

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

Original Application No. 1119 of 2024

In the matter of:

**NEWS ITEM TITLED "SINDH NALLAH POLLUTED TROUT HABITAT  
THREATENED IN GANDERBAL" APPEARING IN GREATER  
KASHMIR DATED 19.08.2024****Index**

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**Filed by Advocate Vikrant Pachnanda  
On behalf of Central Pollution Control Board**

Place: Delhi

Dated: 06.02.2026

**REPORT IN COMPLIANCE OF HON'BLE NGT ORDER DATED 10.11.2025  
IN ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 1119/2024, NEWS ITEM TITLED  
"SINDH NALLAH POLLUTED TROUT HABITAT THREATENED IN  
GANDERBAL" APPEARING IN GREATER KASHMIR DATED 19.08.2024**

**1. BACKGROUND**

The report dated 10/12/2024 filed by J&KPCC and the report dated 07/11/2025 filed by CPCB in the present matter, were considered by Hon'ble NGT during hearing on 10/11/2025. It was observed by Hon'ble NGT in order dated 10/11/2025 that:

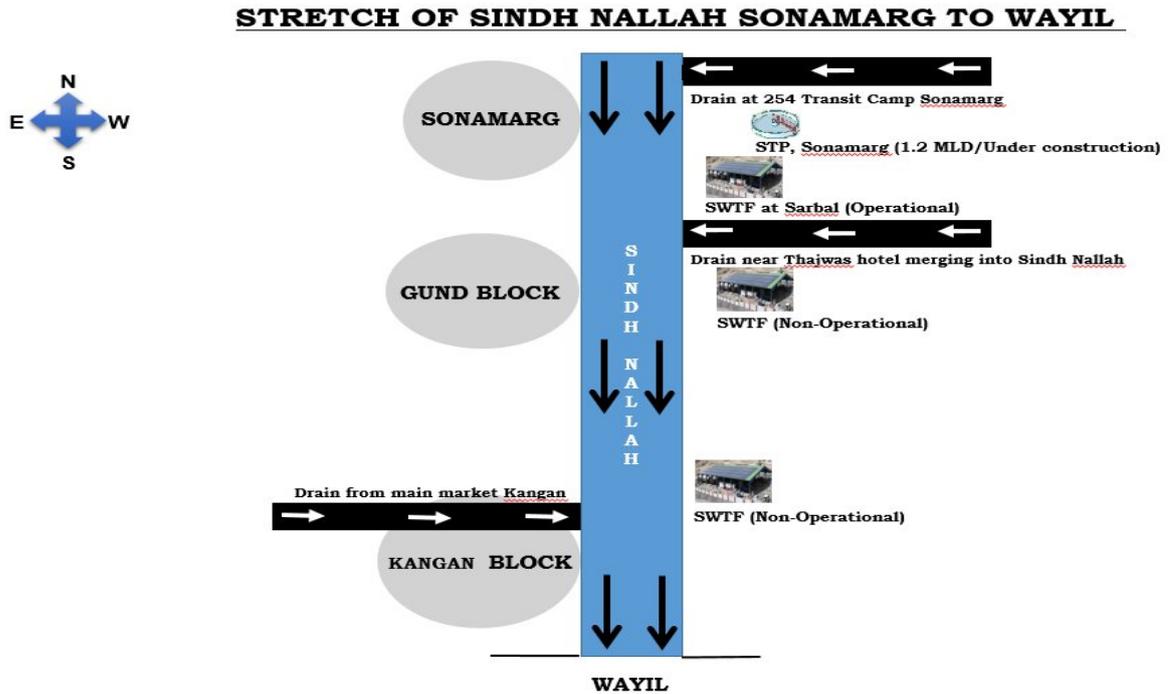
Para 04: *“Report filed by CPCB reflects that in the relevant stretches, water quality in Sindh nallah is of class D.”*

Para 5: *“Learned Counsel appearing for CPCB seeks time to place on record the sources of pollution of Sindh nallah, remedial action taken and suggested remedial action to prevent pollution in Sindh nallah. Let same be filed within four weeks.”*

**2. ACTION TAKEN IN COMPLIANCE TO THE DIRECTIONS OF  
HON'BLE NGT**

**2.1 About Sindh Nallah**

Sindh Nallah is a major tributary of the Jhelum river in the Kashmir Valley, stretching about 108 km in length. It originates from the Machoi glacier near Sonamarg at an elevation of approximately 4,800 meters. Flowing through Sonamarg, Kangan, and Ganderbal, the river ultimately joins the Jhelum river at Shadipura. Sindh Nallah plays a vital role in the region by supplying water for drinking, irrigation, and hydroelectric power generation. Schematic diagram of Sindh Nallah is shown in **Fig 1**.



**Fig 1: Schematic diagram of Sindh Nallah (from Sonamarg to Wayil)**

(STP: Sewage Treatment Plant, SWTF: Solid Waste Treatment Facilities)

## 2.2 Submissions of DC, Ganderbal before Hon'ble NGT

In the Action Taken Report dated 06.08.2025 submitted by the Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal in compliance to earlier NGT order dated 8/4/2025 in the same matter, the sources of pollution and affected areas in the stretch of Sindh Nallah from Sonamarg to Wayil have been identified particularly along the Sonamarg tourist area and the riverbanks near Gund and Kangan. The primary causes include the dumping of solid and plastic waste along the riverbanks from Sonamarg to Wayil, as well as under-utilized or non-functional Solid Waste Treatment Facilities for Sarbal and Gund and Kangan blocks

## 2.3 Visit by CPCB

In compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble NGT, a joint visit of Sindh Nallah from Wayil to Sonamarg was carried out on **18.12.2025** by a team of

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) comprising of Dr. Narender Sharma, Scientist 'F', Sh. Ritik Bhagat, Scientist 'B' and Dr. Pooja Tripathi, RA-III to identify the sources of pollution and to suggest remedial measures for prevention of pollution in Sindh Nallah. The officials of J&K PCC from Regional Directorate, Srinagar were also associated during the visit. The inspection team visited Kangan Block, Gund Block & Sonamarg to assess the status of solid waste management and to identify potential sources contributing to pollution of Sindh Nallah.

Relevant photographs of each sites taken by CPCB Team are enclosed as **Annexure I**.

### **3.0 Findings/Observations of CPCB Team regarding sources of pollution and remedial actions taken:**

1. Solid Waste Treatment Facility is installed at Chinner village, Panchayat Halqa Wussan (B), **Kangan Block**, which is located in close proximity to Sindh Nallah. The facility was found non-operational.
2. Solid Waste Management Facility is installed at Surfraw-B, **Gund Block**, which located near Sindh Nallah. The facility was found non-operational.
3. Solid Waste Management Facility is installed at Sarbal, **Sonamarg**, which is located near Sindh Nallah. The facility was found operational. The condition of the facility indicated that it is not operated regularly therefore regular monitoring is required.
4. Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) at Sonamarg of 1.2 MLD capacity, based on MBBR technology, for treatment of sewage generated from Sonmarg was found under construction. The Consent to Establish (CTE) from J&K PCC for this project was not obtained.
5. J&K PCC has identified three (03) drains merging into Sindh Nallah namely (i) drain near 254 transit camp, Sonamarg (ii) drain near Thajwas hotel (iii)

drain from main market Kangan. At the time of inspection, no water polluting activity was observed in and around these drains. However, accumulation of garbage was observed during visit in the drain merging into Sindh Nallah near Thajwas hotel.

6. Garbage dumping was observed near natural drain - Gund Nallah, which is a tributary/drain contributing to Sindh Nallah.
7. After the site visit, CPCB vide letter dated **29.12.2025** requested J&K PCC to furnish the additional information regarding Waste Management; Updated status of actions taken by various agencies, STPs details and Analysis report of identified drains. Copy of the letter is enclosed as **Annexure II**
8. In response, J&K PCC has submitted response vide letter dated 29.01.2026 which furnished, i.) names and geo-coordinates of identified drains; ii.) J&K PCC order dated 03.12.2025 for levying Environmental Compensation of Rs 222.65 Lakhs to BDO Kangan; and iii.) water quality data of Sindh Nallah. Copy of response submitted by J&K PCC is enclosed as **Annexure-III**.
9. The water quality data of Sindh Nallah, as provided by J&K PCC is given in **Annexure IV**. The water quality report of Sindh Nallah for the month of December, 2025 at five locations namely i.) Wayil; ii.) Mammar; iii.) Gagangeer; iv.) Sonamarg d/s and v.) Sonamarg u/s, as provided by J&K PCC indicates the compliance with water quality criteria specified for uses - Drinking Water Source without conventional treatment but after disinfection (Class A), Outdoor bathing (Organized) (Class B), Drinking water source after conventional treatment and disinfection (Class C) and Propagation of Wild life and Fisheries (Class D). The water quality criteria specified by CPCB for various uses based on pH, concentration of Dissolved Oxygen, BOD and Total Coliform is enclosed as **Annexure-V**.

