

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

Original Application No. 673/2018

IN THE MATTER OF: -

News item titled "*More river stretches are now critically polluted:
CPCB*" appearing in the Hindu dated:17.09.2018

INDEX

S. No.	PARTICULARS	PAGES
1.	Reply by way of Affidavit for and by the Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment, Union Territory of Ladakh	1-5

Filed by: -



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New Delhi

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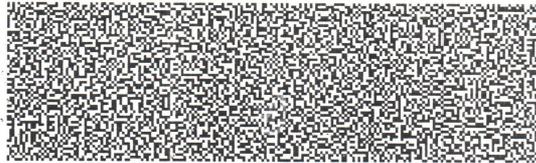
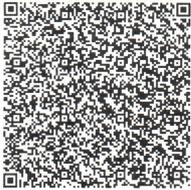
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THE ADMINISTRATION OF UNION TERRITORY OF LADAKH



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**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
Execution Application No. 35/2023
IN
Original Application No. 673/2018**

IN THE MATTER OF: -

News item titled "*More river stretches are now critically polluted: CPCB*" appearing in The Hindu dated:17.09.2018

**REPLY BY WAY OF AFFIDAVIT FOR AND BY
THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREST, ECOLOGY AND
ENVIRONMENT, UNION TERRITORY OF LADAKH i.e. R-35**

I, Mandeep Mittal, IFS, Regional Director, Ladakh Pollution Control Committee, Union Territory Ladakh, duly authorised on behalf of the Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment, UT of Ladakh, do hereby solemnly affirm and respectfully submitted as under:

Hon'ble Sir,

A. The present affidavit is being filed in response to the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in EA No.35/2023 in Original Application No. 673/2018, wherein the Hon'ble Tribunal has sought the Department's response in view of the news article titled "More river stretches are now critically polluted: CPCB" published in "The Hindu" authored by Shri Jacob Koshey.

B. That in compliance to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal's Order dated 09.10.2023, compliance report is hereby submitted as under: -

(i) All the States/UTs may address gaps on generation and treatment of Sewage/effluents by ensuring setting up of requisite number of functional ETPs, CETPs and STPs, as directed by the Hon'ble Supreme court in (2017) 5SCC 3026:

That an Additional Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) of 12.5 MLD capacity has been proposed for the left-out and uncovered areas of Leh town. The Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the said project has been prepared and after inputs

Total Sewerage generation as on date and expected generation in the coming years in Leh and Kargil Town.

ULB	Quantity of Sewerage Generated as on date	Projected Sewerage Generation by 2040
Leh	8.69 MLD	13.48MLD
Kargil	6.64 MLD	7.3 MLD

(ii) Nos of STPs as on date, their capacity, gap and proposed action taken for bridging the gap and current status.

ULB	No of STP as on date	Capacity of Functional STP	Gap in sewerage treatment capacity	Proposed STPs for bridging gap	Capacity	Current Status
Leh	01	3 MLD	5.69 MLD	01 STP	12.5 MLD (Including Army Demand)	Final DPR resubmitted to IIT Roorkee for final appraisal on 29 th November 2025.
Total Capacity of STP in Leh					15.5 MLD	

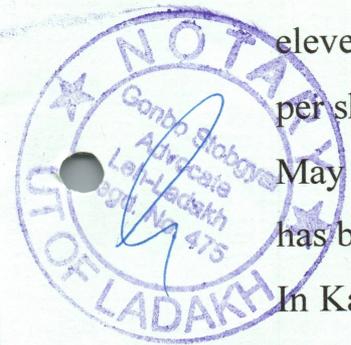
ULB	No. of STP as on date	Capacity of Functiona l STP	Gap in sewerage treatment capacity	Proposed STPs for bridging gap	Capacity	Current Status
Kargil	0	0	6.64 MLD	One STP project divided into 6 Zone		
				ZONE1	1.0 MLD	DPR under Preparation.
				ZONE 2 AND 5	1.2+ 0.8 MLD	Under process for AAA
				ZONE 3	2.0 MLD	Work under execution
				ZONE 4	2.0 MLD	Work under



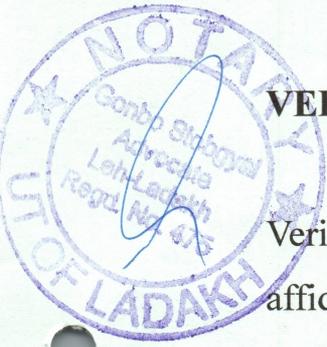
Total Capacity of STP in Kargil	7.3 MLD	
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Timeline for commissioning of the STPs as per the DPR the project will be completed within two working seasons.

- (iii) That a Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant (FSTP) of 12 KLD capacity has been established at Bombgarh, Leh, which is fully operational and functioning satisfactorily as on date and a Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant (FSTP) of 10 KLD capacity has been established at Kurbathang, Kargil.
- (iv) That to enhance the collection and safe transportation of faecal sludge in Leh, eleven (11) suction trucks with an aggregate capacity of 80,000 litres per day per shift, operating in two shifts, have been procured and deployed. From 1st May 2025 till date, a total quantity of 2.96 million litres (ML) of faecal sludge has been treated at the FSTP, Leh.
- In Kargil six (06) suction trucks with a capacity of 23,000 litres per day per shift, operating in two shifts, have been procured and deployed.
- (v) That an additional storage tank of 0.38 MLD capacity has been constructed and commissioned at the existing Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), Agling, Leh, thereby substantially enhancing the holding and operational capacity of the said plant.
- (vi) That pursuant to the decision of the Ladakh Pollution Control Committee (LPCC), installation of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) has been made mandatory for hotels and guesthouses having more than 19 rooms. As on date, twenty-five (25) decentralised STPs have been installed, and further installations are under process.
- (vii) That to encourage compliance among hotels and guesthouses having less than 19 rooms, the Ladakh STP Incentive Scheme has been notified, providing for 75% reimbursement of the cost of STP equipment and installation (subject to a ceiling of ₹5 lakh for establishments with 10–19 rooms and ₹3 lakh for establishments with 1–9 rooms), along with an additional 10% incentive for women-owned establishments, thereby promoting women entrepreneurship.
- (viii) That in order to prevent sewerage overflow through manholes and to eliminate



(ix) That a specialised remote-controlled, AI-enabled Wilboar machine has been procured and deployed at the STP, Agling, Leh since July 2025, enabling efficient cleaning and desilting operations and ensuring uninterrupted functioning of the plant without requiring shutdowns.



VERIFICATION

Verified at on this day of 2025 that the contents of the above reply by way of affidavit are correct and true on the basis of the records of the case as maintained in the day-to-day affairs of the Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment, Union Territory of Ladakh. Nothing has been concealed therefrom or mis-stated.

[Signature]
DEPONENT
Regional Director
Ladakh Pollution Control Committee
UT-Ladakh

Certified that the above document
was declared on oath before me
by...*Deponent*
who is identified by *Rigzin Stodus*

Sto Ggyan Samin
R/o Housing, Colong
GONBO STOBGYA.
ADVOCATE
NOTARY
4/2/2026

[Signature]
DEPONENT
Regional Director
Ladakh Pollution Control Committee
UT-Ladakh

Res. No. 282
Dated: 4/2/26