

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

Original Application No. 434 of 2023

Davinder Pal Singh

Applicant(s)

Versus

State of Punjab & Ors.

Respondent(s)

Reply of Er. Rohit Singla, Environmental Engineer on behalf of Member Secretary, Punjab Pollution Control Board in compliance of order dated 08.11.2023.

**Respectfully Showeth**

- 1) Briefly stated, Sh. Davinder Pal Singh, resident of Patiala has filed a complaint alleging that the Municipal Corporation, Patiala is violating the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and orders passed by Hon'ble Tribunal with regard to the ban on burning of waste in open places and bulk waste burning in landfill sites in Patiala city. It is further alleged that regular fires at the garbage dump site near Chotti Nadi in Patiala are causing nuisance in the nearby area. The complaint was treated Original Application No. 434 of 2023 by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal.
- 2) The Hon'ble Tribunal vide orders dated 01.08.2023, constituted a Joint Committee comprising of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB), District Magistrate, Patiala and representative of Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Patiala to verify the factual position and take remedial measures. Factual and action taken report was sought from the Joint Committee. Punjab Pollution Control Board was designated as nodal agency by the Hon'ble Tribunal.



- 3) That in compliance to the orders dated 01.08.2023 of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, the Joint Committee comprising of following officers visited the site on 24.08.2023 along with Sh. Davinder Pal Singh applicant.
- i. Ms. Sakshi Sawhney, District Magistrate, Patiala
  - ii. Er. Shyam Lal Gupta, Superintending Engineer, Municipal Corporation, Patiala
  - iii. Er. Jatinder Pal Singh, Executive Engineer, Municipal Corporation, Patiala
  - iv. Er. J.P. Meena, Scientist D, CPCB, Regional Office, Chandigarh
  - v. Er. Navtresh Singla, Environmental Engineer, PPCB, Zonal Office-1, Patiala
  - vi. Er. Gurkaran Singh, Assistant Environmental Engineer, PPCB, Regional Office, Patiala.

The Joint Committee submitted its report to the Hon'ble Tribunal on 12.10.2023 through email dated 05.11.2023. A copy of the Joint Committee report is enclosed as **Annexure-A** for kind perusal.

- 4) That the action taken by Punjab Pollution Control Board against Municipal Corporation, Patiala for improper handling, management and disposal of solid waste was highlighted in para no. 4 & 5 of the Joint Committee report and the same is reproduced below for kind perusal:

**"4. Action taken by PPCB:**

- i) *In view of the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in O.A. No. 606 of 2022, environment compensation amounting to Rs. 21 lacs (for a period from 01.07.2020 till 28.02.2022) has been imposed upon Municipal Corporation, Patiala for non-compliance of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and legacy waste remediation, out of which Rs. 9.0 lacs has been deposited by the State Government on behalf Municipal Corporation, Patiala.*
- ii) *The directions dated 26.05.2022 issued by CPCB were forwarded to the Department of Local Govt., Government of Punjab by PPCB letter no. 805 dated 19.07.2022 to ensure compliance of said directions. The said directions are reproduced as under:*
  1. *The Department of Local Government shall provide updated information w.r.t directions dated 01.03.2021*



issued by PPCB regarding bio-mining issued to it. It is to be ensured that updated information w.r.t at least all Metro cities is provided in accordance with Hon'ble NGT Directions.

2. The Department of Local Government to conduct comprehensive risk assessment studies and accordingly prepare detailed On-site Emergency Plan for each dumpsite located in their jurisdiction addressing the following issues:
  - a) The onsite emergency plan to cover potential risks/emergencies due to fire, obnoxious flammable emissions, odour, vector borne diseases, rodents, bird nuisance, seasonal affects i.e. summer / winter / monsoon (rainy season) and all other potential risks at the dumpsites.
  - b) The onsite emergency plans to address the worst possible case scenarios preferably using appropriate risk assessment softwares covering any or all of the potential emergency issues/scenarios cited above.
  - c) The on-site emergency management plan to cover likely affected geographical area including population, flora & fauna in and around the dumpsites.
  - d) The on-site emergency plan to contain detailed remedial measures both hardware and software based for mitigating various emergency situations, which should finally be available with respective control rooms and on-site emergency notice boards.
  - e) The Department of Local Government to prepare the on-site & off-site (or update off- site) emergency management plans preferably through an expert agency on the subject.

The Department of Local Government shall implement the following interim measures on priority till the time On-site/Off-site Emergency Plans are prepared and implemented:

- a) Disposal of Waste: Fresh waste not to be disposed at the dumpsite where bio- remediation is being undertaken. Organic waste from slaughter house,



fish market etc., industrial waste not to be disposed at the dumpsite. It is to be further ensured that industrial waste / E-Waste/Lithium battery is not dumped at the site. Waste that is being unloaded at the site should be examined visually for potential fire sources fire sources when located, should be neutralized with cover material immediately. Emergency tipping area to be provided to set aside from the immediate working area where incoming loads of material known to be on fire or suspected of being so can be deposited, inspected and dealt with. Adequate compacting of waste to be done to minimize formation of air or methane pockets which can lead to subsurface fire at site.

- b) *Monitoring at dumpsites: Methane Gas Detectors (on downwind side) to be installed at site so that area with high methane concentration can be identified and preventive actions be undertaken. Further, temperature at windrows to be monitored with non-contact infrared thermometer (as used for monitoring human body temperature under COVID circumstances) and records be maintained for any major deviations. The temperature is to be in the range of 350C to 590C. Treated leachate /water to be sprayed on the waste when rise in temperature is observed at the bioremediation site. Suitable mechanism to be in place. Installation of CCTV cameras at the site and provision of fencing & frequent patrolling to be done for checking unauthorized entry at dumpsite.*
- c) *Arrangements for fire Extinguishing: Arrangements for adequate storage of sand/ chemical fire extinguishing medias such as foam or powder at site to be made to douse fire in case a fire incident is reported. Usage of water for dousing fire to be avoided. Isolation and allowing rapid natural burnout or smothering with soil to be done for dousing dumpsite fires. Dedicated fire tenders*

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(preferably chemical extinguishing media) and adequate fire safety measures are to be deputed, specifically during summer season when dumpsites fire is more likely to take place. All mobile equipment or vehicles should be fitted with fire extinguisher and spark arrester.

- d) **Health & Safety of Workers:** Fire protection measures and safety equipment to be provided to all workers at the site and checked before entry to the dumpsite. Workers to be trained for detection of fire and necessary action to be taken in case of fire. Periodic training of workers be conducted in Safe handling of Waste, PPE's, Health & Safety issues etc.
- e) **Mock Drills & safety audits:** Periodic mock drills to be conducted to prevent fire accidents at dumpsites. Quarterly, Fire Safety and Hazardous Emissions Audits to be conducted.

A copy of the said directions was forwarded to all the Municipal Corporations/ Municipal Councils/Nagar Panchayats of the State vide PPCB letter nos. 1340-1507 dated 14.09.2022, including Municipal Corporation, Patiala for compliance.

Copies of the letters of PPCB bearing nos. 805 dated 19.07.2022 and 1340-1507 dated 14.09.2022 are attached as Annexure-'A' & Annexure-'B' respectively.

**5. Action taken by PPCB w.r.t. complaint**

A news item was published in "The Tribune" dated 16.04.2023 regarding burning of solid Waste at old dump site near Choti Naddi, Sanouri Adda, Patiala.

The site was visited by officers of PPCB on 17.04.2023 alongwith Sh. Sanjeev Kumar, Chief Sanitary Inspector and Sh. Harwinder Singh, Sanitary Inspector of Municipal Corporation, Patiala. During visit, solid waste dumped at the site was found burning. Officials of the Municipal Corporation, Patiala informed that the site was old



dumping waste site and the fire occurred due to methane production from the decomposition of solid waste as well as due to rise in ambient temperature, resulting in fire in dumped waste.

Municipal Corporation, Patiala was issued notice to issue directions u/s 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for the violation of provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 by PPCB letter no. 3749 dated 19.05.2023 along with an opportunity of personal hearing before the Chairman, PPCB on 29.05.2023, which was postponed to 02.06.2023 due to administrative reasons.

The personal hearing was held on 08.06.2023, wherein, the representative of Municipal Corporation, Patiala informed that bio-remediation of legacy waste at said old dump site has been completed by about 90 % by M/s Akansha Enterprises Ltd., Karnal and remaining waste shall be bio-remediated within few months. He further informed that the said fire incident occurred due to sudden rise in temperature and generation of gases. However, the Municipal Corporation Patiala controlled the said fire. The representative further informed that Municipal Corporation, Patiala is conducting periodic mock drills at the dump site and has prepared an exit plan in case of emergency. Herbal sanitizer and Melathene dust spray is being done on the garbage to control the smell emanated from the waste at dump site. Fresh waste generated from various households of the city is being segregated at 6 no. Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) of the city for processing and is not being disposed at said dump site.

It was decided by the Chairman, PPCB in the hearing that:

- 1) The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall submit comprehensive action plan for bioremediation of remaining legacy waste with timelines, within one month.
- 2) The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall ensure that no such fire incident shall occur in the future, otherwise, PPCB shall impose Environment

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*Compensation of suitable amount without any further opportunity.*

- 3) *The Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala shall verify the contentions made by the Municipal Corporation, Patiala in its reply as per rules and regulations and submit its concrete recommendation.*

*The proceedings of the said hearing were communicated to the Municipal Corporation, Patiala, a copy of which is attached as **Annexure- 'C'.***

- 5) That after filing of the report of the Joint Committee, the Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to seek response from the respondents namely District Magistrate, Patiala, Municipal Corporation, Patiala and Punjab Pollution Control Board by passing an order dated 08.11.2023. The response of the respondent Punjab Pollution Control Board may kindly be read in the following paragraphs.
- 6) That in compliance of order dated 08.11.2023, it is respectfully submitted that apart from the action taken by the Punjab Pollution Control Board as highlighted by the Joint Committee in its report filed before the Hon'ble Tribunal on 12.10.2023, the Municipal Corporation, Patiala was given personal hearing before the Chairman of the Board on 24.01.2024 in reference to the notice issued by the Board for directions u/s 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for violation of the provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

The hearing before the Chairman of the Board on 24.01.2024 was attended by Sh. Gurpreet Singh, Superintending Engineering, Sh. J.P Singh Executive Engineer, Sh. Harvinder Singh, Sanitary Inspector on behalf of Municipal Corporation, Patiala. The officers of Municipal Corporation, Patiala stated that the Municipal Corporation has already contacted M/s Thapar Institute of Engineering & Technology, Patiala to conduct comprehensive risk assessment studies and to prepare detailed on-site emergency plan for the dump site. A water tanker with fire brigade has already been placed at dump site to douse the fire in case of emergency, however permanent water hydrant system is yet to be provided. The officers further informed that the company earlier engaged for bio remediation of the legacy waste is in the dispute with the Corporation and Corporation has floated tender for engagement of the new company



for its bio remediation of the pending legacy waste. Corporation is having portable methane gas sensors; however, fixed detectors are yet to be installed. The officers informed that the Corporation has already floated tender to provide fencing around the dump site as well as to provide permanent gate at the site. Corporation has installed two number piezometers out of the 4 which is to be installed as per the recommendations of the Joint Committee. The officers requested to give some time to complete the entire recommendations of the joint Committee as well as provisions of the SWM Rules, 2016.

After examining the facts of the record and hearing the Officers of the Board and representative of the Municipal Corporation, Patiala, the Chairman of the Board was of the view that Municipal Corporation has not yet complied with almost all the recommendations of the joint committee, not submitted any comprehensive plan for bioremediation of legacy waste, failed to deposit Environmental Compensation imposed by the Board for violation of the SWM Rules, 2016 as well as no written reply submitted by the Municipal Corporation. Further, the case is pending in the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal and action taken report is to be placed in the Hon'ble NGT by the Board. As such, the Chairman of the Board decided as under: -

- a) The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall comply with all the recommendations of the Joint Committee by 04.02.2024 and shall submit the compliance report in writing to the Board. MCP shall be reheard before the Chairman of the Board on 05.02.2024 at 11:00 AM in his office at Patiala.
- b) The Municipal Corporation, Patiala is to deposit Rs 40 Lac for violation of the SWM, Rules 2016 for the period 01.07.2020 to 30.09.2023. However, it has deposited only 9 lac so far. Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall deposit the balance amount of Environment Compensation of Rs 31 lac, immediately.
- c) The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall apply to obtain authorization as required under the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, within 07 days.
- d) In case of the failure of the decisions at sr. no. 1 to 3 by Municipal Corporation, Patiala, the Board shall initiate legal action against the Municipal Corporation and its responsible officers for non-compliance of the Environmental Laws.

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- e) Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala shall visit the site to check the compliance by the Municipal Corporation, Patiala well before the next date of personal hearing to be given and submit its report during the course of hearing.
- f) Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala shall also ensure to submit the report to the Hon'ble NGT in the OA no. 434 / 2023 well in time.
- g) The copy of the proceedings be sent to the Deputy Commissioner, Patiala with request to look into the matter personally being the matter is pending in Hon'ble National Green Tribune.

The proceedings of the hearing held on 24.01.2024 were conveyed to the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Patiala vide letter no.10568 dated 02.02.2024 for compliance and a copy of the same is enclosed herewith as **Annexure-B**.

- 7) That the Superintending Engineer, Municipal Corporation, Patiala vide letter no. 1439-SEII dated 07.02.2024 submitted progress report and time lining for completion of dump site to the office of Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Patiala. A copy of letter dated 07.02.2024 of Municipal Corporation, Patiala is enclosed as **Annexure-C**.
- 8) That in compliance to the decision of hearing held on 24.01.2024, a further opportunity of hearing was afforded to Municipal Corporation, Patiala before the Chairman of the Board on 14.02.2024. The hearing before the Chairman on 14.02.2024 was attended by Sh. Gurpreet Singh Walia, Superintending Engineer, Sh. J.P Singh, Executive Engineer. The officers of the Municipal Corporation, Patiala informed about the compliances as under:
  - a. Municipal Corporation, Patiala has given work order for risk assessment and on-site and off-site emergency plan of dump site to Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology (TIET), Patiala and also made advance payment to the said institute in this regard.
  - b. Municipal Corporation, Patiala informed that the tender work for bioremediation of the legacy waste is under progress and they are perusing to finalize the same on priority.
  - c. Municipal Corporation, Patiala has installed water tank of capacity 2000 litre with submersible pump and underground pipeline has



been laid for carrying water from this storage tank for dousing of fire.