#### 4.0 Suggested remedial actions to prevent pollution in Sindh Nallah:

The following remedial measures are suggested to prevent pollution of Sindh Nallah:

1. The Solid Waste Treatment Facilities at Chinner (**Kangan Block**) and Surfraw-B (**Gund Block**) shall be made operational on priority with adequate trained manpower, and the Solid Waste Treatment Facilities at Sarbal (**Sonamarg**) shall be operated regularly. Segregation of waste at source and proper processing shall be ensured in as per the Solid Waste Management (SWM) Rules, 2016.
2. The concerned local bodies shall ensure scientific collection, processing, and disposal of solid waste and prevent dumping in or near Sindh Nallah and its tributaries.
3. Garbage dumping near Gund Nallah and garbage accumulated in the drain merging into Sindh Nallah near Thajwas hotel shall be removed immediately, and preventive measures such as fencing, signage, and regular surveillance shall be put in place.
4. The STP at Sonamarg (1.2 MLD) shall be installed and operated after obtaining CTE and CTO respectively from J&K PCC, to ensure Time-bound completion and compliance with prescribed standards.
5. Water quality monitoring of Sindh Nallah may be carried out regularly by J&K PCC to assess effectiveness of remedial measures and ensure compliance with water quality standards. The identified drains merging into Sindh Nallah may also be monitored by J&K PCC to detect discharge of sewage or waste and take remedial action.



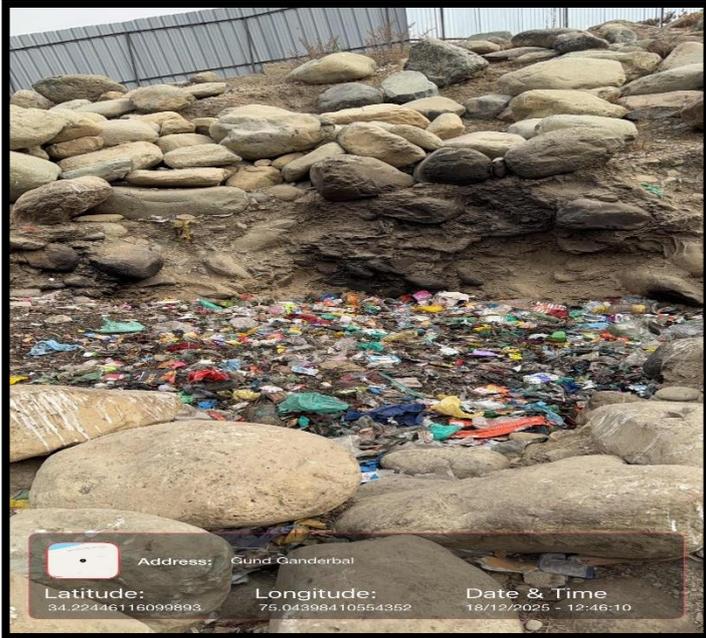
**(Nazimuddin)**  
Scientist 'F'

Central Pollution Control Board  
06.02.2026

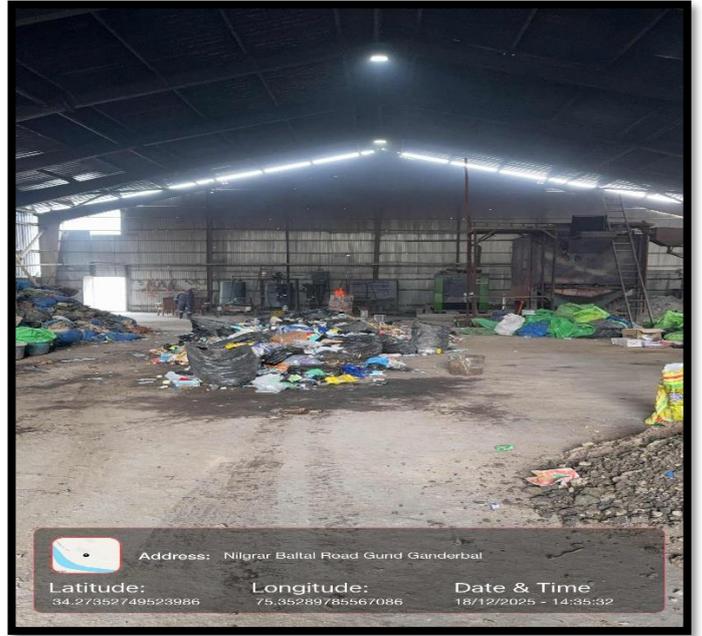
**PHOTOGRAPHS OF IDENTIFIED SITES TAKEN DURING  
INSPECTION ON 18/12/2025**



**Solid Waste Management Unit at Surfraw-B, Gund Block**



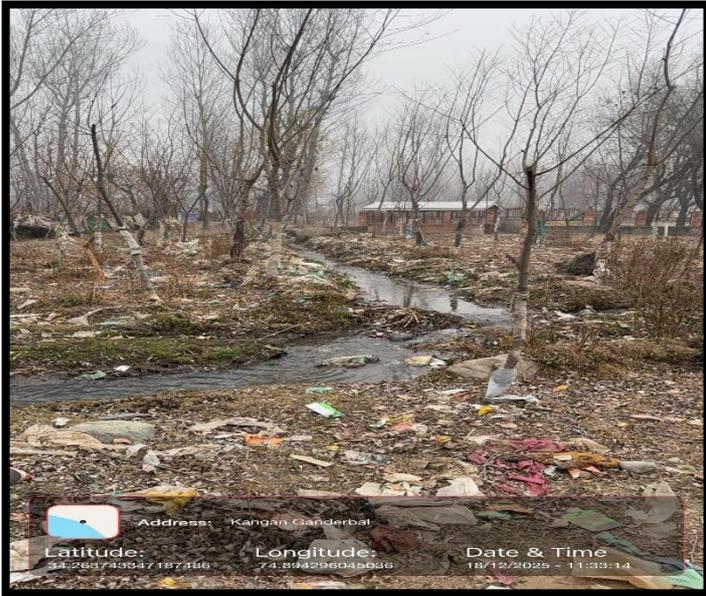
**Solid Waste Treatment Facility at Chinner, Panchayat Halqa Wussan (B), Kangan Block**



**Solid Waste Management Unit at Sarbal, Sonamarg**



**Under construction STP at Sonamarg**



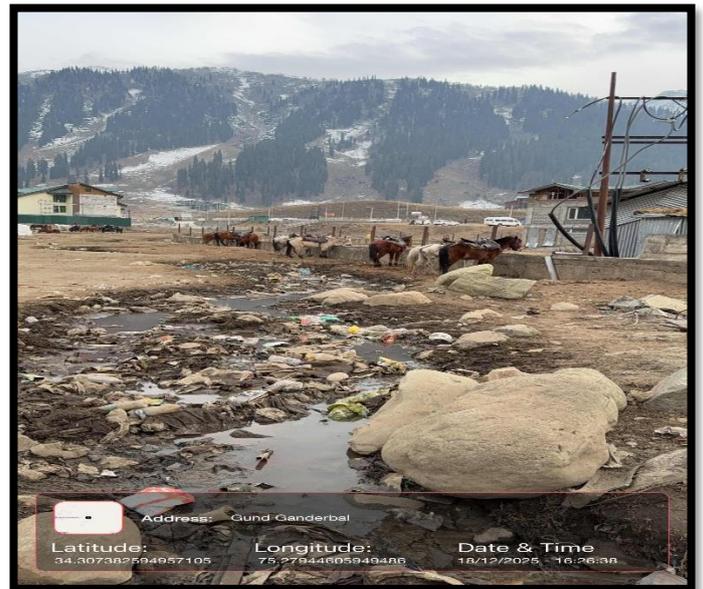
**Drain from main market, Kangan**



**Drain near 254 transit camp, Sonamarg**



**Garbage accumulation in drain near Thajwas hotel merging into Sindh Nallah**



**Horse dung in drain near Thajwas hotel merging into Sindh Nallah**



**LIFE**  
Lifestyle for  
Environment

Annexure-II  
449

**केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड**  
क्षेत्रीय निदेशालय, चण्डीगढ़  
**Central Pollution Control Board**  
Regional Directorate, Chandigarh

