



ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਰੋਕਥਾਮ ਬੋਰਡ  
PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

No. 4812

Through email

Dated 2/12/2023

To

The Registrar General,  
Hon'ble National Green Tribunal,  
New Delhi.

Sub:

Status report / reply in MA No.103 of 2022 in Original  
Application No. 169 / 2021 titled as H.C. Arora Vs State of  
Punjab & Ors.

Enclosed find herewith the status report /reply on behalf of  
Punjab Pollution Control Board in compliance of order dated 05.09.2023  
in the subject cited matter for kind consideration and taking further  
necessary action in the matter, please.

*Wemi*  
Environmental Engineer

Endst. No. 4813

Dated 2/12/2023

A copy of the above is forwarded to the Senior Environmental  
Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Zonal Office-II, Patiala for  
information please.

*Wemi*  
Environmental Engineer

ਖੇਤਰੀ ਦਫ਼ਤਰ, ਇੰਡਸਟਰੀਅਲ ਫੋਕਲ ਪੁਆਇੰਟ, ਸੰਗਰੂਰ

REGIONAL OFFICE, INDUSTRIAL FOCAL POINT, SANGRUR

Email: [ceosangrur@gmail.com](mailto:ceosangrur@gmail.com); Web: [www.ppcb.gov.in](http://www.ppcb.gov.in)

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BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, PRINCIPAL BENCH,  
NEW DELHI

M.A. No. 103/2022

IN

Original Application No. 169/2021

H.C. Arora

Applicant

Versus

State of Punjab & Ors.

Respondents (s)

**Status report/ reply of Punjab Pollution Control Board in compliance of order dated 05.09.2023**

**Respectfully Showeth**

1. That briefly submitted, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal has taken cognizance of the above mentioned case / application filed by Sh. HC Arora with grievances against failure of the State Authorities to take remedial measures against contamination of ground water in village Aloarakh, Block Bhawanigarh, Tehsil Sangrur.
2. That after considering the facts mentioned in the status report dated 13.04.2023 filed by Joint Committee in compliance to order dated 06.02.2023 and hearing the case, the Hon'ble Tribunal by passing an order dated 05.09.2023 has observed that the problem is aggravating with the passage of time and it is a serious problem which needs to be considered and appropriate remedial measures are required to be taken by the competent authorities without any delay. The Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to issue certain directions for compliance by the authorities vide order dated 05.09.2023. In this regard, the relevant extract of paragraph 8,9 and 10 of the order dated 05.09.2023 is reproduced herein below for kind perusal and reference:

*8. Hence we direct that in the meantime, contaminated ground water sources may be declared 'unfit' for human consumption and agriculture and interim measures be adopted and commissioned to remediate contaminated well*

*Wemi*

water/borewell. Also, proper arrangement of potable water supply be increased in effected villages.

9. The Member Secretary of the Punjab Pollution Control Board appearing through Video Conferencing has informed that the PCB has sent a letter to NEERI and the report from the NEERI in respect of the impact and the gravity of the situation, as also remedial measures is expected by the last week of November. He has also informed that the defaulting unit was Matharu Chemical Industries, which had later on change its name to Mahalaxmi Organo Chem Industries. He is directed to furnish full particular of the said industrial unit and the details of the Directors/Partners/Proprietor (as applicable), thereof. We are also informed by the Member Secretary of Punjab Pollution Control Board that a fine of Rs. 2 crores imposed upon the said defaulting unit has not been deposited till now and that the prosecution under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, which was launched against it has been stayed by the High Court of Punjab and Haryana.

10. We are of the view that the Member Secretary of PPCB may file an appropriate application before the High Court along with the detailed report and disclose the gravity of the situation and the extent of damage to the ground water which has been caused by the said unit and pray for vacating of stay. The PPCB is directed to submit the action taken report along with the report of NEERI on the next date of hearing by e-mail at [judicial-ngt@gov.in](mailto:judicial-ngt@gov.in) preferably in the form of searchable PDF/ OCR Support PDF and not in the form of Image PDF.

3. That the actions taken by the Punjab Pollution Control Board in compliance to the order dated 05.09.2023 of this Hon'ble Tribunal, are summarized herein below:

- a) Punjab Pollution Control Board alongwith representatives of the District Administration has installed display board in English as

*Wemi*

well as Punjabi language at the site indicating “**Water Not Fit for Drinking**” at five number tubewells, which have been found contaminated by the Joint Committee in it’s report dated 29.03.2022. The information in this regard has also been uploaded on the official website of the District Administration, Sangrur and Munadi (Public announcement) was also conducted in the nearby villages to make the public aware about the contamination of ground water of tubewells as conveyed by District Administration vide letter no. 3055 dated 07.06.2022. A copy of letter no. 3055 dated 07.06.2022 is enclosed as **Annexure-A**.

- b) The Punjab Pollution Control Board has awarded the work for detailed Environmental Site Assessment i.e. for assessment and remediation of contaminated ground water and soil and control of further spread of contamination in and around contaminated site under question (5 Km radius) to M/s CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), Nagpur vide letter no. 19199 dated 18.08.2023. A copy of the letter no. 19199 dated 18.08.2023 is enclosed as **Annexure - B**. The scope of work includes sampling and analysis of groundwater & soil samples, geophysical investigations, assessment of extent, quantum and volume of soil and groundwater contamination, delineation of remedial action plan, draft RFP to enable Punjab Pollution Control Board to float tenders to engage the agency to get the remediation plan executed etc. Additional work of study on the bio-magnification in agro-products and detailed ingestion and human health risk assessment was also allocated to NEERI, Nagpur vide PPCB letter no. 21136 dated 13.09.2023. A copy of letter no. 21136 dated 13.09.2023 is enclosed as **Annexure-C**.

4. That in reference to the Letter of Award issued by the Punjab Pollution Control Board as explained above, the action taken by M/s CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), Nagpur and the support and assistance provided by the Punjab Pollution Control Board to the team of NEERI is explained in the following sub-  
paras:

(Wen:

- a) A team from NEERI had initially visited the site in question on 22.08.2023 for preliminary investigation. On request of the institute, the Punjab Pollution Control Board has made available all the relevant documents in the matter which includes permissions granted to industry, project report and monitoring reports for the period 1990 to 2005 etc.
- b) Thereafter, the team had again visited the site from 12.09.2023 to 15.09.2023 and ground water samples from 25 locations were collected by the institute. In addition, 7 number soil samples were also collected by the institute from different locations including contaminated site.
- c) The institute vide its email dated 18.09.2023 has requested Punjab Pollution Control Board to clear soil accumulated at the site upto height of 3-4 mtr as so to carry out Geo-Physical survey of the contaminated site. In compliance, the Punjab Pollution Control Board has issued directions under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to Sh. Bhupinder Pal Singh (Owner of the contaminated land site) vide letter no. 29917 dated 24.11.2023 to remove layer of soil from the contaminated site in question so that the site is levelled properly and proper soil sampling and Geophysical imaging is carried out by the NEERI for remediation of the said site. A copy of letter no. 29917 dated 24.11.2023 is enclosed as **Annexure-D**.
- d) The team of NEERI has again visited the site from 02.11.2023 to 03.11.2023 and carried out ground water sampling from 10 different locations, including tube wells monitored by Joint Committee (formed in compliance to directions of the Hon'ble NGT) in the month of February, 2023.
- e) The NEERI has now submitted a preliminary report vide email dated 30.11.2023 incorporating details of aforementioned activities carried out by the institute. A copy of preliminary report furnished by NEERI vide email dated 30.11.2023 is enclosed as **Annexure-E**. The final report shall be submitted by NEERI in due course of time.

(Wem)

f) Necessary course of action for remediation of contaminated bore-wells and declaring additional ground water sources 'unfit' for human consumption and agriculture, if any found contaminated, shall be taken on the receipt of final report and recommendations of NEERI.

5. That in further compliance to the orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal with regard to proper arrangement of potable water supply be in effected villages, it is respectfully submitted that the District Magistrate, Sangrur has convened a meeting of the concerned departments on 07.11.2023. A copy of the minutes of the meeting held on 07.11.2023 issued vide letter no. 4679-81 dated 10.11.2023 is enclosed as **Annexure-F**.

6. That in reference to the decision taken during the meeting held on 07.11.2023 and the compliance of the orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, the Department of Water Supply and Sanitation, Sangrur has submitted proposal vide letter no. SPL-1 dated 09.11.2023 for supplying potable water chlorinated as per specifications of their department, to the residents of village Aloarkh, Bakhtri and Majhi, Tehsil Bhawanigarh, District Sangrur through tankers for an initial period of 02 months. A copy of letter no. SPL-1 dated 09.11.2023 is enclosed as **Annexure-G**. The proposal of allocating 420 tankers of capacity 6000 ltr each bearing total expenditure of Rs. 13,33,500/- was accepted by the Punjab Pollution Control Board vide letter no. 4775 dated 28.11.2023 for incurring cost to supply potable water to residents of aforesaid villages. A copy of letter no. 4775 dated 28.11.2023 is enclosed as **Annexure-H**. The water supply through tankers has been commenced by the Department of Water Supply & Sanitation in the affected villages of Alorakh, Majhi and Bakhtri.

7. That in further compliance to the orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, the full particulars of the industrial unit and the details of the Directors/Partners/Proprietor (as applicable), is given herein below:

a) Earlier, the unit was named as M/s Matharu Steel Private Limited. Mr. Gurcharan Singh Matharu was the owner of M/s

(Wemi)

Matharu Chemical Industries situated at Bhawanigarh, District Sangrur.

- b) The name of the unit was changed to M/s Mahaluxmi Orgochem after Mr. Gurcharan Singh Matharu sold the property to Mr. Chander Sekhar Dhawan.
- c) Mr. Chander Sekhar Dhawan and Mr. Sunil Ahuja were the Directors of M/s Mahaluxmi Orgochem (Prop. Matharu Steel Pvt. Ltd.), Bhawanigarh, District Sangrur
- d) Mr. Chander Sekhar Dhawan and Mr. Sunil Ahuja carried on the business activities under the name & style of M/s Mahaluxmi Orgochem, Bhawanigarh, District Sangrur.
- e) The business of Chemicals was being carried out under the name & style of M/s Matharu Chemicals and M/s Mahaluxmi Orgochem in the revenue estate of Village Aloarkh, Tehsil Bhawanigarh, District Sangrur.
- f) The residential addresses of the Directors of the industrial unit M/s Mahaluxmi Orgochem industry (M/s Matharu Steel Pvt. Ltd.) as available with the office of the Board are mentioned below:
  - i. Sh. Chander Sekhar Dhawan,  
Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries,  
(C/o Matharu Steel Pvt. Ltd.)  
110-A Sarabha Nagar, Ludhiana
  - ii. Sh. Sunil Ahuja,  
Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries,  
(C/o Matharu Steel Pvt. Ltd.)  
E-14, Sector-14, Noida, (U.P.)
  - iii. Sh. Gucharan Singh Matharu,  
S/o Sh. Surjit Singh Matharu,  
Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries,  
# 435, Rajiv Gandhi Nagar,  
Kota, (Rajasthan).

(Woni)

8. That in further compliance to the orders dated 05.09.2023 of the Hon'ble Tribunal, the Punjab Pollution Control Board has filed separate

applications on 16.11.2023 before the Hon'ble Punjab and Haryana High Court for vacation of orders dated 29.11.2021 in the following cases:

- i. CRM-M No. 30784 of 2016 titled as 'Chander Sekhar Dhwan Vs Punjab Pollution Control Board'.
- ii. CRM-M No. 40177 of 2016 titled as 'Sunil Ahuja Vs Punjab Pollution Control Board'.

The applications filed by the Punjab Pollution Control Board have been posted for hearing on 13.04.2024.

9. That it is relevant to mention here that earlier the Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 23.09.2015 passed in Original Application no. 35 of 2013 and Original Application no. 386 of 2018 titled as Parminder Singh and Ors Vs PPCB and Ors has directed the respondents to pay atleast an amount of Rs. 2 crores under the 'polluter pays' principle, to be used for providing safe drinking water and better solid waste management facilities to the people of the petitioner's village. Accordingly, the District Administration of Ludhiana, Kota and Noida (Gautam Budh Nagar) were approached by Punjab Pollution Control Board vide letter dated 24.08.2021 and 28.07.2023 to procure details of immovable properties held by Sh. Sunil Ahuja, Sh. Gucharan Singh Matharu and Sh. Chander Sekhar Dhawan. Copies of letters are enclosed as **Annexure- I**. The Punjab Pollution Control Board has also physically approached all the concerned offices of the District Administration. The Tehsildar, Kota vide letter no. 7653 dated 01.12.2023 has informed that no agriculture land has been registered in the name of Sh. Gurcharan Singh Matharu and Sh. Chander Sekhar Dhawan in the revenue estate of district Kota, Rajasthan. A copy of letter no. 7653 dated 01.12.2023 is enclosed as **Annexure- J**. The Tehsildar, Gautam Budh Nagar vide letter dated 29.11.2023 has informed that no property is registered in the name of Sh. Sunil Ahuja in the revenue estate of Gautam Budh Nagar. A copy of the letter dated 29.11.2023 is enclosed as **Annexure-K**. The report from revenue authority of district Ludhiana is awaited.

10. That it is further relevant to mention here that a complaint case was filed by Punjab Pollution Control Board bearing no. 82 dated 27.07.2012 before the Court of Chief Judicial Magistrate, Sangrur against violators i.e M/s Maha Laxmi Orgochem Industries, Sh. Chander Shekhar Dhawan

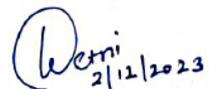
and Sh. Sunil Ahuja under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. An application dated 02.12.2023 has been filed against the above-mentioned violators before the Court of Chief Judicial Magistrate, Sangrur to expedite the trial of complaint cases filed u/s 43,44 of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 for violation of provisions of 24,25 & 26 of the said Act, 1974.

11. That respectfully it submitted that the NEERI in its preliminary report submitted to the Board enclosed herewith as **Annexure –E** has informed that the analysis is in progress and will be submitted in the next report. The analysis results of effluent and soil samples collected by NEERI during visit from 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023 and 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023 along with recommendations for remediation of contaminated site are still awaited. It is also mentioned in the report that the next field campaign is being planned and field schedule will be communicated to Punjab pollution Control Board.
12. It is prayed that necessary course of action for remediation of contaminated bore-wells and further action in the matter shall be taken on the receipt of final report and recommendations of NEERI.
13. That the status report / reply of the Board is hereby submitted for kind perusal and consideration of the Hon'ble Tribunal.

