

To,

The Registrar,
Principal Bench, National Green Tribunal,
New Delhi.

No: 681 / Dated: 06.03.2024

Subject: Notice of hearing in Sou Motu Matter in re: News item appearing in Hindustan Times dated 31.01.2024 titled as "Punjab has no tech mechanism to check illegal mining, says CAG", Pending for 07.03.2024.

Whereas, the Hon'ble Principal Bench, National Green Tribunal, New Delhi, vide its order dated 31.01.24 in the matter of Original Application No. 222/2024 titled as ""Punjab has no tech mechanism to check illegal mining, says CAG" has directed the undersigned to file reply. In this regard, a detailed report from Executive Engineer Cum District Mining officer, Kapurthala has been received in this office vide letter no. 980 dated 05.03.2024, the details of which is as under:-

1. That at present no Sand Mine is operational in District Kapurthala because Beas River is declared as protected area under Beas River Conservation and falls under Category of Ramsar Site. Moreover, for Carrying out mining in any district of Punjab, DSR (District Survey Report) of the concerned district is prepared. The mining sites selected in the respective DSR of district are detailed further by the hiring consultant of Mining & Geology Department. The hired consultants carry out the detailed study in which proper mining plans are prepared. Mining plan includes all the required information i.e kml file of site, Environmental Clearance, Path approved etc. The Geo Tagged boundaries/fence that is identified through kml file act as Geo- fencing for the site and it is used to ensure that mining is carried out in the marked Kml area only.
2. That Punjab Water Resources Department has online website for Regular Monitoring of Mining Activities and issuing permissions (K1,K2 Permits),in the State.
3. That Mining Department Issues K-1 permits for excavation of ordinary earth in which kml file of borrow area is attached in the online application. Other than this, a layout plan is prepared by the applicant which also shows the co-ordinates of the boundary pillar. Any illegal Mining is checked with the help of kml file and co-ordinates given in layout plan.
4. That no vehicle carrying minerals can move without generating weighment slips from online Portal/Website which has all the details of vehicle, driver, source & destination along with QR code so any one authorized can check authenticity of the slip through out the state.
5. That Regular Day & Night checking is being conducted by Mining Department with the help of Police department and revenue officers and total 32 No. of FIRs have been registered against illegal Mining in Distt. Kapurthala from year 2022 to till date, other than this penalty has been imposed under Rule 74.75 under PMMR 2013 and total 50 Lakh recovered against 48 No. Challan.
6. That the department concerned is imparting training to the field staff for drone operation so to have better monitoring and check of illegal mining.

Report is submitted, for your kind information and perusal please.


Deputy Commissioner,
Kapurthala

MAM
5/2/24

To,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kapurthala.

No : 980 Dated : 05.03.2024

Subject : Notice of hearing in Sou Motu Matter in re: News item appearing in Hindustan Times dated 31.01.2024 entitled " Punjab has no tech mechanism to check illegal mining, says CAG"

R/Sir,

The Detailed Report as desired by your good office vide letter no. 615/MA dated 05.03.2024 is as under:-

1. That at Present no Sand Mine is operational in District Kapurthala because Beas River is declared as protected area under Beas River Conservation and falls under Category of Ramsar site. Moreover for Carrying out mining in any district of Punjab DSR (District Survey Report) of the concerned district is prepared. The mining sites selected in the respective DSR of district are detailed further by the hiring consultant of Mining & Geology Department. Then, Hired consultants carry out the detailed study in which proper mining plans are prepared. Mining plan includes all the required information i.e kml file of site, Environmental Clearance, Path approved etc. The Geo Tagged boundaries/fence that is identified through kml file act as Geo- fencing for the site and it is used to ensure that mining is carried out in the marked Kml area only.
2. That Punjab water resources department has online website for regular monitoring of mining Activities and issuing permissions (K1,K2 Permits) ,in the state.
3. That Mining Department Issues K-1 permits for excavation of ordinary earth in which kml file of borrow area is attached in the online application. Other than this, a layout plan is prepared by the applicant which also shows the co-ordinates of the boundary pillar. Any illegal Mining is checked with the help of kml file and co-ordinates given in layout plan.
4. That No vehicle carrying minerals can move without generating weighment slips from online Portal/Website which has all the details of vehicle, driver,source & destination along with QR code so any one authorized can check authenticity of the slip through out the state.
5. That Regular Day & Night checking is being conducted by Mining Department with the help of Police department and revenue officers and total 32 No. of FIRs have been registered against illegal Mining in Distt. Kapurthala from year 2022 to till date, other than this penalty has been imposed under Rule 74.75 Under PMMR 2013 and total 50 Lakh recovered against 48 No. Challan.
6. That this office is imparting training to the field staff for drone operation so to have better monitoring and check of illegal mining.

Submitted for your information and kind perusal please.


Executive Engineer
Cutt District Mining officer
Kapurthala