

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL**  
**PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**  
**Original Application No. 1229 of 2024**

In the matter of:

**News Item titled "Over 1200 sources polluting water bodies in Punjab reveals govt. report" appearing in the Tribune dated 16.09.2024**

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**Filed by Advocate Mohit Singhal**  
**Counsel for Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)**

**Place: Delhi**  
**Dated: 29.01.2025**

***Mohit Singhal***  
 Advocate  
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 Azadpur, Delhi-110033  
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 Email : singhalmohitlegal@gmail.com

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 1229 OF 2024

IN THE MATTER OF:

News Item titled "Over 1200 sources polluting water bodies in Punjab reveals govt. report" appearing in the Tribune dated 16.09.2024.

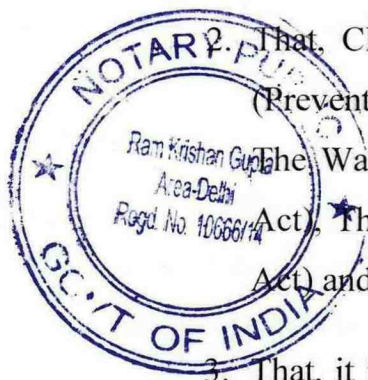
REPLY ON BEHALF OF CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
(CPCB) i.e RESPONDENT NO. 2

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

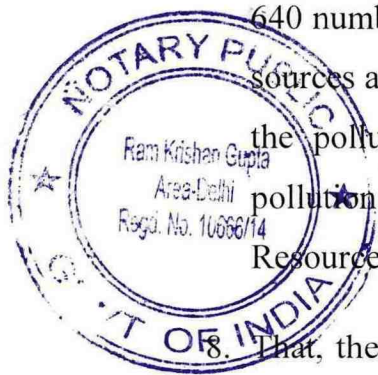
1. That, Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 15.10.2024 has sought the reply of Central Pollution Control Board (hereinafter referred as CPCB) in the instant matter. Thereby, the reply is made in succeeding paragraphs.

That, CPCB is a statutory Board constituted under Section 3 of The Water (Prevention and control of Pollution) Act, 1974. It performs the functions under The Water (Prevention and control of Pollution) Act 1974 (hereinafter Water Act), The Air (Prevention and control of Pollution) Act, 1981 (hereinafter Air Act) and The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

3. That, it is humbly submitted that the State Pollution Control Boards /Pollution Control Committees (hereinafter referred as SPCBs/PCCs) have been constituted in States / Union Territories under the Water Act and Air Act, are empowered to perform the functions and implement the provisions of these Acts in respect of their territorial Jurisdiction.



4. That, the issues raised in the present matter is that the Punjab government has identified at least 1,223 sources that have been polluting the water bodies of Punjab with impunity, as per the report released by the Department of Water Resources.
5. That, in compliance with Hon'ble NGT's order dated 15.10.2024 passed in the instant matter, the Answering Respondent has taken up the case with Punjab Pollution Control Board, vide letter dated 06.11.2024, 27.11.2024 and 16.12.2024 and with the Department of Water Resources, Punjab vide letter dated 06.11.2024 and 27.11.2024 seeking the status report/ action taken report in the matter. Copies of the letters are enclosed as **Annexure-I**.
6. That, the status report/ action taken report is received from the Department of Water Resources, Punjab vide email dated 03.12.2024 by the Answering Respondent. However, the same is awaited from the Punjab Pollution Control Board.
7. That, it is humbly submitted that, as per the information received from the Department of Water Resources, Punjab vide email dated 03.12.2024, there are total 2034 number of pollution sources in 37 divisions of Punjab, out of which 640 number of pollution sources have been removed, 1394 number of pollution sources are yet to be removed. The details of the name of divisions under which the polluted sources are identified and the action taken in the remaining pollution sources, as per the information received from Department of Water Resources, Punjab is placed as **Annexure-II**.
8. That, the Answering Respondent in association with the SPCBs in the States/ PCCs in Union Territories (hereinafter referred as UT) has established Water Quality Monitoring Network under National Water Quality Monitoring Programme (hereinafter referred as NWMP) to assess the status of water



quality of water resources in the respective States/ UTs to facilitate prevention and control of pollution in the water bodies. In Punjab, presently, the water quality is monitored at 155 number of locations.