**Date: 02.12.2023**

**Place: Sangrur**

Submitted by



(Er. Guneet Sethi)

Environmental Engineer,  
Punjab Pollution Control Board,  
Regional Office Sangrur

Office of the

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ਦਫਤਰ

Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur



ਡਿਪਟੀ ਕਮਿਸ਼ਨਰ, ਸੰਗਰੂਰ

ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ: +911672-234004 ਈਮੇਲ: dc.sgr@punjab.gov.in

Telephone: +911672-234004 Email: dc.sgr@punjab.gov.in

ਮ 3/6/22  
ਨਵੀਂ ਡਾਕJmy 8/6/22  
ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਕੀ ਅਫਸਰ  
(EE (BT))  
SEE-ZP2The Member Secretary,  
Punjab Pollution Control Board,  
Vatawaran Bhawan, Nabha Road, Patiala

No. 3055 /

Date: 07-06-2022

Subject:

Minutes of the meeting held on May 05, 2022 under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Science Technology &amp; Environment, Chandigarh in the matter of OA No. 169 / 2021 titled as H.C. Arora Vs State of Punjab &amp; Ors.

ਨਵੀਂ ਡਾਕ

Reference: Board's letter no. 1504-05 dated 24.05.2022

ਸੀਨੀਅਰ ਵਾਤਾਵਰਣ ਇੰਜੀਨੀਅਰ (DL)

It is intimated that the point wise compliance of decisions of meeting held on 05/05/2022 to District Administration, Sangrur is as under:

ਜੇਨਲ ਦਫਤਰ-II, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ।

a) With regard to decision no. 1, the displayboards have been provided by the team consisting of AEE of PPCB & Naib Tehsildar, Bhawanigarh in English as well as in Punjabi indicating that "**Water not fit for drinking**" at five no. tube -wells, which have been found contaminated by the Joint Committee, so that the said water shall not be used for drinking purposes. Photographs have also been taken by the team during installation of said boards, copy of which is attached herewith as **Annexure-I**.

b) With regard to decision no. 4, the information has already been placed on the official website of District Administration, Sangrur and Munadi (Public Hearing) in the nearby villages to make the public aware with regard to contamination of ground water of 5 no. tube-wells had also been carried out. The screenshot of website showing information in public domain and proof of report in Rojnamcha regarding Munadi is attached herewith **Annexure-II & Annexure-III** respectively.

This is for your information and further necessary action.

DA/As above

Deputy Commissioner  
Sangrur



ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਕੰਟਰੋਲ ਬੋਰਡ  
PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

No. 19199

Dated. 18/8/23

To

Dr. Atul Naryan Vaidya (Director),  
National Environmental Engineering Research Institute,  
Nehru Marg, Nagpur-440020  
Maharashtra

**Subject** Letter of award (LoA) for detailed Environmental Site Assessment i.e. for assessment and remediation of contaminated ground water & soil and control the further spread of the contamination – M/s Matharu Chemical Industries, Vill. Aloarakh Tehsil Bhawanigarh, District-Sangrur.

**Ref:** NEERI's proposal received on 14/08/2023

On the subject cited matter and above referred letter, it is intimated that Punjab Pollution Control Board is pleased to award a work order to M/s CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Nehru Marg, Nagpur-440020, India for Detailed Environmental Site Assessment i.e for assessment and remediation of contaminated ground water & soil and control the further spread of the contamination in and around the contaminated site of M/s Matharu Chemical Industries, Bhawanigarh, District- Sangrur, Punjab.( 5Km radius).

**General Terms and Conditions of the Work**

1. **Scope of Work:** M/s CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) shall carry out the activity as per the following conditions: -
  - a) Reconnaissance visits to the Plant and its buffer zone.
  - b) Collection and review of all the reports pertaining to the Plant operations, characteristics of waste water and waste management practice.
  - c) Detailed LULC of the study area.
  - d) Inventorisation of well network (existing wells within the plant premises) and wells within 5 km of the study area. The well network will include shallow wells (open wells) and deep wells (bore wells).
  - e) Deciphering the groundwater flow directions, Sampling and analysis of the effluent generated from the Plant.

ਵਾਤਾਵਰਣ ਭਵਨ, ਨਾਭਾ ਰੋਡ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ - 147001

Vatavaran Bhawan, Nabha Road, Patiala - 147001

Phone : Chairman. : 0175-2215793, Member Secretary : 0175-2215802 (O), 2215636 (FAX)

Website : www.ppcb.gov.in | E-Mail : chairmanppcb@yahoo.in | msppcb@gmail.com



- f) Sampling and analysis of groundwater samples from the well network for different parameters (major cations, anions, heavy metal, Organics, 800, COD and colour) pre-monsoon / post-monsoon seasons.
- g) Study with regard to spread of contamination of ground water at the site including measures to control the same.
- h) Geophysical investigations (GPR, ERT) in the plant premises for near sub surface characterization (spread of plumes / buried drums) and aquifer geometry.
- i) Sampling of soil samples (at different depth from pit up to 2-3 m depth) and analysis for different parameters for relevant contaminants of concern (cations, anions, heavy metals, organics etc.) in pre-monsoon and post-monsoon seasons.
- j) Assessment of extent, quantum and volume of soil and groundwater contamination.
- k) Delineation of remedial action plan and the total tentative cost involved to implement the plan.
- l) Draft RFP to enable the PPCB to float tenders to engage the agency to get the remediation plan executed.

## 2. AWARD PRICE :

The total award price for the entire scope of work as detailed in 1.0 above shall be for Rs. 70,80,000/- including taxes as per the following break up

Sr. No.	Description	Total cost (Rs)
1	<b>Total cost of financial proposal</b>	<b>60,00,000/-</b>
2	<b>GST (18%)</b>	<b>10,80,000/-</b>
3	<b>Total</b>	<b>70,80,000/-</b>

In addition to above, PPCB, shall pay all the taxes including the surcharges of central government and state government as applicable on the date of payment. All such taxes are subjected to change as per the directives of the Government of India/State Government.)

## 3. SCHEDULE FOR COMPLETION OF TASK

The study will be completed in a period of 03 months (90 days) from the day of issuance of the LoA as per the following schedule:



Phases of the Study	Activities to be completed	Time Line
Phase 1	Interim report detailing the initial data	Within 21 days of Issuance of LoA
Phase II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final report having detailed environmental site assessment and delineation of remediation action plan alongwith its total tentative cost.</li> <li>Draft RFP.</li> </ul>	Within 90 days from issuance of LoA.

#### 4. SUPPORT OR INPUTS TO BE PROVIDED BY PPCB

- To provide all documents / records /reports of past pertaining to the matter.
- To provide access to NEERI personnel and the sampling and analytical material carried by them to project site for field studies.
- If additional bore wells are necessary in the premises, PPCB will facilitate the construction of well.
- For coordinating with NEERI personnel during field studies, Er. Harinder Singh, Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Sangrur may be contacted telephonically (+91-8146662532) or through e-mail (eerosangrur@gmail.com).

#### 5. METHOD OF PAYMENT

- The payment shall be made as per the following details :

Sr. no.	Installment	Amount (Rs.)	Schedule
1.	1 <sup>st</sup> Installment	Rs. 30,00,000/- + GST (@ 18 %)	To be paid along with work order
2.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Installment	Rs. 10,00,000/- + GST (@ 18 %)	After submission of Interim Report
3.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Installment	Rs. 10,00,000/- + GST (@ 18 %)	After submission of Draft Final Report
4.	4 <sup>th</sup> Installment	Rs. 10,00,000/- + GST (@ 18 %)	After submission of Final Report



All the payments to be made through a NEFT/RTGS in the name of "**Director, CSIR- NEERI, Nagpur**". The Payment Details are as follows:

b. The payment details are as below:

Name as Per Bank Records	Director CSIR-NEERI
Bank Name	State Bank of India
Branch	NEERI, Nagpur
Branch Code	04224
Account Number	30266513766
Account Type	Savings
MICR Code	40002031
IFSC Code	SBIN0004224
PAN Number	AAATC2716R

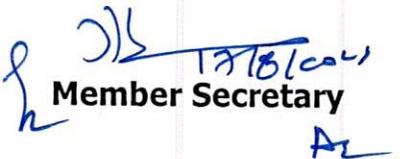
  
Member Secretary

Endst. No.../19200-01

Dated...18/8/23

A copy of the above is forwarded to the following for information & necessary action please: -

1. The Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Sangrur.
2. The Deputy Controller (F & A), Punjab Pollution Control Board, Patiala for information. He is also requested to make a payment of Rs. 30,00,000/- + 18% GST to the Director, CSIR-NEERI, Nagpur as per the account details mentioned at 5(b) above.

  
Member Secretary

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ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਕੰਟਰੋਲ ਬੋਰਡ  
PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

No. 21136

Dated. 13/9/23

To

Dr. Atul Naryan Vaidya (Director),  
National Environmental Engineering Research Institute,  
Nehru Marg, Nagpur-440020  
Maharashtra

**Subject Addendum to Letter of Award (LoA) for detailed Environmental Site Assessment i.e. for assessment and remediation of contaminated ground water & soil and control the further spread of the contamination – M/s Matharu Chemical Industries, Vill. Aloarakh, Tehsil Bhawanigarh, District- Sangrur.**

**Ref:** Board's letter no. 19199 dated 18/08/2023 and CPCB letter no. 3775 dated 04/09/2023

In continuation to the above referred letter of the Board and in compliance of Hon'ble NGT order dated 31/03/2022 in OA no. 169/2021 and Central Pollution Control Board letter dated 04/09/2023 (copy attached), it has been decided by the Competent Authority of the Board that CSIR-NEERI shall carryout the following two activities in addition to the Scope of Work already allotted to your institution vide Board's letter no. 19199 dated 18/08/2023 :-

1. Detailed ingestion and human health risk assessment.
2. Study on the bio-magnification in agro-products.

DA/ as above.

Endst. No. 21137

Dated. 13/9/23

  
13/9/23  
Member Secretary  
AZ

A copy of the above is forwarded to the Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Sangrur for information & necessary action.

  
13/9/23  
Member Secretary  
AZ

ਵਾਤਾਵਰਣ ਭਵਨ, ਨਾਭਾ ਰੋਡ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ - 147001  
Vatavaran Bhawan, Nabha Road, Patiala - 147001

Phone : Chairman. : 0175-2215793, Member Secretary : 0175-2215802 (O), 2215636 (FAX)  
Website : www.ppcb.gov.in | E-Mail : chairmanppcb@yahoo.in | mspccb@gmail.com |



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Lifestyle For  
Environment



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  
NGT-Matter

CP-26/15/2022-WM-I-HO-CPCB-HQ

September 04, 2023

To

The Member Secretary  
Punjab Pollution Control Board  
Vatavaran Bhawan, Nabha Road  
Patiala – 147 001

Sub: Detailed investigation and remediation of contaminated site at "M/s Mahaluxmi Organo Chemical Industries, Nabha Road, Bhawanigarh, Sangrur" - reg.

Ref (i) PPCB letter dated 28.07.2023 reg. request for nomination from CPCB  
(ii) PPCB letter dated 13.04.2023 reg. Joint committee report of Hon'ble NGT (PB)

Sir,

This has reference to the PPCB letter dated 28.07.2023. It is to inform that the site at "M/s Mahaluxmi Organo Chemical Industries, Nabha Road, Bhawanigarh, Sangrur (Presently, M/s Matharu Chemical Industries, District Sangrur, Punjab)" has been confirmed as contaminated site and CPCB has already suggested to carry out detailed investigation followed by execution of remediation works in its 5th review meeting with SPCBs held on 13.10.2022.

Further in compliance of Hon'ble NGT order dated 31.03.2023 in OA No. 169 of 2021, the Joint committee in its report also recommended to carry out the following:

- (i) Detailed Investigation and Human Health Risk Assessment
- (ii) Periodical Monitoring of the groundwater in the affected area
- (iii) Study on the Bio-magnification in agro-products

In view of the above, it is suggested that detailed investigation of the site may be carried out by engaging reputed institutes/consultants to ascertain the extent and level of contamination within 3-4 months and submit the progress status to this Office from time to time.

Yours faithfully,

(V. P. Yadav)

Director & Head,  
Waste Management Division-I

Copy to:

1. The Regional Director  
Central Pollution Control Board – Chandigarh  
BSNL Telephone Exchange, 2nd Floor,  
Sector -49 C, Chandigarh – 160047
- : For kind information and with request to follow-up  
with PPCB, please

(V. P. Yadav)

‘परिवेश भवन’ पर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली-110032

Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032

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



# Punjab Pollution Control Board

Vatavaran Bhawan, Nabha Road, Patiala

Phone no.2215793

No. 29117

Dated: 24/11/23

To

Sh. Bhupinder Pal Singh,  
Owner of the contaminated land at Village Aloarakh  
Resident of Village Aloarakh, Block Bhawanigarh,  
District Sangrur.

Subject: Directions u/s 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for removal of soil from the contaminated land at Village Aloarakh.

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal has taken cognizance of an application filed by Sh. H.C Arora with the grievance against the failure to take remedial measures in respect of contamination of groundwater in Village Aloarakh, Block Bhawanigarh, District Sangrur. The application was registered as Original Application No. 169 of 2021 titled as H.C Arora v/s State of Punjab and Others;

Whereas, vide order dated 20.7.2021 passed in O.A No. 169 of 2021, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal has constituted a five-member Joint Committee comprising of the Central Pollution Control Board; Regional Office; Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Chandigarh; State Pollution Control Board, a nominee of Secretary Environment Department, Punjab and District Magistrate, Sangrur to visit the site, interact with the stakeholders, assess the ground situation and recommend the measures required to be taken and report was called by Hon'ble National Green Tribunal;

And whereas, the Joint Committee constituted by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal had submitted the report on 30.03.2022 which was taken note of by the Hon'ble Tribunal in order dated 31.03.2022. The detailed report revealed the contamination of ground water and also remedial actions. As per the report, five tubewells in the area were found having Total Organic Carbon (TOC). Two out of five tubewells were found having significant concentration of Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) and Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)

and rest three tubewells were found having high nitrate concentrates, confirming contamination of ground water in these five tubewells;

And whereas, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal had disposed of Original Application No. 169/2021 by an order dated 31.03.2022 by issuing the following directions:

"5. Having regard to the composition of the Committee and the material considered in the report and also in absence of any opposition by the State inspite of copy of report having been served on it, we accept the report of the Committee and issue directions in terms thereof. The Chief Secretary, Punjab, in coordination with the concerned authorities may ensure remedial action speedily to effectuate the guaranteed right of the citizens to clean potable water. The Chief Secretary may also take into account the suggestions in the additional report referred to above. The cost of remediation has to be borne by the State in the first instance without prejudice to the recovery of the amount later from the violators/erring officers. Area in question be treated as 'contaminated site' and remediation plan as per the Report of the Joint Committee may be executed within six months. If it becomes necessary, the Plan may be suitably modified in consultation with CPCB and any other Institution. Chief Secretary may constitute a credible executing/ monitoring Committee to get the remediation plan executed and to monitor its timely and proper execution. Status report of compliance as on 31.8.2022 may be forwarded to Registrar General, NGT on or before September 30, 2022 by email. District Magistrate, Sangrur may place the information in public domain and appropriately caution the inhabitants about contaminated water in the interest of public health. PPCB and State GWB may regularly monitor the quality of contaminated water."

