

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

**O.A. No. 399/2025**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

News Item titled “Kangra families on edge as 4-lane work threatens homes” published in The Tribune on 27.07.2025.

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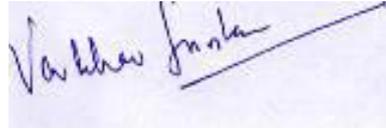
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Respondent No. 4

Dated: 25.10.2025

Place: Dharamshala

Through Counsel



Vaibhav Srivastava (Advocate)

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

**O.A. No. 399/2025**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

News Item titled "Kangra families on edge as 4-lane work threatens homes" published in The Tribune on 27.07.2025.

**RESPONSE/REPLY BY WAY OF  
AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF  
RESPONDENT NO. 4 i.e. HP STATE  
POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD IN  
COMPLIANCE TO HON'BLE NGT'S  
ORDER DATED 07.08.2025.**

**MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIPS:-**

I, Varun Gupta son of Sh. Suman Gupta, aged 40 years, presently working as Assistant Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, H.P. State Pollution Control Board, Dharamshala, do hereby solemnly declare and affirm on oath as under: -

- 1 That the instant O.A. has been registered by this Hon'ble Tribunal *suo moto*, on the basis of a News Item published in "The Tribune" dated 27.07.2025 regarding threat to environment, homes and lives of villagers of 18 K.M. Thaanpuri-Parore stretch (falling

**ATTESTED**  
Oath Commissioner  
DHARAMSHALA

  
Asstt. Environmental Engineer  
HP State Pollution Control Board  
Him Parivesh Bhawan, Dari  
Dharamshala, Distt. Kangra (H.P.)

in District Kangra, H.P.), on account of 4-lane widening construction work in an unscientific manner.

- 2 That the matter was listed on 07.08.2025, on which date, this Hon'ble Tribunal had directed the respondent departments including the Respondent No. 4 i.e. HP State Pollution Control Board in short "**State Board**" to file response/reply by way of affidavit.
- 3 That as per record, the State Board has granted Consent to Establish to M/s UCEPL SRBL (a joint venture), Village Chahri (Ambari), P.O. Panthar, Tehsil Nagrota Bagwan, District Kangra H.P. under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 vide letter dated 30.12.2024 (**Annexure R-4/1**) for the construction of road/highway which is valid up to 29.12.2025.
- 4 That in pursuance of the aforesaid order dated 07.08.2025, a joint inspection of the sites/areas in question was carried out on 24.09.2025 under the Chairmanship of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM), Nagrota Bagwan Division, District Kangra H.P. in which, the representatives of H.P. State Pollution Control Board, National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) and representative of EPC contractor

**ATTESTED**

Oath Commissioner  
DHARAMSHALA

*Vaish Gupta*  
Asstt. Environmental Engineer  
HP State Pollution Control Board  
Him Parivesh Bhawan, Dari  
Dharamshala, Distt. Kangra (H.P.)

alongwith other officials were also associated. (Copy of inspection report is annexed as **Annexure R-4/2**).

5. That during the joint inspection, it was observed that the protection work for the stabilization of slope has been completed at site. The Manager (T), National Highway Authority of India (NHAI), apprised the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) and representative of the HPSPCB that prior to the date on which, this news item was published i.e. 27.07.2025, the Project Executive Agencies i.e. Engineer Procuring Construction (EPC) contractor had already completed the first step of permanent protection wall/breast wall in Plane Cement Concrete (PCC) having height of 3.0 meters in between 79+730 to 79+830 (LHS) at the said location referred in the Hon'ble NGT's order.

**ATTESTED**

  
Oath Commissioner  
DHARAMSHALA

However, due to unprecedented and incessant rainfall in the region during this monsoon season, the work was temporarily suspended and it was ensured prior to the suspension of the protection works that there should be no danger to any structures in vicinity and the same remains in safe condition, which is apparent from the site photographs which are annexed as **Annexure R-4/3, collectively**.

