analysis
pH, EC, Colour, Turbidity, TDS, Cl <sup>-</sup> , COD, BOD, TC, FC, B <sup>3+</sup> , F <sup>-</sup> , NH <sub>3</sub> -N, NO <sub>2</sub> -N, NO <sub>3</sub> -N, PO <sub>4</sub> -P, Total Hardness, Calcium Hardness, Magnesium Hardness, Mg <sup>2+</sup> & Ca <sup>2+</sup> , K <sup>+</sup> , Na <sup>+</sup> , Total Alkalinity, CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup> , HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> , SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> , Heavy Metal (As, Co, Cd, Cu, Cr, Ni, Fe, Mn, Pb, Se, Zn)	Temperature, DO

#### B) Sampling Locations, Monitoring Schedule and Team Composition:

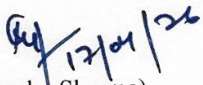
S. No	Station Code	River Name	Locations	Geo-coordinates	Team Composition and Date of monitoring
1.	4428	Ashwani Khad	Ashwani Khad U/S of Weir Site of WTP Near Ashwani Bridge	31.075267 77.153808	<b>Team 1</b> <b>20.04.2026</b> Sh. Shubham Kumar, OA (S) and Sh. Sumit, OA
2.	4429		D/S of Ashwani Khad (After Confluence of Lift Nallah)	31.027695 77.176476	
3.	4479		Ashwani Khad u/s of Sadhupul village (nearly 800 m U/s of the bridge)	30.998009 77.162878	
4.	2620		Ashwani Khad u/s of Yashwant Nagar before conf. With River Giri at Yashwant Nagar	30.890218 77.206199	
5.	2621	Giri	River Giri at D/S Yashwant Nagar After Conf. With Ashwani Khad at Yashwant Nagar, Near Shani Mandir	30.882196 77.209695	<b>Team 2</b> <b>20.04.2026</b> Dr. Akshay Kumar, PS-III and Sh. Pradeep Kumar, SLA
6.	3876		River Giri After Confluence of Ashwani River at Village Maryog	30.874984 77.217809	
7.	2623		River Giri D/S Sataun	30.552658 77.643922	
8.	30008	Markanda	River Markanda at Kala Amb U/S (H.P)	30.5065 77.222428	<b>Team 3</b> <b>20.04.2026</b> Sh. Pankaj Saini, OA (S) and Sh. Armaan Sudan (FA)
9.	30007		River Markanda at Naraingarh (Haryana)	30.469866 77.178042	
10.	1551	Sirsa (Sarsa)	River Sirsa U/S Sitomajri Nallah	30.904825 76.801631	<b>Team 4</b> <b>21.04.2026</b> Dr. Raj Laxmi, PS-II and Sh. Pradeep Kumar, SLA
11.	1552		River Sirsa D/S Nalagarh Bridge	31.029624 76.661591	

Page 1 of 2  
17/04/26

12.	1868		River Sirsa at D/S Nalagarh Town	31.034259 76.668523	
13.	4485		River Sirsa U/S Sandholi Nallah	30.924228 76.788291	
14.	4487		River Sirsa D/S Housing Board Nallah	30.941048 76.773867	
15.	4489		River Sirsa after conf. to River Ratta	30.967523 76.746524	
16.	4435	Beas	River Beas u/s Sujapur Tihra	31.838409 76.510978	<b>Team 5</b> <b>21.04.2026</b> Ms. Deeksha Garg, SSA and Sh. Pankaj Saini, OA(S)
17.	4436		River Beas d/s Sujapur Tihra	31.80991 76.475345	
18.	4438		River Beas d/s Nadaun town after confluence of Maan Khad	31.777426 76.327356	

**Note:**

1. The above programme is tentative and liable for modification as per specific conditions/requirements in the field.
2. Preservation & Transportation of the collected samples to CPCB HO Lab. shall be done by following standard methods and CPCB's Guidelines.
3. Monitoring allowance / TA-DA will be paid as per applicable rules.
4. The monitoring team shall collect relevant field information and geo-tagged Photographs.
5. The samples collected by all the teams will be delivered to CPCB Head Office Laboratory on **April 22, 2026 before 11 AM** by Sh. Arman Sudan, FA and Sh. Abhishek, OA.

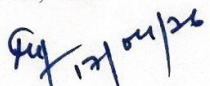
  
 (Dr. Narender Sharma)  
 Regional Director

**To:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Shri Jagdish Meena, AD, CPCB, RD, Chandigarh</li> <li>2. Ms. Nikita Grover, Sc. 'B', CPCB, RD, Chandigarh</li> <li>3. Sh. Aakash Mishra, Sc. 'B', CPCB, RD, Chandigarh</li> <li>4. Ms. Deeksha Garg, SSA, CPCB RD Chandigarh</li> <li>5. All Concerned Team members, CPCB RD, Chandigarh</li> <li>6. Accounts Division, CPCB RD, Chandigarh</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>: For information and providing necessary technical guidance to the teams.</li> <li>: For co-ordination and compilation of results.</li> <li>: For arrangement of monitoring vehicles.</li> <li>: For arrangement of monitoring kit (Chemicals, Carboys etc.)</li> <li>: To ensure monitoring as per the schedule.</li> <li>: For information pls.</li> </ol> |
|--|--|

**Copy to:**

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|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Member Secretary, HPS PCB, Shimla</li> <li>2. DH, Water Lab, CPCB HO</li> <li>3. DH, Instrumentation Lab, CPCB HO</li> <li>4. DH, Bio Lab, CPCB HO</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>: For kind information please. This is to inform that CPCB teams shall remain in contact with respective Regional Officers of HPPCB, for seeking assistance in locating the sampling points, if required.</li> <li>} With a request to accept the delivery of samples on April 22, 2026 (Forenoon).</li> </ol> |
|---|---|

  
 Regional Director