And whereas, in compliance to the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, status report was filed by the Punjab Pollution Control Board on the basis of which M.A. no. 103/2022 was registered. The Hon'ble Tribunal had considered the further report in the proceeding dated 06.02.2023 and had found that the issue relating to remediation of

contamination of soil and supply of potable drinking water in the area required further consideration and had accordingly, issued the following directions vide order dated 6.2.2023:

"5. From the above, it is seen that the issue of remediation of the contaminated site and supply of potable drinking water in the area requires further consideration. It needs to be verified whether the contamination is confined to five wells or has further migrated to other wells. Since the issue has been pending for more than ten months, it is necessary to have personal interaction on the issue with nominees of the CPCB, District Magistrate, Sangrur, Chief Engineer, Public Health Engineering Department, Punjab and Member Secretary, State PCB after they deliberate upon the same. They may hold a joint meeting within one week and furnish a report to this Tribunal within two weeks by email."

Whereas, in compliance to the directions dated 6.2.2023 of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, the Joint Committee has filed a fresh report dated 13.04.2023, which reveals that fresh ground water sampling from 18 borewells from the area in question was taken and it was found that the contamination had spread significantly. The conclusion of the committee in respect of human health risk assessment is reproduced below:

"The site under reference has been declared contaminated site in the year 2016-17 by Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) and therefore needs to be remediated by following the procedure specified by MoEF&CC and CPCB in the Guidelines. In view of this and the fact that this contaminated site is currently being used for agriculture purpose, an immediate action in a time bound manner, is required by State Pollution Control Board to undertake detailed investigation by involving reputed institute/consultant having experience in the field. This investigation may take 04-05 months. The concentration levels in the samples collected during investigation must be compared with Canadian Screening Criteria for Soil/Sediment/ Ground Water/Surface-Water. Once the above exercise is done; Human Health Risk Assessment may be required to find out remediation target level."

In respect of bio-magnification in agro-products, the conclusion of the Committee is reproduced below:

"The joint committee constituted earlier in the matter of OA No. 169/2021 conducted study on "the effect on agriculture crops and Biomagnification of contaminants in agro products" under the directions of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal. In view of the fact that now the contamination has been found to be migrating further, it is recommended that Biomagnification study with all the crops grown in the area, is conducted by SPCB in the entire catchment area of 18 borewells monitored by the Joint Committee, so that timely corrective action with regard to public health is taken based on the outcome of the study."

And whereas, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal has considered the Joint Committee report and observed that the problem is aggravating with the passage of time and it is a serious problem which needs to be considered and appropriate remedial measures are required to be taken by the competent authorities without any delay. The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal vide order dated 5.9.2023 had directed that contaminated ground water sources may be declared 'unfit' for human consumption and agriculture and interim measures be adopted and commissioned to remediate contaminated well water/borewell. Also, proper arrangement of potable water supply be increased in effected villages;

And whereas, in order to conduct geo physical survey of the contaminated site the National Environmental Engineering Institute has requested the Board to get the site clear of the soil layer which has been laid over the hazardous waste at Village Aloarakh, Block Bhawanigarh, District Sangrur;

And whereas, in exercise of its powers and performance of its functions under the Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016, the Chairman, Punjab Pollution Control Board has been delegated powers by the Central Government to issue directions u/s 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to any person, officer or authority and such person, officer or authority shall be bound to comply with such directions;

And whereas, the layer of soil laid over the hazardous waste dumped at the contaminated site is required to be removed from the property to ensure that the site is levelled properly and proper soil sampling and Geophysical imaging is carried out by National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Nagpur.

And whereas, it is pertinent to mention here that M/s Maha Laxmi Orgochem Industries (Proprietor M/s Matharu Steel Pvt. Ltd., (Bhawanigarh, Nabha Road, Bhawanigarh, District Sangrur during the operation of the industrial unit has dumped industrial / hazardous waste in the land which has now been sold to Sh. Bhupinder Pal Singh;

And whereas, the case has been considered by the undersigned Chairman of Punjab Pollution Control Board and I am satisfied that the objective of the Board in carrying out the said action for removal of the layer of the soil for the protection and preservation of the environment, which has been damaged by the industrial unit in question, cannot be carried out except with the issuances of directions u/s 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986;

And whereas, there is likelihood of grave injury to the environment in view of the prevailing facts and circumstances as has been explained above and as such it is not expedient to provide an opportunity either for personal hearing to the owner of the land or to file objections against the directions being issued;

Therefore, considering all the facts and circumstances of the case, I, Prof. Adarsh Pal Vig, Chairman, Punjab Pollution Control Board in exercise of the delegated powers and performance of functions of the Board under the Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016 hereby issue the following directions u/s 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986:

**"That Sh. Bhupinder Pal Singh owner of the contaminated site at Village Aloarakh, Block Bhawanigarh, District Sangrur is hereby directed to remove the layer of soil from the site in question so that the site is levelled properly and proper soil sampling and Geophysical imaging is carried out by National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Nagpur for remediation of the said site."**

Any violation of the above direction shall be viewed seriously and action will be taken under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

ਮਤਰਦਿ ਨਰਿ ਕੋਰੀ  
(Prof. Adarsh Pal Vig)  
@ Chairman

Endst. No.....

Date:.....

A copy of the above is forwarded to the Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032 for information please.

sd/-  
(Prof. Adarsh Pal Vig)  
Chairman

Endst. No.....

Date:.....

A copy of the above is forwarded to following information and necessary action with instructions to implement the directions aforementioned:

- 1) The Chief Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Bathinda
- 2) The Senior Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Zonal Office-2, Patiala.
- 3) The Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Sangrur.

sd/-  
Chairman

ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ

# Fieldwork and sampling report

for

## Detailed Environmental Site Assessment and Action Plan for remediation for M/S Mathru Industries, Bhawani garh, Sangrur District, Punjab

**Project Sponsor:**

Punjab Pollution Control Board, Patiala

Submitted by



**National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI)**

**Nehru Marg, Nagpur 440 020**



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November 2023

## Preliminary report

**Project Title: Detailed Environmental Site Assessment and Action Plan for remediation of contaminated groundwater and soil in vicinity of M/S Matharu Chemicals Industries, Bhawani garh, Sangrur District, Punjab**

### 1.0 Introduction

M/s Matharu Steel Private Limited established the Industrial unit in July 1991 by the name “M/s Matharu Chemical Industries” in Village Toori, Tehsil Bhawanigarh, District Sangrur for manufacturing H-acid (Sodium Salt). H-acid is 1-amino, 8-naphthol, 3, 6-disulfonic acid with empirical formula  $C_{10}H_8NO_7S_2Na_2$ . The name of the unit was later changed to M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries.

The M/s Matharu Chemicals Industries had obtained the requisite permissions/approvals/consents for establishing and operating the referred industrial unit from Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB). As per the industry representative’s reply affidavit filed on November 19, 2013, M/S Matharu Chemical Industries was given the No Objection Certificate (Consent to Establish) by PPCB on July 12, 1990 for the manufacture of H - Acid @ 600kg per day. Similarly, valid approvals/consents were obtained and got renewed from time to time to ensure that the said company was in compliance with all applicable environmental legislation/requirements of PPCB.

The production of H-Acid continued till March, 2005 and the unit was later closed, and even the shed covering the hazardous waste was dismantled, leaving the hazardous wastes exposed to the vagaries of the weather at least for four years (March, 2005 - August 9, 2009).

Following quantity of raw material was used every day to produce 580 kg (~600 kg) of Sodium Salt of H-Acid:

- I. Naphthalene 600 kg
- II. Sulphuric Acid 3039 kg
- III. Oleum 1790 kg
- IV. Nitric Acid 372 kg
- V. Calcium hydroxide (Calcium Carbonate) 1637 kg

- VI. Hydrochloric Acid 751 kg
- VII. Soda Ash 900 kg
- VIII. Caustic Soda 860 kg
- IX. Iron powder 650 kg
- X. Common Salt 2700 kg

While manufacturing H-Acid, following quantity of by-products/waste is generated every day:

- I. Gypsum 3503 kg,
- II. Iron Oxide 852 kg
- III. Sodium Bisulphite 550 kg
- IV. Sodium Nitrite and Nitrate 110 kg
- V. Common Salt 3005 kg
- VI. Glaubers Salt 1636 kg

**However, NOCs/Consent to operate were not obtained for the whole period and for some period the unit was run without proper consents as Noted by National Green Tribunal in their Order.**

## **2.0 Chronology of the critical events**

An attempt is made to highlight following critical events since the inception of the industry till today based on available data with a disclaimer as included at the end of the report:

- I. M/S Matharu Chemicals Industries was granted NOC by Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB) for producing 580 kg (~600 kg) H-acid on July 12, 1990
- II. PPCB in respect of the application of M/s Matharu Chemical Industries renewed authorisation under the Hazardous wastes (Management & Handling) Rules 1989 as amended in 1/2000 on March 4, 2002
- III. PPCB issued a show cause notice to M/S Matharu Chemicals Industries for Violation of the provision of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 on April 5, 2004

- IV. PPCB officials visited the industry on May 24, 2004 in connection with the renewal of authorisation under the H.W. (M& H) Rules
- V. PPCB granted an authorization under Rule 5 of the Hazardous Wastes (Management & Handling) Amendment Rules, 1989 as amended in 2003 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to operate a facility for collection and storage of hazardous waste on the premises for a period of one year from August 05, 2004, the date of issue of the authorization.
- VI. M/S Matharu Chemicals Industries informed PPCB on March 18, 2005 that the industry is temporarily closed
- VII. PPCB found that the industry is closed during the site visit on March 21, 2005
- VIII. PPCB issued closure directions to M/S Matharu Chemicals Industries vide a letter dated November 9, 2005
- IX. Letter issued by PPCB on April 16, 2006 mentioned that the over ground parts of the industrial unit were dismantled during 2005 as confirmed during the visit of PPCB officials to the site on January 10, 2006
- X. PPCB issued further directions to the industry not to dispose hazardous waste lying in the industry premises vide a letter dated February 16, 2006
- XI. Water quality analysis by PPCB on November 23, 2006 confirming groundwater contamination
- XII. Mr Tara Singh, a resident of the same village where industry exists, purchased the land of the industry on February 28, 2007
- XIII. **A petition (CWP 3481 of 2007) is filed in Punjab and Haryana High Court against M/S Matharu Chemicals Industries -on 06.03.2007**
- XIV. Hon'ble High Court directed the PPCB on April 02, 2009 to inspect the site and analyse the samples taken from there and submit the status report
- XV. PPCB submitted an affidavit along with the report to Hon'ble High Court on July 15, 2009

- XVI. PPCB engaged Thapar Centre for Industrial Research Development (TCIRD), Patiala on April 01, 2009 to carry out a detailed investigation regarding the length, breadth and depth of ground water contamination as well as hazardous waste
- XVII. Hon'ble High Court, allowed the PPCB on August 17, 2009 to go ahead with the detailed investigations by TCIRD
- XVIII. TCIRD completed the study during the course of one year, November, 2009 - November, 2010. The final report was submitted and taken on the record by the Hon'ble High Court on January 10, 2011
- XIX. **The Hon'ble High Court in the order dated August 29, 2011 has directed landowner Mr Tara Singh to deposit the expenses for restoration of damages. Mr Tara Singh filed C.M.P. No.12551/2011for discharging him from the liability, as he was a bonafide purchaser. By an order dated December 20, 2011, the Hon'ble High Court, while discharging Mr Tara Singh directed the industry to deposit the said amount**
- XX. In response to the TCIRD Report, a submission was made in September, 2012 before the Hon'ble High Court by the industry through Prof. Barun Kumar Guha (Retired) Chemical Engineering Department, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi
- XXI. PPCBsubsequently filed a counter an affidavit on the comments of Prof. B. Guha
- XXII. The industry submitted Reply Affidavit file in Civil Misc. No. 17279 of 2012
- XXIII. Hon'ble Punjab and Haryana High Court transferred the case to National Green Tribunal on January 29, 2013
- XXIV. NGT directed the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)on July 4, 2013 to depute an expert or a team of experts to examine the locations of the sites and to give a report
- XXV. CPCB team visited the industry and nearby area in Sangrur during July 24 - 26, 2013. CPCB submitted the final report to NGT in September, 2013.
- XXVI. Prof. B. K. Guha (Retired), IIT, New Delhi, engaged by Industry, gave comments on the Report of CPCB on September 25, 2013
- XXVII. NGT directed CPCB vide order dated May 08, 2014 to conduct tests for identifying the presence of sulfonated phenolic compounds in the groundwater and for assessment

and also to suggest methodology for restitution/remediation of the contaminated water

- XXVIII. CPCB team visited the site on June 24, 2014 and collected ground water samples from 8 locations, which were subsequently analysed. CPCB filed a report in June, 2014
- XXIX. NGT Bench directed the NEERI to undertake the analysis of the ground water at the disputed site.
- XXX. NEERI filed its report titled “Assessment of Ground Water Contamination in and Around Mahalaxmi Organochem Industries, Bhawanigarh” in the NGT on November 13, 2014 after collecting groundwater samples on October 17, 2014 from the same tube wells wherefrom CPCB had collected samples earlier in June, 2014.
- XXXI. NGT asked a scientist from CPCB on December 19, 2014 to explain the basis on which CPCB team had termed the ground water not to be contaminated.
- XXXII. On the direction of the NGT, NEERI scientists also appeared before the Tribunal on January 07, 2015
- XXXIII. NGT Order in 2015 imposed penalty of Rs. 2 Crore on industry
- XXXIV. A complaint filed by Mr H C Arora in NGT in 2021 regarding failure to take remedial measures for contaminated groundwater
- XXXV. NGT order for the formation of an Executing cum Monitoring Committee by the Chief Secretary - 31-03-2022
- XXXVI. Executing cum Monitoring Committee decided to issue Letter of Award to CSIR-NEERI - August 09, 2023

Subsequently, PPCB engaged CSIR-NEERI for undertaking a study. The scope of work of CSIR-NEERI is described later.

### 3.0 Site visit and sampling details

In continuation of the Aug 22, 2023 visit by the team of scientists, the second field visit and field sampling in and around the Matharu Chemical Pvt. Ltd. site was performed by the team of scientists from the CSIR-NEERI from 12 to 15 September 2023 and 2 to 3 November 2023.