Further, the Manager (T), NHAI also apprised that the joint team that news report published in "The Tribune"

  
Asstt. Environmental Engineer  
HP State Pollution Control Board  
Him Parivesh Bhawan, Dari  
Dharamshala, Distt. Kangra (H.P.)

has not disseminated the information with respect to the protective measures which had already been implemented to safe guard the houses situated alongside the said under construction 4-lane road. The joint team also observed that the balance protection work viz. permanent protection wall/breast wall of Plain Cement Concrete (PCC) for the stabilization of the slope was found to have been completed at site.

- 6 That it is further submitted that during the site inspection, it was also observed that the protection work has been extended vertically by providing two steps of 1.0 meter in PCC with addition of two steps of gabion works, having height of 0.80 meters each and slope has been fully stabilized. Further, it has also been ensured that all the structure located within the affected area is fully stable and are within a safe zone. (The recent photographs of the sites are annexed as **Annexure R-4/4, collectively**).

- 7 That after the thorough inspection/examination of the areas/sites in question, it has been observed by the joint team that contractor of the construction company had taken protective measures to ensure the safety of structures/houses of the villagers, located alongside the Project Highway, beyond the Right of Way (ROW). Further, as per commitments made by the EPCC

**ATTESTED**

  
Oath Commissioner  
DHARAMSHALA



Asst. Environmental Engineer  
HP State Pollution Control Board  
Him Parivesh Bhawan, Dari  
Dharamshala, Distt. Kangra (H.P.)

during the site visit, the balance work has been completed at Site and at this stage, the location is now safe in all aspects.

- 8 That the project proponent i.e. M/s UCEPL SRSBL has an authorized muck dumping site i.e. Wayside Amenity Area (WSA) (at Ch. 85+200 to Ch. 85+800) LHS however, presently, the same is not being used for the muck dumping as the entire muck generated from the hill cutting (during the road construction activities) is being used by the construction company in road leveling/filling purposes. Further, no disruption of any natural drainage system on account of muck dumping was observed during joint inspection. Further, the State Board is also conducting the routine inspection of the sites in question and in case, any violations are found in future, appropriate regulatory and preventive actions shall be taken against the violators as per the relevant provisions of environmental laws. (Muck dumping details are annexed as Annexure R-4/5).

- 9 That in addition to above, it is submitted that the State Board is a regulatory body, constituted under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution Act), 1974 and mandated for prevention, control and abatement of pollution within the state. However, the issue related to

**ATTESTED**  
Deputy Commissioner  
DHARAMSHALA

*Vaish Gupta*  
Asstt. Environmental Engineer  
HP State Pollution Control Board  
Him Parivesh Bhawan, Dari  
Dharamshala, Distt. Kangra (H.P.)

safety, damage and losses to the houses located alongside the said under construction 4-lane road, primarily relate to Respondent No. 2-3 and calls for their reply.

- 10 That as regard to the issue of complaint, it is submitted that no such complaint regarding the issues involved in this case, has been received by the Respondent-Board from the villagers, as alleged.
- 11 That the response/reply on behalf of the State Board may kindly be taken of record and the instant OA may kindly be disposed qua the State Board, in view of submissions made therein.

**ATTESTED**

Oath Commissioner  
DHARAMSHALA

**VERIFICATION:-**

I, Varun Gupta, the deponent named hereinabove, do hereby solemnly affirm and state that the contents of this affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. The contents of 1-11 of the affidavit are correct and derived from the official record. No part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

*Varun Gupta*  
**DEPONENT**

Asstt. Environmental Engineer  
HP State Pollution Control Board  
Him Parivesh Bhawan, Dari  
Dharamshala, Distt. Kangra (H.P.)

*Varun Gupta*  
Asstt. Environmental Engineer  
HP State Pollution Control Board  
Him Parivesh Bhawan, Dari  
Dharamshala, Distt. Kangra (H.P.)

Verified at Dharamshala on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2025.

*Vasun Gupta*

**DEPONENT**

Asstt. Environmental Engineer  
HP State Pollution Control Board  
Him Parivesh Bhawan, Dari  
Dharamshala, Distt. Kangra (H.P.)



**ATTESTED**

*A*  
Oath Commissioner  
DHARAMSHALA

Certified That The Above Was declared as oath/ affirmation before me as Dharamshala

..... This Date 25-10 of 2025  
By Sh./Smt. Vasun Gupta age 40 Asstt. Engineer  
Deponent who was personally known to  
identified by Sh. Manoj Kumar H.P.P.C.B. Dharamshala who is  
personally known to me.