9. That, in year 2018, based on water quality data for the years 2016 and 2017, 351 polluted river stretches ("PRS") were identified. Out of these PRS, 4 PRS have been identified in Punjab. Based on the level of organic load which is measured in terms of biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) concentration, the PRS have been categorised into Priority I to V wherein Priority I being most polluted with BOD value of more than 30 mg/l and Priority V being least polluted with BOD ranging between 3 – 6 mg/l Such 4 PRS in Punjab were classified as Priority I (2 PRS), Priority II (0 PRS), Priority III (0 PRS), Priority IV (1 PRS) and Priority V (1 PRS) and the details are as below:

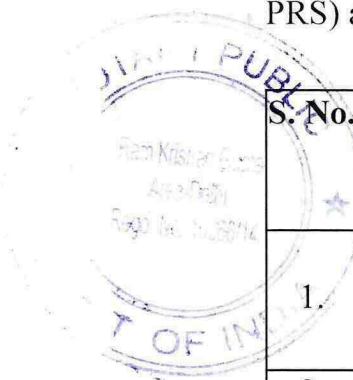
S. No.	RIVER NAME	RIVER STRETCH	MAX BOD OBSERVED (mg/L)	PRIORITY
1.	GHAGGAR	MUBARAKPUR TO SARDULGARH	380	I
2.	SATLUJ	RUPNAGAR TO HARIKA BRIDGE	108	I
3.	KALI BEIN	SULTANPUR LODHI TO CONF TO BEAS	9	IV
4.	BEAS	Along MUKERIAN	3.8	V



10. That, for rejuvenation of identified PRS, comprehensive action plans have been prepared by River Rejuvenation Committee ("RRC") constituted by the

respective State Government/ UT Administration, under the overall supervision and coordination of Principal Secretary, Environment of the concerned State/ Union Territory for bringing all the polluted river stretches identified by the Answering Respondent as fit for bathing purposes. The action plans cover relevant aspects such as Source control (Municipal sewage management, Industrial pollution control, Waste management), River catchment/Basin Management (Adoption of good irrigation practices, Utilization of treated sewage, ground water recharge aspects), Flood Plain Zone protection and its management (Setting up of bio-diversity parks, Removal of encroachments, Rainwater harvesting and Plantation on both sides of the river).

11. That, the action plans are being implemented by the state of Punjab. Presently, the progress of implementation of action plans is reviewed by the RRC at State Level and Central Monitoring Committee (“CMC”) constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti, at Central Level.
12. That, in the year 2022, based on water quality data for the year 2019 and 2021, 311 PRS were identified. Out of these PRS’s, 5 PRS have been identified in Punjab and were categorised into five priority classes as Priority I (3 PRS), Priority II (0 PRS), Priority III (0 PRS), Priority IV (0 PRS) and Priority V (2 PRS) and their details are as below:



S.No.	RIVER NAME	RIVER STRETCH	MAX BOD OBSERVED (mg/ L)	PRIORITY
1.	GHAGGAR	MUBARAKPUR TO SARDULGARH	210.0	I
2.	SIRSA	ALONG BADDI	32.0	I
3.	SUTLEJ	LUDHIANA TO	120.0	I

		HARIKE		
4.	KALI BEIN	AT MAND FATEHPUR	5.8	V
5.	SWAN	ALONG SANTOSHGARH	4.0	V

13. The answering respondent No. 2 craves leave of this Hon'ble Tribunal for filing additional reply, if required, in future.

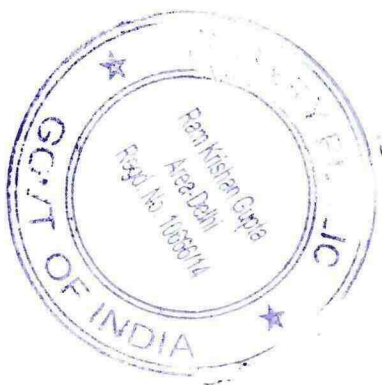
14. That, in light of the above submission, it is respectfully submitted that this Answering respondent i.e. CPCB, shall abide by any order(s) or direction(s) passed by this Hon'ble tribunal in the instant OA and render justice.