CSIR-NEERI team (Dr. Paras R Pujari, Senior Principal Scientist, Dr. Atul Maldhure, Principal Scientist, along with the research students Mr. Aasim, Mr. Mayur, Ms. Tanavi, Ms Samrudhi) visited the site on 11 AM on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023. The PPCB team was also at the site. The PPCB team was represented by Mr. Harinder Singh, Environmental Engineer, Regional Officer Sangrur, Mr. Sachin Singh, SDO, PPCB and other staff. The team visited the site (Plate 1) of the Industry and part of the site used for agricultural purposes. A large part of the site, which was earlier reported to be the place of storage for waste disposal, is now covered with soil. The PPCB officials also briefed about the wells in the vicinity of the site, which have coloured water and the water is also used for irrigation purposes.



**Plate 1: CSIR-NEERI and PPCB officials at the premises of the industry**

After the detailed introduction of the industry site by the PPCB team, the sampling activity in and around the industry site was performed by the CSIR-NEERI team in the presence of the PPCB team. During the entire sampling and field visit, the CSIR-NEERI team was accompanied by the PPCB team for various field-based requirements and for local support. During the said field visit, the following tasks were covered.

- Reconnaissance visit to the Plant and its buffer zone (5 km radius) and meetings with the PPCB, State Groundwater Department and CGWB
- Inventorization of well network (existing wells within the plant premises) and wells within 5 km of the study area. The well network includes bore wells
- Sampling and analysis of groundwater samples from the well network for different parameters (major cations, anions, heavy metal, Organics, BOD, COD and colour).
- Sampling of soil samples (at different depths from pit up to 2-3 m depth) for analysis for different parameters for relevant contaminants of concern (cations, anions, heavy metals, organics etc.).

In the 4 days (from 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023), water samples were collected from 25 locations (in and around the industry site) within the 5km radius of the plant (Table 1, Fig. 1). The water level at all locations was collected from existing observation wells. Soil samples at different depths were collected from the 7 locations, including the control and natural sites. All samples were transported to NEERI Nagpur for further detailed water quality and other parameters analysis.

In addition to the samples collected from 25 locations in September, on the request of PPCB, water samples were collected from 10 additional observations well on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023 in the presence of PPCB officials (Table 2, Fig.1).



**Plate 2: CSIR-NEERI and PPCB officials during field survey**



Plate 3: Water level measurement at observation wells during field survey





Plate 4: collection of water samples and analysis of physical parameters at the filed during sampling



Plate 5: collection of soil samples in the study area

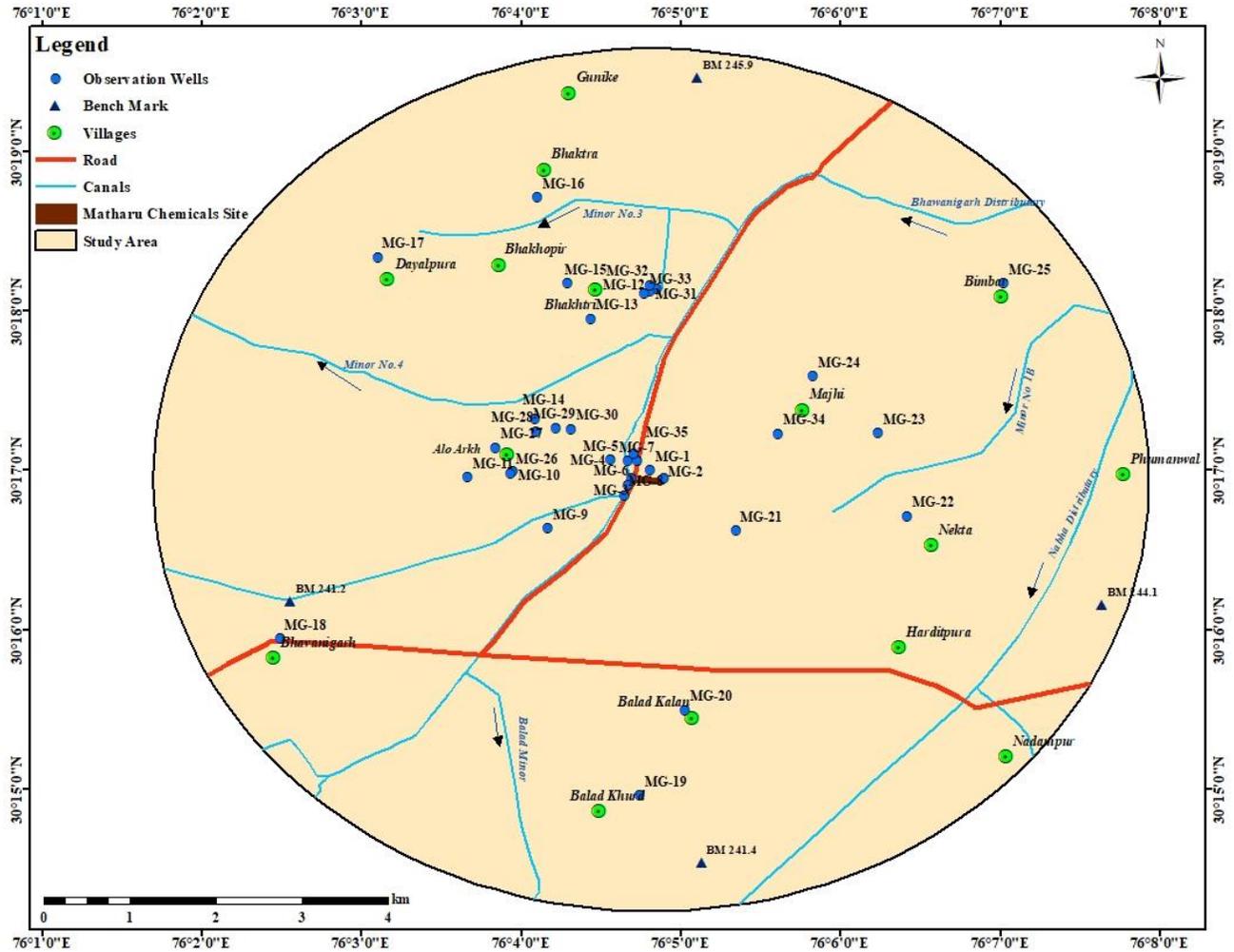


Fig. 1: Well network (existing wells within the plant premises) and wells within 5 km of the study area for collection of water samples and water level.

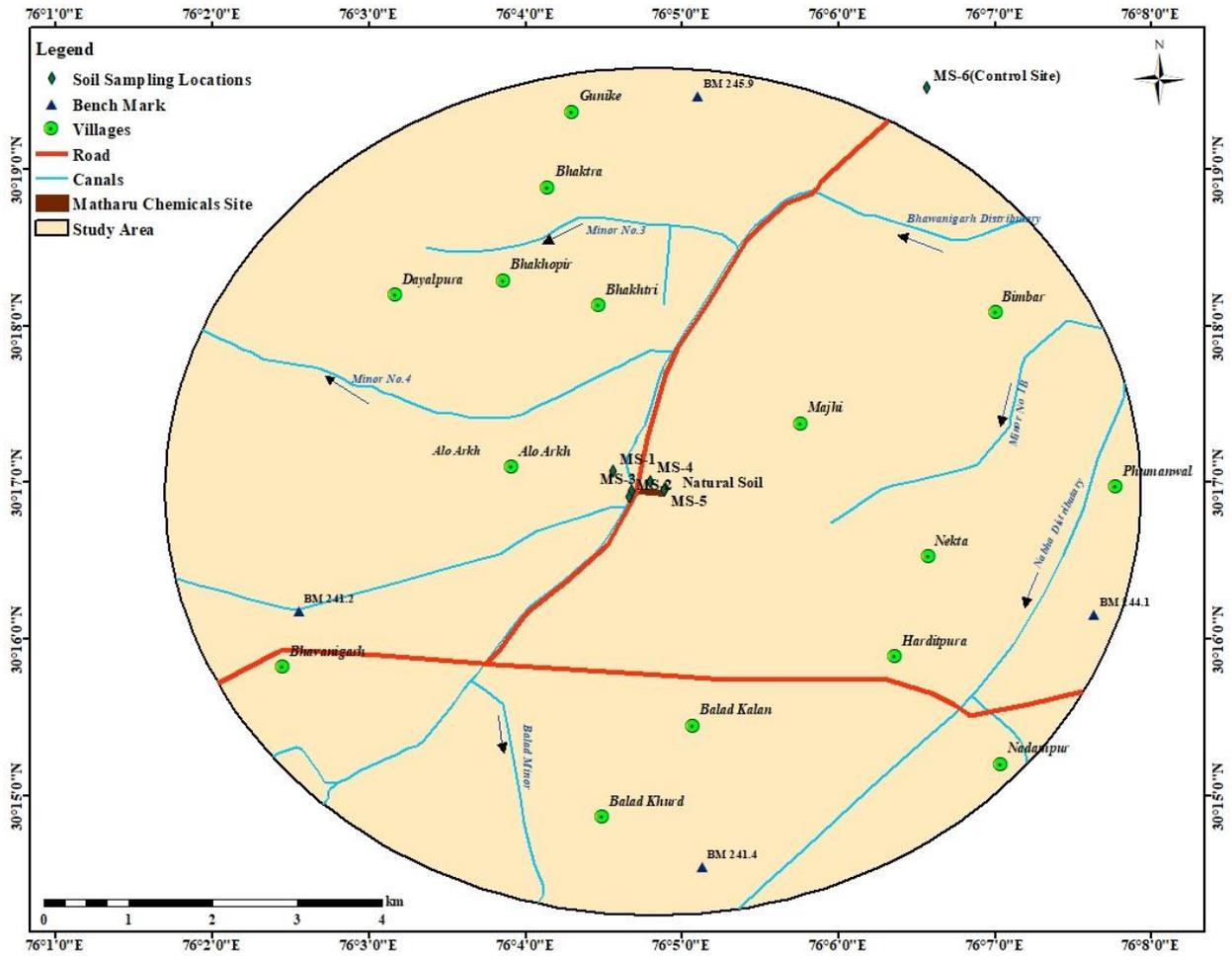


Fig. 2: Base map for soil samples collected during field visit.

Table 1: Observation well locations of the study area (M/S Matharu Industries)

Sr. No.	Sample Code	Source	Latitude	Longitude	Remark
<b>Sampling from 12 to 15 Sep 2023</b>					
1	MG-1	BW	30°17'0.8"N	76°4'48"E	Bhagwanigarh village; temporary settlement nearby, near Matharu plant
2	MG-2	BW	30°16'57.0"N	76°04'53.2"E	Bhagwanigarh village; Bach side of Matharu plant
3	MG-3	BW	30°16'57.1"N	76°04'41"E	Bhagwanigarh village; at Mr, Kulvinder Singh farm
4	MG-4	BW	30°17'3.6"N	76°04'40"E	Bhagwanigarh village; Paddy field nearby
5	MG-5	BW	30°17'4"N	76°04'33.4"E	Bhagwanigarh village; At Mr. Dilbrang Singh farm
6	MG-6	BW	30°16'54.5"N	76°04'40"E	Bhagwanigarh village; At Mr. Amritpal Singh; Paddy field nearby
7	MG-7	BW	30°17'3.5"N	76°04'43.3"E	Alourkh village; At Bharat petrol pump (Randhawa filling station)
8	MG-8	BW	30°16'50.7"N	76°04'38.3"E	At Mr. Amritpal Singh farm, Paddy field nearby
9	MG-9	BW	30°16'38.3"N	76°04'9.6"E	Alorkh village; at Gurudwara (Shi Manji Saheb)
10	MG-10	BW	30°16'59.6"N	76°03'56.6"E	Alorkh village; Water supply department (waterworks)
11	MG-11	BW	30°16'50.7"N	76°04'38.3"E	Alorkh village; at Mr. Kewal Singh house, paddy field nearby
12	MG-12	BW	30°18'8.5"N	76°04'50.9"E	Bakhtri village; Water supply department (water works)
13	MG-13	BW	30°17'57"N	76°04'26"E	Bakhtri village; Mr. Manprit Singh, paddy & cauliflower vegetation nearby
14	MG-14	BW	30°17'19.4"N	76°04'4.8"E	Alourkh village; Mr. Hardev singh farm
15	MG-15	BW	30°18'10.3"N	76°04'17.2"E	Bakhopir village; Mrs. Lakhveer Kaur (Sarpanch, Bakhopir)
16	MG-16	BW	30°18'42.7"N	76°04'05.8"E	Bhaktara village; Water supply department (waterworks)
17	MG-17	BW	30°18'20.3"N	76°03'5.7"E	Dayalpur village; Water supply department (water works)
18	MG-18	BW	30°15'56.7"N	76°02'29"E	Bhawanigarh village; Mr. Nirmal Singh, House no. 520
19	MG-19	BW	30°14'57.8"N	76°04'44.3"E	Baladkalan village; Water supply department

					(waterworks)
20	MG-20	BW	30°15'29.9"N	76°05'1.3"E	Balab kala village; government primary school
21	MG-21	BW	30°16'37.3"N	76°05'20.3"E	Turi village; Government primary school
22	MG-22	BW	30°16'42.8"N	76°06'24.6"E	Nakte village; Water supply department (waterworks)
23	MG-23	BW	30°17'14.1"N	76°06'13.9"E	Majhi village; Water supply department (waterworks)
24	MG-24	BW	30°17'35.5"N	76°05'49.5"E	Majha village; Water supply department (waterworks)
25	MG-25	BW	30°18'10.4"N	76°07'01."E	Bimber village; Water supply department (water works)
<b>Sampling during 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023</b>					
<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Sample Code</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Latitude</b>	<b>Longitude</b>	<b>Remark</b>
26	MG-26	BW	30°16'58.87"N	76° 3'55.69"E	Submersible of Sh. Kashmir Singh S/oSh. Joga Singh, Aloarkh
27	MG-27	BW	30°17'8.63"N	76° 3'50.00"E	Submersible of Sh. Devinder SinghS/o Sh. Jaspal Singh, Aloarkh
28	MG-28	BW	30°17'14.60"N	76° 4'5.16"E	Submersible of Sh. Darsan Singh S/oSh. Lal Singh, Aloarkh
29	MG-29	BW	30°17'15.94"N	76° 4'12.72"E	Farm tubewell of Sh. Karam Singh S/o Sh. Bachan Singh, Aloarkh,
30	MG-30	BW	30°17'15.47"N	76° 4'18.44"	Farm tubewell of Sh. Diplreet Singh S/o Sh. Harminder Singh, Aloarkh
31	MG-31	BW	30°18'7.34"N	76° 4'48.07"E	Submersible of Sh. Gurjant Singh S/oSh. Bachan Singh, Village Bakhtari
32	MG-32	BW	30°18'9.65"N	76° 4'48.32"E	Submersible of Sh. Asha Singh S/o Sh. Makand Singh, Village Bakhtari
33	MG-33	BW	30°18'6.73"N	76° 4'45.95"E	Submersible of Sh. Nail Singh S/o Sh.Gurjit Singh S/o Sh. Bachan Singh, Village Bakhtari
34	MG-34	BW	30°17'13.78"N	76° 5'36.28"E	Farm tubewell of Sh. Mahinder Singh (Pardhan), Village Majhi
35	MG-35	BW	30°17'6.43"N	76° 4'42.20"E	Tubewell of Randhawa Filling Station, Aloarkh from Behind Petrol Pump

**Table 2: Soil locations of the study area (M/S Matharu Industries)**

Sr. No.	Sample Code	Latitude	Longitude	Remark
1	MS-1	30°17.4'4.32"N	76°04'33.31"E	Bhagwanigarh village; At Mr. Dilbrang Singh farm
2	MS-2	30°16'54.54"N	76°04'39.67"E	Bhagwanigarh village; At Mr. Amritpal Singh; Paddy field nearby
3	MS-3	30°16'56.7"N	76°4'40.5"E	Bhagwanigarh village; at Mr, Kulvinder Singh farm
4	MS-4	30°17'0.10"N	76°04'47.62"E	Bhagwanigarh village; temporary settlement nearby, near Matharu plant
5	MS-5	30°16'57.03"N	76°04'53"E	Bhagwanigarh village; Back side of Matharu plant
6	MS-6 (Control Site)	30°19'31.0"N	76°06'34"E	Agriculture Land RHS to Bhagwanigarh-Nabha road
7	Natural Soil	30°16'57.67"N	76°04'53.48"E	Bhagwanigarh village; Road side Back side of Matharu plant

The analysis is in progress and will be reported in the next report. The next field campaign is being planned and the field schedule will be communicated.