Certified that this affidavit has been read over and explained in vernacular/English to Hindi to Sh./Smt. Vasun Gupta age 40 Asstt. Engineer.... deponent who seemed to have perfectly understood the same at the time of making there of

1317 Date 25-10-25 Time 4:20 P.M  
DEPONENT is identified by Sh./Smt. Manoj Kumar Sr. Assistant H.P.P.C.B. Dharamshala  
nature of the Identification.....

*Manoj*  
Oath Commissioner

*A*  
Oath Commissioner

*A*  
Oath Commissioner



## H.P.STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

HIM PARIVESH, PHASE-III, NEW SHIMLA-171009

HPSPCB No : 12977953

Date: 30/12/2024

Industry Registration ID: HP04325884

Application No : 12977953

To,

**UCEPL SRSBL Joint Venture**  
**Village Chahri (Ambari), PO Panther, Tehsil Nagrota Bagwan, Distt. Kangra, H.P.1 176047**  
**Nagrota Bagwan**  
**Kangra**  
**176047**

**Subject: Consent to Establish u/s 25/26 of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and u/s 21 of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.**

With reference to your application for obtaining 'Consent to Establish' u/s 25/26 of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and u/s 21 of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, you are hereby, authorized to Establish an industrial unit subject to the Terms and Conditions as mentioned in this Consent letter.

### 1.Particulars of Consent to Establish under Water Act, 1974 and Air Act, 1981 granted to the industry

<b>Consent No.</b>	<i>CTE/BOTH/NEW/RO/2024/12977953</i>
<b>Date of issue :</b>	<i>30/12/2024</i>
<b>Date of expiry :</b>	<i>29/12/2025</i>
<b>Certificate Type :</b>	<i>NEW</i>
<b>Previous CTE/CTO No. &amp; Validity :</b>	

### 2. Particulars of the Industry

<b>Name &amp; Designation of the Applicant</b>	<i>UCEPL SRSBL Joint Venture, (Private company)</i>
<b>Address of Industrial premises</b>	<i>UCEPL SRSBL Joint Venture, Village Chahri (Ambari), PO Panther, Tehsil Nagrota Bagwan, Distt. Kangra, H.P.1 176047, Nagrota Bagwan, Kangra-176047</i>
<b>Capital Investment of the Industry</b>	<i>26045.4 lakhs</i>
<b>Category of Industry</b>	<i>Orange</i>
<b>Type of Industry</b>	<i>2052-New highway construction project</i>
<b>Scale of the Industry</b>	<i>Large</i>
<b>Office District</b>	<i>Kangra</i>
<b>Capacity</b>	

**Products (Name with quantity per day)**

Name of Products	Unit	Quantity	Intermediate Product	Principal Use
Road	Number/Year	01	---	Rehabilitation and upgradation to 4 lane configurations and Strengthening of Thanpuri to Paror section from Km 85+135 to Km 100.840 of NH-20 (new Nh-154) of Pathankoty Mandi under NH

#### Details of the Effluent Treatment Plant

Type of Effluent	Capacity	Quantity
Septic Tank	15.0	01

#### Mode of Disposal

Description	Quantity(in KLD)	Method of Treatment	Method of Disposal
Domestic	7.44	Soak Pit/Septic Tank	Other

#### Quantity of fuel required (in TPD) and capacity of boilers/ Furnace/Thermo heater etc.

Type	No.of Boiler/'Heater /Evaporator/Incinerator/DG Set/Other	Capacity	Type of Boiler/'Heater s/Evaporators /Incinerator/DG Sets/Others	Type of Fuel	Fuel consumption rate in MT/hour or KL/hour or M3 /hour
Boilers	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Heaters/Evaporators	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Incinerator	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
DG Sets	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Chimney/hood	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Others	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