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

CPCB/RD/CHD/NGT/340

Date: 29.12.2025

सेवा में,

सदस्य सचिव

जम्मू और कश्मीर प्रदूषण नियंत्रण समिति (J&KPCC)

परिवेश भवन, वन परिसर, ग्लैडनी, नरवेल, ट्रांसपोर्ट नगर, जम्मू - 180004

जम्मू और कश्मीर

**Sub: Information required in the matter of O.A No. 1119/2024 in reference to Hon'ble NGT Order dated 10/11/2025 and site visit carried out by CPCB Team on 18/12/2025.**

Sir,

This has reference to the Hon'ble NGT Order dated 10/11/2025 in the matter of OA No. 1119/2024; News Item titled "*Sindh Nallah Polluted; trout habitat threatened in Ganderbal*" appearing in Greater Kashmir dated 19.08.2024 and the site visit/inspection carried out by CPCB Team along with official of J&K PCC and LCMA on 18/12/2025.

In this regard, while thanking the Officials of J&K PCC for assisting CPCB Team during site inspection on 18/12/2025, it is to submit that the following information is required for incorporating the same, in the response to be filed by CPCB before Hon'ble NGT in this matter:

**1. Waste Management:**

- Capacity of Solid and Plastic waste treatment facilities available in Kangan, Gund and Sonamarg areas of Ganderbal district.
- Last 3 months data on quantity of waste generated, collected and treated from hotels and other sources in the aforesaid areas.
- Details of quantity of waste scientifically landfilled in the above three areas.

**2. Updated status of the action taken** on directions issued by J&K PCC on 04/12/2024 to the Block Development Officer, Kangan; the Block Development Officer, Gund and the Chief Executive Officer, Sonamarg Development Authority, Sonamarg.

**3. Details of Sewage Treatment Plant (STP)** proposed to be commissioned at Sonamarg:

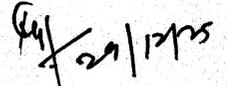
- Source of sewage to the proposed STP
- Designed treatment capacity
- Treatment technology adopted
- Disposal point and/or reuse of treated sewage
- Sludge Disposal method
- Current status and timelines of completion of STP work.

4. **Names and Geo-coordinates** of identified drains merging into Sindh Nallah and the latest sample analysis reports with regard to quality of water monitored by J&KPCC.

It is requested that the above information may kindly be furnished on priority for compilation and further submission before the Hon'ble NGT, as the matter is listed for hearing on 09.02.2025.

सादर,

भवदीय,



(डॉ. नरेन्द्र शर्मा)  
क्षेत्रीय निदेशक

**Jammu and Kashmir  
Pollution Control Committee**  
chairman87jkspcb@gmail.com  
membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com



Parivesh Bhavan, Forest Complex  
Transport Nagar, Jammu, 180 006  
Silk Factory Road  
Rajbagh, Srinagar, 190 008

0191 – 2472881, 2476925

**Member Secretary,  
Central Pollution Control Board,  
Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar,  
Delhi-110032.**

**No. : JKPCC/Sc./NGT1119/26/2162**

**Date: 29-01-2026**

**Sub: Information required in the matter of OA No. 1119/2024 in reference to Hon'ble NGT Order dated 10/11/2025 and site visit carried out by CPCB Team on 18/12/2025.**

**Ref: PCC/RDK/LS(NGT)/OA No. 1119/2024)/2026/33-35; Dated: 27.01.2026.**

Sir,

With reference to the subject and reference cited above, please find enclosed herewith reply submitted by Regional Director Kashmir vide his office No. PCC/RDK/LS(NGT)/OA No. 1119/2024)/2026/33-35; Dated: 27.01.2026 for kind persual.

Futher, in compliance to the directions issued by this office, Sonamarg Development Authority has submitted its reply in parallel OA No. 1046/2024 titled News item appearing in India.com dated 27.07.2024 titled "Saving Kashmir Brown Bears is a Race Against Time Wildlife SOS and J&K Wildlife Protection Department take a challenge" vide No. CEO/SDA/2025; dated: 07.11.2025 **(Copy enclosed)**.

**Encl: A/A**

Yours sincerely,

  
**Dr. R. Gopinath, IFS**  
Member Secretary



Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
**J&K POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE**  
**OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR - KASHMIR**

Sheikh-ul-Alam Campus, Rajbagh, Near Government Silk Factory, Srinagar-190008  
[www.jkspcb.in](http://www.jkspcb.in) Email: [regionaldirectorkmr@gmail.com](mailto:regionaldirectorkmr@gmail.com), Tel/fax 0194-2311842

**The Member Secretary,  
 J & K PCC, Jammu.**

No: PCC/RDK/LS (NGT)/(OA No. 1119/2024)/2026/ **33-35**

Date: **27**01-2026.

**Subject: - Information required in the matter of OA No. 1119/2024 in reference to Hon'ble NGT Order dated 10/11/2025 and site visit carried out by CPCB Team on 18/12/2025.**

**Reference:- Your letter No. JKPC/Sc./OA-1119-2024/1895-97 dated 02-01-2026.**

Sir,

With regard to the subject and the letter referred hereinabove, it is to submit that the requisite information on the points (1 & 3) referred to therein the CPCB's communication dated 29-12-2025 particularly concern with the stakeholders including Chief Executive Officer, Sonamarg Development Authority, Block Development Officers Kangan and Gund has not been furnished by them despite issuance of letters of even numbers dated 06-01-2026 (copies whereof enclosed) by the Divisional Officer, PCC, Ganderbal. In the meanwhile, a joint report bearing No. PCC/ROK/W.LAB/Inspection/25-26/99 dated 27-01-2026 of Divisional Officer, PCC, Ganderbal and Scientist-"A"/Lab Coordinator, PCC, Kashmir, a copy whereof is also enclosed hereto would suffice the consolidated reply on the points (2 & 4) raised by the CPCB in its letter mentioned hereinbefore. Hence, submitted for kind perusal and further course of necessary action in the matter please.

Encls: - A/a. **(13)**

Copy to:-

1. Divisional Officer, PCC, Ganderbal for information and Sh. Shabir Ahmad Sheikh, Scientist-"A"/Lab Coordinator, PCC, Kashmir for information. This takes reference to the report quoted hereinabove.

**Regional Director,  
 Kashmir.**  
**27.01.2026**



Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
J&K POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE  
Rajbagh, near Government Silk Factory, Srinagar-190008



**Subject:** Information required in the matter of OA No 1119/2024 in reference to Hon'ble NGT order dated 10-11-2025 and site visit carried out by CPCB team on 18-12-2025.

In compliance to CPCB letter no CPCB/RD/CHD/NGT/340 dt 29/12/2025 regarding OA matter no 1119/2024, it is to submit that this office has already issued letters to all concerned stakeholders (CEO Sonamarg Dev. Authority, BDOs Kangan and Gund) through the District Office, Ganderbal (copies enclosed) directing them to furnish the required information within the stipulated timeframe. Despite issuance of the said communications, response from the stakeholders is still awaited. Upon receipt of the said information, the same shall be examined, consolidated, and a comprehensive compliance/status report shall be submitted. It is pertinent to mention here that J&K PCC has levied environmental compensation to the tune of Rs 222.65 lacs to BDO Kangan vide order no 13 JKPC of 2025 Dated 03/12/2025. (Copy enclosed).

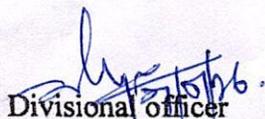
Also please find attached with name and geo coordinates of drains/ nallas merging into Sindh Nallah. Water quality analysis report of Sindh nallah is also annexed herewith.