**(Vishal Gandhi)**

Scientist- 'E'

Central Pollution Control Board



**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 1229 OF 2024**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**News Item titled "Over 1200 sources polluting water bodies in Punjab reveals govt. report" appearing in the Tribune dated 16.09.2024.**

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, **Vishal Gandhi** working as Scientist 'E' in Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi, the Respondent No. 2 in the above matter, do hereby solemnly affirm, declare on oath and state as under: -

1. That I, the deponent herein is authorized representative to represent the Respondent CPCB in the present case, and as such, I am well conversant with the facts and circumstances of the present case on the basis of the information derived from the official records, and hence, I am competent and authorized to verify, sign and swear this affidavit on behalf of the Respondent CPCB.
2. That the accompanying reply may be read part and parcel of the present affidavit as I am competent to swear this affidavit.
3. That the accompanying reply has been drafted and filed under my instructions and authority the contents thereof are true and correct on the basis of the record maintained during ordinary course of business of CPCB and available records and documents and the contents of the same are read over and explained to me and are not repeated herein for the sake of brevity.



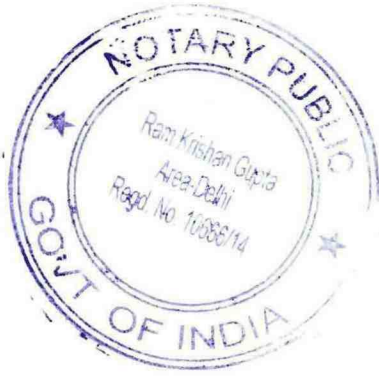
  
**DEPONENT**


**विशाल गांधी / Vishal Gandhi**  
**वैज्ञानिक 'ई' / Scientist 'E'**  
**केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड**  
**Central Pollution Control Board**  
**परिवेश, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार**  
**Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India**  
**परिवेश भवन, पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली-110032**  
**Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032**

**VERIFICATION**

Verified at New Delhi on this day of 28 JAN 2025 that the contents of the above reply are correct and true on the basis of the records of the case as mentioned in the day-to-day affairs of the CPCB. Nothing has been concealed therefrom or mis- stated.

  
**DEPONENT**



**ATTESTED**  
  
**NOTARY  
DELHI (INDIA)**  
**28 JAN 2025**

**विशाल गांधी / Vishal Gandhi**  
**वैज्ञानिक 'ई' / Scientist 'E'**  
**केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड**  
**Central Pollution Control Board**  
(पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)  
(Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India)  
परिवेश भवन, पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली-110032  
दूरभाष: 011-26114111, फ़ैक्स: 011-26114032



**11** केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड  
CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार.  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE, GOVT. OF INDIA.

**Speed Post /Email**

F. No. A-14011/2024-WQM-I /696

Dated: 06.11.2024

To

The Member Secretary  
Punjab Pollution Control Board  
Vatavaran Bhavan, Nabha Road,  
Patiala, Punjab, 147001

**Sub:** Compliance of Hon'ble NGT (PB) order dated 15.10.2024 in the matter of OA No. 1229/2024; News Item titled "Over 1200 sources polluting water bodies in Punjab reveals govt. report" appearing in the Tribune dated 16.09.2024

Sir,

Enclosed please find a copy of Hon'ble NGT (PB) order dated 15.10.2024 in the matter of OA No. 1229/2024; News Item titled "Over 1200 sources polluting water bodies in Punjab reveals govt. report" appearing in the Tribune dated 16.09.2024

In this regard, it is requested to kindly provide the status report/ action taken report in the said matter at earliest.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully

(Vishal Gandhi)

Scientist -E, WQM-I

**Encl: As above**

**‘परिवेश भवन’ पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली - 110032.**

**Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 110 032.**

**दूरभाष /Tel : 43102030, 22305792, वेबसाइट/Website: www.cpcb.nic.in**



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केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड  
CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार.  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE, GOVT. OF INDIA.