#### Type of Air Pollution Control Devices installed

Equipment Type	Equipment Name	Date/proposed date of installation	Efficiency(%reduction)	Final concentration of pollution being emitted
0	Boilers	Sat Jan 01 00:01:00 IST 1	0	0
0	Heaters/Evaporators	Sat Jan 01 00:01:00 IST 1	0	0
0	DG Sets	Sat Jan 01 00:01:00 IST 1	0	0
Water Sprinklers	Others	Mon Jan 01 00:01:00 IST 2024	90	As per PCb Norms

## Sources of emissions and type of pollutants

Name and location of the process vessel to which the stack/ vent is attached	Rate of emission in Kg./hr	Concentration of pollution like SO 2 , NOX, H 2 S, Cl, HCl etc. in mg/NM 3	Height of Vent/outlet/stack from ground level in meters
---	--	-	--



Approved By  
Chairman  
( H. P. State Pollution Control Board)

Endst. No.:

Copy To:-

1.The Regional Officer,HPSPCB,Kangra for information and shall ensure to operate the unit as per consent condition with adequate PCDs.



**Anil Joshi, IFS**  
**Member Secretary**  
**For & on behalf of**  
**( H. P. State Pollution Control Board)**

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

### A. SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

1. This Consent to Establish is only for the purpose and under the provision of Water Act, 1974 and Air Act, 1981 as the case may be, and will not construed as substitute for mandatory clearances required for the project under any other law/regulation/direction/order and the applicant shall obtain any such mandatory clearance before taking any steps to establish industry/ industrial plant, operation or process or any treatment and disposal system or an extension or addition thereto.
2. Nothing in this Consent shall be deemed to neither preclude the institution of any legal action nor relieve the applicant from any responsibilities, liabilities or penalties to which the applicant is or may be subjected to under this or any other Act.
3. The unit shall apply for further extension in the validity of the Consent to Establish, at least two months before the expiry of this 'Consent to Establish', if applicable.  
or  
The unit shall obtain prior Consent to Operate from the State Board, before starting operational activity and gets its completion plan approved by the Competent Authority (As applicable).
4.
  - i) The unit shall made provisions for the compliance of Waste Management Rules i.e. Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016/ Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016/ E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016/Construction & Demolition Waste Management Rules, 2016 and Manufacture, Storage & Import of Hazardous Chemical Rules, 1989 and provisions made thereunder, as amended from time to time, without any adverse effect on the environment, in any manner (As Applicable)
  - ii) The unit shall made provisions for the compliance Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and provisions made thereunder and unit shall also not practice burning activity of solid waste/waste generated from fuel within/outside premises, to avoid public nuisance.
5. This 'Consent to Establish' is for:-
  - i) The emissions from all sources conforming to the norms as prescribed in Schedule-I of Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 as amended from time to time.
  - ii) Noise and Ambient Air Quality shall be maintained within Ambient Air Quality Standards for noise as specified in Schedule-III of Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 and Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000, as amended from time to time.
  - iii) The effluent (Domestic/Industrial) shall conform to the limits as prescribed in Schedule-I or Schedule-VI or Industry specific standards of Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 as amended from time to time.
  - iv) Sewage and sullage generated from the unit to be disposed-off in a properly designed septic tank system/Sewage Treatment Plant/ Public Sewer System (as applicable).
6. The unit shall install adequate pollution control devices and provide the separate energy meter and flow meter. The unit shall maintain the logbook/ record with respect to operation of pollution control devices (As applicable). The achievement of the adequacy and efficiency of the effluent treatment plant/pollution control devices/re-circulation system installed shall be the entire responsibility of the unit.
7. **CONDITIONS UNDER WATER (PREVENTION & CONTROL OF POLLUTION) ACT, 1974.**
  - a) The unit shall provide terminal manhole(s) at the end of each collection system and a manhole upstream of final outlet (s) out of the premises of the industry for measurement of flow and for taking samples.
  - b) The unit shall install flow meter and maintain the record regarding the daily water consumption.

- c) The pollution control devices shall be interlocked with the manufacturing process of the industry (if applicable) and the authorized outlet and mode of disposal shall not be changed without the prior written permission of the Board. Unit shall not use any unauthorized out-let(s) for discharging effluents from its premises.
- d) Solids, sludge, filter backwash or other pollutant removed from or resulting from treatment or control of waste waters shall be disposed-off in scientific manner.
- e) The unit shall submit a detailed plan showing therein, the distribution system for conveying wastewaters.