#### Disclaimer

This report includes various events related to M/S Matharu Chemicals Industries which are extracted from various documents available from many agencies associated with investigating the matter related to the industry. It was observed that the dates of a few of these events are mentioned differently in different documents. CSIR-NEERI attempted to extract the details of these events for inclusion in the report with diligence. However, any error in reporting these events is unintentional. Moreover, this report should not be used for any reference purposes.

-----End of Report -----



ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਰੋਕਥਾਮ ਬੋਰਡ  
PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

No. 4679-81

Through email only

Dated 10.11.2023

To

1. The Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Bhawanigarh.
2. The Executive Engineer, Department of Water Supply & Sanitation, Sangrur.
3. The Block Development & Panchayat Officer, Bhawanigarh.

**Subject:** Minutes of meeting held under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur on 07.11.2023 to review the progress in compliance of the various orders passed by the Hon'ble NGT in the matter of OA no. 169 of 2021 titled as H.C. Arora Vrs. State of Punjab & Ors.

Find enclosed herewith the minutes of subject cited meeting held under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur on 07.11.2023 for information and compliance, please.

DA/As above

  
Environmental Engineer

Endst. No. 4682

Dated 10.11.2023

A copy of the above is forwarded to the Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur for information, please.

  
Environmental Engineer

Minutes of Meeting held under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur on 07.11.2023 (11:00 A.M) to review the progress in compliance of the various orders passed by the Hon'ble NGT in the matter of OA no. 169 of 2021 titled as H.C. Arora Vrs. State of Punjab & Ors.

Following Officers were present in the meeting:

1. Sh. Vineet Kumar, SDM, Bhawanigarh.
2. Er. Guneet Sethi, Environmental Engineer, PPCB, RO Sangrur
3. Sh. Sukhwinder Singh Tiwana, Block Development & Panchayat Officer, Bhawanigarh
4. Er. Guriqbal Singh, Sub Divisional Engineer, Department of Water Supply & Sanitation, Bhawanigarh, Sangrur
5. Er. Sachin Singla, Assistant Environmental Engineer, PPCB, RO Sangrur
6. Er. Mandeep Singh, Junior Engineer, Department of Water Supply & Sanitation, Bhawanigarh, Sangrur

At the outset, Environmental Engineer welcomed all members present in the meeting. He apprised that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, in the matter of OA No. 169/ 2021 titled as H.C. Arora Vs State of Punjab & Ors. has passed fresh order on 5.9.2023 and the operative part of NGT order is as under: -

*"7. The perusal of the above report of the Joint Committee reveals that the problem is aggravating with the passage of time and it is a serious problem which needs to be considered and appropriate remedial measures are required to be taken by the competent authorities without any delay.*

*8. Hence we direct that in the meantime, contaminated ground water sources may be declared 'unfit' for human consumption and agriculture and interim measures be adopted and commissioned to remediate contaminated well water/borewell. Also, proper arrangement of potable water supply be increased in effected villages."*

He also informed that in compliance of NGT orders, the proper arrangements for supply of potable water supply in the affected villages is required to be made for which the Department of Water Supply, Sangrur & BDPO, Bhawanigarh may be directed to make necessary arrangements for supply of potable water supply in the affected villages.

*(Demi)*

He further informed that the team of NEERI has recently visited the site under question on 02.11.23 & 03.11.23. In order to ascertain the extent of contamination, NEERI has carried out ground water sampling from surrounding area including 18 no. of tubewells from where the joint committee formed by Hon'ble NGT, had collected samples earlier this year.

During meeting, the Sub Divisional Engineer, Department of Water Supply & Sanitation, Sangrur informed that necessary sampling is being carried out by the Department before supply of portable drinking water in the subject cited area and as per the analysis results of sampling, the concentration of the various parameters were found to be within permissible limits of the drinking water standards prescribed by Centre Ground Water Board.

After deliberation, it was decided as under: -

1. The PPCB shall provide analysis results of samples collected by NEERI in the month of Nov, 2023 to all the stakeholder departments as and when the same is released by the Institute.
2. Meanwhile, Executive Engineer, Department of Water Supply & Sanitation, Sangrur shall ensure increased supply of portable drinking water in the subject cited area through tankers & shall submit the estimate of the proposal to provide potable water supply within two days to PPCB.
3. The PPCB shall take up the matter with their Competent Authority for receiving necessary approval in bearing the expenditure of providing potable drinking water in affected villages.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

\*\*\*\*\*



ਦੱਲੋ,

ਕਾਰਜਕਾਰੀ ਇੰਜੀਨੀਅਰ,  
ਜ/ਸ ਅਤੇ ਸੈਨੀਟੇਸ਼ਨ ਮੰਡਲ  
ਸੰਗਰੂਰ।

ਸੇਵਾ ਵਿਖੇ,

ਕਾਰਜਕਾਰੀ ਇੰਜੀਨੀਅਰ,  
ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਬੋਰਡ, ਸੰਗਰੂਰ।

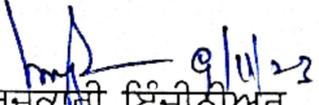
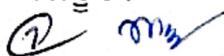
ਨੰ: Spl- 1

ਮਿਤੀ: 09/11/2023

ਵਿਸ਼ਾ: ਪਿੰਡ ਆਲੋਅਰਖ, ਬਖਤੜੀ ਅਤੇ ਮਾਝੀ ਬਲਾਕ ਭਵਾਨੀਗੜ੍ਹ ਦਾ ਤਖਮੀਨਾ ਭੇਜਣ ਸਬੰਧੀ।

ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵਿਸ਼ੇ ਦੇ ਸਬੰਧ ਵਿੱਚ ਆਪ ਜੀ ਨੂੰ ਮਿਤੀ: 07-11-2023 ਨੂੰ ਹੋਈ ਮੀਟਿੰਗ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਪਿੰਡ ਆਲੋਅਰਖ, ਬਖਤੜੀ ਅਤੇ ਮਾਝੀ ਦੇ ਵਾਸੀਆ ਨੂੰ ਪੀਣ ਯੋਗ ਪਾਣੀ ਮੁਹੱਈਆ ਕਰਵਾਉਣ ਲਈ ਵਾਟਰ ਟੈਂਕਰਾਂ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਪਾਣੀ ਦੀ ਸਪਲਾਈ ਲਈ ਆਉਣ ਵਾਲੇ ਖਰਚੇ ਦਾ ਤਖਮੀਨਾ ਬਣਾ ਕੇ ਆਪ ਜੀ ਨੂੰ ਅਗਲੀ ਯੋਗ ਕਾਰਵਾਈ ਹਿੱਤ ਭੇਜਿਆ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਜੀ। ਇਹ ਤਖਮੀਨਾ ਦੋ ਮਹੀਨਿਆਂ ਲਈ ਬਣਾਇਆ ਗਿਆ ਹੈ।

ਨੱਥੀ/ਤਖਮੀਨਾ

  
 ਕਾਰਜਕਾਰੀ ਇੰਜੀਨੀਅਰ,  
 ਜ/ਸ ਅਤੇ ਸੈਨੀਟੇਸ਼ਨ ਮੰਡਲ  
 ਸੰਗਰੂਰ।  


Name of Work :- Providing potable water at contaminated sites i.e. village Aloarkh,  
Bakhtri & Majhi of Block Bhawanigarh, Distt. Sangrur.

GENERAL ABSTRACT OF COST		
SR. NO.	HEAD	AMOUNT
1	PHS	1333500
	Total	1333500
	Say Rs. (in Lacs)	13.34

*Bakht*  
Sub Division Engineer  
W/S & Sanitation Sub Divn. No. 2  
Sangrur

*[Signature]*  
Executive Engineer  
W/S & Sanitation Divn.  
Sangrur

Name of Work :- Providing potable water at contaminated sites i.e. village Aloarkh, Bakhtri & Majhi of Block Bhawanigarh, Distt. Sangrur.

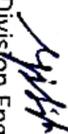
Sr. No	CSR Item	Description	Qty	Unit	Rate	5.35% GST	Amount	
1	2.67	Water Tanker for General work	4	hrs	147	154.8	619.24	
2	2.59	Tractor with or without trolley	2	hrs	261.7	275.7	551.32	
3	Ns	Cost of portable water charges	1	Job	400	400	400.00	
4	Ns	Diesel for Tractor Trolley 8ltr/hr.	16	ltr	88.78	88.78	1420.48	
Add 10% contractor profit on non CSR items							182.05	
							3173.09	
							Say	3175

*[Signature]*  
Junior Engineer

*[Signature]*  
Sub Division Engineer  
W/S & Sanitation Sub Divn. No. 2  
Sangrur

Sr. No	Name of village	Population 2023	Potable water Supply LPCD	Total Water Required per day	Capacity of water tanker in KL	Per day supply	No of days	Total water requirement
1	Aloarkh	2355	7.5	17663	6000	3	60	180
2	Bakhtri	715	7.5	5363	6000	1	60	60
3	Majhi	2211	7.5	16583	6000	3	60	180
								420

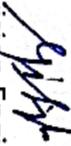
  
Junior Engineer

  
Sub Division Engineer  
W/S & Sanitation Sub Divn. No. 2  
Sangrur

Name of Work :- Providing potable water at contaminated sites i.e. village Aloarkh, Bakhtri & Majhi of Block Bhawanigarh, Distt. Sangrur.

Sr. No	Description	Qty	Unit	Rate	Amount
1	Providing water tankers for supplying potable drinking water (Chlorinated as per DWSS specifications) with capacity 6000 ltr. each including cost of tractor for hauling water tanker	420	Job	3175	1333500
				Total	1333500

  
Junior Engineer

  
Sub Division Engineer  
W/S & Sanitation Sub Divn. No. 2  
Sangrur



ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਰੋਕਥਾਮ ਬੋਰਡ  
PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD



PPCB/RO/SGR/No. 4775

Regd. & also through mail

Dated: 28-11-2023

To

The Executive Officer,  
Punjab Water Supply & Sanitation Department,  
Sangrur.

**Subject:** Compliance of Hon'ble NGT order dated 05.09.2023 in the matter of M.A. no. 1033/2022 in OA no. 169 of 2021 titled as H.C. Arora Vs State of Punjab- M/s Mahaluxmi Orgochem Industries (M/s Matharu Steel Pvt. Ltd. & Ors.), Village Aloarkh, Nabha road, Bhawanigarh.

**Ref: -** Your office letter no. SPL-1 dated 09.11.2023.

In subject cited matter, it is informed that Hon'ble NGT in OA no. 169 of 2021 titled as H.C. Arora Vs State of Punjab- M/s Mahaluxmi Orgochem Industries (M/s Matharu Steel Pvt. Ltd. & Ors.), Village Aloarkh, Nabha road, Bhawanigarh has passed order dated 05.09.2023 (copy attached) and relevant extract of the order (para no. 8 of the order) is reproduced as under.

"8. Hence we direct that in the meantime, contaminated ground water sources may be declared 'unfit' for human consumption and agriculture and interim measures be adopted and commissioned to remediate contaminated well water/borewell. Also, proper arrangement of potable water supply be increased in effected villages."

In view of the above orders, the expenses estimate incurred during supplying of clean & safe drinking water for 3 no. villages namely Aloarkh, Bakhtari and Majhi mentioned in the CPCB report has been provided by your good office as under: -

**A. The details regarding requirement of tankers of capacity @ 6000 ltr considering population and per capita consumption for drinking purpose.**

Sr. No.	Name of Village	Population 2023	Portable water supply LPCD	Total Water Required per day	Capacity of water tanker (in ltr)	Per day supply	No. of days	Total water requirement
1.	Aloarkh	2355	7.5	17663	6000	3	60	100
2.	Bakhtri	715	7.5	5363	6000	1	60	60
3.	Majhi	2211	7.5	16583	6000	3	60	180
<b>Total requirement of tankers</b>								<b>420</b>

ਖੇਤਰੀ ਦਫ਼ਤਰ, ਇੰਡਸਟਰੀਅਲ ਫੋਕਲ ਪੁਆਇੰਟ, ਸੰਗਰੂਰ

**REGIONAL OFFICE, INDUSTRIAL FOCAL POINT, SANGRUR**

Email: eerosangrur@gmail.com; Web: www.ppcb.gov.in

Ph./Fax No. 01672-2334

**B. Cost of 01 portable water tanker**

Providing portable water at contaminated sites i.e. village Aloarkh, Bakhtri & Majhi of Block Bhawnigarh, District Sangrur							
Sr. No.	CSR item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Rate	5.35 % GST	Amount
1.	2.67	Water Tanker for General work	4	hrs	147	154.8	619.24
2.	2.59	Tractor with or without trolley	2	hrs	261.7	275.7	551.32
3.	Ns	Cost of portable water charges	1	Job	400	NA	400
4.	Ns	Diesel for tractor trolley 8 ltr/hr	16	ltr	88.78	NA	1420
Add 10% contractor profit on non CSR item							182.05
Total amount							3173.09
Say							3175

**C. Total projected cost for supplying portable water in village Aloarkh, Bakhtri & Majhi of Block Bhawnigarh, District Sangrur for period of 02 months.**

Providing portable water at contaminated sites i.e. village Aloarkh, Bakhtri & Majhi of Block Bhawnigarh, District Sangrur					
Sr. No.	Description	Qty.	Unit	Rate	Amount
1.	Providing water tankers for supplying portable drinking water (Chlorinated as per DWSS specifications) with capacity 6000 ltr. each including cost of tractor for hauling water tanker.	420	Job	3175	1333500
Total amount					1333500

The above estimate has been principally approved by the Competent Authority of the Board.