- d. Municipal Corporation, Patiala has purchased 3 methane gas detectors and same have been installed at site.
  - e. Municipal Corporation, Patiala has engaged the nearest weigh bridge namely Bharat Computerized Kanda for weighing of solid waste vehicles. However, new estimate has already been prepared for providing and installation of new weigh bridge at dump site and the work shall be completed by 30/4/2024.
  - f. Municipal Corporation, Patiala has provided entry gate at the dump site and two no. security guard were also deputed at site.
  - g. Municipal Corporation, Patiala has started the fencing of the dump site and the same shall be completed within one month.
  - h. Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall start the plantation activity after completion of fencing work and complete plantation shall be done by 31/3/2024.
  - i. Municipal Corporation, Patiala has installed all the 4 nos. piezometers to check the groundwater quality.
  - j. Municipal Corporation, Patiala has installed 8 no. CCTV cameras at main shed facing different locations at the dump site.
  - k. Municipal Corporation, Patiala has applied for CAF registration on the Investment Punjab Portal and authorization shall be applied after the approval of the CAF.
  - l. Municipal Corporation, Patiala has taken up the matter for deposition environmental compensation with its Higher Authorities and assured to deposit the same latest by 15/3/2024.
- 9) That after examination of the record and hearing officers of the Board as well as the officers of Municipal Corporation, Patiala on 14.02.2024, the Chairman of the Board decided as under:
- a. Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall deposit the balance amount of Environmental Compensation amounting to Rs. 31 Lakhs immediately without any further delay.
  - b. Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall submit interim report regarding risk assessment study and on-site and off-site emergency plan of dump site from Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology (TIET), Patiala in the first week of March, 2024

in the O/o Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala. Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala shall personally review the progress in this regard on weekly basis and to send report accordingly.

- c. Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall expedite the tendering process for the bioremediation of legacy waste and shall ensure that the bioremediation of the legacy waste lying at the dump site be carried out at the earliest. Further, Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall not dispose off any fresh waste at the dump site. Municipal solid waste of the city be handled as per provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- d. Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Patiala shall calculate the Environmental Compensation to be imposed on the Municipal Corporation, Patiala for non-compliance of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 including non-bioremediation of legacy waste period 1/10/2023 to 31/1/2024 and send the same to the EPA Cell to issue orders in this regard.
- e. Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall connect its CCTV cameras installed at dump site with the Board's server within 15-days. Asstt. Environmental Engineer (OS-WM), Head Office, Patiala shall monitor these CCTV cameras and in case any fire incident is observed, the concerned officer shall inform to the Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala immediately for taking action against the Municipal Corporation authorities.
- f. Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala shall collect the groundwater sample from the piezometers installed by Municipal Corporation, Patiala and from the nearby vicinity (as reference sample) within 15-days.
- g. Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall make its ETP operational, which is provided for treatment of leachates being generated from the legacy dump site by 28/2/2024 positively.
- h. Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall obtain authorization under the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 by 28/2/2024.
- i. Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall submit bank guarantee amounting to Rs. 10 Lakhs as an assurance to comply with the all



the commitments given above as well as recommendations of the Joint Committee within given time frame immediately.

- j. Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall involve its horticulture wing to provide plantation along the boundary of the dump site and ensure that 50% work be completed by 10/3/2024 and remaining by 10/4/2024.

The proceedings of the hearing held on 14.02.2024 were conveyed to the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Patiala vide letter no. 12477 dated 29.02.2024 for compliance and a copy of the same is enclosed herewith as **Annexure-D**.

- 10) That Punjab Pollution Control Board has taken and is taking appropriate action against Municipal Corporation, Patiala for violation of the provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016. The status / action taken report is hereby submitted in compliance to the orders dated 08.11.2023 for kind perusal and appropriate orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal.

Submitted by



(Er. Rohit Singla)  
Environmental Engineer  
Punjab Pollution Control Board  
Regional Office, Patiala

Date: 18-03-2024

Place: Patiala



ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਰੋਕਥਾਮ ਬੋਰਡ  
PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD



PPCB/RO/PTA/No. 3869.....

Through e-mail

Dated: 12/11/23

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

Subject: Action taken report in compliance of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal  
(NGT) orders in O.A. No. 434/2023 titled as Davinder Pal Singh Vs State  
of Punjab.

In regard to above, please find enclosed herewith the action taken report of  
Joint Committee constituted by Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi in compliance  
of Hon'ble NGT orders in O.A. No. 434/2023 titled as Davinder Pal Singh Vs State of  
Punjab.

DA/as above

  
12/11/2023  
For Member Secretary

Regional Office, C-23, Model Town, Patiala  
ਖੇਤਰੀ ਦਫਤਰ, ਸੀ-23, ਮਾਡਲ ਟਾਊਨ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ

Phone: 0175-2228132 E-mail : eero\_patiala@yahoo.com, Web: www.ppcb.gov.in

**Subject:** Factual/Action taken report by Joint Committee constituted by Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) In orders O.A. no. 434/2023 titled as Davinder Pal Singh V/s State of Punjab.

**1. Background:**

The complainant Sh. Davinder Pal Singh has filed a complaint in the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) alleging that the Municipal Corporation, Patiala is violating the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and orders passed by Hon'ble Tribunal w.r.t. Imposing ban on burning of waste in open places and bulk waste burning in landfill sites in Patiala city. The complaint has further alleged that regular fires at the garbage dump site near Chotti Nadi in Patiala is causing nuisance in the nearby area and has requested to Hon'ble Tribunal for redressal of the matter.

The Hon'ble Tribunal has taken cognizance of the said complaint and vide orders dated 01.08.2023, the Hon'ble Tribunal has constituted a Joint Committee comprising of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB), District Magistrate, Patiala and representative of Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Patiala to verify the factual and action taken report to the Hon'ble NGT within one month. Hon'ble Tribunal has also directed the Joint Committee to meet within one week, undertake visits to the site, look into the grievances by associating the complainant, verify the factual position by providing status of waste generation, waste processed, existence of legacy waste, its remediation and take appropriate remedial action by following due course of law. PPCB has been designated as nodal agency in the matter.

**2. Directions issued by Hon'ble NGT for making compliance to Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016**

(i) O.A. No. 606 of 2018 – "Compliance of Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016" - The Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 10.01.2020 in O.A. No. 606 of 2018 titled as "Compliance of Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016" issued directions, the relevant part of which is reproduced as under:

*"a. In view of the fact that most of the statutory timelines have expired and directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and this Tribunal to comply with Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 remain unexecuted, compensation scale is hereby laid down for continued failure after 31.03.2020. The compliance of the Rules requires taking of several steps mentioned in Rule 22 from Serial No. 1 to 10 (mentioned in para 12 above). Any such continued failure will result in liability of every Local Body to pay compensation at the rate of Rs. 10 lakh per month per Local Body for population of above 10 lakhs, Rs. 5 lakh per month per Local Body for population between 5 lakhs and 10 lakhs and Rs. 1 lakh per month per other Local Body from 01.04.2020 till compliance....."*

*F. R. Singh* *Singh* *oe*

b. Legacy waste remediation was to 'commence' from 01.11.2019 in terms of order of this Tribunal dated 17.07.2019 in O.A. No. 519/2019 para 2853 even though statutory timeline for 'completing' the said step is till 07.04.2021 (as per serial no. 11 in Rule 22), which direction remains unexecuted at most of the places. Continued failure of every Local Body on the subject of commencing the work of legacy waste sites remediation from 01.04.2020 till compliance will result in liability to pay compensation at the rate of Rs. 10 lakh per month per Local Body for population of above 10 lakhs, Rs. 5 lakh per month per Local Body for population between 5 lakhs and 10 lakhs and Rs. 1 lakh per month per other Local Body."

The said timelines for levy of environmental compensation was extended for a period of three months i.e. from 01.04.2020 to 01.07.2020 in view of COVID-19 pandemic by the Hon'ble Tribunal vide order dated 17.09.2020.

(ii) O.A. No. 286 of 2022 – In O.A. No. 286 of 2022 w.r.t. news item published in "The Indian Express" dated 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 titled "7 charrec to death in fire near Ludhiana dump site", the Hon'ble Tribunal directed CPCB to collect information about garbage dump site from all States in respect of atleast Metro Cities and issue necessary directions/guidelines for preventing such fires and handling them effectively, if they take place, specifying serious consequences of delay in dealing with the issues in violation of binding rules.

(iii) O.A. No. 288 of 2022 – In O.A. No. 288 of 2022 regarding news item published in "The Times of India" dated 22th April titled "Delhi, another long drawn effort to douse fire at Gazipur land fill", dump site has been considered isolated and vulnerable site, which require on-site and off-site fire and other disaster management plans.

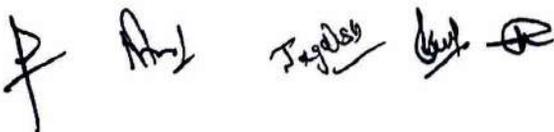
### 3. Directions issued by Central Pollution Control Board

CPCB vide letter no. CP-99/143/2021-UPC-11-HO-CPCB-HO/1576 dated 26.05.2022 has issued directions u/s 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for implementation of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 w.r.t. fire incidents at Municipal Solid Waste dump sites to the State Pollution Control Boards.

### 4. Action taken by PPCB:

(i) In view of the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in O.A. No. 606 of 2022, environment compensation amounting to Rs. 21 lacs (for a period from 01.07.2020 till 28.02.2022) has been imposed upon Municipal Corporation, Patiala for non-compliance of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and legacy waste remediation, out of which Rs. 9.0 lacs has been deposited by the State Government on behalf Municipal Corporation, Patiala.

(ii) The directions dated 26.05.2022 issued by CPCB were forwarded to the Department of Local Govt., Government of Punjab by PPCB letter no. 805 dated 19.07.2022 to ensure compliance of said directions. The said directions are reproduced as under:



1. The Department of Local Government shall provide updated information w.r.t directions dated 01.03.2021 issued by PPCB regarding bio-mining issued to it. It is to be ensured that updated information w.r.t at least all Metro cities is provided in accordance with Hon'ble NGT Directions.
2. The Department of Local Government to conduct comprehensive risk assessment studies and accordingly prepare detailed On-site Emergency Plan for each dumpsite located in their jurisdiction addressing the following issues:
  - a) The onsite emergency plan to cover potential risks/ emergencies due to fire, obnoxious flammable emissions, odour, vector borne diseases, rodents, bird nuisance, seasonal affects i.e. summer / winter / monsoon (rainy season) and all other potential risks at the dumpsites.
  - b) The onsite emergency plans to address the worst possible case scenarios preferably using appropriate risk assessment softwares covering any or all of the potential emergency issues/scenarios cited above.
  - c) The on-site emergency management plan to cover likely affected geographical area including population, flora & fauna in and around the dumpsites.
  - d) The on-site emergency plan to contain detailed remedial measures both hardware and software based for mitigating various emergency situations, which should finally be available with respective control rooms and on-site emergency notice boards.
  - e) The Department of Local Government to prepare the on-site & off-site (or update off-site) emergency management plans preferably through an expert agency on the subject.

The Department of Local Government shall implement the following interim measures on priority till the time On-site/Off-site Emergency Plans are prepared and implemented:

- a) Disposal of Waste: Fresh waste not to be disposed at the dumpsite where bio- remediation is being undertaken. Organic waste from slaughter house, fish market etc., industrial waste not to be disposed at the dumpsite. It is to be further ensured that industrial waste / E-Waste/Lithium battery is not dumped at the site. Waste that is being unloaded at the site should be examined visually for potential fire sources fire sources when located, should be neutralized with cover material immediately. Emergency tipping area to be provided to set aside from the immediate working area where incoming loads of material known to be on fire or suspected of being so can be deposited, inspected and dealt with. Adequate compacting of waste to be done to minimize formation of air or methane pockets which can lead to subsurface fire at site.
- b) Monitoring at dumpsites: Methane Gas Detectors (on downwind side) to be installed at site so that area with high methane concentration can be identified and preventive actions be undertaken. Further, temperature at windrows to be monitored with non-contact infrared

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thermometer (as used for monitoring human body temperature under COVID circumstances) and records be maintained for any major deviations. The temperature is to be in the range of 35°C to 59°C. Treated leachate /water to be sprayed on the waste when rise in temperature is observed at the bioremediation site. Suitable mechanism to be in place. Installation of CCTV cameras at the site and provision of fencing & frequent patrolling to be done for checking unauthorized entry at dumpsite.

- c) Arrangements for fire Extinguishing: Arrangements for adequate storage of sand/ chemical fire extinguishing medias such as foam or powder at site to be made to douse fire in case a fire incident is reported. Usage of water for dousing fire to be avoided. Isolation and allowing rapid natural burnout or smothering with soil to be done for dousing dumpsite fires. Dedicated fire tenders (preferably chemical extinguishing media) and adequate fire safety measures are to be deputed, specifically during summer season when dumpsites fire is more likely to take place. All mobile equipment or vehicles should be fitted with fire extinguisher and spark arrester.
- d) Health & Safety of Workers: Fire protection measures and safety equipment to be provided to all workers at the site and checked before entry to the dumpsite. Workers to be trained for detection of fire and necessary action to be taken in case of fire. Periodic training of workers be conducted in Safe handling of Waste, PPE's, Health & Safety issues etc.
- e) Mock Drills & safety audits: Periodic mock drills to be conducted to prevent fire accidents at dumpsites. Quarterly, Fire Safety and Hazardous Emissions Audits to be conducted.