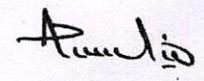
Submitted for favour of information and further necessary action.

Encl:- AA

NO:-PCC/ROK/W.LAB/Inspection /25-26/99

Dated:- 27 /01/2026

  
Divisional officer  
PCC Ganderbal

  
Scientist 'A'  
I/C Water lab PCC Kashmir

Zahoor

9/1



454 केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड

क्षेत्रीय निदेशालय, चण्डीगढ़  
Central Pollution Control Board  
Regional Directorate, Chandigarh

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

12

CPCB/RD/CHD/NGT/340

Date: 29.12.2025

सेवा में,

सदस्य सचिव

जम्मू और कश्मीर प्रदूषण नियंत्रण समिति (J&KPCC)

परिवेश भवन, वन परिसर, ग्लैडनी, नरवेल, ट्रांसपोर्ट नगर, जम्मू - 180004

जम्मू और कश्मीर

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In this regard, while thanking the Officials of J&K PCC for assisting CPCB Team during site inspection on 18/12/2025, it is to submit that the following information is required for incorporating the same, in the response to be filed by CPCB before Hon'ble NGT in this matter:

**1. Waste Management:**

- Capacity of Solid and Plastic waste treatment facilities available in Kangan, Gund and Sonamarg areas of Ganderbal district.
- Last 3 months data on quantity of waste generated, collected and treated from hotels and other sources in the aforesaid areas.
- Details of quantity of waste scientifically landfilled in the above three areas.

**2. Updated status of the action taken** on directions issued by J&K PCC on 04/12/2024 to the Block Development Officer, Kangan; the Block Development Officer, Gund and the Chief Executive Officer, Sonamarg Development Authority, Sonamarg.

**3. Details of Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) proposed to be commissioned at Sonamarg:**

- Source of sewage to the proposed STP
- Designed treatment capacity
- Treatment technology adopted
- Disposal point and/or reuse of treated sewage
- Sludge Disposal method
- Current status and timelines of completion of STP work.

राष्ट्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, दूसरी मंजिल, सेक्टर 49-सी, चण्डीगढ़-160 047  
National Telephone Exchange, 2nd Floor, Sector 49-C, Chandigarh-160 047  
दूरभाष / Tel.: 0172-2990360  
ईमेल / Email : rdchandigarh.cpcb@nic.in

प्रधान कार्यालय / Head Office  
परिवेश भवन, ईस्ट अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली -110032  
Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032  
EPABX दूरभाष / Tel.: 011-43102030, 22305792  
वेबसाइट / Website: http://www.cpcb.nic.in

4. **Names and Geo-coordinates** of identified drains merging into Sindh Nallah and the latest sample analysis reports with regard to quality of water monitored by J&KPCC.

It is requested that the above information may kindly be furnished on priority for compilation and further submission before the Hon'ble NGT, as the matter is listed for hearing on 09.02.2025.

सादर,

भवदीय,

21/1/25

(डॉ. नरेन्द्र शर्मा)  
क्षेत्रीय निदेशक



Jammu & Kashmir Pollution Control Committee  
District Office Ganderbal-Kashmir

Beehama Chowk near J&K Bank Ltd  
(www.jkpcb.jk.gov.in, e-mail: jkpcbldo@gmail.com)

Chief Executive Officer,  
Sonamarg Dev. Authority  
Sonamarg, Ganderbal.

No. PCC/DO/GBL/2026/07-9

Date: 06/01/2026.

Subject: Information required in the matter of O.A No. 1119/2024 in reference to Hon'ble NGT order dated 10/11/2025 and site visit carried out by CPCB Team on 18/12/2025.

Sir,

This has reference to the Hon'ble NGT Order dated 10/11/2025 in the matter of OA No. 111/2024; News item titled "Sindh Nallah Polluted; trout habitat threatened in Ganderbal appearing in Greater Kashmir dated 19.08.2024 and site visit/inspection by CPCB Team on 18/12/2025.

In this regard, it is to submit that the following information is required for incorporating the same, in response to be filed by CPCB before Hon'ble NGT in this matter:

1. Waste Management:
  - i. Capacity of Solid and plastic waste treatment facility available in Sonamarg.
  - ii. Last 3 months data on quantity of waste generated, collected and treated from hotels and other sources in the aforesaid area.
  - iii. Details of quantity of waste scientifically land filled in the above area.
2. Updated status of the action taken on directions issued by J&K PCC on 04/12/2024 & PCC/Do/GBL/Inf/Treatment Plant/2025/421-422 dated 17-12-2025.
3. Details of Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) proposed to be commissioned at Sonamarg:
  - i. Source of sewage to be proposed STP
  - ii. Designed treatment capacity
  - iii. Treatment technology adopted
  - iv. Disposal point and/or reuse of treated sewage
  - v. Sludge Disposal method
  - vi. Current status and timelines of completion of STP work.

It is requested that the above information may kindly be furnished on priority for compilation and further submission before the Hon'ble NGT, as the matter is listed for hearing on 09.02.2025.

Yours faithfully,

Divisional Officer  
Ganderbal

Copy to the:

1. Regional Director, JK PCC for information and n/a.
2. Shir Arshid F.I for information & follow up report.



457

9

Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
**TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, SONAMARG**

Email: sdaofficial@yahoo.com

Executive Engineer,  
PWD (R&B) Divison,  
Kangan.

(Reminder - I)

No. CEO/SDA/2025/2920-23.

Dated:- 15-01-2026

Sub: Information required in the matter of O.A No. 119/2024 in referenbce to Honble NGT order dated 10-11-20205 and site visit carried out by CPCB team on 18-12-2025.

Sir,

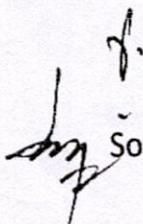
This is in continuation of our earlier communication No. CEO/SDA/2025/2868-71 dated: 12-01-2026, wherein you were requested to furnish the information pertaining to **Point No. 2** concerning your office on priority, by 13-01-2026 positively.

It has been noted that the required information has not been received till dlate. As already highlighted, this information is critical for submission before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) in reference to O.A No. 119/2024 and the CPCB site visit dated: 18-12-2025. The next hearing before the Hon'ble NGT is scheduled for 09-02-2026, and any delay may result in non-compliance and adverse implications.

In view of the above, you are once again requested to treat this matter with utmost urgency and provide the pending information without any further delay.

Kindly ensure immediate action and compliance, keeping in view the seriousness of the matter and the directions of the Hon'ble NGT. leaves

Yours faithfully,

  
Chief Executive Officer,  
Sonamarg Development Authority.

Copy to the:

1. Financial Commissioner / Additional Chief Secretary, Tourism Department, Civil Secretariat, Srinagar / Jammu for favour of information.
2. Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal for favour of information.
3. Divisional Officer, Ganderbal, J&K Pollution Control Committee District Ganderbal for information.



Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
**TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, SONAMARG**  
 Email:- [sdaofficial@yahoo.com](mailto:sdaofficial@yahoo.com)

Executive Engineer,  
 PWD (R&B) Divison,  
 Kangan.

No. CEO/SDA/2025/ 2060-71

Dated:- / 2-01-2026

Sub: Information required in the matter of O.A No. 119/2024 in referenbce to Honble NGT order dated 10-11-20205 and site visit carried out by CPCB team on 18-12-2025.

Sir,

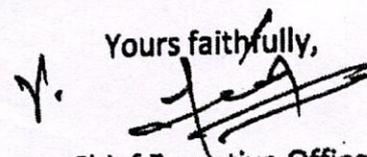
A communication has been received from the Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee, District Office Ganderbal, vide No. PCC/Do/GBL/2026/07-09 dated 06-01-2025, regarding the Sewage Treatment Plant and Solid Waste Management Plant at Sarbal, Sonamarg. In the communication, a request was made to furnish the required information on a priority basis.

This is to bring to your immediate attention that Point No. 2 pertaining to your office must be furnished to this Authority by tomorrow, i.e, **13-01-2026**. The information is required for submission before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), as the matter is scheduled for hearing on **09-02-2026**.

You are hereby requested to treat this matter as **most urgent** in view of the ongoing Hon'ble NGT proceedings. Kindly ensure compliance by the stipulated deadline.