You are, hereby requested to commence the above scheme for safe potable water supply to the aforesaid villages at the earliest, for initial period of two months as reply in the matter has to be filed in the Hon'ble NGT. The next date before Hon'ble NGT is fixed on 05.12.2023. Intimation regarding supply of safe potable water shall be send to this office on daily basis.

**Treat it as Most Urgent.**

**DA : Hon'ble NGT orders dated 05.09.2023**

Endst.....4776-4778

*Wani*  
 of Environmental Engineer  
 Dated.....28.11.2023

A copy of the above is forwarded to the followings for information and necessary action please: -

- 1) The Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur
- 2) The Sub Divisional Magistrate, Bhawanigarh
- 3) Block Development & Panchayat Officer, Bhawanigarh

*Wani*  
 of Environmental Engineer

Endst.....4779-4783

Dated.....28-11-2023

A copy of the above is forwarded to the followings for information please:-

- 1) The P.S. to Chairman, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Patiala.
- 2) The P.A to Member Secretary, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Patiala.
- 3) The Chief Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Patiala.
- 4) The Senior Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Zonal Office- II, Patiala.
- 5) The Deputy Controller (F & A), Punjab Pollution Control Board, Head Office, Patiala

DA/as above

*Werni*  
o/c Environmental Engineer



ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਕੰਟਰੋਲ ਬੋਰਡ  
PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

No. 3003

Dated. 24-8-21

Registered

To

The Deputy Commissioner,  
Ludhiana.

Subject: Hon'ble National Green Tribunal orders dated 25/09/2018 passed in the Original Application no. 35 of 2013 and Original Application no. 386 of 2018 titled as Parminder Singh & Others V/s PPCB & Others.

It is intimated that a group of residents of village Toori, Bhawanigarh Tehsil, in Sangrur district of State of Punjab had approached Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana with Civil Writ Petition bearing CWP No. 3481 of 2007 titled as "Parminder Singh & Ors. vs. Punjab Pollution Control Board & Ors." against M/s Matharu Steel Pvt. Limited and M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries and its directors Sh. Chander Shekhar Dhawan and Sh. Sunil Ahuja. It was alleged that said respondents were polluting the environment by not complying with the provisions of Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 ("Hazardous Wastes Rules").

Based on the monitoring carried out by PPCB, it emerged that the industry has dumped waste which was hazardous in nature at site and is required to be disposed off in a scientific manner. It was further observed that the ground water has been contaminated with industrial waste. Subsequently, the matter was transferred by Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court, Chandigarh to Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi in Jan, 2013.

Hon'ble NGT on a perusal of the four study reports, i.e., TCIRD Report of 2011, CPCB Report of 2013, CPCB Report of 2014 and CSIR-NEERI Report of 2014

Contd...2

ਵਾਤਾਵਰਣ ਭਵਨ, ਨਾਭਾ ਰੋਡ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ - 147001  
Vatavaran Bhawan, Nabha Road, Patiala - 147001

Phone : Chairman. : 0175-2215793, Member Secretary : 0175-2215802 (O), 2215636 (FAX)  
Website : www.ppcb.gov.in | E-Mail : chairmanppcb@yahoo.in | msppcb@gmail.com |



-2 -

and taking note of submissions of the parties passed a judgment (the "Original Judgment"), holding that the industry and its directors had polluted ground water ever since the date of their industrial activities from 1991 till 2005 and even continuously, thereafter. Hon'ble NGT on 23.09.2015 directed the said Respondents to pay atleast an amount of INR 2 crores under the 'polluter pays' principle, to be used for providing safe drinking water and better solid waste management facilities to the people of the petitioner's villages.

Based on the joint inspection conducted on 04.12.2015, PPCB on 13.01.2016 submitted a status report before this Hon'ble NGT submitting that the Respondents had not taken any steps towards deposit of amounts and remediation. It was further pointed out that as first step towards remediation, the process of tendering is to be initiated for which, an initial advance of INR 50 lakhs was stated to be required from respondents in O.A no. 35 of 2013 namely Sh. Chander Shekhar Dhawan, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, C/o M/s Matharu Steel Pvt. Limited resident of # 110-A, Sarabha Nagar, Ludhiana, Sh. Sunil Ahuja, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, (C/o M/s Matharu Steels Pvt. Limited), resident of E-14, Sector-14, Noida, U.P and Sh. Gurcharan Singh Matharu S/o Sh. Surjit Singh Matharu, Director of M/s Matharu Chemicals Industries, resident of # 435, Rajiv Gandhi Nagar, Kota, Rajasthan.

Another status report was filed by PPCB on 26.05.2018 before the Hon'ble NGT pursuant to the Original Judgment. PPCB informed Hon'ble NGT that no amounts had been paid by the Respondents and prayed for issuance of directions to the Respondents to deposit the penalty amount of INR 2 crores as well as the initial amount of INR 50 lakhs. *al*

Contd...3



-3-

Hon'ble NGT on 25.09.2018 directed the Respondents to make payment of the amounts directed under the Original Judgment within one month, failing which, the District Collector, Sangrur (i.e., the Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur) was directed to recover such amounts as land revenue.

Accordingly, PPCB wrote to the Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur to initiate recovery process against the Respondents to recover the amounts from the parties concerned, to comply with the order of Hon'ble NGT.

In response to letter dated 10.01.2019, the Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur forwarded to the PPCB, a report dated 26.08.2019 prepared by Tehsildar, Bhawanigarh. In the said report, it was stated that all lands earlier purchased in the name of industry M/s Matharoo Chemicals Industries, Bhawanigarh had been sold and that currently held no land in Sangrur.

Thereafter, PPCB again wrote to Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur on 06.02.2021 seeking details of the land owned by the all the Respondents including Directors of industry for the purpose of initiating recovery proceeding in terms of the Original Judgment dated 23.09.2015.

In response to the letter dated 06.02.2020, Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur forwarded a report dated 04.03.2020 of Tehsildar Bhawanigarh. The Tehsildar had reported that as per the jamabandi 2015-16 of land record of village Turi, there is no ownership of land in the names of any of the individuals i.e Sh. Chander Shekhar Dhawan, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, C/o M/s Matharu Steel Pvt. Limited resident of # 110-A, Sarabha Nagar, Ludhiana, Sh. Sunil Ahuja, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, (C/o M/s Matharu Steels Pvt. Limited), resident of E-14, Sector-14, Noida, U.P and Sh. Gurcharan Singh

Cond....4



-4-

Matharu S/o Sh. Surjit Singh Matharu, Director of M/s Matharu Chemicals Industries, resident of # 435, Rajiv Gandhi Nagar, Kota, Rajasthan and hence, the process of recovery cannot be initiated.

Sh. Chander Shekhar Dhawan, who is Director in the company and one of the respondent in petition has mentioned his address in the petition as below:-

Sh. Chander Shekhar Dhawan,  
Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries,  
C/o M/s Matharu Steel Pvt. Limited,  
# 110-A, Sarabha Nagar, Ludhiana.

As such, to implement the order of Hon'ble NGT to recover the amount from the respondents (Directors of the Company), it is requested that Tehsildars under your jurisdiction be directed to furnish the details of immovable properties held by Sh. Chander Shekhar Dhawan, so that recovery process can be initiated.

2 Member Secretary  
19.8.21



495

ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਕੰਟਰੋਲ ਬੋਰਡ  
PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

No. 17443

Dated. 28/7/23

## Reminder

To

The Deputy Commissioner,  
Ludhiana.

- Subject: 1. Hon'ble National Green Tribunal orders dated 25/09/2018 passed in the Original Application no. 35 of 2013 and Original Application no. 386 of 2018 titled as Parminder Singh V/s PPCB & Others.**
- 2. Regarding compliance of the decisions taken during the meeting held on 03.11.2022 under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Science, Technology & Environment (SSTE) in the matter of OA No. 169/2021 titled as H.C. Arora V/s State of Punjab & others.**

**Reference: Board's letter no. 3003 dated 24.08.2021.**

It is intimated that vide letter under reference (copy enclosed), it was requested to furnish the details of immovable properties held by Sh. Chander Shekhar Dhawan, so that the process of recovery in compliance to the decisions of Hon'ble NGT in subject cited matter can be initiated.

However, no communication has been received from your good office, till date.

Now, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal had passed the order on 31.03.2022 and operative part of the same is reproduced as under: -

*"Having regard to the composition of the Committee and the material considered in the report and also in absence of any opposition by the State in spite of copy of report having been served on it, we accept the report of the Committee and issue directions in terms thereof. The Chief Secretary, Punjab, in coordination with the concerned authorities may ensure remedial action speedily to effectuate the guaranteed right of the citizens to clean potable water. The Chief Secretary may also take into account the suggestions in the additional report referred to above. The cost of remediation has to be borne by the State in the first instance without prejudice to the recovery of the amount later from the violators/erring officers. Area in question be treated as 'contaminated site' and remediation plan as per the Report of the Joint Committee may be executed within six months. If it becomes necessary, the Plan may be suitably modified in consultation with CPCB and any other Institution. Chief Secretary may constitute a credible executing/monitoring Committee to get the remediation plan executed and to monitor its timely and proper execution. Status report of compliance as on 31.8.2022 may be forwarded to Registrar General, NGT on or before September 30, 2022 by email. District Magistrate, Sangrur may place the information in public domain and appropriately caution the inhabitants about contaminated water in the*

ਵਾਤਾਵਰਣ ਭਵਨ, ਨਾਭਾ ਰੋਡ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ-147001

Vatavaran Bhawan, Nabha Road, Patiala -147001

Phone : Chairman. : 0175-2215793, Member Secretary : 0175-2215802 (O)

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interest of public health. PPCB and State GWB may regularly monitor the quality of contaminated water".

In compliance to the directions of the Hon'ble Tribunal, an Executing / Monitoring Committee has been constituted to get the remedial plan executed and to monitor its timely and proper execution. During 2nd meeting of the Executing Committee held on 03.11.2022, the matter w.r.t. assessment and remediation of contaminated site was deliberated and no. of decisions were taken, which also includes following point: -

"Punjab Pollution Control Board (Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Sangrur) shall follow up with Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, Kota and Rajasthan through DC, Sangrur for identification of property of directors of the industry namely M/s Mahaluxmi Orgochem, Village Alorakh, Tehsil Bhawanigarh, Distt. Sangrur"

As such, in compliance to the decisions of Hon'ble NGT, it is again requested that Tehsildars under your Jurisdiction be directed to furnish the details of immovable properties held by Sh. Chander Shekhar Dhawan, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, (C/o M/s Matharu Steels Pvt. Limited), #110A, Sarabha Nagar, Ludhiana, so that the process of recovery can be initiated and plan for assessment & remediation of contaminated site can further be implemented swiftly, please.

DA/as above

Endst. No. 17444

Member Secretary  
Dated 28/1/23

A copy of above is hereby sent to DC, Sangrur to the follow up the matters with respective DC's as already requested by this office.

Member Secretary

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ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਕੰਟਰੋਲ ਬੋਰਡ  
PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD



No. 3002

Dated. 24/8/21

## Registered

To

The District Magistrate,  
Kota, Rajasthan.

Subject:

Hon'ble National Green Tribunal orders dated 25/09/2018 passed in the Original Application no. 35 of 2013 and Original Application no. 386 of 2018 titled as Parminder Singh & Others V/s PPCB & Others.

It is intimated that a group of residents of village Toori, Bhawanigarh Tehsil, in Sangrur district of State of Punjab had approached Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana with Civil Writ Petition bearing CWP No. 3481 of 2007 titled as "Parminder Singh & Ors. vs. Punjab Pollution Control Board & Ors." against M/s Matharu Steel Pvt. Limited and M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries and its directors Sh. Chander Shekhar Dhawan and Sh. Sunil Ahuja. It was alleged that said respondents were polluting the environment by not complying with the provisions of Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 ("Hazardous Wastes Rules").

Based on the monitoring carried out by PPCB, it emerged that the industry has dumped waste which was hazardous in nature at site and is required to be disposed off in a scientific manner. It was further observed that the ground water has been contaminated with industrial waste. Subsequently, the matter was transferred by Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court, Chandigarh to Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi in Jan, 2013.

Hon'ble NGT on a perusal of the four study reports, i.e., TCIRD Report of 2011, CPCB Report of 2013, CPCB Report of 2014 and CSIR-NEERI Report of 2014 and taking note of submissions of the parties passed a judgment (the "Original

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-2-

Judgment"), holding that the Industry and its directors had polluted ground water ever since the date of their industrial activities from 1991 till 2005 and even continuously, thereafter. Hon'ble NGT on 23.09.2015 directed the said Respondents to pay atleast an amount of INR 2 crores under the 'polluter pays' principle, to be used for providing safe drinking water and better solid waste management facilities to the people of the petitioner's villages.

Based on the joint inspection conducted on 04.12.2015, PPCB on 13.01.2016 submitted a status report before this Hon'ble NGT submitting that the Respondents had not taken any steps towards deposit of amounts and remediation. It was further pointed out that as first step towards remediation, the process of tendering is to be initiated for which, an initial advance of INR 50 lakhs was stated to be required from respondents in O.A no. 35 of 2013 namely Sh. Chander Shekhar Dhawan, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, C/o M/s Matharu Steel Pvt. Limited having its resident of # 110-A, Sarabha Nagar, Ludhiana, Sh. Sunil Ahuja, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, (C/o M/s Matharu Steels Pvt. Limited), resident of E-14, Sector-14, Noida, U.P and Sh. Gurcharan Singh Matharu S/o Sh. Surjit Singh Matharu, Director of M/s Matharu Chemicals Industries, resident of # 435, Rajiv Gandhi Nagar, Kota, Rajasthan.

Another status report was filed by PPCB on 26.05.2018 before the Hon'ble NGT pursuant to the Original Judgment. PPCB informed Hon'ble NGT that no amounts had been paid by the Respondents and prayed for issuance of directions to the Respondents to deposit the penalty amount of INR 2 crores as well as the initial amount of INR 50 lakhs.

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-3-

Hon'ble NGT on 25.09.2018 directed the Respondents to make payment of the amounts directed under the Original Judgment within one month, failing which, the District Collector, Sangrur (i.e., the Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur) was directed to recover such amounts as land revenue.

Accordingly, PPCB wrote to the Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur to initiate recovery process against the Respondents to recover the amounts from the parties concerned, to comply with the order of Hon'ble NGT.

In response to letter dated 10.01.2019, the Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur forwarded to the PPCB, a report dated 26.08.2019 prepared by Tehsildar, Bhawanigarh. In the said report, it was stated that all lands earlier purchased in the name of industry M/s Matharoo Chemicals Industries, Bhawanigarh had been sold and that currently held no land in Sangrur.