A copy of the said directions was forwarded to all the Municipal Corporations/ Municipal Councils/Nagar Panchayats of the State vide PPCB letter nos. 1340-1507 dated 14.09.2022, including Municipal Corporation, Patiala for compliance.

Copies of the letters of PPCB bearing nos. 805 dated 19.07.2022 and 1340-1507 dated 14.09.2022 are attached as Annexure-'A' & Annexure-'B' respectively.

**5. Action taken by PPCB w.r.t. complaint**

A news item was published in "The Tribune" dated 16.04.2023 regarding burning of solid waste at old dump site near Choti Naddi, Sanouri Adda, Patiala.

The site was visited by officers of PPCB on 17.04.2023 alongwith Sh. Sanjeev Kumar, Chief Sanitary Inspector and Sh. Harwinder Singh, Sanitary Inspector of Municipal Corporation, Patiala. During visit, solid waste dumped at the site was found burning. Officials of the Municipal Corporation, Patiala informed that the site was old dumping waste site and the fire occurred due to methane production from the decomposition of solid waste as well as due to rise in ambient temperature, resulting in fire in dumped waste.

Municipal Corporation, Patiala was issued notice to issue directions u/s 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for the violation of provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 by PPCB letter no.

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

3749 dated 19.05.2023 along with an opportunity of personal hearing before the Chairman, PPCB on 29.05.2023, which was postponed to 02.06.2023 due to administrative reasons.

The personal hearing was held on 08.06.2023, wherein, the representative of Municipal Corporation, Patiala informed that bio-remediation of legacy waste at said old dump site has been completed by about 90 % by M/s Akansha Enterprises Ltd., Karnal and remaining waste shall be bio-remediated within few months. He further informed that the said fire incident occurred due to sudden rise in temperature and generation of gases. However, the Municipal Corporation Patiala controlled the said fire. The representative further informed that Municipal Corporation, Patiala is conducting periodic mock drills at the dump site and has prepared an exit plan in case of emergency. Herbal sanitizer and Melathene dust spray is being done on the garbage to control the smell emanated from the waste at dump site. Fresh waste generated from various households of the city is being segregated at 6 no. Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) of the city for processing and is not being disposed at said dump site.

It was decided by the Chairman, PPCB in the hearing that:

- 1) The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall submit comprehensive action plan for bioremediation of remaining legacy waste with timelines, within one month.
- 2) The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall ensure that no such fire incident shall occur in the future, otherwise, PPCB shall impose Environment Compensation of suitable amount without any further opportunity.
- 3) The Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala shall verify the contentions made by the Municipal Corporation, Patiala in its reply as per rules and regulations and submit its concrete recommendation.

The proceedings of the said hearing were communicated to the Municipal Corporation, Patiala, a copy of which is attached as Annexure-'C'.

**6. Visit of the Joint Committee constituted by Hon'ble NGT:**

In compliance of the directions of the Hon'ble NGT in present application no. O.A. No. 434 of 2023, the Joint Committee comprising of following officers held a meeting on 22.08.2023 at Patiala to deliberate upon actions to be taken for compliance of orders dated 01.08.2023 of the Hon'ble NGT in the present case-

- 1) Ms. Sakshi Sawhney, District Magistrate, Patiala
- 2) Er. Shyam Lal Gupta, Superintending Engineer, Municipal Corporation, Patiala
- 3) Er. Jatinder Pal Singh, Executive Engineer, Municipal Corporation, Patiala
- 4) Er. J.P. Meena, Scientist D, CPCB, Regional Office, Chandigarh
- 5) Er. Navtesh Singla, Environmental Engineer, PPCB, Zonal Office-1, Patiala
- 6) Er. Gurkaran Singh, Asslstant Environmental Engineer, PPCB, Regional Office, Patiala



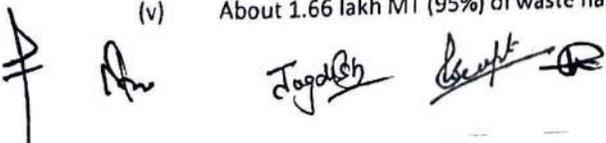
It was decided by the Joint Committee to make field visits on 24.8.2023 and associate the complainant Sh. Davinder Pal Singh during the visit of the Joint Committee to the solid waste dump site at Patiala.

The Joint Committee then visited the solid waste dump site of Patiala on 24.8.2023 along with complainant Sh. Davinder Pal Singh. The complainant also submitted his grievance in written to the Joint Committee alleging the same status in the original complaint, a copy of which is attached as per Annexure-'D'. The Joint Committee made following observations:

1. The total area of the dump site is about 8 acres. Reclamation has been done at two sites, one at site-A having area of about 3.5 acres and another site-B having area of about 3 acres.
2. The representative of the Municipal Corporation, Patiala informed that about 35000 MT fresh waste and 15000 MT legacy waste is dumped at site-B.
3. Mixed waste was found dumped at site-B.
4. A trommel system has been installed for recovery of the legacy waste. However, the same was not in operation as the legacy waste lying was in wet condition due to recent floods & rains in the area.
5. Although permanent fire control mechanism has not been provided at the dump site, however, one fire brigade was found stationed near the dump site for control of fire in case of any emergency.
6. Portable methane gas sensors are being used by Municipal Corporation, Patiala for detection of methane gas at the dump site.
7. ETP for treatment of leachate has been provided, however, it was found non-functional.
8. Plantation around the dump site was not found adequate.
9. Fencing around the dump site and gate at entrance point have not been provided.
10. Partial storm water drain has been provided.

7. Statement of Municipal Corporation, Patiala w.r.t. waste generation, waste processed and legacy waste existing and remediated:

- (i) The solid waste dump site of Patiala city is located at Sanauri Adda, which is about 40-45 years old and falls within the limits of Municipal Corporation Patiala.
- (ii) The total area of dump site is about 8.73 acres, in which originally about 1.76 lakh MT of legacy waste was there in form of heaps of 7 meters (21 feet) height.
- (iii) The work of bio-remediation of legacy waste at the dump site was awarded to M/s Akansha Enterprises Karnal by Municipal Corporation Patiala with a target for completion of remediation within 24 months.
- (iv) Rs 6.85 Cr. were to be spent on this remediation project.
- (v) About 1.66 lakh MT (95%) of waste has been remediated till date.

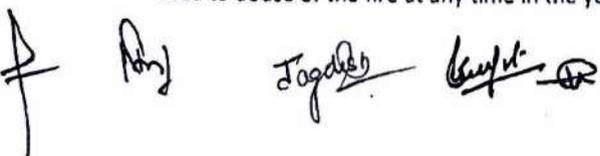


- (vi) About 3.5 to 5 acres of land has been reclaimed upon remediation of legacy waste and a park has been developed in about 3 acres of this reclaimed land.
- (vii) About 50-60 thousand MT of legacy waste along with some fresh waste is lying at the dump site.
- (viii) During the recent floods in Patiala City in July, 2023, about 260 MT per day of waste from Patiala City, Improvement Trust, colonies developed by Patiala Development Authority, Babbu Singh Colony, Vikas Vihar, Ranjit Nagar, DF Nagar, Malwa Enclave, Aman Vihar, Career Enclave and other colonies located outside the Corporation limits was received at this dump site, due to which fresh waste could be seen at the dump site.
- (ix) Bulldozers and JCB machines are being used to handle the garbage coming at the dump site.
- (x) A fire brigade vehicle has been permanently deployed to avoid any unexpected fire at the dump site.
- (xi) 5 portable methane detectors are being used for detection of methane gas.
- (xii) Piezometer and CCTV cameras have now been installed at the dump site.

#### 8. Recommendations:

Following measures shall be taken by Municipal Corporation, Patiala in a time bound manner for prevention of fires at its dump site and management of solid waste :

- a) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall conduct comprehensive risk assessment studies and accordingly prepare detailed On-site Emergency Plan for its dump site addressing the following issues:
- ✓ To cover potential risks / emergencies due to fire, obnoxious / flammable emissions, odour, vector borne diseases rodents, bird nuisance, seasonal affects i.e. summer / winter / monsoon (rainy season) and all other potential risks at the dumpsites.
  - ✓ To address the worst possible case scenarios preferably using appropriate risk assessment softwares covering any or all of the potential emergency issues / scenarios cited above.
  - ✓ To cover likely affected geographical area including population, flora & fauna in an around the dumpsites.
  - ✓ To contain detailed remedial measures both hardware and software based for mitigating various emergency situations, which should finally be available with respective control rooms and on-site emergency notice boards.
- b) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall provide a permanent water hydrant system, which can be used to douse of the fire at any time in the year.



- c) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall implement following interim measures till the time onsite / off-site emergency plans are prepared:
- ✓ Fresh waste not be disposed at the dump site where bio remediation is being undertaken.
  - ✓ Methane gas detectors (on the down side) to be installed at the site so that area with high methane concentration can be identified and preventive actions be undertaken.
  - ✓ Arrangements of fire extinguishers to be made especially in the summer seasons.
- d) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall install CCTV cameras at its dump site, provide weigh bridge for proper measurement of waste received at the dump site.
- e) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall install a permanent gate with one security personnel at its main entrance to avoid any unauthorized access to the solid waste site.
- f) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall provide fencing all around its dump site to avoid littering of any waste in any water body.
- g) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall increase the plantation area / green belt around its dump site.
- h) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall provide piezometers on four different locations in order to check the contamination of ground water.



Ms. Sakshi Sawhney, District Magistrate, Patiala



Er. Shyam Lal Gupta, Superintending Engineer, Municipal Corporation, Patiala.



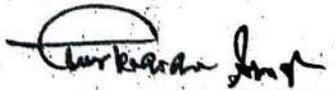
Er. Jatinder Pal Singh, Executive Engineer, Municipal Corporation, Patiala



Er. J.P. Meena, Scientist D, CPCB, Regional Office, Chandigarh



Er. Navtosh Singla, Environmental Engineer, PPCB, Patiala



Er. Gurkaran Singh, Assistant Environmental Engineer, PPCB, Regional Office, Patiala



Annexure - A

ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਕੰਟਰੋਲ ਬੋਰਡ  
PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

No. 8c5

Dated. 19/7/22

To

The Principal Secretary to Govt. of Punjab,  
Department of Local Government,  
Chandigarh.

**Subject: Directions under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for implementation of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 regarding Fire Incidents at MSW Dumpsites.**

**Ref: CP-99/143/2021-UPC-II-HO-CPCB-HO/1576 dated 26.05.2022.**

Whereas, the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change has notified Solid Waste Management Rules on April 08, 2016 which inter-alia state procedures for Solid Waste Management;

And whereas, in accordance with Rule 11(d) of the Rules, it is the duty of the State Urban Development Department to ensure implementation of provisions of these Rules by all local authorities;

And whereas, in accordance with Rule 15(a) of the Solid Waste Management (SWM) Rules, 2016, the local authorities and Panchayats should prepare a solid waste management plan as per state policy and strategy on solid waste management within six months from the date of notification;

And whereas, in accordance with provision of Rule 15(zd) of the SWM Rules, 2016, the local authorities and Panchayats shall ensure that the operator of a facility provides personal protection equipment including uniform, fluorescent jacket, hand gloves, raincoats, appropriate foot wear and masks to all workers handling solid waste and the same are used by the workforce;

And whereas, MSW is being disposed of unscientifically in most cases which is one of the major causes for public nuisance due to frequent fire incidents, foul odour, generation of leachate and other adverse environmental impacts;

And whereas, several fire incidents have been reported recently at Ghazipur & Bhisawa dumpsites in Delhi, Manesar in Haryana and Ludhiana in Punjab.

And whereas, fire incidents at dumpsites may lead to severe adverse impact on environment and related health hazards. People living in and around the dumpsites are likely to be affected due to the frequent outbreaks of fire.

And whereas, Hon'ble NGT in OA No. 286 of 2022, in reference to News item published in The Indian Express dated 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2022, titled "7 Charred to death in fire near Ludhiana dumpsite" has directed CPCB to collect information about garbage dumpsites from all States in respect of atleast Metro cities and issue statutory directions / guidelines for preventing such fires and handling them effectively if they take place, specifying serious consequences of delay in dealing with the issue, in violation of binding rules.

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

Contd....

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

And whereas, as per the Information available in the Board, there are total 143 dumpsites in the state of Punjab.

And whereas, as per Guidelines for Disposal of Legacy Waste (Old Municipal Solid Waste) issued by CPCB, it is important to carry out comprehensive risk assessment and develop onsite emergency plan which should be kept handy prior to commencement of dumpsite bio-remediation & bio-mining;

And whereas, the Board had issued following directions vide letter No EPA/21/543 date 01.03.2021 to the Department of Local Government, Punjab regarding bio-mining of Legacy Waste to submit action taken report within 15 days:

1. The Department of Local Government shall provide complete list of legacy waste dumpsites in the State as per format enclosed to the Board.
2. The Department of Local Government shall ensure that necessary action for bio-mining and bio-remediation of these dumpsites is done by the concerned local authorities in compliance with provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
3. The Department of Local Government shall ensure that concerned local authorities engaged in the bio-mining process of legacy waste shall follow procedures as per CPCB Guidelines for disposal of legacy waste with specific compliance to the following points:
  - i. Analysis of various screened fraction materials i.e. RDF, fine earth/bio earth etc. prior to its disposal/utilization.
  - ii. Preparation of plan for utilization/disposal of screened fractions.
  - iii. Adequate provisions for leachate treatment.
  - iv. Maintenance of records/documents for disposal/utilization of the RDFs or fine earth and other materials.
4. The Department of Local Government shall ensure that the local bodies prepare time targeted action plan for bio-mining/bio-remediation of these dumpsites in compliance with points listed above. The timelines as specified in Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and Hon'ble NGT Directions on the matter are to be adhered to for remediation of these sites.
5. The Department of Local Government shall ensure that no fresh waste is disposed at these dumpsites and local authorities make proper arrangement for management of fresh solid waste
6. The Department of Local Government shall ensure that atleast one legacy waste dumpsite is remediated in the State, which can be considered as model for compliance for other legacy waste dumpsites in non-attainment cities (NAC).