Speed Post /Email

Reminder-I

F. No. A-14011/2024-WQM-I /723

Dated: 27.11.2024

To

The Member Secretary  
Punjab Pollution Control Board  
Vatavaran Bhavan, Nabha Road,  
Patiala, Punjab, 147001

**Sub:** Compliance of Hon'ble NGT (PB) order dated 15.10.2024 in the matter of OA No. 1229/2024; News Item titled "Over 1200 sources polluting water bodies in Punjab reveals govt. report" appearing in the Tribune dated 16.09.2024

**Reference:** CPCB letter no F. No. A-14011/2024-WQM-I dated 06.11.2024

Sir,


Kindly refer to our earlier letter dated 06.11.2024 wherein it was requested to provide the status report/ action take report in the matter of OA No. 1229/2024; News Item titled "Over 1200 sources polluting water bodies in Punjab reveals govt. report" appearing in the Tribune dated 16.09.2024.

In this context, it is once again requested to kindly provide the aforesaid information at the earliest.

This may be treated as URGENT.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully

  
(Ritesh Prasad Gurung)  
Scientist -E

Encl: As above

‘परिवेश भवन’ पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली - 110032.  
Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 110 032.

दूरभाष /Tel : 43102030, 22305792, वेबसाइट/Website: www.cpcb.nic.in



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केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड  
CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार.  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE, GOVT. OF INDIA.

Speed Post /Email

**Reminder-II**

F. No. A-14011/2024-WQM-I /739

Dated: 16.12.2024

To

The Member Secretary  
Punjab Pollution Control Board  
Vatavaran Bhavan, Nabha Road,  
Patiala, Punjab, 147001

**Sub:** Compliance of Hon'ble NGT (PB) order dated 15.10.2024 in the matter of OA No. 1229/2024; News Item titled "Over 1200 sources polluting water bodies in Punjab reveals govt. report" appearing in the Tribune dated 16.09.2024

**Reference:** i. CPCB Reminder-I letter no F. No. A-14011/2024-WQM-I dated 27.11.2024  
ii. CPCB letter no F. No. A-14011/2024-WQM-I dated 06.11.2024

Sir,

Kindly refer to our earlier letters dated 06.11.2024 and 27.11.2024 wherein it was requested to provide the status report/ action take report in the matter of OA No. 1229/2024; News Item titled "Over 1200 sources polluting water bodies in Punjab reveals govt. report" appearing in the Tribune dated 16.09.2024. However, no response has been received to this office till date.

In this context, it is once again requested to kindly provide the aforesaid information at the earliest.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully

  
(Vishal Gandhi)  
Scientist -E, WQM-I

Encl: As above

‘परिवेश भवन’ पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली - 110032.  
Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 110 032.

दूरभाष /Tel : 43102030, 22305792, वेबसाइट/Website: www.cpcb.nic.in



14

केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड  
CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE, GOVT. OF INDIA

**Speed Post /Email**

F. No. A-14011/2024-WQM-I /696

Dated: 06.11.2024

To

The Chief Engineer  
Department of Water Resources, Punjab  
Sector 18B, Madhya Marg  
Chandigarh, 160018

**Sub:** Compliance of Hon'ble NGT (PB) order dated 15.10.2024 in the matter of OA No. 1229/2024; News Item titled "Over 1200 sources polluting water bodies in Punjab reveals govt. report" appearing in the Tribune dated 16.09.2024

Sir,

Enclosed please find a copy of Hon'ble NGT (PB) order dated 15.10.2024 in the matter of OA No. 1229/2024; News Item titled "Over 1200 sources polluting water bodies in Punjab reveals govt. report" appearing in the Tribune dated 16.09.2024.

In this regard, it is requested to kindly provide the status report containing the information of the stated 1,223 sources that are polluting the water bodies of Punjab. You are also requested to kindly provide the details of action taken in the said matter at the earliest.

Yours faithfully

(Vishal Gandhi)

Scientist -E, WQM-I

Encl: As above

**‘परिवेश भवन’ पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली-110032**

Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, New Delhi - 110032

दूरभाष/Tel: 43102030, 22305792, वेबसाइट/Website : www.cpcb.nic.in



15

केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड  
CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार.  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE, GOVT. OF INDIA.