A copy of the communication is enclosed for ready reference.

Yours faithfully,

  
 Chief Executive Officer,  
 Sonamarg Development Authority.

Copy to the:

1. Financial Commissioner / Additional Chief Secretary, Tourism Department, Civil Secretariat, Srinagar / Jammu for favour of information.
2. Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal for favour of information.
3. Divisional Officer, Ganderbal, J&K Pollution Control Committee District Ganderbal for information.



Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
**TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, SONAMARG**  
Email: [adaofficial@yahoo.com](mailto:adaofficial@yahoo.com)

1. Executive Engineer,  
S&D Division Ist,  
UEED Srinagar,
2. Executive Engineer,  
PWD (R&B) Mechanical),  
Division Central Kashmir.

No. CEO/SDA/2025/2023-26

Dated:- 07-12-2025

Sub: Information required in the matter of O.A No. 119/2024 in referenbce to Honble NGT order dated 10-11-20205 and site visit carried out by CPCB team on 18-12-2025.

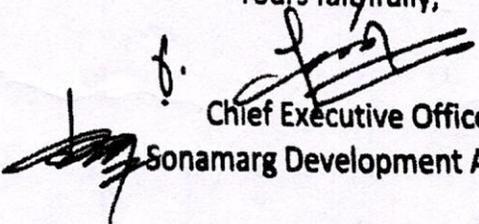
Sir,

A communication has been received from the Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee, District Office Ganderbal, regarding the Sewage Treatment Plant & Solid Waste Management Plant at Sarbal Sonamarg. A copy of the same is enclosed for ready reference.

The point wise information pertaining to your office may kindly be furnished to this Authority by tomorrow positively I,e 08-01-2026. The same is required to be submitted before the Hon'ble NGT, as the matter is listed for hearing on 09.02.2026.

You are requested to treat the matter as most urgent.

Yours faithfully,

  
Chief Executive Officer,  
Sonamarg Development Authority.

Copy to the:

1. Financial Commissioner / Additional Chief Secretary, Tourism Department, Civil Secretariat, Srinagar / Jammu for favour of information.
2. Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal for favour of information.
3. Divisional Officer, Ganderbal, J&K Pollution Control Committee District Ganderbal for information.



**Jammu & Kashmir Pollution Control Committee**  
**District Office Ganderbal-Kashmir**

Beehama Chowk near J&K Bank Ltd  
 (www.jkpcb.jk.gov.in, e-mail: jkpcbdo@gmail.com)

Block Development Officer,  
 Kangan, Ganderbal

No. PCC/DO/Kangan/2026/04-6

Date: 06/01/2026

Subject: Information required in the matter of O.A No. 1119/2024 in reference to Hon'ble NGT order dated 10/11/2025 and site visit carried out by CPCB Team on 18/12/2025.

Sir,

This has reference to the Hon'ble NGT Order dated 10/11/2025 in the matter of OA No. 111/2024; News item titled "Sindh Nallah Polluted; trout habitat threatened in Ganderbal appearing in Greater Kashmir dated 19.08.2024 and site visit/inspection by CPCB Team on 18/12/2025.

In this regard, it is to submit that the following information is required for incorporating the same, in response to be filed by CPCB before Hon'ble NGT in this matter:

1. Waste Management:
  - i. Capacity of Solid and plastic waste treatment facility available in Kangan.
  - ii. Last 3 months data on quantity of waste generated, collected and treated from hotels and other sources in the aforesaid area.
  - iii. Details of quantity of waste scientifically land filled in the above area.
2. Updated status of the action taken on directions issued by J&K PCC vide order no. 13 JKPC of 2025 dated 03-12-2025.
3. Details of current sewage disposal/ Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) proposed if any:
  - i. Source of sewage to be proposed STP
  - ii. Designed treatment capacity
  - iii. Treatment technology adopted
  - iv. Disposal point and/or reuse of treated sewage
  - v. Sludge Disposal method
  - vi. Current status and timelines of completion of STP work.

It is requested that the above information may kindly be furnished on priority for compilation and further submission before the Hon'ble NGT, as the matter is listed for hearing on 09.02.2025.

Yours faithfully,

*[Signature]*  
 Divisional Officer  
 Ganderbal

Copy to the:

1. Regional Director, JK PCC for information and n/a.
2. Shri Fayaz Ahmad F.J for information & follow up report.

**Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee**

Parivesh Bhavan, Forest Complex || Silk Factory Road  
 Transport Nagar, Jammu, 180 006 || Rajbagh, Srinagar, 190 008  
 Tel - 0191-2476927; mail - membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com

5

**Subject Levying of Environmental Compensation to the Block Development Officer, Kangan, District Ganderbal.**

ORDER NO. **13** JKPCC of 2025

Dated **03** -12-2025

Whereas, Hon'ble NGT in O.A. No. 1070/2024 registered suo motu in News item titled "**Plastic Pollution poses threat to Kashmir's Great lakes Trek**"; **in the Rising Kashmir dated 09-08-2024** on account of the disposal of Plastic waste by trekkers such as plastic bottles, polythene, etc. which is contaminating the environment and contributing to deterioration in the quality of the lakes; and

Whereas, the unscientific and illegal dumping of municipal solid waste on the banks of Sindh Nallah is in violation of Environmental laws and the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) and;

Whereas, the Divisional Officer, Pollution Control Committee, Ganderbal after conducting fresh inspection of the site on 17-02-2025, and reported that unscientific dumping of solid waste by Rural Development Department, in Gund Nallah is leading to air and water pollution; and;

Whereas, Regional Director, Pollution Control Committee, Kashmir was advised to submit the Environmental Compensation formats of Block Development Officer, Gund District Ganderbal and Block, Development Officer, Kangan-District Ganderbal vide letter No. JKPCC/NGT/OA/1070/2024/212 dated 05-05-2025 on estimated quantity of untreated solid waste existing in the said blocks; and

Whereas, Regional Director, Pollution Control Committee, Kashmir submitted the Environmental Compensation formats alongwith the recommendation of Block Development Officer, Kangan-District Ganderbal and Block Development Officer, Gund District Ganderbal for levying of Environmental Compensation vide letter No. JKPCC / ROK / LS(NGT)/2025/670-71 dated 16-05-2025; and

Whereas, accordingly case was forwarded to Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) constituted by the JK Pollution Control Committee for expert assessment and evaluation of Environmental Compensation, which recommended levying of Environmental compensation amounting to **Rs.222.65 lacs** (Rupees Two Crore Twenty Two Lakhs and Sixty Five Thousand only) for Approx. one Quantal of un segregated solid waste at Wussan/Cherwan/Main Market of Kangan Block of **37.11 TPD** for a period of **120 days** (w.e.f. 04-12-2024 i.,e date of issuance of first legal notice to 03-04-2025 i.,e the date of submission of EC format by D.O. PCC Ganderbal) as worked out in accordance with the guidelines framed in this behalf; and

Whereas, accordingly notices for levying of Environmental Compensation were served upon the **Block Development Officer, Block Kangan, District Ganderbal** vide No. JKPC/LSJ/2025/2193-97 dated 06-03-2025 with the direction to show cause within **15 days**, followed by final Environmental Compensation Notice wide No. JKPC/LSK/BDO-Kangan Gbl./025/309-313 dated 25-10-2025, with the direction to show cause within **10 days**, as to why Environmental Compensation for violation of Municipal Solid Waste Rules, 2016 and the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) be not levied, which he failed to respond even after lapse of reasonable time.

Now, therefore, Environmental Compensation amounting to **Rs.222.65 lacs** (Rupees Two Crore Twenty Two Lakhs and Sixty Five Thousand only) is levied upon the Block Development Officer, Kangan, District Ganderbal for open dumping of municipal solid waste and untreated disposal of **37.11 TPD** of solid waste, for **120 days** (w.e.f. 28-04-12-2024 i.e date of issuance of first legal notice to 03-04-2025 i.e the date of submission of EC format by D.O. PCC Ganderbal) as worked out by the Technical Advisory Committee of the J&K Pollution Control Committee. The Block Development Officer, Kangan, District Ganderbal is directed to deposit a sum of **Rs.222.65 lacs** (Rupees Two Crore Twenty Two Lakhs and Sixty Five Thousand only) in the Environmental Compensation Fund Account No. 0023040510000001 of the JK Pollution Control Committee in J&K Bank Ltd, within 30 days from the date of issuance of this order.