And whereas, the action taken report with respect to above mentioned directions has not been received from the Department of Local Government, till now.

And whereas, Hon'ble NGT in its Order dated April 22, 2022 in O A No 288/2022 regarding News item published in the Time of India dated April 22, titled "Delhi: Another long drawn effort to douse fire at Ghazipur landfill" has stated that dumpsite may be considered as isolated and vulnerable site which require On-site and Off site Fire and other disaster management plans.

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And whereas, CPCB made the following observations based on inspected various dumpsites, where bioremediation of legacy waste is being carried out;

- i. solid waste continued to be dumped at these dumpsites.
- ii. Fire incidents have been reported at locations where fresh waste is being dumped.
- iii. Inaccessible slopes of garbage were observed
- iv. No standard operating plan in place for prevention and management of Fresh dumpsite fires.
- v. Cause of fire incident reported is excess release of Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) gas due to anaerobic decomposition of the bio-degradable organic waste, high temperature and dry atmospheric conditions.
- vi. Partial fencing with barbed wire provided at the boundary observed.
- vii. Police patrolling the site not observed.
- viii. No fire tender observed at site.
- ix. Anti-Smog Gun have been installed which were not found in use;

And whereas, CPCB vide letter No. CP-99/143/2021-UPC-II-HO-CPCB-HO/1576 dated 26.05.2022 has issued Directions to the Punjab Pollution Control Board under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for implementation of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 w.r.t. fire incidents at solid waste dumpsites.

And whereas, Ministry of Environment & Forest, Govt. of India vide notification S.O. 327(E) of 10.04.2001 has delegated powers vested under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986) to the Chairman, State Pollution Control Boards/ Committee to issue directions to any industry or any local or other authority for the violation of the standards and rules relating to Municipal Solid Waste notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Now, the Chairman, Punjab Pollution Control Board in exercise of the powers delegated upon him by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi, issues the following directions u/s 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986:

- 1) The Department of Local Government shall provide updated information w.r.t Directions dated 01.03.2021 issued by the Board regarding biomining issued to Department of Local Government. It is to be ensured that updated information w.r.t at least all Metro cities is provided in accordance with Hon'ble NGT Directions.
- 2) The Department of Local Government to conduct comprehensive risk assessment studies and accordingly prepare detailed On-site Emergency Plan for each dumpsite located in their jurisdiction addressing the following issues:
  - a. The onsite emergency plan to cover potential risks/ emergencies due to fire, obnoxious / flammable emissions, odour, vector borne diseases, rodents, bird nuisance, seasonal affects i.e. summer / winter / monsoon (rainy season) and all other potential risks at the dumpsites.
  - b. The onsite emergency plans to address the worst possible case scenarios preferably using appropriate risk assessment softwares covering any or all of the potential emergency issues/ scenarios cited above.

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- c. The on-site emergency management plan to cover likely affected geographical area including population, flora & fauna in and around the dumpsites.
- d. The on-site emergency plan to contain detailed remedial measures both hardware and software based for mitigating various emergency situations, which should finally be available with respective control rooms and on-site emergency notice boards.
- 3) The Department of Local Government to prepare the on-site & off-site (or update off-site) emergency management plans preferably through an expert agency on the subject.
- 4) The Department of Local Government shall implement the following interim measures on priority till the time On-site/Off-site Emergency Plans are prepared and implemented:
- Disposal of Waste:** Fresh waste not to be disposed at the dumpsite where bio-remediation is being undertaken. Organic waste from slaughter house, fish market etc., industrial waste not to be disposed at the dumpsite. It is to be further ensured that industrial waste / E-Waste / Lithium battery is not dumped at the site. Waste that is being unloaded at the site should be examined visually for potential fire sources fire sources when located, should be neutralized with cover material immediately. Emergency tipping area to be provided to set aside from the immediate working area where incoming loads of material known to be on fire or suspected of being so can be deposited, inspected and dealt with. Adequate compacting of waste to be done to minimize formation of air or methane pockets which can lead to subsurface fire at site.
  - Monitoring at dumpsites:** Methane Gas Detectors (on downwind side) to be installed at site so that area with high methane concentration can be identified and preventive actions be undertaken. Further, temperature at windrows to be monitored with non-contact infrared thermometer (as used for monitoring human body temperature under COVID circumstances) and records be maintained for any major deviations. The temperature is to be in the range of 35oC to 59oC. Treated leachate /water to be sprayed on the waste when rise in temperature is observed at the bioremediation site. Suitable mechanism to be in place. Installation of CCTV cameras at the site and provision of fencing & frequent patrolling to be done for checking unauthorized entry at dumpsite.
  - Arrangements for fire Extinguishing:** Arrangements for adequate storage of sand / chemical fire extinguishing medias such as foam or powder at site to be made to douse fire in case a fire incident is reported. Usage of water for dousing fire to be avoided. Isolation and allowing rapid natural burnout or smothering with soil to be done for dousing dumpsite fires. Dedicated fire tenders (preferably chemical extinguishing media) and adequate fire safety measures are to be deputed, specifically during summer season when dumpsites fire is more likely to take place. All mobile equipment or vehicles should be fitted with fire extinguisher and spark arrester.

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- 1) **Health & Safety of Workers:** Fire protection measures and safety equipment to be **provided** to all workers at the site and checked before entry to the **dumpsite**. Workers to be **trained** for detection of fire and necessary action to be taken in case of fire. **Periodic training** of workers be conducted in Safe handling of Waste, PPE's, Health & Safety issues etc
- 2) **Mock Drills & safety audits:** Periodic mock drills to be conducted to prevent fire accidents at dumpsites. Quarterly, Fire Safety and Hazardous Emissions Audits to be conducted.

The Department of Local Government is hereby directed to submit action taken report within 10 days for Action Point listed at No. 5 above. Action taken report for Point No 1 to 4 to be provided within 20 days of receipt of these Directions.

(Prof. (Dr.) Adarsh Pal Vig)  
Chairman  
Dated 19/7/22

Endst.No. 806

A copy of above is forwarded to the Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032 w.r.t. to letter no. CP-99/143/2021-UPC-II-HO-CPCB-HO/1576 dated 26.05.2022, for information please.

(Prof. (Dr.) Adarsh Pal Vig)  
Chairman  
Dated 19/7/22

Endst.No. 807

A copy of above is forwarded to the Secretary to Government of Punjab Department of Science, Technology & Environment, Chandigarh, for information please.

(Prof. (Dr.) Adarsh Pal Vig)  
Chairman  
Dated 19/7/22

Endst.No. 808-34

A copy of above is forwarded to the following for information and necessary action.

- 1) The Chief Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Patiala/Ludhiana/Jalandhar & Bathinda.
- 2) The Senior Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Zonal Office, Jalandhar, Bathinda, Amritsar, Patiala-1/2, & Ludhiana-1/2.
- 3) The Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Patiala Sangrur, Batala, Amritsar, Hoshiarpur, Bathinda, Faridkot, Mohali, Roper, Fatehgarh Sahib Jalandhar-I/II and Ludhiana-I/II/III/IV, with a request to coordinate with the concerned authority for ensuring compliance of the directions.

(Prof. (Dr.) Adarsh Pal Vig)  
Chairman



# PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

Vatavaran Bhawan, Nabha Road, Patiala - 147 001

Phone No. 0175-2215802, 2215793  
Fax : 0175 - 2202672, PBX: 0175- 2227925,

Email - seehq3@gmail.com  
Web: www.ppcb.gov.in

No. SEE (HQ-3)/2022/...13510-52  
1353-1507

Dated.....14/9/22

To

Regd

1. The Commissioner,  
Municipal Corporation (as per list)
2. The Executive Officer,  
Municipal Council / Nagar Panchayat (as per list)

**Subject:** Directions u/s 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for implementation of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 regarding fire incidents at MSW dumpsites.

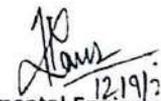
**Ref:** CP-99/143/2021-UPC-II-HO-CPCB-HO/1576 dated 26/5/2022 and PPCB letter no. 805 dated 19/7/2022.

It is intimated that Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) vide its letter dated 26/5/2022 has issued directions u/s 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for implementation of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 regarding fire incidents at MSW dump sites (copy enclosed). Accordingly, the Deptt. of Local Government was directed vide Board's letter dated 19/7/2022 (copy enclosed) to ensure the compliance of the said directions and submit the Action taken report.

It is further intimated that the matter is being reviewed by Hon'ble NGT in O.A. no. 286 of 2022 titled as "News item published in the Indian Express dated 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 titled "7 Charred to death in fire near Ludhiana dumpsite" and Action taken report in the subject matter has been sought vide order dated 25/7/2022 (copy enclosed).

You are, therefore, requested to take necessary action and ensure the meticulous compliance of the said directions.

DA/- As above (Through e-mail).

  
 12/9/22  
 Environmental Engineer (HQ-3/3)  
 for Chairman

Endst no...1508-31

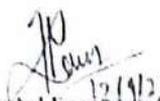
Through e-mail

Dated.....14/9/22

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

1. The Chief Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Jalandhar / Ludhiana / Amritsar & Patiala
2. The Senior Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Zonal Office, Patiala / I / Jalandhar / Ludhiana I / II / Amritsar & Patiala.
3. The Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Patiala / Sangrur / Mohali / Bathinda / Faridkot / Jalandhar-I / II / Ludhiana-I / II / III / IV / Fatehgarh Sahib / Batala / Mohali / Amritsar & Ropar.

DA/- As above

  
 12/9/22  
 Environmental Engineer (HQ-3/3)  
 for Chairman



# ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਰੋਕਥਾਮ ਬੋਰਡ



Phone no. 0175-2301182

e-mail: ppcbsee\_zp1@yahoo.com

REGISTERED

To: The Commissioner,  
Municipal Corporation,  
Patiala.

Subject: Proceedings of the personal hearing given on 08/06/2023 by the Chairman of the Board to M/s Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Patiala w.r.t Notice to issue directions u/s 5 E(P)Act, 1986 for violations of the provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

Following were present:

From the PPCB side:

1. Er. G.S. Majithia, Member Secretary,
2. Er. Sandeep Bahl, Chief Environmental Engineer (P)
3. Er. Lavneet Kumar, Senior Environmental Engineer (ZP-1)
4. Er. Garima Garg, Asstt. Environmental Engineer, RO, Patiala

From the Industry's side:

1. Sh. Naman Markan, Joint Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Patiala
2. Sh. Rajinder Chopra, Superintending Engineer, Municipal Corporation, Patiala
3. Sh. Harvinder Singh, Sanitary Inspector, Municipal Corporation, Patiala

Asstt. Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala bring out the notice that the timelines for compliance of various activities laid down in Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, as well as extended times fixed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal have already lapsed.

In O.A No. 606 of 2018 titled as "Compliance of Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016" came up for hearing before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal on 10.01.2020, wherein the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal issued certain directions, the relevant part of which is as under:

- a. In view of the fact that most of the statutory timelines have expired and directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and this Tribunal to comply with Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 remain unexecuted, compensation scale is hereby laid down for continued failure after 31.03.2020. The compliance of the Rules requires taking of several steps mentioned in Rule 22 from Serial No. 1 to 10 (mentioned in para 12 above). Any such continued failure will result in liability of every Local Body to pay compensation at the rate of Rs. 10 lakh per month per Local Body for population of above 10 lakhs, Rs. 5 lakh per month per Local Body for population between 5 lakhs and 10 lakhs and Rs. 1 lakh per month per other Local Body from 01.04.2020 till compliance. If the Local Bodies are unable to bear financial burden, the liability will be of the State Governments with liberty to take remedial action against the erring Local Bodies. Apart from compensation, adverse entries must be made in the ACRs of the CEO of the said Local Bodies and other senior functionaries in Department of Urban Development etc. who are responsible for compliance of order of this Tribunal.
- b. Legacy waste remediation was to 'commence' from 01.11.2019 in terms of order of this Tribunal dated 17.07.2019 in O.A. No. 519/2019 para 2853 even though statutory timeline for 'completing' the said step is till 07.04.2021 (as per serial no. 11 in Rule 22), which direction remains unexecuted at most of the places. Continued failure of every Local Body on the subject of commencing the work of legacy waste sites remediation from 01.04.2020 till compliance will result in liability to pay compensation at the rate of Rs. 10 lakh per month per Local Body for population of above 10 lakhs, Rs. 5 lakh per month per Local Body for population between 5 lakhs and 10 lakhs and Rs. 1 lakh per month per other Local Body. If the Local Bodies are unable to bear financial burden, the liability will be of the State Governments with liberty to take remedial action against the erring Local Bodies. Apart from compensation, adverse entries must be made in the ACRs of the CEO of the said Local

Bodies and other senior functionaries in Department of Urban Development etc. who are responsible for compliance of order of this Tribunal. 57

CPCB vide its letter no. 1576 dated 26.05.2022 has issued directions u/s 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for implementation of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 w.r.t fire incidents at Municipal Solid Waste dump sites to the State Pollution Control Boards, which was forwarded to the Department of Local Govt. vide Board's letter no. 805 dated 19.07.2022 to ensure compliance of said directions and to submit the action taken report.