Speed Post /Email

Reminder-I

F. No. A-14011/2024-WQM-I /722

Dated: 27.11.2024

To

The Chief Engineer  
Department of Water Resources, Punjab  
Sector 18B, Madhya Marg  
Chandigarh, 160018

**Reference:** CPCB letter no F. No. A-14011/2024-WQM-I dated 06.11.2024

**Sub:** Compliance of Hon'ble NGT (PB) order dated 15.10.2024 in the matter of OA No. 1229/2024; News Item titled "Over 1200 sources polluting water bodies in Punjab reveals govt. report" appearing in the Tribune dated 16.09.2024

Sir,

Kindly refer to our earlier letter dated 06.11.2024 wherein it was requested to provide the status report containing the information of the stated 1,223 sources that are polluting the water bodies of Punjab. This was in reference to NGT matter of OA No. 1229/2024; News Item titled "Over 1200 sources polluting water bodies in Punjab reveals govt. report" appearing in the Tribune dated 16.09.2024. You were also requested to provide the details of action taken in the said matter.

In this context, it is once again requested to kindly provide the aforesaid information at the earliest.

This may be treated as URGENT.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully

  
(Ritesh Prasad Gurung)  
Scientist -E

Encl: As above

‘परिवेश भवन’ पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली - 110032.  
Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 110 032.

दूरभाष /Tel : 43102030, 22305792, वेबसाइट/Website: www.cpcb.nic.in

16

Chief Engineer, Canals, Water Resources Department, Punjab, Sector-18, Chandigarh(Tourism-Cum-Horticulture Branch)(E-Mail-eetch.dwr.chd@punjab.gov.in)

To

Scientist-E, WQM-1  
Central Pollution Control Board  
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change,  
Govt. of India.

**Subject: - Compliance of Hon'ble NGT (PB) order dated 15.10.2024 in the matter of OA No. 1229/2024; News item titled "Over 1200 sources polluting water bodies in Punjab reveals govt. report" appearing in the Tribune dated 16.09.2024.**

With reference to your office letter F.No. A-14011/2024-WQM-I/696/6032 Dated: 06.11.2024 and the Hon'ble NGT (PB) order dated 15.10.2024 in the matter of OA No. 1229/2024 regarding the news item titled "Over 1200 sources polluting water bodies in Punjab reveals govt. report" appearing in the Tribune dated 16.09.2024, the requisite information of the identified sources that are polluting the water bodies in Punjab are enclosed herewith. Additionally, action taken to address the pollution issue is also included.

Encl: As above

  
03/12/2024  
Executive Engineer/Tourism-cum-Horticulture  
For- Chief Engineer/Canals  
Water Resource Department, Punjab,  
Chandigarh. 

Abstract of Pollution Sources					
Sr No	Name of Division	Total no. of Pollution Sources	No. of Pollution Sources Removed	No. of Pollution Sources NOT Removed	Action taken
1	Abohar Canal & Ground Water Division	2	2	0	
2	Barnala Canal & Ground Water Division	13	13	0	
3	Bathinda Canal & Ground Water Division	5	5	0	
4	Bhakra Main Line Canal & Ground Water Division	15	15	0	
5	Patiala Canal & Ground Water Division	49	49	0	
6	Fardkot Canal & Ground Water Division	4	3	1	Case submitted to concerned Police Station and letter written to BDPO and DDPO for making wastewater disposal arrangement.
7	Fazilka Canal & Ground Water Division	27	27	0	
8	Gurdaspur Canal & Ground Water Division	28	3	25	The issue has been taken up with concerned Executive Officer/Commissioner/ADC(D). Meeting by xen was held with ADC Pathankot on 28-10-2024. Concerned SHO has been written to register case under 1. BNS Section 324(3), 2. Section 279, 3. The Northern India Canal and Drainage Act 1873, and 4. THE WATER (PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF POLLUTION) ACT, 1974 against the culprits. The issue taken with EO Sujapur various times. The meeting with DC Pathankot in this matter held various times.
9	Harike Canal Division	110	110	0	
10	Jandiala Canal & Ground Water Division	155	136	19	Letter Written to Concerned SHO and SSP and nodal officer for an action against pollution causing individuals
11	Lehal Canal Division	28	24	4	Letter Written to Concerned SSP and nodal officer for an action against pollution causing individuals
12	Ludhiana Canal & Ground Water Division	4	3	1	Illegal possession between sidhwan canal and 4r distributory. The householders which pollute 4-R distributory has unauthorised possession over government land for which PP Act case was decided in favour of department. For execution of orders, letters have been written to SDM/jagraon,
13	Madhopur Canal & Ground Water Division	25	13	12	Notice Issued to BDPO and Panchayat
14	Majitha Canal & Ground Water Division	6	1	5	Notice issued to BDPO and Police complaint is also filed.
15	Mansa Canal & Ground Water Division	4	4	0	
16	Ropar Canal & Ground Water Division	9	7	2	Notice issued to MC Rupnagar under section 70 of Canal and Drainage Act
17	Sangrur Canal & Ground Water Division	7	6	1	Notice issued to concerned persons
18	Shah Nehar HeadWorks	1	0	1	Notice issued and complaint filed, Work under progress by BDPO office to remove the pollution source
19	Gurdaspur Drainage Division	14	7	7	Letters have been issued to DC Gurdaspur, SDM BATALA, EO batala, XEN Sewerage Board.
20	Pathankot Drainage Division	8	4	4	Notices issued to panchayats
21	Amritsar Drainage Division	364	55	309	Notices issued to BDPOs and panchayats
22	Mechanical Construction Division	82	6	76	Notice have been issued to concerned EO, BDPO and Gram Panchayats
23	Tarn Taran Drainage Division	17	3	14	Notices have been issued to concerned EO Patti, Tarn Taran and Gram panchayats,
24	Hoshiarpur Drainage Division	20	16	4	Letter written to concerned EO, BDPO and Gram Panchayat.
25	Anandpur Drainage Division	10	2	8	Notice under Canal & Drainage Act to Gram Panchayat and concerned Authority have been served