In case of default to pay Environmental Compensation in due time, the violator is liable to pay Environment Compensation by (2) two times, (4) four times, (8) Eight times for 2nd, 3rd and 4th quarter respectively as per the guidelines of Environmental Compensation issued by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and violator will not be allowed to operate.

**Issued with the Approval of the Competent Authority.**

(Dr. R. Gopinath), IFS  
Member Secretary,  
JKPC.

No.: J&K PCC/LSK/BDO-Kangan Gbl./025/55-58

Dated: 03-12-2025

Copy to the:-

- i) Deputy Commissioner/District Magistrate, Ganderbal for information ..
- ii) Director, Urban Local Bodies, Kashmir for information.
- iii) Regional Director, Pollution Control Committee, Kashmir for information and follow up action.
- iv) Divisional Officer, Pollution Control Committee, Ganderbal for information and necessary action.



**Jammu & Kashmir Pollution Control Committee**  
**District Office Ganderbal-Kashmir**

Beehama Chowk near J&K Bank Ltd  
 (www.jkpcb.jk.gov.in, e-mail: jkpcqbldo@gmail.com)

Block Development Officer,  
 Gund, Ganderbal

No. PCC/DO/Gund/2026/01-3

Date: 01/01/2026.

Subject: Information required in the matter of O.A No. 1119/2024 in reference to Hon'ble NGT order dated 10/11/2025 and site visit carried out by CPCB Team on 18/12/2025.

Sir,

This has reference to the Hon'ble NGT Order dated 10/11/2025 in the matter of OA No. 111/2024; News item titled "Sindh Nallah Polluted; trout habitat threatened in Ganderbal appearing in Greater Kashmir dated 19.08.2024 and site visit/inspection by CPCB Team on 18/12/2025.

In this regard, it is to submit that the following information is required for incorporating the same, in response to be filed by CPCB before Hon'ble NGT in this matter:

1. Waste Management:
  - i. Capacity of Solid and plastic waste treatment facility available in Gund.
  - ii. Last 3 months data on quantity of waste generated, collected and treated from hotels and other sources in the aforesaid area.
  - iii. Details of quantity of waste scientifically land filled in the above area.
2. Updated status of the action taken on directions issued by J&K PCC no. JKPCB/BMWM/25/416-17 dated 16.
3. Details of current sewage disposal/ Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) proposed if any:
  - i. Source of sewage to be proposed STP
  - ii. Designed treatment capacity
  - iii. Treatment technology adopted
  - iv. Disposal point and/or reuse of treated sewage
  - v. Sludge Disposal method
  - vi. Current status and timelines of completion of STP work.

It is requested that the above information may kindly be furnished on priority for compilation and further submission before the Hon'ble NGT, as the matter is Listed for hearing on 09.02.2025.

Yours faithfully,

*[Signature]*  
 Divisional Officer  
 Ganderbal

Copy to the:

1. Regional Director, JK PCC for information and n/a.
2. Shir Arshid F.I for information & follow up report.



**Subject: - Compliance of Hon'ble NGT order in the matter of O.A No. 1119/2024 news item titled Sindh Nallah polluted Trout Habitat threatened in Ganderbal.**

**Ref no:- PCC/RDK/LS(NGT)/2025/1020-22 DATED 28/09/2025**

In continuation to letter no NO:-PCC/ROK/W.LAB/Inspection /25-26/81 Dated :-29/10/2025 and in compliance to the direction as mentioned in above reference, an inspection was conducted by undersigned officials on 28/10/2025 to ascertain the hot spots from where sewage is entering into the Sindh Nallah .The inspection was carried out of entire stretch of sindh stream from Wayil to Sonamarg ,during the inspection following observations were made:-

**1. Main Drain Discharges:**

Only a few drains were observed that are directly discharging sewage into the Sindh Stream.These drains primarily originate from tourist spots and municipal zones along the stream course. The discharge appeared to contain domestic wastewater with visible organic matter and some solid waste. The detail of these drains is as under :-

S.no	Drain location	Geo-Coordinates
1.	Drain from main market Kangan	34.262376,74.899953
2.	Drain near 254 transit Camp Sonamarg	34.302582,75.288554
3.	Drain near Thajwas Hotel	34.308047,75.278708

**2. Secondary Inflows and Rivulets:**

Apart from the drains, several small rivulets and surface runoff was noticed joining the Sindh Stream at different locations.These rivulets carry intermittent sewage flows, mostly originating from adjacent residential colonies, small establishments, and scattered households. The flow intensity of these rivulets varies depending on the season and rainfall The detail of these rivulets is as under:-

S.no	Riverlet Location	Geo-Coordinates
1.	Near Wusan near automobile work shop	34.284124,74.84383
2.	Near Wusan near automobile work shop	34.283652,74.846491
3.	Mammer	34.227910,74.993637
4.	Kulan	34.268667,75.152949

Presence of floating debris, plastics, and domestic waste materials was also noticed on the periphery of stream. No industrial discharge points were identified during the inspection.

The Sindh Stream stretch from Whayl to Sonamarg falls under the Jurisdictional area of Block Development Officer Kangan, Block Development Officer Gund and Chief executive Officer Sonamarg

Submitted for favour of information and further necessary action .

NO:-PCC/ROK/W.LAB/Inspection /25-26/82

Dated :-06/11/2025

Divisional officer  
 PCC Ganderbal

Scientist  
 I/C Water lab PCC Srinagar



**J&K Pollution Control committee**  
Office of The Regional Director – Kashmir  
Shiekh-ul-Alam Complex Rajbagh Kashmir

*Analysis Report*

**Physico Chemical & Biological Characteristics of Sindh Stream (Sonamarg) for the Month of December,2025**  
**Date of Sampling :- 10-12-2025**

S/N	Sampling spots	Air Temp	Water Temp	pH	Conductivity	TDS	D O	COD	BOD	Phosphate	Ammonium Nitrate	Sulphate	Hardness	Calcium	Magnesium	Total Alkalinity	Chloride	Turbidity	Nitrate Nitrogen	Nitrite Nitrogen	Faecal Coliform CFU/100ml	Total Coliform CFU/100ml	
1	Wayil: 3285	6.6	7.0	7.88	334.0	179.0	10.9	18.18	2.4	0.026	0.572	100.74	290.0	57.71	35.47	100.0	10.0	6.0	1.036	0.070	170.0	475.0	
2	Mammar	10.3	6.9	7.93	341.0	184.0	10.2	21.81	2.3	0.030	0.535	83.32	282.0	56.10	34.50	114.0	10.0	6.0	0.676	0.015	95.0	450.0	
3	Gangangeer	8.9	6.0	8.00	418.0	223.0	9.1	18.18	1.8	0.048	0.452	127.86	300.0	63.32	34.50	106.0	8.0	9.0	0.612	0.080	20.0	200.0	
4	Sonamarg D/s: 3284	8.1	5.5	8.02	419.0	221.0	11.4	9.0	1.0	0.024	0.743	131.50	290.0	58.51	34.99	112.0	8.0	13.0	0.740	0.060	56.0	300.0	
5	Sonamarg U/s: 3283	7.4	5.5	8.03	420.0	223.0	9.1	9.0	1.0	0.025	0.852	123.10	322.0	62.52	40.33	108.0	10.0	10.0	0.576	0.096	21.0	275.0	
	Primary water quality criteria for Bathing ( class B)	-	-	6.5 -8.5	-	-	≥ 5 mg/l	-	≤ 3 mg/l	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	500 (Deisrable-2500(Max.))	

→All Values are in mg/l except pH, turbidity, conductivity & Temperature.

Note: Values related to faecal coliform is reported by Micro-Biology Lab

Samples collected by

*Handwritten signature*

Analyzed by

*Handwritten signature*

I/C Water lab

*Handwritten signature*



Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
**TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, SONAMARG**  
 Email: [sdofficial@yahoo.com](mailto:sdofficial@yahoo.com)

The Member Secretary,  
 JKPCC, Jammu.

No. CEO/SDA/2025 /

Dated:- 7-10-2025

Sub: Notice for Levying of Environmental Compensation by violation of Solid Waste Management Rule-2016.