The said directions issued are reproduced as under:

1. The Department of Local Government shall provide updated information w.r.t Directions dated 01.03.2021 issued by the Board regarding bio-mining Issued to Department of Local Government. It is to be ensured that updated information w.r.t at least all Metro cities is provided in accordance with Hon'ble NGT Directions.
2. The Department of Local Government to conduct comprehensive risk assessment studies and accordingly prepare detailed On-site Emergency Plan for each dumpsite located in their jurisdiction addressing the following issues:
  - a) The onsite emergency plan to cover potential risks/ emergencies due to fire, obnoxious flammable emissions, odour, vector borne diseases, rodents, bird nuisance, seasonal affects i.e. summer / winter / monsoon (rainy season) and all other potential risks at the dumpsites.
  - b) The onsite emergency plans to address the worst possible case scenarios preferably using appropriate risk assessment softwares covering any or all of the potential emergency issues/scenarios cited above.
  - c) The on-site emergency management plan to cover likely affected geographical area including population, flora & fauna in and around the dumpsites.
  - d) The on-site emergency plan to contain detailed remedial measures both hardware and software based for mitigating various emergency situations, which should finally be available with respective control rooms and on-site emergency notice boards.
  - e) The Department of Local Government to prepare the on-site & off-site (or update off-site) emergency management plans preferably through an expert agency on the subject.
  - f) The Department of Local Government shall implement the following interim measures on priority till the time On-site/Off-site Emergency Plans are prepared and implemented:
3. Disposal of Waste: Fresh waste not to be disposed at the dumpsite where bio- remediation is being undertaken. Organic waste from slaughter house, fish market etc., industrial waste not to be disposed at the dumpsite. It is to be further ensured that industrial waste / E-Waste/Lithium battery is not dumped at the site. Waste that is being unloaded at the site should be examined visually for potential fire sources when located, should be neutralized with cover material immediately. Emergency tipping area to be provided to set aside from the immediate working area where incoming loads of material known to be on fire or suspected of being so can be deposited, inspected and dealt with. Adequate compacting of waste to be done to minimize formation of air or methane pockets which can lead to subsurface fire at site.
4. Monitoring at dumpsites: Methane Gas Detectors (on downwind side) to be installed at site so that area with high methane concentration can be identified and preventive actions be undertaken. Further, temperature at windrows to be monitored with non-contact infrared thermometer (as used for monitoring human body temperature under COVID circumstances) and records be maintained for any major deviations. The temperature is to be in the range of 350C to 590C. Treated leachate /water to be sprayed on the waste when rise in temperature is observed at the bioremediation site. Suitable mechanism to be in place. Installation of CCTV cameras at the site and provision of fencing & frequent patrolling to be done for checking unauthorized entry at dumpsite.
5. Arrangements for fire Extinguishing: Arrangements for adequate storage of sand/ chemical fire extinguishing medias such as foam or powder at site to be made to douse fire in case a fire incident is reported. Usage of water for dousing fire to be avoided. Isolation and allowing

rapid natural burnout or smothering with soil to be done for dousing dumpsite fires. Dedicated fire tenders (preferably chemical extinguishing media) and adequate fire safety measures are to be deputed, specifically during summer season when dumpsites fire is more likely to take place. All mobile equipment or vehicles should be fitted with fire extinguisher and spark arrester.

6. Health & Safety of Workers: Fire protection measures and safety equipment to be provided to all workers at the site and checked before entry to the dumpsite. Workers to be trained for detection of fire and necessary action to be taken in case of fire. Periodic training of workers be conducted in Safe handling of Waste, PPE's, Health & Safety issues etc.
7. Mock Drills & safety audits: Periodic mock drills to be conducted to prevent fire accidents at dumpsites. Quarterly, Fire Safety and Hazardous Emissions Audits to be conducted.

The Department of Local Government were directed to submit action taken report within 10 days for Action Point listed at No. 6 above. Action taken report for Point No. 1 to 5 to be provided within 20 days of receipt of these Directions.

All the Commissioners of Municipal Corporations/Executive Officers, Municipal Council/Nagar Panchayat of the State were informed about the above directions vide Boards letter no. 1340-1507 dated 14.09.2022 and were requested to submit compliance.

No action taken report/reply w.r.t. above directions issued u/s 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for implementation of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 w.r.t. fire incident at Municipal Solid Waste dump sites has been received from Municipal Corporation, Patiala till date.

A news item was published in "The Tribune" dated 16.04.2023 regarding burning of solid Waste at old dump site near Choti Naddi, Sanouri Adda, Patiala.

The site was visited by officers of the Board on 17.04.2023 alongwith Sh. Sanjeev Kumar, Chief Sanitary Inspector and Sh. Harwinder Singh, Sanitary Inspector of Municipal Corporation, Patiala. During visit, solid waste dumped at the site was found burning. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala officials informed that the site was old dumping waste site and the fire occurred due to methane production from the decomposition of said waste as well as due to rise in ambient temperature, resulting in occurrence of fire naturally on dumped waste.

It has now been proposed to initiate action against the Municipal Corporation, Patiala u/s 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for the violation of provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016. Accordingly, notice to issue directions was issued vide Board's letter no. 3749 dated 19.05.2023 alongwith an opportunity to show cause in person before the Chairman of the Board on 29.05.2023, which has been postponed to 02.06.2023.

On 02.06.2023, no officer/official from the M.C., Patiala looking after the solid waste management appeared before the Competent Authority, as such, the Chairman of the Board decided that Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall be given another opportunity of personal hearing on 08.06.2023 and nodal officer of Municipal Corporation, Patiala responsible for compliance of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 shall attend the hearing on 08.06.2023 at 11.30 AM before the Chairman of the Board.

The representative of M.C., Patiala informed that bioremediation of legacy waste at said old dump site has been 90% completed by M/s Akansha Enterprises Ltd. and remaining waste shall be bio remediated within few months. He further informed that the said fire incident occurred due to sudden rise in temperature and generation of gases, however, the Municipal Corporation Patiala has controlled the said fire. Further, the MCP is conducting periodic mock drills at the dump site and prepared an exit plan in case of emergency. Further, herbal sanitizer and malathine dust spray is also being sprayed on the garbage to control the smell emanated from the waste at dump site. It is further informed that fresh waste generated from various house hold of the city is sent to 6 no. MRFs of the city for processing and is not being dispose at said dump site. They have submitted written reply in this regard.

After hearing the officers of the Board and the representative of the project, the Chairman of the Board decided as under:

- 1) The MCP shall submit comprehensive action plan for bioremediation of remaining legacy waste with timelines, within one month.
- 2) The MCP shall ensure that no such fire incident shall occur in the future, otherwise, the Board shall imposed Environment Compensation of suitable amount without any further opportunity.

- 3) The Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala shall verify the contentions made by the industry in its reply as per rules and regulations and submit its concrete recommendation within 15-days.
- 4) Further action will be taken after receipt of report from Regional Office.

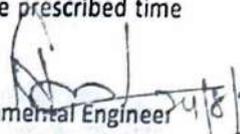
You are, therefore, requested to comply with the aforesaid decisions of the personal hearing well within the prescribed time period.

  
Environmental Engineer  
for & on behalf of the  
Punjab Pollution Control Board

Endst. no. 6477

Dated 24/8/23

A copy of the above is forwarded to the Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Patiala. It is requested to verify the compliance made by the industry and shall submit further report and recommendations well within the prescribed time period.

  
Environmental Engineer  
for & on behalf of the  
Punjab Pollution Control Board

'Annexure - D'

## List of MRF Centers

- 1) SANOURI ADDA NEAR REHRI MARKET.
- 2) BISHAN NAGAR NEAR CHOTTI NADI.
- 3) JHILL
- 4) NEAR GOVT PRESS SIRHIND ROAD.
- 5) 21 NO PHATAK.
- 6) FOCAL POINT NEAR SK ENGINEER TILE FACTORY.

REMEDATION PLANT PROJECT SANOURI ADDA DUMP / GHORI GATE DATE OF AGREEMENT 2020 RS/- 6.80 CRORES STILL NOT FUNCTIONAL WHICH WAS SET UP TO CLEAR THE DUMP SITE WASTE . IT MAY BE LOOKED INTO AND MAKE IT PART OF REPORT BEING SUBMITTED TO NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL (NGT).

YEAR 2023 JANURARY 25 PEOPLE ALLOTTED AT DC RATES TO RUN 6 MRF CENTERS AND HOTELS / MARRIGE PALACES / RESTURANTS WERE ALLOTTED PITS IN MRF CENTRES NEARBY FOR DISPOSAL OF WASTE IN MRF CENTRES BUT THERE HAS BEEN NO COMPLIANCE TILL DATE NOR THE CONCERNED AUTHORITIES TOOK ANY ACTION AGAINST IT FOR NON COMPLIANCE. ONLY WHEN SWATCH BHARAT STARTS WE SHOW THAT THESE MRF CENTRES ARE WORKING. IF THESE MRF CENTRES WORK PROPERLY THERE SHOULD BE NO WASTE BEING TRANSFERRED TO THE DUMP SITE.

HARI BHARY SCHEME IS NOT COMPLIANG AS PER TERMS OF AGREEMENT WITH MUNICIPAL CORPORATION PATIALA WITH REGAED TO SAGRIGATION OF WET AND DRY WASTE NOR THE ALLOTTED COMPANY ZONTA AS PER AGREEMENT FOR SHIFTING WASTE OF THE CITY TO THE DUMP SITE AS PER NORMS FULFILLING THEIR JOB. TOTAL CONNIVANCE IS LEADING TO ENVIORMENTAL DISASTER WITH CONNIVANCE FOR MUTUAL BENEFITS OF OFFICIALS. THIS MATTER NEEDS TO BE LOOKED INTO SERIOUSLY AS IT WOULD EFFECT ALL THE PRESEND AS WELL AS FUTURE GENERATIONS.

AND ALSO CHECK THE LOG BOOK OF MONITORING THE PEZO METER OR ANY OTHER DEVICE INSTALLED IF ANY BY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION PATIALA TO MONITOR IF THIS DUMP SITE IS POLLUTING THE GROUND WATER.

THE BIGGEST QUESTION HERE IS THAT IF MUNICIPAL CORPORATION CAN CHALLAN PEOPLE FOR VIOLATION OF NORMS WHO WILL CHALLAN THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION FOR VIOLATION OF NORMS.

ATTACHED : COPY OF OTHER NEWS PAPERS NEWS ARTICLES OF CHALLS<sup>A</sup> ISSUED BY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, PATIALA.

DAVINDER PAL SINGH , H.NO 94 NEW OFFICERS COLONY, PATIALA (PB)

M:9316433434

COPY TO NBT FOR REFERENCE ORDER NO. 434/2023 DAVINDER PAL SINGH VS STATE OF PUNJAB.

DATED : 24/08/2023 AND PRESENT AT THE LOCATION AS PER DC PATIALA LETTER 767/LBC-4.

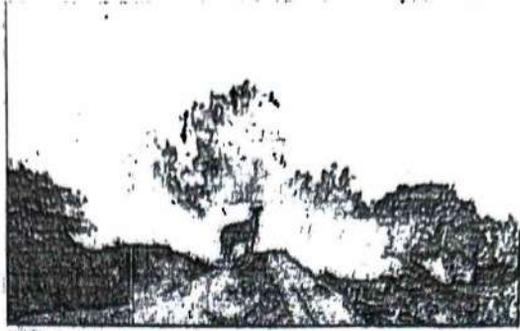
# Garbage burning continues unabated

**TRIBUNA News Service**

**PATIALA, DECEMBER 14**  
Amid rising pollution levels due to the burning of paddy straw and garbage in the open, the Municipal Corporation has failed to curb burning of waste at the dumping ground near Sanauri Adda.

The garbage cleared from the original dumping site adjacent to Sanauri Adda is now being dumped adjacent to Chhoti Nadi.

MC officials said the office lacked enough material recovery facility (MRF) centres to segregate the waste collected from the city. An official said, "We are about to complete the bioremediation project. Only unauthorised



MC lacks enough material recovery facility centres to segregate waste.

garbage collectors are dumping waste adjacent to Chhoti Nadi."

The garbage is burned at times and the smoke it emits makes it worse for the residents of nearby colonies of Arain Majra, Ghalori Gate, Sanjay Colony, Tej Bagh Colony and others.

A resident said, "The garbage at the site is burned deliberately. The waste at the Sanauri Adda dump site was earlier burnt in the same way. MC officials have failed to keep the blatant violation in check."

MC Commissioner Aaditya Uppal said he would get the matter checked.

**PATIALA** Thu, 15 December 2022  
<https://epaper.tribuneindia.com/c/71139632>

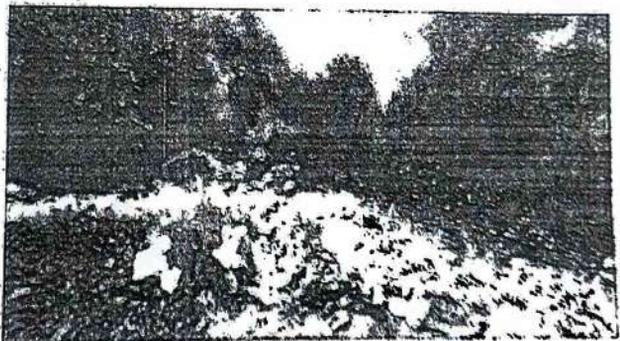


# I challaned for burning waste in open

**PATIALA, NOVEMBER 16**  
After the city remained engulfed in smog due to the burning of crop residue, bursting of firecrackers and other reasons, the Municipal Corporation (MC) has now started issuing challans for burning waste in open. The violation has otherwise remained unchecked in the past.

A MC team today issued a challan to a resident near Kumar Babha School on the Rajpura road where he was found burning waste in an open plot.

An official said burning of any kind of waste in open is a violation of norms. "Anyone found burning waste can be



A resident was found burning waste in an open plot on the Rajpura road, TRIBUNE PHOTO

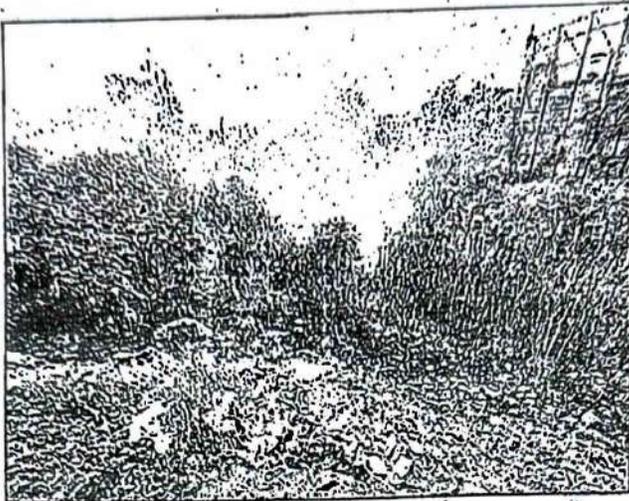
issued a challans per sanitation bylaws. In case the fine is not paid, the matter can be sent to the local court for disposal," the official said.