Abstract of Pollution Sources					
Sr. No.	Name of Division	Total no. of Pollution Sources	No. of Pollution Sources Removed	No. of Pollution Sources NOT Removed	Action taken
26	Ropar Drainage Division	19	4	15	Notices have been issued to BDPOs on dated 6-9-2024 and a meeting has been conducted under the Chairmanship of D.C. ropar along with the PPCB and all officials related to stop the non treated effluent from factories to enter in the Drains.
27	Ludhiana Drainage Division	248	52	196	Notices issued to BDPOs and panchayats. FIR was lodged against 76 dairy farmers. FIR no 105 date 09/05/2024 police station jaisalpur. 43 no. new pollution sources have been identified in city reach of Budha daryia
28	Jalandhar Drainage Division	116	23	93	Notices/Letter have been issued to concerned Gram Panchayats/BDPOs/PPCB
29	SBS Drainage Division	32	11	21	Notices have been issued to concerned Gram Panchayats and BDPOs
30	Mansa Drainage Division	90	2	88	Notice have been issued to concerned Gram Panchayat and BDPO
31	Sangrur Drainage Division	276	4	272	Notice have been issued to concerned Gram Panchayat and BDPO
32	Patiala Drainage Division	91	6	85	Notice have been issued to concerned BDPO, Gram Panchyat, Corporation.
33	Mohali Drainage Division	49	4	45	Notices have been issued to concerned Municipal Councils, Corporations, GMADA, D.D.P.O, however no support from any of the development authorities received yet
34	Muktsar Drainage Division	21	8	13	Notice have been issued to concerned Gram Panchayat and BDPO
35	Fardkot Drainage Division	55	2	53	Notice have been issued to concerned Gram Panchayat and BDPO. Letter written to DC also.
36	Fazilka Drainage Division	7	5	2	Letters written to EO
37	Ferozepur Drainage Division	23	5	18	Letters written to DC, EOs and BDPOs
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2034</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>1394</b>	

Item No. 05

Court No. 1

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

Original Application No. 1229/2024

News Item titled "Over 1200 sources polluting water bodies in Punjab reveals govt. report" appearing in the Tribune dated 16.09.2024

Date of hearing: 15.10.2024

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

**ORDER**

1. This original application is registered *suo motu* on the basis of the news item titled "Over 1200 sources polluting water bodies in Punjab reveals govt. report" appearing in 'the Tribune' dated 16.09.2024.