Sir,

In reference to the above-cited notice, the following submission is respectfully made for the kind consideration of the Jammu & Kashmir Pollution Control Committee.

This Authority acknowledges the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in O.A. No. 1046/2024 and the subsequent proceedings initiated by the JKPCC. The Sonamarg Development Authority (SDA) has been consistently implementing scientific solid waste management practices, as already communicated to the Divisional Officer, J&K Pollution Control Committee, Ganderbal, under this office letters No. CEO/SDA/2024/2168 Dated: 07-09-2024, No. CEO/SDA/2025/235 Dated: 22-04-2025, and No. CEO/SDA/2025/528-29 Dated: 09-05-2025 (copies enclosed).

The Solid Waste Management Plant at Sarbal, established at a cost of Rs. 2.40 crore, is fully functional and operational. The operation and maintenance of the plant have been entrusted to the Roads & Buildings Division, Kangan, and the R&B Mechanical Division, Srinagar, for technical supervision and operational management. The entire process, including segregation, transportation, and treatment, is carried out under their supervision. In addition, this Authority conducts weekly inspections of the facility and has deployed dedicated field staff to ensure efficient functioning and strict adherence to prescribed environmental norms.

Waste generated from hotels, guest houses, local households, and the Thajwas area is regularly collected, transported, and scientifically treated at the said facility. The temporary dumping observed earlier occurred mainly during the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra period due to the heavy inflow of waste from the Yatra route. The plant's designed capacity is limited to the waste generated within Sonamarg town. The additional Yatra-related waste temporarily exceeded this capacity, resulting in short-term storage outside the plant area. However, all such accumulated waste was subsequently disposed of in a scientific manner as per the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

As part of continuous environmental improvement, a proposal for augmentation and modernization of the Sarbal Solid Waste Management Plant, including installation of an additional 2-MT disintegrator and capacity enhancement, is under active process and awaiting tendering action by the R&B Mechanical Division, Srinagar.

Further, specific wildlife safety measures have also been taken up. A proposal for 10-foot-high fencing around the Sarbal Plant and installation of a secured main gate has been submitted to restrict the movement of Himalayan Brown Bears and prevent accidental encounters. Additionally, one waste storage unit has been installed at the site to protect the fragile mountain ecosystem. Regular awareness programmes are being organized for hoteliers, locals, and visitors to promote proper segregation, discourage littering, and maintain cleanliness in and around the destination.

In view of the above facts, which clearly demonstrate this Authority's sustained compliance, continuous supervision, and proactive approach towards environmental management, it is most humbly requested that the proposed levy of Environmental Compensation amounting to Rs. 39.30 lakh and initiation of prosecution proceedings may kindly be reconsidered.

The Sonamarg Development Authority reiterates its full commitment to maintaining environmental safeguards and assures complete cooperation with all directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal and the Jammu & Kashmir Pollution Control Committee.

Yours faithfully,

  
Chief Executive Officer  
Sonamarg Development Authority

Copy to the:

1. Regional Director, Pollution Control Committee, Kashmir, for information.
2. Divisional Officer, Pollution Control Committee, Ganderbal, for information.



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Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
**TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, SONAMARG**  
(Ganderbal) Email: [Sdaofficial@yahoo.com](mailto:Sdaofficial@yahoo.com)

Divisional Officer,  
Ganderbal.

No. CEO/SDA/2024/ 2168

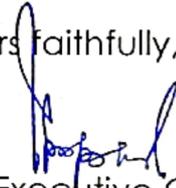
Dated:- 7-09-2024

Sub:- OA No. 1046/2024 titled News item appearing in india.com dated 27-07-2024 titled "Saving Kashmir Brown Bears is race against time Wildlife SOS and J&K Wildlife protection Department take challenge".

Sir,

Kindly refer to letter No. JKPCC/DO/GBL/2024/226, Dated:- 03-09-2024, regarding the subject cited above. In this connection, the requisite information has been prepared & is enclosed herewith for favour of information and further appropriate action at your end please.

Yours faithfully,

  
Chief Executive Officer,  
Sonamarg Development Authority.

## Detail of tourist establishments (Hotel/restaurants/shops etc at Sonamarg

	Description/Area	Unit	Total No	No. of Rooms	Bed Capacity
1	Private	Hotels/Huts	27	852	1663
		Home Stay/Paying Guest Houses at Sonamarg & Gagangeer.	47	196	392
		Main Market (Restaurants.	21	149	192
		Shops at main market	76	76	Nil
<b>Total (A)</b>			<b>171</b>	<b>1273</b>	<b>2247</b>
2	GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHMENTS (SDA, JKTDC & TOURISM DEPARTMENT	Huts/Dormitories/others	14	73	414
<b>Total (B)</b>			<b>14</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>414</b>
3	Sonamarg	Gadibal Camping Sites near International Youth Hostel	10	10	20
4	Gagangeer	Gagingeer Camping site.	10	10	20
5	Lashpathri	Camping site dormitory type	15	15	150
<b>Total (C)</b>			<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>190</b>
<b>Private Camping sites</b>					
6	Shutkadi	Golden meadow Camping Agency	10	10	20
7	Near SDA office	Raina Camping Agency	8	8	16
8	Near Old Truck yard	Rather Camping Agency	10	10	20
9	Near New Truck yard	Maqbool Camping Agency	10	10	20
10	Sarbal	Sheen Woods Camping Agency	10	10	20
<b>Total (D)</b>			<b>48</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>Grand Total (A+B+C+D)</b>			<b>268</b>	<b>1429</b>	<b>2947</b>

**UNDER COSTRCTION HOTLES AND STRUCTURS IN VILLAGE SONAMARG**

There are 16-Nos. Of structures incompleted/Non-functional in Sonamarg bowl and village Sonamarg area as the work of the same structures was stopped by this Authority after the Hon'ble High Court J&K and Ladakh has imposed a blanket ban on any type of construction in the estate Sonamarg vide PIL 404/2011 titled 'Court on its own Motion V/S State and others dated: 22-08-2017 & the recent order issued by the Hon'ble High Court J&K and Ladakh vide dated:- 27-03-2023.

## Statement Showing the details of Tourist visited to Sonarnarg-2024

SNo.	Name of Month	Foreigner	Indian	Local	Total
1	Jan-24	1070	52131	858	54059
2	Feb-24	2009	34846	662	37517
3	Mar-24	1029	68864	802	70695
4	Apr-24	1807	108167	1599	111573
5	May-24	1693	163747	2221	167661
6	Jun-24	940	170057	3905	174902
7	Jul-24	600	29798	14714	45112
8	Aug-24	817	11620	5806	18243
9	Sep-24				0
10	Oct-24				0
11	Nov-24				0
12	Dec-24				0
<b>Total</b>		<b>9965</b>	<b>639230</b>	<b>30567</b>	<b>679762</b>

### Solid Waste Management Plant at Sarbal

In order to dispose off the waste scientifically, SDA has procured/ Installed Electro Magnetic Disintegrator of 11 MT, capacity, along with 05 MT Auto Insta Composter and Segregator including AVR /200 KVA sub-station including shed housing the machinery including allied accessories at Sarbal Sonamarg at a cost of Rs. 2.40 crores. The Solid Waste Plant is presently operational and the waste generated (Bio-degradable & Non-Biodegradable) is processed/disposed off scientifically in the said plant.

### Waste Generation summary in tourist accommodation sector...

Accommodation sector /Army & Z-Morh tunnel is the largest contributor to the daily solid waste generation as it generates about approximately 7 to 10 metric tons of waste products per day including plastics and packaging materials etc. However during Yatra period the quantum of garbage becomes almost double i.e up to 20 MT/day.

It is evident from Table "A".

Table A: Magnitude of solid waste generation in Sonamarg.

Source category	Magnitude of generation / collection (tons/day)
Accommodation Sector	(7-10 MT in normal days) (Up to $\approx$ 20 MT/day during Yatra period )
Yatra	
Street sweeping	
Commercial/Shop	
House holds	
Others	

Source: Project Report on Solid waste Management ...

Further, this Authority has started construction a common Sewage Treatment Plant at SONamarg area and the work on 1st phase began in the year 2023. The sewer lines have been laid and will take one f years to get fully operational upto March 2025. The sewage treatment plant of SDA is being constructed through J&K UEED Department at a cost of 710.00 lacs.