**8. CONDITIONS UNDER AIR (PREVENTION & CONTROL OF POLLUTION) ACT, 1981.**

- a) The unit shall provide canopy and stack of adequate height of the D.G sets so as to control the noise & air pollution in order to comply with the provision of notification No GSR-371 E dated 17-5-2002 or direction as issued by MOEF from time to time, under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- b) The unit shall ensure disposal of boiler ash/fuel ash through authorized person or within premises in a scientific manner (as the case may be) and shall maintain proper record for the same, if applicable.
- c) The unit shall provide proper and adequate air pollution control arrangements for control emission from its coal/fuel handling area and emissions from handling, transportation and processing of raw material & product of the industry, as applicable.
- d) The unit shall provide port-holes, platforms and/or other necessary facilities as may be required for collecting samples of emissions from any chimney, flue or duct or any other outlets as per the specifications.

**Specifications of the port-holes shall be as under:-**

- i) The sampling ports shall be provided atleast 8 times chimney diameter downstream and 2 times upstream from the flow disturbance. For a rectangular cross section the equivalent diameter (De) shall be calculated from the following equation to determine upstream, downstream distance:-  

$$De = 2 LW / (L+W)$$
 Where L= length in mts. W= Width in mts.
- ii) The sampling port shall be 7 to 10 cm in diameter
- e) The unit shall submit a detailed plan showing therein, the distribution system for conveying wastewaters.

**(i) Stack height for boiler plants**

**S.NO. Boiler with Steam Generating Stack heights Capacity**

1.	<i>Less than 2 ton/hr.</i>	9 meters or 2.5 times the height of neighboring building which ever is more
2.	<i>More than 2 ton/hr. to 5 ton/hr.</i>	12 meters
3.	<i>More than 5 ton/hr. to 10 ton/hr</i>	15 meters
4.	<i>More than 10 ton/hr. to 15 ton/hr</i>	18 meters

5. *More than 15 ton/hr. to 20 21 meters ton/hr*
6. *More than 20 ton/hr. to 25 24 meters ton/hr.*
7. *More than 25 ton/hr. to 30 27 meters ton/hr.*
8. *More than 30 ton/hr.*                      30 meters or using the formula  
 $H = 14 Q_g^{0.3}$  or  
 $H = 74 (Q_p)^{0.24}$   
 Where  $Q_g$  = Quantity of SO<sub>2</sub> in Kg/hr.  
 $Q_p$  = Quantity of particulate matter in Ton/day.

**Note : Minimum Stack height in all cases shall be 9.0 mtr. or as calculated from relevant formula whichever is more.**

**(ii) For industrial furnaces and kilns, the criteria for selection of stack height would be based on fuel used for the corresponding steam generation.**

**(iii) Stack height for diesel generating sets:**

Capacity of diesel generating set	Height of the Stack	
0-50 KVA	Height of the building	+ 1.5 mt
50-100 KVA	-do-	+ 2.0 mt.
100-150 KVA	-do-	+ 2.5 mt.
150-200 KVA	-do-	+ 3.0 mt.
200-250 KVA	-do-	+ 3.5 mt.
250-300 KVA	-do-	+ 3.5 mt.

**For higher KVA rating stack height H (in meter) shall be worked out according to the formula:**

$$H = h + 0.2 (KVA)^{0.5}$$

where h = height of the building in meters where the generator set is installed.

9. The unit shall submit on-site and off-site emergency plan approved by the Chief Inspector of Factories, Himachal Pradesh (If applicable)
10. The unit shall provide real time online monitoring equipment's and provisions for the un-interrupted transfer of data as per guidelines of CPCB (if applicable).
11. The unit shall provide adequate arrangements for fighting the accidental leakages/ discharge of any air pollutant/gas/liquids from the vessels, mechanical equipment's etc. which are likely to cause environmental pollution.
12. The unit shall plant minimum three layer of trees so far possible as per plantation guide (may be download from the website <http://hppcb.nic.in/plantationguide.pdf>) all along the boundary of the industrial premises and check air/water/noise pollution at source.
13. Any guidelines issued by the Central Government/State Government/MoEF/CPCB/SPCB/any other authority concerned, shall be binding.
14. This 'Consent to Establish' is subject to orders on any litigation pending in any Court of Law. Any direction/order issued by any court shall be binding (if any).
15. The Board reserves the right to revoke the 'Consent to Establish' granted to the industry at any time, in case the industry is found violating the provisions of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 as amended from time to time.
16. The unit shall comply with any other conditions laid down or directions issued in due course by the Board under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