Thereafter, PPCB again wrote to Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur on 06.02.2021 seeking details of the land owned by all the Respondents including Directors of industry for the purpose of initiating recovery proceeding in terms of the Original Judgment dated 23.09.2015.

In response to the letter dated 06.02.2020, Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur forwarded a report dated 04.03.2020 of Tehsildar Bhawanigarh. The Tehsildar had reported that as per the jamabandi 2015-16 of land record of village Turi, there is no ownership of land in the names of any of the individuals i.e Sh. Chander Shekhar Dhawan, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, C/o M/s Matharu Steel Pvt. Limited having its resident of # 110-A, Sarabha Nagar, Ludhiana, Sh. Sunil Ahuja, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, (C/o M/s Matharu Steels Pvt. Limited), resident of E-14, Sector-14, Noida, U.P and

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Sh. Gurcharan Singh Matharu S/o Sh. Surjit Singh Matharu, Director of M/s Matharu Chemicals Industries, resident of # 435, Rajiv Gandhi Nagar, Kota, Rajasthan and hence, the process of recovery cannot be initiated.

Sh. Gurcharan Singh and Sh. Shekhar Dhawan, who were the Directors in the company and one of the respondents in petition has mentioned their address in the petition as below:-

1. Sh. Gurcharan Singh Matharu S/o Sh. Surjit Singh Matharu, Director of M/s Matharu Chemicals Industries, # 435, Rajiv Gandhi Nagar, Kota, Rajasthan.
2. Sh. Chander Shekhar Dhawan, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, C/o M/s Matharu Steel Pvt. Limited, Plot No. 4, Near Airport, Jhalanpur Road, Kota, Rajasthan.

As such, to implement the order of Hon'ble NGT to recover the amount from the respondents (Directors of the Company), it is requested that Tehsildars under your jurisdiction be directed to furnish the details of immovable properties held by Sh. Gurcharan Singh Matharu and Sh. Sunil Ahuja, so that the process of recovery can be initiated, please.

2/1  
K. J. Singh  
12/3/2021  
Member Secretary  
19.8.21



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ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਕੰਟਰੋਲ ਬੋਰਡ  
PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

No. ....17446

Dated. ....28/7/23

**Reminder**

To

The District Magistrate,  
Kota,  
Rajasthan.

**Subject:**

1. Hon'ble National Green Tribunal orders dated 25/09/2018 passed in the Original Application no. 35 of 2013 and Original Application no. 386 of 2018 titled as Parminder Singh V/s PPCB & Others.
2. Regarding compliance of the decisions taken during the meeting held on 03.11.2022 under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Science, Technology & Environment (SSTE) in the matter of OA No. 169/2021 titled as H.C. Arora V/s State of Punjab & others.

**Reference: Board's letter no. 3002 dated 24.08.2021.**

It is intimated that vide letter under reference (copy enclosed), it was requested to furnish the details of immovable properties held by Sh. Gurcharan Singh Matharu & Sh. Chander Shekhar Dhawan, so that the process of recovery in compliance to the decisions of Hon'ble NGT in subject cited matter can be initiated.

However, no communication has been received from your good office, till date.

Now, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal had passed the order on 31.03.2022 and operative part of the same is reproduced as under: -

*"Having regard to the composition of the Committee and the material considered in the report and also in absence of any opposition by the State in spite of copy of report having been served on it, we accept the report of the Committee and issue directions in terms thereof. The Chief Secretary, Punjab, in coordination with the concerned authorities may ensure remedial action speedily to effectuate the guaranteed right of the citizens to clean potable water. The Chief Secretary may also take into account the suggestions in the additional report referred to above. The cost of remediation has to be borne by the State in the first instance without prejudice to the recovery of the amount later from the violators/erring officers. Area in question be treated as 'contaminated site' and remediation plan as per the Report of the Joint Committee may be executed within six months. If it becomes necessary, the Plan may be suitably modified in consultation with CPCB and any other Institution. Chief Secretary may constitute a credible executing/monitoring Committee to get the remediation plan executed and to monitor its timely and proper execution. Status report of compliance as on 31.8.2022 may*

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be forwarded to Registrar General, NGT on or before September 30, 2022 by email. District Magistrate, Sangrur may place the information in public domain and appropriately caution the inhabitants about contaminated water in the interest of public health. PPCB and State GWB may regularly monitor the quality of contaminated water".

In compliance to the directions of the Hon'ble Tribunal, an Executing / Monitoring Committee has been constituted to get the remedial plan executed and to monitor its timely and proper execution. During 2nd meeting of the Executing Committee held on 03.11.2022, the matter w.r.t. assessment and remediation of contaminated site was deliberated and no. of decisions were taken, which also includes following point: -

"Punjab Pollution Control Board (Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Sangrur) shall follow up with Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, Kota and Rajasthan through DC, Sangrur for identification of property of directors of the industry namely M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem, Village Alorakh, Tehsil Bhawanigarh, Distt. Sangrur"

As such, in compliance to the decisions of Hon'ble NGT, it is again requested that Tehsildars under your Jurisdiction be directed to furnish the details of immovable properties held by Sh. Gurcharan Singh Matharu, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, #435, Rajiv Gandhi Nagar, Kota, State Rajasthan and Sh. Chander Shekhar Dhawan, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries (C/o M/s Matharu Steels Pvt. Limited), Plot No. 4, Near Airport, Jhalanpur Road, Kota, State Rajasthan so that the process of recovery can be initiated and plan for assessment & remediation of contaminated site can further be implemented swiftly, please.

DA/as above

Endst. No. ...17447

A copy of above is hereby sent to DC, Sangrur to the follow up the matters with respective DC's as already requested by this office.

  
Member Secretary

Dated ...28/11/23

  
Member Secretary

ED No. 146900



ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਕੰਟਰੋਲ ਬੋਰਡ  
PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

No. 300/.....

Dated. 24-8-21

Registered

To

The District Magistrate,  
Noida.

Subject:

Hon'ble National Green Tribunal orders dated 25/09/2018 passed in the Original Application no. 35 of 2013 and Original Application no. 386 of 2018 titled as Parminder Singh & Others V/s PPCB & Others.

It is intimated that a group of residents of village Toori, Bhawanigarh Tehsil, in Sangrur district of State of Punjab had approached Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana with Civil Writ Petition bearing CWP No. 3481 of 2007 titled as "Parminder Singh & Ors. vs. Punjab Pollution Control Board & Ors." against M/s Matharu Steel Pvt. Limited and M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries and its directors Sh. Chander Shekhar Dhawan and Sh. Sunil Ahuja. It was alleged that said respondents were polluting the environment by not complying with the provisions of Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 ("Hazardous Wastes Rules").

Based on the monitoring carried out by PPCB, it emerged that the industry has dumped waste which was hazardous in nature at site and is required to be disposed off in a scientific manner. It was further observed that the ground water has been contaminated with industrial waste. Subsequently, the matter was transferred by Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court, Chandigarh to Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi in Jan, 2013.

Hon'ble NGT on a perusal of the four study reports, i.e., TCIRD Report of 2011, CPCB Report of 2013, CPCB Report of 2014 and CSIR-NEERI Report

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of 2014 and taking note of submissions of the parties passed a judgment (the "Original Judgment"), holding that the industry and its directors had polluted ground water ever since the date of their industrial activities from 1991 till 2005 and even continuously, thereafter. Hon'ble NGT on 23.09.2015 directed the said Respondents to pay atleast an amount of INR 2 crores under the 'polluter pays' principle, to be used for providing safe drinking water and better solid waste management facilities to the people of the petitioner's villages.

Based on the joint inspection conducted on 04.12.2015, PPCB on 13.01.2016 submitted a status report before this Hon'ble NGT submitting that the Respondents had not taken any steps towards deposit of amounts and remediation. It was further pointed out that as first step towards remediation, the process of tendering is to be initiated for which, an initial advance of INR 50 lakhs was stated to be required from respondents in O.A no. 35 of 2013 namely Sh. Chander Shekhar Dhawan, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, C/o M/s Matharu Steel Pvt. Limited resident of # 110-A, Sarabha Nagar, Ludhiana, Sh. Sunil Ahuja, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, (C/o M/s Matharu Steels Pvt. Limited), resident of E-14, Sector-14, Noida, U.P and Sh. Gurcharan Singh Matharu S/o Sh. Surjit Singh Matharu, Director of M/s Matharu Chemicals Industries, resident of # 435, Rajiv Gandhi Nagar, Kota, Rajasthan.

Another status report was filed by PPCB on 26.05.2018 before the Hon'ble NGT pursuant to the Original Judgment. PPCB informed Hon'ble NGT that no amounts had been paid by the Respondents and prayed for issuance of directions to the Respondents to deposit the penalty amount of INR 2 crores as well as the initial amount of INR 50 lakhs. 

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Hon'ble NGT on 25.09.2018 directed the Respondents to make payment of the amounts directed under the Original Judgment within one month, failing which, the District Collector, Sangrur (i.e., the Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur) was directed to recover such amounts as land revenue.

Accordingly, PPCB wrote to the Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur to initiate recovery process against the Respondents to recover the amounts from the parties concerned, to comply with the order of Hon'ble NGT.

In response to letter dated 10.01.2019, the Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur forwarded to the PPCB, a report dated 26.08.2019 prepared by Tehsildar, Bhawanigarh. In the said report, it was stated that all lands earlier purchased in the name of industry M/s Matharoo Chemicals Industries, Bhawanigarh had been sold and that currently held no land in Sangrur.

Thereafter, PPCB again wrote to Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur on 06.02.2021 seeking details of the land owned by all the Respondents including Directors of industry for the purpose of initiating recovery proceeding in terms of the Original Judgment dated 23.09.2015.

In response to the letter dated 06.02.2020, Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur forwarded a report dated 04.03.2020 of Tehsildar Bhawanigarh. The Tehsildar had reported that as per the jamabandi 2015-16 of land record of village Turi, there is no ownership of land in the names of any of the individuals i.e Sh. Chander Shekhar Dhawan, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, C/o M/s Matharu Steel Pvt. Limited resident of # 110-A, Sarabha Nagar, Ludhiana, Sh. Sunil Ahuja, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, (C/o M/s Matharu Steels Pvt. Limited), resident of E-14, Sector-14, Noida, U.P and Sh. Gurcharan Singh

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- 4 -

Matharu S/o Sh. Surjit Singh Matharu, Director of M/s Matharu Chemicals Industries, resident of # 435, Rajiv Gandhi Nagar, Kota, Rajasthan and hence, the process of recovery cannot be initiated.

Sh. Sunil Ahuja, who is Director in the company and one of the respondent in petition has mentioned his address in the petition as below:-

Sh. Sunil Ahuja,  
Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries,  
(C/o M/s Matharu Steels Pvt. Limited),  
E-14, Sector-14, Noida, U.P

As such, to implement the order of Hon'ble NGT to recover the amount from the respondents (Directors of the Company), it is requested that Tehsildars under your jurisdiction be directed to furnish the details of immovable properties held by Sh. Sunil Ahuja, so that recovery process can be initiated.

21  
K. G. S. S.  
23/8/2021  
Member Secretary  
14/8/21



ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਕੰਟਰੋਲ ਬੋਰਡ  
PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

No. 17448

Dated. 28/7/23

## Registered

To

The District Magistrate,  
Noida,  
Uttar Pradesh.

- Subject: 1. Hon'ble National Green Tribunal orders dated 25/09/2018 passed in the Original Application no. 35 of 2013 and Original Application no. 386 of 2018 titled as Parminder Singh V/s PPCB & Others.**
- 2. Regarding compliance of the decisions taken during the meeting held on 03.11.2022 under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Science, Technology & Environment (SSTE) in the matter of OA No. 169/2021 titled as H.C. Arora V/s State of Punjab & others.**

**Reference: Board's letter no. 3001 dated 24.08.2021.**

It is intimated that vide letter under reference (copy enclosed), it was requested to furnish the details of immovable properties held by Sh. Sunil Ahuja, so that the process of recovery in compliance to the decisions of Hon'ble NGT in subject cited matter can be initiated.

However, no communication has been received from your good office, till date.

Now, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal had passed the order on 31.03.2022 and operative part of the same is reproduced as under: -

*"Having regard to the composition of the Committee and the material considered in the report and also in absence of any opposition by the State in spite of copy of report having been served on it, we accept the report of the Committee and issue directions in terms thereof. The Chief Secretary, Punjab, in coordination with the concerned authorities may ensure remedial action speedily to effectuate the guaranteed right of the citizens to clean potable water. The Chief Secretary may also take into account the suggestions in the additional report referred to above. The cost of remediation has to be borne by the State in the first instance without prejudice to the recovery of the amount later from the violators/erring officers. Area in question be treated as 'contaminated site' and remediation plan as per the Report of the Joint Committee may be executed within six months. If it becomes necessary, the Plan may be suitably modified in consultation with CPCB and any other Institution. Chief Secretary may constitute a credible executing/ monitoring Committee to get the remediation plan executed and to monitor its timely and proper execution. Status report of compliance as on 31.8.2022 may be forwarded to Registrar General, NGT on or before September 30, 2022 by email. District Magistrate, Sangrur may place the information in public domain and*

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*appropriately caution the inhabitants about contaminated water in the interest of public health. PPCB and State GWB may regularly monitor the quality of contaminated water".*

In compliance to the directions of the Hon'ble Tribunal, an Executing / Monitoring Committee has been constituted to get the remedial plan executed and to monitor its timely and proper execution. During 2nd meeting of the Executing Committee held on 03.11.2022, the matter w.r.t. assessment and remediation of contaminated site was deliberated and no. of decisions were taken, which also includes following point: -

*"Punjab Pollution Control Board (Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Sangrur) shall follow up with Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, Kota and Rajasthan through DC, Sangrur for identification of property of directors of the industry namely M/s Mahaluxmi Orgochem, Village Alorakh, Tehsil Bhawanigarh, Distt. Sangrur"*

As such, in compliance to the decisions of Hon'ble NGT, it is again requested that Tehsildars under your Jurisdiction be directed to furnish the details of immovable properties held by Sh. Sunil Ahuja, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, (C/o M/s Matharu Steels Pvt. Limited), E-14, Sector-14, Noida, U.P, so that the process of recovery can be initiated and plan for assessment & remediation of contaminated site can further be implemented swiftly, please.

**DA/as above**

Endst. No. 17449

A copy of above is forwarded to the Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur to follow up the matters with respective DC's as already requested by this office.