2. The news item relates to a government report that identifies over 1,200 sources of pollution affecting water bodies in Punjab. As per the article, the highest number of pollution sources, 390, were found in Amritsar, followed by 159 in Sangrur. The article highlights that the report provides a district-wise breakdown of pollution sources, with other notable figures including 82 in Jalandhar, 66 in Patiala, and 59 in Barnala. As per the report, untreated water from villages, municipal committees, and other organizations is often discharged directly into rivers and drains, leading to significant water pollution. This practice violates both the Water Pollution Act and the Northern India Canals and Drainage Act of 1873. Furthermore, it is asserted that pollution is not just an environmental issue; it poses significant risks to public health, affecting drinking water supplies and increasing the risk of waterborne diseases.

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

4. The power of the Tribunal to take up the matter *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. Hence, we implead the following as respondents in the matter:

- (1). Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB), Through its Member Secretary, Vatavaran Bhawan, Nabha Road, Patiala, Punjab.
- (2). Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Through its Member Secretary, Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032.
- (3). Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Through its Regional Office, Bays No. 24-25, Sector 31 A, Dakshin Marg, Chandigarh – 160030

6. Issue notice to the above respondents for filing their response/reply by way of affidavit before the Tribunal at least one week before the next date of hearing. If any respondent directly files the reply without routing it through his advocate, then the said respondent will remain virtually present to assist the Tribunal.

7. List on 04.02.2025.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

October 15, 2024  
Original Application No. 1229/2024  
dv..

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

Original Application No. 1229/2024

News Item titled "Over 1200 sources polluting water bodies in Punjab reveals govt. report" appearing in the Tribune dated 16.09.2024

KNOW ALL to whom these present shall come that I, **Avanish Nath Tripathi, Senior Law Officer & Divisional Head (Law)**, do hereby appoint **Advocate Mohit Singhal** herein after called Advocate to be my Advocate in the above noted case and authorize him:

To act appear and plead in the above noted case in this Court or in any other Court in which the same be tried or heard and also in the appellate Court including High Court subject to payment of fees separately for each court by me.

To sign file, verify and present pleadings, appeals, cross-objections or petitions for executions, review, revision, withdrawal, compromise or other petitions or affidavits or other documents as may be deemed necessary or proper for the prosecution of said case in all its stages subject to payment of fees for each stage.

To file and take back documents, to admit and/or deny the documents of opposite party.

To withdraw, or compromise the said case or submit to arbitration any differences or disputes that may arise touching or in any manner relating to the said case.

To take execution proceedings on paying separate fee.

To deposit, draw and receive money, cheques, cash and grant receipts hereof and to do all other act and things which may be necessary to be done for the progress and in the course of the prosecution of the said case.

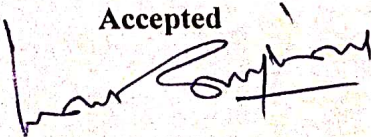
And I the undersigned do hereby agree not to hold the Advocate responsible for the result of the said case. The adjournment costs whenever ordered by the Court shall be of the Advocate which he shall receive and retain for himself.

And I the undersigned do hereby agree that in the event of the whole or any part to the fee agreed by me to be paid to the Advocate remaining unpaid he shall be entitled to withdraw from the prosecution of the said case until the said is paid up. The fee settled is only for the above case and above Court. I hereby agree that once the fee is paid, I will not be entitled for the refund of the same in any case whatsoever.

IN WITNESS WHERE OF I do hereunto set my hand to these presents the contents of which have been understood by me this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2024.

Accepted subject to the terms of the fees.

Accepted



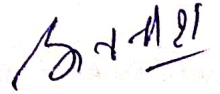
**Mohit Singhal**

Advocate

Office - 23, Kewal Park, Tagore Marg,  
 Azadpur, Delhi-110033  
 Phone - 9911692228, 9971612342  
 Email : singhalmohtilegal@gmail.com

Advocate

Client



अवनीश नाथ त्रिपाठी / **Avanish Nath Tripathi**  
 वरिष्ठ विधि अधिकारी एवं प्रमाण प्रमुख (विधि) / **Senior Law Officer & Divisional Head (Law)**  
**केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड**  
**Central Pollution Control Board**  
 (पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)  
 (M/o Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India)  
 परिवेश भवन, पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली-110032  
 Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032