MC Commissioner Aaditya Uppal said, "The team visited

the area near Kumar Babha School and fined the individual for burning waste, including electricity wires." He said the MC will continue issuing challans for such violations in the future as well. — TNS

# ਖਾਲੀ ਪਲਾਟ 'ਚ ਅੱਗ ਲਗਾਉਣ ਵਾਲੇ ਦਾ ਕੀਤਾ ਚਲਾਨ

ਪਟਿਆਲਾ, 16 ਨਵੰਬਰ (ਜੋਸਨ)- ਰਾਜਪੁਰਾ ਰੋਡ 'ਤੇ ਸਥਿਤ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਸਭਾ ਸਕੂਲ ਗਰਾਊਂਡ ਦੇ ਸਾਹਮਣੇ ਖਾਲੀ ਪਈ ਜ਼ਮੀਨ 'ਚ ਘਾਹ-ਫੂਸ ਅਤੇ ਬਿਜਲੀ ਦੀਆਂ ਪੁਰਾਣੀਆਂ ਤਾਰਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਅੱਗ ਲਗਾ ਕੇ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਵਾਲਾ ਉੱਠਾ ਵਾਲੇ ਵਿਅਕਤੀ ਨੂੰ ਨਗਰ ਨਿਗਮ ਵੱਲ ਰੋਗੀ ਹੋਈ ਕਾਬੂ ਕਰ ਕੇ ਚਲਾਨ ਕੀਤਾ ਗਿਆ ਹੈ। ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਦਿੰਦਿਆਂ ਨਗਰ ਨਿਗਮ ਦੇ ਕਮਿਸ਼ਨਰ ਅਦਿੱਤਿਆ ਉੱਪਲ ਦਾ ਕਹਿਣਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਘਾਹ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਸਮੱਗਰੀ ਨੂੰ ਅੱਗ ਲਗਾ ਕੇ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਵਾਲਾ ਉੱਠਾ ਗੈਰ-ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਹੈ। ਜੇਕਰ ਕੋਈ ਵਿਅਕਤੀ ਇਸ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਅਣਗਹਿਲੀ ਕਰਦਾ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਨਗਰ ਨਿਗਮ ਉਸ ਵਿਰੁੱਧ ਸੈਨੀਟੇਸ਼ਨ ਬਾਈਲਾਜ਼ ਤਹਿਤ ਚਲਾਨ



ਖਾਲੀ ਪਲਾਟ 'ਚ ਲੱਗੀ ਅੱਗ ਦਾ ਦਿਸ਼। (ਜੋਸਨ)

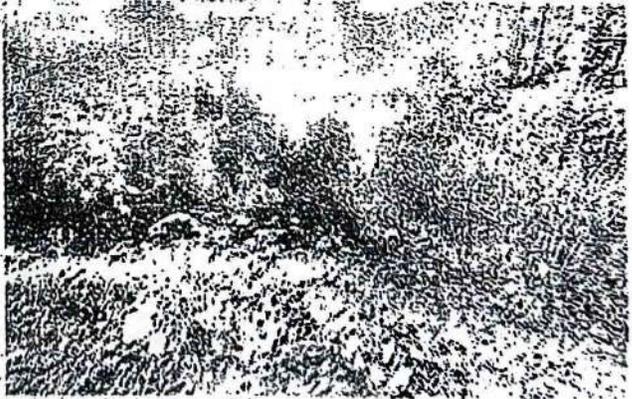
ਕੱਟ ਕੇ ਭਾਰੀ ਜੁਰਮਾਨਾ ਵਸੂਲਦਾ ਹੈ। ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੱਸਿਆ ਕਿ ਬੁੱਧਵਾਰ ਸਵੇਰੇ ਕਰੀਬ 12 ਵਜੇ ਉਕਤ ਮਾਮਲੇ ਦੀ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਮਿਲੀ ਸੀ। ਇਸ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਦੇ ਆਧਾਰ 'ਤੇ ਸੈਨੇਟਰੀ ਇੰਸਪੈਕਟਰ ਰਿਸ਼ਭ ਗੁਪਤਾ ਨੂੰ ਟੀਮ ਸਮੇਤ ਮੌਕੇ 'ਤੇ ਭੇਜਿਆ ਗਿਆ। ਬਿਜਲੀ ਦੀਆਂ ਪੁਰਾਣੀਆਂ ਤਾਰਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਅੱਗ ਲਗਾਉਣ ਵਾਲੇ ਵਿਅਕਤੀ ਨੂੰ ਮੌਕੇ 'ਤੇ ਹੀ ਫੜ ਲਿਆ ਗਿਆ, ਉਸ ਦੀ ਫੋਟੋ ਖਿੱਚ ਕੇ ਉਸ ਖਿਲਾਫ

ਚਲਾਨ ਦੀ ਕਾਰਵਾਈ ਕੀਤੀ ਗਈ। ਜੇਕਰ ਸੈਨੀ ਨਾਮਕ ਵਿਅਕਤੀ ਨੇ ਮਿੱਥੇ ਸਮੇਂ ਅੰਦਰ ਜੁਰਮਾਨੇ ਦੀ ਰਕਮ ਨਿਗਮ ਕੋਲ ਜਮ੍ਹਾਂ ਨਹੀਂ ਕਰਵਾਈ ਤਾਂ ਚਲਾਨ ਅਦਾਲਤ 'ਚ ਭੇਜ ਕੇ ਇਸ ਵਿਅਕਤੀ ਖਿਲਾਫ ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਕਾਰਵਾਈ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ।

# ਖਾਲੀ ਪਲਾਟ ਮੈਂ ਆਗਜ਼ਨੀ ਕਰਨੇ ਵਾਲੇ ਕਾ ਕਟਾ ਚਾਲਾਨ

ਸਵੇਰਾ ਨ्यूज/ਬੀਰ

ਪਟਿਆਲਾ, 16 ਨਵੰਬਰ : ਰਾਜਪੁਰਾ ਰੋਡ ਪਰ ਸਥਿਤ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਸਭਾ ਸਕੂਲ ਮੈਦਾਨ ਦੇ ਸਾਮਨੇ ਖਾਲੀ ਜ਼ਮੀਨ 'ਤੇ ਘਾਹ-ਫੂਸ ਅਤੇ ਬਿਜਲੀ ਦੀ ਪੁਰਾਣੀ ਤਾਰਾਂ ਦੀ ਆਗ ਲਗਾ ਕੇ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਵਾਲੇ ਵਾਲੇ ਇੱਕ ਵਿਅਕਤੀ ਨੂੰ ਰੋਗੀ ਹੋਈ ਕਾਬੂ ਕਰ ਕੇ ਚਲਾਨ ਨਿਯਮ ਦੀ ਆਰ ਸੇ ਕਿਆ ਗਿਆ ਹੈ। ਨਗਰ ਨਿਗਮ ਕਮਿਸ਼ਨਰ ਅਦਿੱਤਿਆ ਉੱਪਲ ਦਾ ਕਹਿਣਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਘਾਹ-ਫੂਸ ਯਾ ਕਿਸੀ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਰ ਦੀ ਅਨਯ ਸਾਮਗਰੀ ਦੀ ਆਗ ਲਗਾ ਕੇ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਵਾਲਾ ਗੈਰ ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਹੈ। ਯਦਿ ਕੋਈ ਵਿਅਕਤੀ ਇਸ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਰ ਦੀ ਅਵਹੇਲਨਾ ਕਰਦਾ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਉਸਕੇ ਖਿਲਾਫ ਨਗਰ ਨਿਗਮ ਸੈਨੀਟੇਸ਼ਨ ਡਾਇਰੈਕਟਰ ਦੇ ਅਧੀਨ ਚਾਲਾਨ ਕਾਰਕੇ ਖਾਰੀ ਖਰਕਮ ਜੁਮਾਨ ਵਸੂਲ ਕਰਦਾ ਹੈ। ਉਨ੍ਹोंने ਬਤਾਯਾ ਕਿ ਬੁੱਧਵਾਰ ਸੁਬਹ ਕਰੀਬ 12 ਵਜੇ ਉਨਕੇ ਪਾਸ ਉਕ ਮਾਮਲੇ ਸੰਬੰਧੀ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਆਈ। ਇਸ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਦੇ ਆਧਾਰ ਪਰ ਸੈਨੇਟਰੀ



ਪਲਾਟ ਮੈਂ ਲਗੀ ਆਗ।

ਇੰਸਪੈਕਟਰ ਰਿਸ਼ਭ ਗੁਪਤਾ ਨੂੰ ਟੀਮ ਦੇ ਸਾਥ ਮੌਕੇ ਪਰ ਭੇਜਾ ਗਿਆ, ਜੋ ਵਿਅਕਤੀ ਬਿਜਲੀ ਦੀ ਪੁਰਾਣੀ ਤਾਰਾਂ ਦੀ ਆਗ ਲਗਾ ਰਿਹਾ ਥਾ, ਉਸੇ ਮੌਕੇ ਪਰ ਹੀ ਕਾਬੂ ਕਰ ਉਸਕਾ ਫੋਟੋ ਲਿਆ ਗਿਆ ਅਤੇ ਸਾਥ ਹੀ ਉਸਕੇ ਖਿਲਾਫ ਚਾਲਾਨ ਦੀ ਕਾਰਵਾਈ ਕੀ ਗਈ। ਸੋਨੀ ਨਾਮਕ ਆਰੋਪਿਤ ਯਦਿ ਤਥ ਸਮਯ ਮੈਂ ਨਿਗਮ ਦੇ ਪਾਸ ਜੁਮਾਨਾ ਰਾਸ਼ਿ ਨਹੀਂ ਖਰੇਦੇਗਾ, ਤਾਂ

ਚਾਲਾਨ ਕੋ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਮੈਂ ਖੇਜਕਰ ਆਰੋਪਿਤ ਖਿਲਾਫ ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਕਾਰਵਾਈ ਕਰਵਾਈ ਜਾਏਗੀ। ਨਗਰ ਨਿਗਮ ਕਮਿਸ਼ਨਰ ਅਦਿੱਤਿਆ ਉੱਪਲ ਨੇ ਸ਼ਹਰਵਾਸਿਯੋਂ ਸੇ ਅਪੀਲ ਕੀ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਕੋਈ ਖੀ ਵਿਅਕਤੀ ਅਪਨੇ ਖਾਲੀ ਪਲਾਟ ਯਾ ਗਲੀ ਮੋਹਲਲੇ ਮੈਂ ਘਾਹ-ਫੂਸ ਯਾ ਕਿਸੀ ਅਨਯ ਸਾਮਗਰੀ ਦੀ ਆਗ ਲਗਾ ਕੇ ਵਾਯੂ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਿਤ ਨ ਕਰੇ।





# ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਰੋਕਥਾਮ ਬੋਰਡ

ਜੈਨਲ ਦਫਤਰ-1, ਵਾਤਾਵਰਣ ਭਵਨ, ਨਾਭਾ ਰੋਡ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ-147001



**LIFE**  
Lifestyle for  
Environment

Phone no. 0175-2301182

e-mail : ppcbsee\_zp1@yahoo.com

ਨੰਬਰ \_\_\_\_\_

ਮਿਤੀ \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTERED

To

The Commissioner,  
Municipal Corporation Patiala,  
Patiala.

**Subject:** Proceeding of the personal hearing given on 24.01.2024 before the Chairman of the Board w.r.t. Notice to Issue directions u/s 5 of Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 for violations of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016- regarding fire incident at old dump site, near Choti Nadi, Sanouri adda of Municipal Corporation, Patiala.

M. C. Patiala.

ਸ:ਵ:ਪਿ: 2/23/S.A.

ਨਵੀਂ ਡਾਕ

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06/04/2024

ਡਾਇਰੀ ਨੰ. 382 ਮਿਤੀ 07/2/24

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The Following were present:

On behalf of Punjab Pollution Control Board

1. Er. G.S. Majithia, Member Secretary
2. Er. Harbir Singh, Chief Environmental Engineer (P)
3. Er. Hardeep Kaur, Environmental Engineer (Waste Management)
4. Er. Navtresh Singla, Environmental Engineer (ZP-1)
5. Er. Rohit Singla, Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala

On behalf of the Industry

1. Sh. Gurpreet Singh Walia, Superintending Engineer
2. Sh. J.P Singh, Executive Engineer
3. Sh. Harinder Singh, Sanitary Inspector

At the outset, Environmental Engineer, (ZP-1) brought out that :-

Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, New Delhi in exercise of the powers conferred under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 has notified the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, wherein the Municipal Authority is responsible for implementation of the provisions of the Solid waste Management Rules, 2016, including infrastructure development for collection, storage, segregation, transportation, processing and disposal of municipal solid waste, and the preparation of action plan for management of solid waste.

Timelines for compliance of various activities laid down in Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, as well as extended time lines fixed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal have already been lapsed.

In OA No. 606 of 2018 titled as "Compliance of Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016" came up for hearing before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal on 10.01.2020, wherein the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal Issued certain directions, the relevant part of which are reproduced as under :-

a. In view of the fact that most of the statutory timelines have expired and directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and this Tribunal to comply with Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 remain unexecuted, compensation scale is hereby laid down for continued failure after 31.03.2020. The compliance of the Rules requires taking of several steps mentioned in Rule 22 from Serial No. 1 to 10 (mentioned in para 12 above). Any such continued failure will result in liability of every Local Body to pay

-37- compensation at the rate of Rs. 10 lakh per month per Local Body for population of above 10 lakh per month per Local Body for population between 5 lakhs and 10 lakhs and Rs. 1 lakh per month per other Local Body from 01.04.2020 till compliance. If the Local Bodies are unable to bear financial burden, the liability will be of the State Governments with liberty to take remedial action against the erring Local Bodies. Apart from compensation, adverse entries must be made in the ACRs of the CEO of the said Local Bodies and other senior functionaries in Department of Urban Development etc. who are responsible for compliance of order of this Tribunal.