Member Secretary

Dated 28/7/23

Member Secretary

कार्यालय तहसीलदार (भू0 अभि0) तहसील लाडपुरा जिला कोटा

क्रमांक: भू0अ0 / 2023 / 7653

दिनांक 1/12/23

Hon'ble member secretary

Punjab Pollution control board

विषय :- Hon'ble national green tribunal orders dated 25.09.2018 passed in original application no. 35 of 2013 and original application 386 of 2018 titled as Parminder singh v/s PPCB & others

प्रसंग :- Hon'ble member secretary Punjab Pollution control board letter no. 17446 date 28-07-2023 व श्रीमान जिला कलक्टर महोदय के पत्रांक 2752 दि0 24.11.2023 की पालना मे ।

महोदय,

उपरोक्त विषयांकित प्रासंगिक पत्र के संबंध में पटवारी रामचन्द्रपुरा द्वारा प्रस्तुत रिपोर्ट के अनुसार श्री गुरुचरण सिंह मथारू Director of m/s mahalaxmi orchem industries # 435 राजीव गांधीनगर कोटा व श्री चन्द्रशेखर धवन Director of m/s mahalaxmi orchem industries c/o m/s matharu steels pvt limited की सम्पत्ति की जांच की गई उक्त दोनों व्यक्तियों के नाम पर वर्तमान राजस्व रेकार्ड अनुसार खातेदारी हक से कोई कृषि भूमि दर्ज नहीं है। सूचना सादर प्रेषित है ।

संलग्न:- पटवारी रिपोर्ट

तहसीलदार (भू-अभि.)  
लाडपुरा कोटा

क्रमांक :- भू0अ0 / 2023 /

प्रतिलिपि निम्न को सूचनार्थ :-

दिनांक

1. श्रीमान जिला कलक्टर महोदय, कोटा ।

तहसीलदार (भू-अभि.)  
तहसील लाडपुरा  
लाडपुरा कोटा

रिपोर्ट 510  
पेल्वारी रामचन्द्रपुरा

सेवा में,

श्रीमान तहसीलदार साहब  
लाडपुरा (कोटा)  
राजस्थान

विषय:- यल- अथल संपत्ति की सूचना बाबत।

भद्रेश्वर जी,

उपरोक्त विषयान्तर्गत निवेदन है की श्रीमान के मातेरा  
उमांडु / अ. अक्रि / 7574 दि 24/11/2023 की पालना में श्री गुरुद्वारा  
सिंह मथारु Director of M/S Mahalaxmi Orgochem  
Industries # 435 राजीव गांधी नगर कोटा व श्री यदुशेखर  
धवन Director of M/S Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries  
clo M/S Mathary Steels Pvt Limited) की संपत्ति की  
जांच की उक्त दोनों अफिसरों के नाम पर वर्तमान राजस्व  
रेषाई अनुसार रवातेदारी एक से कोई अफिसर नहीं है।

रिपोर्ट खादर प्रस्तुत है।

LR  
30/11/23

  
प. रामचन्द्रपुरा  
30/11/2023

क्रमांक : विकास/2023/2752

दिनांक : 24.11.2023

प्रेषित :

तहसीलदार  
लाडपुरा

विषय : Hon'ble national green tribunal orders dated 25/09/2018 passed in original application no. 35 of 2013 and original application no. 386 of 2018 titled as parminder singh v/s PPCB & others.  
प्रसंग : Member secretary punjab pollution control board letter no. 17446 date 28-07-2023

उपर्युक्त विषयान्तर्गत प्रासंगिक पत्र की छाया प्रति प्रेषित कर लेख है, कि Hon'ble national green tribunal orders dated 25/09/2018 passed in original application no. 35 of 2013 and original application no. 386 of 2018 titled as parminder singh v/s PPCB & others के संबंध पत्र में अंकित निर्देशों की पालना में अपेक्षित कार्यवाही करते हुये सूचना भिजवाया जाना सुनिश्चित करें।  
संलग्न-उपरोक्तानुसार।

प्रभारी अधिकारी  
विकास अनुभाग, कलेक्टर कोटा

कार्यालय तहसीलदार लाडपुरा  
क्रमांक/पू.सं. 7574 दि. 24/11/23  
मूल ही भू आंश निर्माण/पट्टा/कूट  
को भेज कर सेवा में कि धारणा की एवं कस्तावे  
की सहाय कर विचारणीय नहीं करें। स्थान में  
की सहाय नहीं करे।

तहसीलदार लाडपुरा

महोदय

कृपया पंजाब फेल्टन कन्ट्रोल बोर्ड के बल सं. 3001 दिनांक 24-8-21 का संशोधन करने का कठ करी। जिसमें सुनील कडूजा डायरेक्टर में अहालसी और गों से अ इन्ड्रीज (ए/10 में गांधी स्टील प्रां लि०) E-14 संशुद्ध-14 जो एडा उत्तर प्रदेश में सम्पत्ति जोन के संबंध में है। जिसकी जोन का आठमा चाही गयी है।

उक्त पत्र के संदर्भ में अहालसी सादा आवेदन गत कराना है। कि संशुद्ध-14 जो एडा राजस्व गांम नमा कांठ तहसील दादरी जिला- गौतम बुद्ध नगर की भूमि अधिग्रहण का नोएडा विकास प्राधिकरण द्वारा विक्रित किया गया है। राजस्व गांम नमा कांठ की कम्प्यूटरीकृत खर्चीनी सर्वे करने पर सुनील कडूजा के नाम कोई सम्पत्ति होना नहीं पाया गया। जोन आठमा सादा सेवा में प्रस्तुत है।

महोदय

लेखपाल आठमा प्रेषित।

29/11/2023  
R1(B)

लोकेशन पत्र  
लेखपाल क्षेत्र  
तहसील दादरी  
जिला- गौतम बुद्ध नगर

महा, प्रेषित

29/11/23  
तहसील दादरी



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ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਕੰਟਰੋਲ ਬੋਰਡ  
PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

No. 300/.....

Dated. 24-8-21

Registered

To

The District Magistrate,  
Nolda.

तहसीलदार, नोडा  
होण्डा में वाणिज्य सूचना  
के सम्बन्ध में वाणिज्य आवेदन  
को।

Subject:

Hon'ble National Green Tribunal orders dated 25/09/2018 passed in the Original Application no. 35 of 2013 and Original Application no. 386 of 2018, titled as Parminder Singh & Others V/s PPCB & Others. जिलाधिकारी जिला/पंजाब  
गौतम नगर -

It is intimated that a group of residents of village Toori, Bhawanigarh Tehsil, in Sangrur district of State of Punjab had approached Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana with Civil Writ Petition bearing CWP No. 3481 of 2007 titled as "Parminder Singh & Ors. vs. Punjab Pollution Control Board & Ors." against M/s Matharu Steel Pvt. Limited and M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries and its directors Sh. Chander Shekhar Dhawan and Sh. Sunil Ahuja. It was alleged that said respondents were polluting the environment by not complying with the provisions of Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 ("Hazardous Wastes Rules").

Based on the monitoring carried out by PPCB, it emerged that the industry has dumped waste which was hazardous in nature at site and is required to be disposed off in a scientific manner. It was further observed that the ground water has been contaminated with industrial waste. Subsequently, the matter was transferred by Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court, Chandigarh to Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi in Jan, 2013.

Hon'ble NGT on a perusal of the four study reports, i.e., TCIRD Report of 2011, CPCB Report of 2013, CPCB Report of 2014 and CSIR-NEERI Report

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R/S/O.

का. जायक

अनुमति

24/08/21

(6)

PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD



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of 2014 and taking note of submissions of the parties passed a judgment (the "Original Judgment"), holding that the Industry and its directors had polluted ground water ever since the date of their industrial activities from 1991 till 2005 and even continuously, thereafter. Hon'ble NGT on 23.09.2015 directed the said Respondents to pay atleast an amount of INR 2 crores under the 'polluter pays' principle, to be used for providing safe drinking water and better solid waste management facilities to the people of the petitioner's villages.

Based on the joint inspection conducted on 04.12.2015, PPCB on 13.01.2016 submitted a status report before this Hon'ble NGT submitting that the Respondents had not taken any steps towards deposit of amounts and remediation. It was further pointed out that as first step towards remediation, the process of tendering is to be initiated for which, an initial advance of INR 50 lakhs was stated to be required from respondents in O.A no. 35 of 2013 namely Sh. Chander Shekhar Dhawan, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, C/o M/s Matharu Steel Pvt. Limited resident of # 110-A, Sarabha Nagar, Ludhiana, Sh. Sunil Ahuja, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, (C/o M/s Matharu Steels Pvt. Limited), resident of E-14, Sector-14, Noida, U.P and Sh. Gurcharan Singh Matharu S/o Sh. Surjit Singh Matharu, Director of M/s Matharu Chemicals Industries, resident of # 435, Rajiv Gandhi Nagar, Kota, Rajasthan.

Another status report was filed by PPCB on 26.05.2018 before the Hon'ble NGT pursuant to the Original Judgment. PPCB informed Hon'ble NGT that no amounts had been paid by the Respondents and prayed for issuance of directions to the Respondents to deposit the penalty amount of INR 2 crores as well as the initial amount of INR 50 lakhs.

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Hon'ble NGT on 25.09.2018 directed the Respondents to make payment of the amounts directed under the Original Judgment within one month, failing which, the District Collector, Sangrur (i.e., the Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur) was directed to recover such amounts as land revenue.

Accordingly, PPCB wrote to the Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur to initiate recovery process against the Respondents to recover the amounts from the parties concerned, to comply with the order of Hon'ble NGT.

In response to letter dated 10.01.2019, the Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur forwarded to the PPCB, a report dated 26.08.2019 prepared by Tehsildar, Bhawanigarh. In the said report, it was stated that all lands earlier purchased in the name of industry M/s Matharoo Chemicals Industries, Bhawanigarh had been sold and that currently held no land in Sangrur.

Thereafter, PPCB again wrote to Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur on 06.02.2021 seeking details of the land owned by all the Respondents including Directors of industry for the purpose of initiating recovery proceeding in terms of the Original Judgment dated 23.09.2015.

In response to the letter dated 06.02.2020, Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur forwarded a report dated 04.03.2020 of Tehsildar Bhawanigarh. The Tehsildar had reported that as per the Jamabandi 2015-16 of land record of village Turi, there is no ownership of land in the names of any of the individuals i.e Sh. Chander Shekhar Dhawan, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, C/o M/s Matharu Steel Pvt. Limited resident of # 110-A, Sarabha Nagar, Ludhiana, Sh. Sunil Ahuja, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, (C/o M/s Matharu Steels Pvt. Limited), resident of E-14, Sector-14, Noida, U.P and Sh. Gurcharan Singh

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PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD



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Matharu S/o Sh. Surjit Singh Matharu, Director of M/s Matharu Chemicals Industries, resident of # 435, Rajiv Gandhi Nagar, Kota, Rajasthan and hence, the process of recovery cannot be initiated.

✓ Sh. Sunil Ahuja, who is Director in the company and one of the respondent in petition has mentioned his address in the petition as below:-

✶ Sh. Sunil Ahuja,  
Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, ✓  
(C/o M/s Matharu Steels Pvt. Limited),  
E-14, Sector-14, Noida, U.P

As such, to implement the order of Hon'ble NGT to recover the amount from the respondents (Directors of the Company), it is requested that Tehsildars under your jurisdiction be directed to furnish the details of immovable properties held by Sh. Sunil Ahuja, so that recovery process can be initiated.

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K. G. S. S.  
23/8/2021  
Member Secretary  
14/8/21



No. 13448

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ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਕੰਟਰੋਲ ਬੋਰਡ  
PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

Dated. 28/7/23

Registered

To  
The District Magistrate,  
Noida,  
Uttar Pradesh.

- Subject: 1. Hon'ble National Green Tribunal orders dated 25/09/2018 passed in the Original Application no. 35 of 2013 and Original Application no. 386 of 2018 titled as Parminder Singh V/s PPCB & Others.
2. Regarding compliance of the decisions taken during the meeting held on 03.11.2022 under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Science, Technology & Environment (SSTE) in the matter of OA No. 169/2021 titled as H.C. Arora V/s State of Punjab & others.

Reference: Board's letter no. 3001 dated 24.08.2021.

It is intimated that vide letter under reference (copy enclosed), it was requested to furnish the details of immovable properties held by Sh. Sunil Ahuja, so that the process of recovery in compliance to the decisions of Hon'ble NGT in subject cited matter can be initiated.

However, no communication has been received from your good office, till date.

Now, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal had passed the order on 31.03.2022 and operative part of the same is reproduced as under: -

*"Having regard to the composition of the Committee and the material considered in the report and also in absence of any opposition by the State in spite of copy of report having been served on it, we accept the report of the Committee and issue directions in terms thereof. The Chief Secretary, Punjab, in coordination with the concerned authorities may ensure remedial action speedily to effectuate the guaranteed right of the citizens to clean potable water. The Chief Secretary may also take into account the suggestions in the additional report referred to above. The cost of remediation has to be borne by the State in the first instance without prejudice to the recovery of the amount later from the violators/erring officers. Area in question be treated as 'contaminated site' and remediation plan as per the Report of the Joint Committee may be executed within six months. If it becomes necessary, the Plan may be suitably modified in consultation with CPCB and any other Institution. Chief Secretary may constitute a credible executing/ monitoring Committee to get the remediation plan executed and to monitor its timely and proper execution. Status report of compliance as on 31.8.2022 may be forwarded to Registrar General, NGT on or before September 30, 2022 by email. District Magistrate, Sangrur may place the information in public domain and*

ਵਾਤਾਵਰਣ ਭਵਨ, ਨਾਭਾ ਰੋਡ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ-147001

Valavaran Bhawan, Nabha Road, Patiala -147001

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appropriately caution the inhabitants about contaminated water in the interest of public health. PPCB and State GWB may regularly monitor the quality of contaminated water".

In compliance to the directions of the Hon'ble Tribunal, an Executing / Monitoring Committee has been constituted to get the remedial plan executed and to monitor its timely and proper execution. During 2nd meeting of the Executing Committee held on 03.11.2022, the matter w.r.t. assessment and remediation of contaminated site was deliberated and no. of decisions were taken, which also includes following point: -

"Punjab Pollution Control Board (Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Sangrur) shall follow up with Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, Kota and Rajasthan through DC, Sangrur for identification of property of directors of the industry namely M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem, Village Alorakh, Tehsil Bhawanigarh, Distt. Sangrur"

As such, in compliance to the decisions of Hon'ble NGT, it is again requested that Tehsildars under your Jurisdiction be directed to furnish the details of immovable properties held by Sh. Sunil Ahuja, Director of M/s Mahalaxmi Orgochem Industries, (C/o M/s Matharu Steels Pvt. Limited), E-14, Sector-14, Noida, U.P, so that the process of recovery can be initiated and plan for assessment & remediation of contaminated site can further be implemented swiftly, please.  
DA/as above

Endst. No. 17449

A copy of above is forwarded to the Deputy Commissioner, Sangrur to follow up the matters with respective DC's as already requested by this office.

Member Secretary

Dated 28/7/23

Member Secretary