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Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
**TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, SONAMARG**

Email:- [sdaofficial@yahoo.com](mailto:sdaofficial@yahoo.com)

The Divisional Officer  
J&K Pollution Control Committee  
Ganderbal

No.CEO/SDA/2025/ 528-29

Dated:- 9-05-2025.

Sub: O.A No. 1046/2024 titled News item appearing in the india.com dated 27-07-2024, titled "Saving Kashmir Brown Bears is race against time Wildlife SOS and J&K Wildlife protection Department taken challenge".

Sir,

Kindly refer to letter No. JKPCC/DO/GBL/2025/200-203 dated 03-05-2025, regarding the subject cited above. In this connection, the point-wise reply is submitted as under:

- 1. Quantity of Solid Waste Generation in Sonamarg region:** Approximately 7 to 10 metric tons of waste, including plastics, packaging materials, etc, is generated daily in the Sonamarg area from hotels, local villages, and the tourist belt of Thajwas. However, during the Yatra period, the quantum of waste nearly doubles, reaching up to 20 MT/day.
- 2. Processing of Wet Waste and its Utilization including quantity of waste handled and utilized:** Wet waste is collected separately and processed at the Solid Waste Management Plant located at Sarbal. The plant currently handles around 4 to 5 metric tons of wet waste daily, primarily through mechanical processing using automatic composting machines.
- 3. Channelization of Dry Waste After Recovery:** The Sarbal Plant are handing over the recyclable dry wastes which includes Pet bottles , High density plastic material and cartoon boxes and other packaging materials to Rag pickers and waste handlers as per the guidelines of Hon'ble Supreme Court. Rest of the material is being disintegrated in the Specially designed plastic waste disintegration machine at plant only.
- 4. Remedial Actions taken by Sonamarg Development Authority if any, in respect of Solid Waste Management in Sonamarg region:** The following remedial measures have been undertaken by this Authority to address the issues:
  - Regular awareness campaigns are organized with the line departments including all stakeholders regarding waste disposal and wildlife protection.
  - Fencing of Sarbal Plant: Proposal for covering the entire Sarbal plant area with CGI fencing (10 feet height) along with a secured main gate in FY 2025-26, to restrict the access of Himalayan Brown Bears and prevent accidental encounters.
  - Plant Augmentation: The augmentation and upgradation of the Solid Waste Management Plant at Sarbal to be taken under FY 2025-26 through installation of an additional 2-MT magnetic disintegrator, to manage excess waste generated especially during the Yatra season.

Yours faithfully,

  
Chief Executive Officer,  
Sonamarg Development Authority.

Copy to the:

1. Commissioner, Secretary to Government, Tourism Department, J&K, Civil Secretariat, Srinagar for favour of information.

News item appearing in Indian. Com dated.27.07.2024 titled savir Kashmir Brown Bears is a Racee against time wildlife SOS and J& wild life Protection Department take challenge in the Original Application No.1046/2024.

In response to order issued with regard to considering issue of protection the habitat of Himalayan Brown Bear which is depleting due to unplanned disposal and treatment of waste in Sonamarg region of Kashmir.

In this regard it is submitted that: -

1. Solid Waste management Plant at Sarbal is presently functional.

All waste generated from hotels, local village, Thajwas area and other establishments is systematically collected and transferred to the Sarbal Plant, where it is disposed of in a scientific and environmentally complaint manner, in accordance with the applicable waste management.

2. The Sewerage treatment facilities in Sonamarg is not centralized as on date. However, this authority has started construction a common sewage Treatment Plant and 80% work on 1<sup>st</sup> phase has been completed.

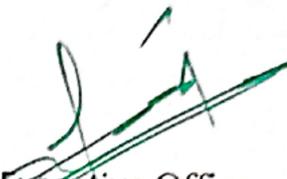
3. Awareness Campaigns are often organised with the locals as well as tourists visiting the area for prohibiting the use of waste as well

4. Road leading to Thajwas area the home of brown bears and other wild species has been closed after the Hon'ble High Court order dated 22.08.2017 whereunder it was ordered that no vehicular movement is allowed towards the area.

5. Further this authority is committed to further strengthening the environmental safeguards and proposes by augmentation and modernization of the Sarbal Solid waste plant with enhanced capacity in upcoming budget.

NO: CEO/SDA/2015/275

Dt: 22-4-2025

  
f. Chief Executive Officer  
Sonamarg Development Authority



**J&K Pollution Control committee**  
**Office of The Regional Director – Kashmir**  
 Shiekh-ul-Alam Complex Rajbagh Kashmir

*Analysis Report*

**Physico Chemical & Biological Characteristics of Sindh Stream (Sonamarg) for the Month of December,2025**  
**Date of Sampling :- 10-12-2025**

S/N	Sampling spots	Air Temp	Water Temp	pH	Conductivity	TDS	D O	COD	BOD	Phosphate	Ammonium Nitrate	Sulphate	Hardness	Calcium	Magnesium	Total Alkalinity	Chloride	Turbidity	Nitrate Nitrogen	Nitrite Nitrogen	Faecal Coliform CFU/100ml	Total Coliform CFU/100ml	
1	Wayil: 3285	6.6	7.0	7.88	334.0	179.0	10.9	18.18	2.4	0.026	0.572	100.74	290.0	57.71	35.47	100.0	10.0	6.0	1.036	0.070	170.0	475.0	
2	Mammar	10.3	6.9	7.93	341.0	184.0	10.2	21.81	2.3	0.030	0.535	83.32	282.0	56.10	34.50	114.0	10.0	6.0	0.676	0.015	95.0	450.0	
3	Gangangeer	8.9	6.0	8.00	418.0	223.0	9.1	18.18	1.8	0.048	0.452	127.86	300.0	63.32	34.50	106.0	8.0	9.0	0.612	0.080	20.0	200.0	
4	Sonamarg D/s: 3284	8.1	5.5	8.02	419.0	221.0	11.4	9.0	1.0	0.024	0.743	131.50	290.0	58.51	34.99	112.0	8.0	13.0	0.740	0.060	56.0	300.0	
5	Sonamarg U/s: 3283	7.4	5.5	8.03	420.0	223.0	9.1	9.0	1.0	0.025	0.852	123.10	322.0	62.52	40.33	108.0	10.0	10.0	0.576	0.096	21.0	275.0	
	Primary water quality criteria for Bathing ( class B)	-	-	6.5 -8.5	-	-	≥ 5 mg/l	-	≤ 3 mg/l	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	500 (Deisrable-2500(Max.))	

→All Values are in mg/l except pH, turbidity, conductivity & Temperature.

Note: Values related to faecal coliform is reported by Micro-Biology Lab

Samples collected by

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Analyzed by

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I/C Water lab

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**The water quality criteria specified by CPCB for various uses**

<b>Designated-Best-Use</b>	<b>Class of water</b>	<b>Criteria</b>
Drinking Water Source without conventional treatment but after disinfection	<b>A</b>	Total Coliforms Organism MPN/100ml shall be 50 or less pH between 6.5 and 8.5 Dissolved Oxygen 6mg/l or more Biochemical Oxygen Demand 5 days 20C 2mg/l or less
Outdoor bathing (Organised)	<b>B</b>	Total Coliforms Organism MPN/100ml shall be 500 or less pH between 6.5 and 8.5 Dissolved Oxygen 5mg/l or more Biochemical Oxygen Demand 5 days 20C 3mg/l or less
Drinking water source after conventional treatment and disinfection	<b>C</b>	Total Coliforms Organism MPN/100ml shall be 5000 or less pH between 6 to 9 Dissolved Oxygen 4mg/l or more Biochemical Oxygen Demand 5 days 20C 3mg/l or less
Propagation of Wild life and Fisheries	<b>D</b>	pH between 6.5 to 8.5 Dissolved Oxygen 4mg/l or more Free Ammonia (as N) 1.2 mg/l or less
Irrigation, Industrial Cooling, Controlled Waste disposal	<b>E</b>	pH between 6.0 to 8.5 Electrical Conductivity at 25C micro mhos/cm Max. 2250 Sodium absorption Ratio Max. 26 Boron Max. 2mg/l