85

b. Legacy waste remediation was to 'commence' from 01.11.2019 in terms of order of this Tribunal dated 17.07.2019 in O.A. No. 519/2019 para 2853 even though statutory timeline for 'completing' the said step is till 07.04.2021 (as per serial no. 11 in Rule 22), which direction remains unexecuted at most of the places. Continued failure of every Local Body on the subject of commencing the work of legacy waste sites remediation from 01.04.2020 till compliance will result in liability to pay compensation at the rate of Rs. 10 lakh per month per Local Body for population of above 10 lakhs, Rs. 5 lakh per month per Local Body for population between 5 lakhs and 10 lakhs and Rs. 1 lakh per month per other Local Body. If the Local Bodies are unable to bear financial burden, the liability will be of the State Governments with liberty to take remedial action against the erring Local Bodies. Apart from compensation, adverse entries must be made in the ACRs of the CEO of the said Local Bodies and other senior functionaries in Department of Urban Development etc. who are responsible for compliance of order of this Tribunal.

....."

A news item was published in "The Tribune" dated 16.04.2023 regarding burning of solid Waste at old dump site near Choti Naddi, Sanouri Adda, Patiala.

The site was visited by officers of the Board on 17.04.2023 alongwith Sh. Sanjeev Kumar, Chief Sanitary Inspector and Sh. Harwinder Singh, Sanitary Inspector of Municipal Corporation, Patiala. During visit, solid waste dumped at the site was found burning. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala officials informed that the site was old dumping waste site and the fire occurred due to methane production from the decomposition of said waste as well as due to rise in ambient temperature, resulting in occurrence of fire naturally on dumped waste.

Accordingly, notice to issue directions u/s 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for the violation of provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 was issued to the Municipal Corporation, Patiala vide Board's letter no. 3749 dated 19.05.2023 alongwith an opportunity of personal hearing before the Hon'ble Chairman of the Board on 29.05.2023, which has been postponed to 02.06.2023.

After hearing the officers of the Board and the representative of the Corporation, Patiala, the Chairman of the Board decided as under:

1. The MCP shall submit comprehensive action plan for bioremediation of remaining legacy waste with timelines, within one month.
2. The MCP shall ensure that no such fire incident shall occur in the future, otherwise, the Board shall imposed Environment Compensation of suitable amount without any further opportunity.
3. The Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala shall verify the contentions made by the industry in its reply as per rules and regulations and submit its concrete recommendation within 15-days.
4. Further action will be taken after receipt of report from Regional Office.

The proceedings of the personal hearing were conveyed to the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Patiala vide Board's letter no. 6476 dated 24.08.2023 for compliance.

In view of the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in O.A. No. 606 of 2022, Environment Compensation amounting to Rs. 40 lacs (for a period from 01.07.2020 till 30.09.2023) has been imposed upon Municipal Corporation, Patiala for non-compliance of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and legacy waste remediation, out of which only Rs. 9.0 lacs has been deposited by the State Government on behalf Municipal Corporation, Patiala.

The directions dated 26.05.2022 issued by CPCB w.r.t conducting comprehensive risk assessment studies and accordingly prepare detailed On-site Emergency Plan for dumpsite by concerned were forwarded to the Department of Local Govt., Government of Punjab by PPCB letter no. 805 dated 19.07.2022 to ensure compliance of said directions. Further, a copy of the directions w.r.t Interim measure to be taken on priority till the time On-site/Off-site Emergency Plans are prepared was also forwarded to the Municipal Corporation vide PPCB letter nos. 1340-1507 dated 14.09.2022.

Meanwhile, complainant Sh. Davinder Pal Singh had filed a complaint in the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) alleging that the Municipal Corporation, Patiala is violating the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and orders passed by Hon'ble Tribunal w.r.t. imposing ban on burning of waste in open places and bulk waste burning in landfill sites in Patiala city. The complaint has further alleged that regular fires at the garbage dump site near Chotti Nadi in Patiala is causing nuisance in the nearby area and has requested to Hon'ble Tribunal for redressal of the matter.

The Hon'ble Tribunal has taken cognizance of the said complaint and the Hon'ble Tribunal vide orders dated 01.08.2023 had constituted a Joint Committee comprising of CPCB, PPCB, District Magistrate, Patiala and representative of Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Patiala to verify the factual situation at site and submit action taken report to the Hon'ble NGT. Hon'ble Tribunal has also directed the Joint Committee to undertake visits to the site, look into the grievances of the applicant, associate the applicant, verify the factual position by providing status of waste generation, waste processed and existence of legacy waste and its remediation and take appropriate remedial action by following due course of law. Punjab Pollution Control Board has been designated as nodal agency in the matter.

In compliance of the directions of the Hon'ble NGT in O.A. No. 434 of 2023, the Joint Committee visited the solid waste dump site of Patiala on 24.8.2023 along with complainant Sh. Davinder Pal Singh. The Joint Committee made following observations:

1. The total area of the dump site is about 8 acres. Reclamation has been done at two sites, one at site-A having area of about 3.5 acres and another site-B having area of about 3 acres.
2. The representative of the Municipal Corporation, Patiala informed that about 35000 MT fresh waste and 15000 MT legacy waste is dumped at site-B.
3. Mixed waste was found dumped at site-B.
4. A trommel system has been installed for recovery of the legacy waste. However, the same was not in operation as the legacy waste lying was in wet condition due to recent floods & rains in the area.
5. Although permanent fire control mechanism has not been provided at the dump site, however, one fire brigade was found stationed near the dump site for control of fire in case of any emergency.
6. Portable methane gas sensors are being used by Municipal Corporation, Patiala for detection of methane gas at the dump site.
7. ETP for treatment of leachate has been provided, however, it was found non-functional.
8. Plantation around the dump site was not found adequate.
9. Fencing around the dump site and gate at entrance point have not been provided.
10. Partial storm water drain has been provided.

-39- The committee recommended that following measures to be taken by Municipal Corporation, Patiala in a time bound manner for prevention of fires at its dump site and management of solid waste: -

- a) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall conduct comprehensive risk assessment studies and accordingly prepare detailed On-site Emergency Plan for its dump site addressing the following issues:
  1. To cover potential risks / emergencies due to fire, obnoxious / flammable emissions, odour, vector borne diseases rodents, bird nuisance, seasonal affects i.e. summer / winter / monsoon (rainy season) and all other potential risks at the dumpsites.
  2. To address the worst possible case scenarios preferably using appropriate risk assessment softwares covering any or all of the potential emergency issues / scenarios cited above.
  3. To cover likely affected geographical area including population, flora & fauna in an around the dumpsites.
  4. To contain detailed remedial measures both hardware and software based for mitigating various emergency situations, which should finally be available with respective control rooms and on-site emergency notice boards.
- b) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall provide a permanent water hydrant system, which can be used to douse of the fire at any time in the year.
- c) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall implement following interim measures till the time onsite/off-site emergency plans are prepared:
  1. Fresh waste not be disposed at the dump site where bio remediation is being undertaken.
  2. Methane gas detectors (on the down side) to be installed at the site so that area with high methane concentration can be identified and preventive actions be undertaken.
  3. Arrangements of fire extinguishers to be made especially in the summer seasons.
- d) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall install CCTV cameras at its dump site, provide weigh bridge for proper measurement of waste received at the dump site.
- e) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall install a permanent gate with one security personnel at its main entrance to avoid any unauthorized access to the solid waste site.
- f) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall provide fencing all around its dump site to avoid littering of any waste in any water body.
- g) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall increase the plantation area / green belt around its dump site.
- h) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall provide piezometers on four different locations in order to check the contamination of ground water.

The action taken report prepared by the Joint Committee has been filed by the Board in the Hon'ble NGT.

The matter was lastly heard by Hon'ble NGT on 08.11.2023 wherein Sh. Aditya Uppal, Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Patiala assured the Hon'ble Tribunal to look into all aspects of Solid Waste Management in District Patiala and will submit his detailed response with reference to the compliance with the directions issued by this Hon'ble tribunal in OA no. 606 of 2018 titled as Compliance of Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016. The matter has listed for 20.03.2024 for further consideration.

The Municipal Corporation, Patiala has not submitted comprehensive action plan for bioremediation of remaining legacy waste till date in the Board. Further, the Municipal Corporation, Patiala

has not submitted any compliance regarding the activities / measure taken by it at the solid waste dump site, as recommended by the Joint Committee constituted by Hon'ble NGT in O.A. No. 434 of 2023. Municipal Corporation, Patiala has not complied with the decision of the hearing given by the Chairman of the Board on 02.06.2023 and has also not deposited pending Environment Compensation of Rs. 31 lacs for the period 01.07.2020 till 30.09.2023.

It is clear from above facts that Municipal Corporation, Patiala is not serious to comply with the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and is violating the provisions of the said Rules causing degradation of environment. Thus, Municipal Corporation, Patiala has made itself liable under the "Polluter Pays Principle" to pay Environmental Compensation.

The matter has been considered by the Competent Authority and it has been decided to issue following directions u/s 5 of Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 for violations of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, after affording an opportunity of personal hearing.

- i) That legal action will be initiated against the Municipal Corporation, Patiala and their responsible officers/officials for violating the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- ii) That Environment Compensation of appropriate amount shall be imposed on the Municipal Corporation, Patiala for damaging the environment.

As such, notice to issue directions u/s 5 of Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 for violations of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016- regarding fire incident at old dump site, near Choti Nadi, Sanouri adda of Municipal Corporation, Patiala has been issued vide Board's letter no. 10137 dated 12/01/2024 with an opportunity to appear in person before the Chairman of the Board in his office Punjab Pollution Control Board, Vatavarn Bhawan, Nabha Road, Patiala on 24.01.2024.

The representative of the Municipal Corporation, Patiala has informed that Municipal Corporation has already contacted M/s Thapar Institute of Engineering & Technology, Patiala to conduct comprehensive risk assessment studies and to prepare detailed on site emergency plan for the dump site. A water tanker with fire brigade has already been placed at dump site to douse the fire in case of emergency, however permanent water hydrant system yet to be provided. He further informed that the company earlier engaged for bio remediation of the legacy waste is in the dispute with the Corporation and Corporation has floated tender for engagement of the new company for its bio remediation of the pending legacy waste. Corporation is having portable methane gas sensors, however, fixed detectors is yet be installed. He informed that the Corporation has already floated tender to provide fencing around the dump site as well as to provide permanent gate at the site. Corporation has installed two no. piezometers out of the 4 which is to be installed as per the recommendations of the Joint Committee. He requested to give some time to complete the entire recommendations of the joint Committee as well as provisions of the SWM Rules, 2016.

After examining the facts of the record and hearing the Officers of the Board and representative of the Municipal Corporation, Patiala, the Chairman of the Board was of the view that Municipal Corporation has not yet complied with almost all the recommendations of the joint committee, not submitted any comprehensive plan for bioremediation of legacy waste, failed to deposit Environmental Compensation imposed by the Board for violation of the SWM Rules, 2016 as well as no written reply submitted by the Municipal Corporation. Further, the case is pending in the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal and action taken report is to be placed in the Hon'ble NGT by the Board. As such, the Chairman of the Board decided as under: -



1. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall comply with all the recommendations of the Joint Committee by 04.02.2024 and shall submit the compliance report in writing to the Board. MCP shall be reheard before the Chairman of the Board on 05.02.2024 at 11:00 AM in his office at Patiala.
2. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala is to deposit Rs 40 Lac for violation of the SWM, Rules 2016 for the period 01.07.2020 to 30.09.2023. However, it has deposited only 9 lac so far. Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall deposit the balance amount of Environment Compensation of Rs 31 lac, immediately.
3. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall apply to obtain authorization as required under the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, within 07 days.
4. In case of the failure of the decisions at sr. no. 1 to 3 by Municipal Corporation, Patiala, the Board shall initiate legal action against the Municipal Corporation and its responsible officers for non-compliance of the Environmental Laws.
5. Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala shall visit the site to check the compliance by the Municipal Corporation, Patiala well before the next date of personal hearing to be given and submit its report during the course of hearing.
6. Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala shall also ensure to submit the report to the Hon'ble NGT in the OA no. 434 / 2023 well in time.

You are, therefore, requested to comply with the aforesaid decisions of the personal hearing.

Environmental Engineer (ZP-1)  
for & on behalf of the  
Punjab Pollution Control Board  
Dated .....

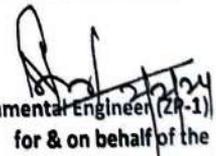
Endst. no. ....

A copy of the above is forwarded to the Deputy Commissioner, Patiala with request to look into the matter personally being the matter is pending in Hon'ble National Green Tribune.

Environmental Engineer (ZP-1)  
for & on behalf of the  
Punjab Pollution Control Board  
Dated 21/2/24

Endst. no. 10570

A copy of the above is forwarded to the Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Patiala for information and compliance.

  
Environmental Engineer (ZP-1)  
for & on behalf of the  
Punjab Pollution Control Board

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# ਨਗਰ ਨਿਗਮ ਪਟਿਆਲਾ

## MUNICIPAL CORPORATION PATIALA

Date 7/1/24

No. 1439/24

To ✓  
Environment Engineer,  
Punjab Pollution Control Board,  
Patiala.

Sub: - In term progress report regarding fire incident at old dump site, near Choti Nadi, Sanouri Adda of Municipal Corporation Patiala.

Ref: - Punjab Pollution Control Board Patiala office letter no 10137 dt 12.01.2024.