## **B. OTHER CONDITIONS**

1. The unit shall comply with the conditions imposed by the MoEF/State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority/ District Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority in the environmental clearance granted to it as required under EIA notification dated 14-9-06, if applicable.
2. The issuance of this consent does not convey any property right in either real or personal property, or any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any injury to private property or any invasion of personal rights, nor any infringement of Central, State or Local Laws or Regulations.
3. Stone Crusher units shall comply with the provisions of guidelines notified by the State Government vide Notification No. STE-E(3)-11/2012, dated 29-05-2014 (If Applicable).
4. Brick Kiln units shall comply with the provisions of guidelines notified by the MoEF vide Notification No. G.S.R.233.(E), dated-15-03-2018 and by the State Government vide Notification No. STE-E(5)-6/2013, dated-07-03-2014 (If Applicable).
5. Hydroelectric Projects shall install Online Real Time Monitoring System for the measurement of 15% of minimum discharge in lean season as per orders of Court/Government. The unit shall also ensure provisions for the regular and uninterrupted transfer of data from the real time online monitoring system for 15% of minimum discharge of flow to SPCB, failing which unit shall be liable for action on account of violation of the directions issued by Court/Government/SPCB in this regard (If Applicable).
6. Unit shall strictly adhere to the capacity approved by the Industries Department/ Department of Tourism & Civil Aviation/any other concerned Authority (As Applicable).
7. The unit shall not cause any nuisance/traffic hazard in vicinity of the area.
8. The unit shall ensure that there will not be significant visible dust emissions beyond the property line.
9. The unit shall obtain and submit Insurance cover as required under the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991.
10. The unit shall put display Board indicating environmental data in the prescribed format at the main entrance gate.
11. The unit shall maintain record regarding the operation of effluent treatment plant i.e. record of quantity of chemicals and energy utilized for treatment and sludge generated from treatment so as to satisfy the Board regarding regular and proper operation of pollution control equipment.
12. Any amendments/revisions made by the Board/CPCB/MOEF in the emission/stack height standards shall be applicable to the industry from the date of such amendments/revisions.



**By Order**  
**Chairman**  
**( H. P. State Pollution Control Board )**

Joint Site inspection Report.

Date of Inspection: 24.09.2025

O.A. No. 399/2025, titled as News item titled "Kangra Families on edge as 4-lane work threatens home" published in The Tribune on 27.07.2025

The news item published in The Tribune on dated 27.07.2025 titled "Kangra Families on edge as 4-lane work threatens home" and SUO Motu process of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Principal Bench, New Delhi, which took SUO Moto cognizance of this news article for the verification of facts. The spot inspection was conducted on 24.09.2025 in the Leadership of the SDM, Nagrota Bagwan; a representative of the Himachal Pradesh (HP) state pollution control Board; the Manager Tech, NHAI, representative of the Authority Engineer and the representatives of the EPC Contractor and detailed list of all the attendees with their department are as mentioned below:-

1. Sh. Munish Kumar Sharma, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Nagrota Bagwan Division, Distt. Kangra, Himachal Pradesh.
2. Sh. Tushar Singh, Manager (T), NHAI, PIU-Palampur.
3. Sh. Rahul Roy, Site Engineer, NHAI, PIU-Palampur.
4. Sh. Rajat Kumar, Junior Environment, HPSPCB.
5. Sh. Anil Tomar, Senior Pavement Specialist, Authority Engineer, M/s Geo Design & Research (P) Ltd. In JV with M/s. Dhruv Consultancy Services Ltd.
6. Sh. Amit Sharma, DGM (T), EPCC, M/s Universal Contractors and Engineers Pvt. Ltd., Shree Riddhi Siddhi Buildwell Ltd. (JV)
7. Sh. Amandeep Singh, Project Manager, EPCC, M/s Universal Contractors and Engineers Pvt. Ltd., Shree Riddhi Siddhi Buildwell Ltd. (JV).

During the joint site inspection, the following was discussed.

During the site inspection it was observed that the balance protection work for the stabilisation of the slope has been completed at site and the Manager (T), NHAI accordingly apprised the SDM and the representative of the HPSPCB that, at the said location referred in the Hon'ble Tribunal's Order, the Project Executing Agencies i.e. the EPC Contractor had already completed the first step of permanent protection wall / Breast Wall in PCC having height of about 3.0 m in-between Ch. 79+730 to 79+830 (LHS) prior to the date on which this news item was published which is 27-07-2025, however, due to unprecedented and incessant rainfall in the region during this monsoon season, the work had to be temporarily suspended / halted and it was ensured prior to the suspension of the protection works that there was no eminent danger to any structures in the vicinity and the same were in safe condition. To ascertain the claim further the EPCC DGM (T) presented the prior site photographs

SDO (C) *thw*  
Nagrota Bagwan  
Distt. Kangra (H.P)-176047  
Ph : 01892-252001

*[Signature]*  
Site Engineer  
NHAI, PIU-Palampur

*[Signature]*  
Manager (Tech)  
NHAI, PIU-Palampur

*[Signature]*  
Rajat  
Jr. Engr.  
HPSPCB  
D.Kala  
GDRPI in ASSOCIATION WITH DCSE  
PATHANKOT  
SPS

Shree Riddhi Siddhi Buildwell Ltd.  
*[Signature]*  
Project Manager

with the already constructed wall and the same is also being enclosed as **Annexure-I** with this site inspection report for further ready references.

Further, the Manager (T) also apprised the Member that the news report published in "The Tribune" was incomplete and have provided half information and did not reported the full facts, particularly overlooking the protective measures which had already been implemented to safe guard these houses and the photographs has been taken deliberately concealing the already constructed retaining wall having the height of 3 Mtr. so that attention could be garnered.

Further, during the site visit, it was also observed that the protection work has been extended vertically by providing two steps of 1.0 m each in PCC with the addition of two steps of gabion works having height 0.80 m each and the slope has been fully stabilized and it has been ensured that all the structures located within the affected area are fully stable and are within a safe zone. The same is also evident from the recent site photographs which are also being enclosed as **Annexure-II** for further references.

After a thorough examination of the location in question, it was collectively concluded that the Project Executing Agencies, i.e., the EPCC contractor, were fully aware of their obligations as stipulated in the Contract Agreement. The contractor has already implemented proactive and protective measures to ensure the safety of structures located alongside the Project Highway, beyond the Right of Way (ROW). Further, as per the commitments made by the EPCC during the site visit, the balance work has been completed at site. As a result, the location is now safe in all respects.

The inspection concluded with a joint agreement that the location in question is safe in all respects, as previously noted.

  
Site Engineer  
NHAJ, PIU-Palampur

  
Manager (Tech)  
NHAJ, PIU-Palampur



  
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Shree Riddhi Sindh Buildwell Ltd.

  
Project Manager

  
Jt. Env. Engineer,  
HPSDCB D/Sala.













SITE INSPECTION

DATE: - 24/09/2025

















Project Component implementing agency and contractor company	Total road length (in Km), commencement date, and present status	Quantity of hill cutting and muck/debris generated	Quantity of muck/debris with 45% swell factor	Quantity of muck/debris including swell factor	Estimated quantity of muck/debris proposed to be utilized	Estimated quantity of muck/debris proposed to be dumped	Name of the dumping site as shown in plan	Capacity of the dumping site	Action taken (Number and date of inspections, No. of violations, Notice issued/penalty imposed/amount/payment status Stop work order issued)
1	2	3	4	5=(3+4)	6	7=(5+6)	8	9	
UCEPL-SRSBL (JV)	16.275	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	WSA Area (at Ch. 85+200 to Ch. 85+800) LHS	65,000 Cum	Nil

For UCEPL-SRSBL JOINT VENTURE

  
Authorized Signatory