In reference to the above cited subject the in-term progress report and timelining of completion of the dump site as below:

Sr No.	Name of work	Current Status of work/progress report	Timeline of completion of work
1	Water hydrants at Dump site.	The work of providing and laying of water hydrants is in progress.	10.02.2024
2	Risk assessment on site/off site emergency plan	The allotment letter has been issued to Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology vide no. 1418/SE-II dt. 30.01.2023 in the light of resolution no. 3/302 dt. 29.01.2024 of Municipal Corporation Patiala.	15.04.2024
3	Methane Detectors	The allotment letter has been issued to Technosafe Solution vide no. 1422/SE-II dt. 30.01.2023 in the light of resolution no. 2/301 dt. 29.01.2024 of Municipal Corporation Patiala.	15.02.2024
4	Weigh bridge	New estimate for the providing and installation has been framed and put up for administrative approval. After getting the admin approval it will go for tendering which will take two months. In the meanwhile, Municipal Corporation Patiala engaged the nearest weigh bridge name Bharat Computerized Kanda for weighing of solid waste vehicles. The instruction has been issued to the concerned branch for the compliance. (Under tendering state)	30.04.2024
5	Entry Gate	The entry gate has been fixed.	Completed
6	Fencing at dump site	The work of fencing has been started	15.03.2024
7	Plantation at dump site	After the completion of fencing work, the plantation work will be started as green curtain around the dump site	31.03.2024
8	Piezometer at dump site	1 new piezometer has been provided and one more is in progress. Two more piezometers will be provided.	29.02.2024
9	CCTV Cameras at dump site	All eight cameras are in the working condition which are installed in place of old cameras.	Completed
10	Environment Compensation	The file for environment compensation has been put up for administrative approval and the EC will be submitted accordingly.	15.03.2024
11	Apply for Solid waste authorization certificate from PPCB.	All the documents required for authorization certificate has been completed and will be uploaded on the website of PBIP & CAF has been submitted for approval of PBIP. After getting the approval from the PBIP & CAF, authorization will be applied automatically.	Completed
12	Appoint Security Guard at dump site	Four Security guards are already deployed at dump site.	Completed

Superintending Engineer,  
Municipal Corporation Patiala

No: .....

Date: .....

Copy of the above is forwarded to:

1. Commissioner, Municipal Corporation Patiala for information.
2. Environment Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board for information.

Superintending Engineer,  
Municipal Corporation Patiala

ਸ਼ੱਪ ਸਾਈਟ 'ਤੇ ਵੀ ਸੀਜ ਲਗਾਉਣ ਦੇ ਟੇਡਰ ਖਾਸ ਕਰਨ ਸਾਈਟ।

ਇਸ ਵਾਤਾਵਰ ਦੇ ਵਰਤਾਰੀ ਹੁਕਮ ਨੰ. 300/ਮੀਮ.ਉ.ਡੀ ਮਿਤੀ 25.01.2024 ਦੇ ਸਬੰਧੀ।

ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਸਾਈਟ ਅਤੇ ਖਾਸ ਸਾਈਟ ਮੌਜੂਦਗੀ ਸੰਬੰਧਤ ਕਾਰਜਕਾਰੀ ਨੀ ਵਲੋਂ ਸਾਈਟ

ਵਿਖੇ ਸਾਈਟ ਮੌਜੂਦਗੀ ਸੰਬੰਧਤ ਕਾਰਜਕਾਰੀ ਨਿਗਮ ਦੇ ਡਾ. ਸਾਈਟ 'ਤੇ ਸੀਜ ਲਗਾਉਣ ਦੇ ਹਿਸਾਬ ਨੂੰ ਲਾਗੂ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਮਿਤੀ 02.02.2024 ਤੋਂ ਵੀ ਸਾਈਟ 'ਤੇ ਸੀਜ ਲਗਾਉਣ ਦੇ ਹਿਸਾਬ ਨੂੰ ਲਾਗੂ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਮਿਤੀ 05.02.2024 ਨੂੰ ਨਿਸਚਿਤ ਕੀਤੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ ਕਿਉਂਕਿ ਇਹ ਕੰਮ ਅਤਿ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਸੂਚੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਆਉਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਸਾਈਟ 'ਤੇ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ। ਇਸ ਦੇ ਨਾਲ ਹੀ ਮੈਂਕੇ ਉੱਪਰ 50 ਟਨ ਦੇ ਵੀ ਸੀਜ ਲਗਾਉਣ ਦੀ ਜ਼ਰੂਰਤ ਹੈ ਨਿਗਮ ਇੰਜੀਨੀਅਰ ਦੇ ਹਿੱਸੇ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਵਲੋਂ ਮੈਂਕੇ ਵੱਖਿਆ ਗਿਆ ਅਤੇ ਮੈਂਕੇ ਉੱਪਰ ਆਰ.ਸੀ.ਸੀ. ਬੈਸ ਸਟਰੋਂਕਚਰ, ਉੱਪਰੋਟਰ ਰੂਮ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਇੰਜੀਨੀਅਰ ਅਸੀਸਰੀਜ ਆਦਿ ਦਾ ਕੰਮ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ। ਜਿਸ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਵੇ ਬੀਜ ਬਣਾਉਣ ਦਾ ਤਖ਼ਤਾ 17.08.2023 ਰੁਪਏ ਅਨੁਮਾਨਤ ਲਗਤ ਦਾ ਤਿਆਰ ਕੀਤਾ ਗਿਆ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਪੂਰੀ ਜਾਬ ਉੱਪਰ ਲਗਤਗ 02 ਟਨ ਦਾ ਸਮਾਂ ਲਗੇਗਾ। ਸ਼ੱਪ ਸਾਈਟ ਤੋਂ ਵੇ.ਬੀਜ ਲਗਾਉਣ ਦੇ ਕੰਮ ਦੇ ਤਖ਼ਤੀਨ ਦੀ ਪੁਸ਼ਟੀ ਅਤੇ ਸੀਜ ਲਗਾਉਣ ਦੇ ਟੇਡਰ ਪ੍ਰਕਿਰੀਆ ਕਰਨ ਦੀ ਪੁਸ਼ਟੀ ਦੇਣ ਵਿੱਤ ਰਿਪੋਰਟ ਖੋਸ ਹੈ ਜੀ।

*[Handwritten signature]*

CEP  
Weigh bridge ਦੀ ਤਖ਼ਤੀਨ 17.08.2023  
ਉੱਪਰ ਦੀ ਪੁਸ਼ਟੀ ਦੇਣ ਵਿੱਤ ਰਿਪੋਰਟ ਖੋਸ ਹੈ ਜੀ।  
29/1/2024

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ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਸਮੇਂ ਸੀਜ ਲਗਾਉਣ ਦੀ ਪੁਸ਼ਟੀ ਦੇਣ ਵਿੱਤ ਰਿਪੋਰਟ ਖੋਸ ਹੈ ਜੀ।

R.C to Examine.

R.C

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punjab national bank

ਪਟਿਆਲਾ - ਸਰਕਾਰੀ ਪਿੰਡ (ਪਟਿਆਲਾ) - ਪੰਜਾਬ  
PATIALA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (Patiala) Punjab-147001  
RTGS/NEFT IFS Code : PUNB0817710

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TO THE ORDER OF BEARER

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रुपये RUPEES *Seven lac only*

अदा करें ₹ *700000/-*

खाता No. A/C No. **51772041005897**

बचत खाता SAVINGS A/c  
**51772041005897**

For COMMISSIONER M.C.PATIALA

*Mohajir*  
D.C.F.A.  
Joint Commissioner  
Municipal Corporation, Patiala

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*Mohajir*  
D.C.F.A.  
Joint Commissioner  
Municipal Corporation, Patiala

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*152 - SBK0050244*  
*BANK - STATE BANK OF INDIA*

*Name - Thakur Institute of Engg. and Technology*

RTGS



# ਨਗਰ ਨਿਗਮ ਪਟਿਆਲਾ

## MUNICIPAL CORPORATION PATIALA

No. 1422/2024/SE/II

Date 30/1/24

To

Technosafe Solutions,  
Plot No. 51, Sundernagar, Nariangarh Road,  
Ambala City, Haryana 134003 India.  
Email: sales@technosafe.in

**Sub: Gas Detection methane sensor. Reg- Allotment Letter.**

**Ref: Municipal Corporation Patiala resolution No. 301 dt. 29.01.2024 in reference to your email dated 25.01.2024.**

In reference to the above cited subject, the work of providing and fixing of methane detector at Municipal Dump Site has been allotted to your firm on the following rates.

Gas details	Description	Qty	Rate	Amt
Hydrocarbon/LEL	Polytron	3	1,65,000/-	4,95,000/-
Catalytic Sensor 6814150	Catalytic Sensor		(Including GST)	

You are directed to install the above mentioned apparatus within 10 days from the issuance of this allotment letter.

Superintending Engineer,  
Municipal Corporation Patiala

No: .....

Date: .....

Copy of the above is forwarded to:

1. Joint Commissioner, Municipal Corporation Patiala for information.

Superintending Engineer,  
Municipal Corporation Patiala



# ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਰੋਕਥਾਮ ਬੋਰਡ



Phone no. 0175-2301182

e-mail : ppcbsee\_zp1@yahoo.com

ਨੰਬਰ 12477

ਮਿਤੀ 24/2/24

To

REGISTERED

The Commissioner,  
Municipal Corporation,  
Patiala.

**Subject:** Proceeding of the personal hearing given on 14/02/2024 before the Chairman of the Board w.r.t. notice to issue directions u/s 5 of Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 for violations of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016- regarding fire incident at old dump site, near Choti Nadi, Sanouri adda of Municipal Corporation, Patiala.

The Following were present:

**On behalf of Punjab Pollution Control Board**

1. Er. G.S. Majithia, Member Secretary
2. Er. Harbir Singh, Chief Environmental Engineer (P)
3. Er. Lavneet Kumar, Senior Environmental Engineer (ZP-1)
4. Er. Hardeep Kaur, Environmental Engineer (Waste Management)
5. Er. Navtresh Singla, Environmental Engineer (ZP-1)
6. Er. Rohit Singla, Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala

**On behalf of the Municipal Corporation**

1. Sh. Gurpreet Singh Walia, Superintending Engineer
2. Sh. J.P Singh, Executive Engineer

At the outset, Environmental Engineer, (ZP-1) brought out that:-

Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, New Delhi in exercise of the powers conferred under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 has notified the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, wherein the Municipal Authority is responsible for implementation of the provisions of the Solid waste Management Rules, 2016, including infrastructure development for collection, storage, segregation, transportation, processing and disposal of municipal solid waste, and the preparation of action plan for management of solid waste.

Timelines for compliance of various activities laid down in Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, as well as extended time lines fixed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal have already been lapsed.

In OA No. 606 of 2018 titled as "Compliance of Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016" came up for hearing before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal on 10.01.2020, wherein the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal issued certain directions, the relevant part of which are reproduced as under:-

" .....

a. In view of the fact that most of the statutory timelines have expired and directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and this Tribunal to comply with Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 remain unexecuted, compensation scale is hereby laid down for continued failure after 31.03.2020. The compliance of the Rules requires taking of several steps mentioned in Rule 22 from Serial No. 1 to 10 (mentioned in para 12 above). Any such continued failure will result in liability of every Local Body to pay compensation at the rate of Rs. 10 lakh per month per Local Body for population of above 10 lakhs, Rs. 5

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- 47 - lakh per month per Local Body for population between 5 lakhs and 10 lakhs and Rs. 1 lakh per month per other Local Body from 01.04.2020 till compliance. If the Local Bodies are unable to bear financial burden, the liability will be of the State Governments with liberty to take remedial action against the erring Local Bodies. Apart from compensation, adverse entries must be made in the ACRs of the CEO of the said Local Bodies and other senior functionaries in Department of Urban Development etc. who are responsible for compliance of order of this Tribunal.

b. Legacy waste remediation was to 'commence' from 01.11.2019 in terms of order of this Tribunal dated 17.07.2019 in O.A. No. 519/2019 para 2853 even though statutory timeline for 'completing' the said step is till 07.04.2021 (as per serial no. 11 in Rule 22), which direction remains unexecuted at most of the places. Continued failure of every Local Body on the subject of commencing the work of legacy waste sites remediation from 01.04.2020 till compliance will result in liability to pay compensation at the rate of Rs. 10 lakh per month per Local Body for population of above 10 lakhs, Rs. 5 lakh per month per Local Body for population between 5 lakhs and 10 lakhs and Rs. 1 lakh per month per other Local Body. If the Local Bodies are unable to bear financial burden, the liability will be of the State Governments with liberty to take remedial action against the erring Local Bodies. Apart from compensation, adverse entries must be made in the ACRs of the CEO of the said Local Bodies and other senior functionaries in Department of Urban Development etc. who are responsible for compliance of order of this Tribunal.

....."  
A news item was published in "The Tribune" dated 16.04.2023 regarding burning of solid Waste at old dump site near Choti Naddi, Sanouri Adda, Patiala.

The site was visited by officers of the Board on 17.04.2023 alongwith Sh. Sanjeev Kumar, Chief Sanitary Inspector and Sh. Harwinder Singh, Sanitary Inspector of Municipal Corporation, Patiala. During visit, solid waste dumped at the site was found burning. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala officials informed that the site was old dumping waste site and the fire occurred due to methane production from the decomposition of said waste as well as due to rise in ambient temperature, resulting in occurrence of fire naturally on dumped waste.

Accordingly, notice to issue directions u/s 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for the violation of provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 was issued to the Municipal Corporation, Patiala vide Board's letter no. 3749 dated 19.05.2023 alongwith an opportunity of personal hearing before the Hon'ble Chairman of the Board on 29.05.2023, which has been postponed to 02.06.2023.

After hearing the officers of the Board and the representative of the Corporation, Patiala, the Chairman of the Board decided as under:

1. The MCP shall submit comprehensive action plan for bioremediation of remaining legacy waste with timelines, within one month.
2. The MCP shall ensure that no such fire incident shall occur in the future, otherwise, the Board shall imposed Environment Compensation of suitable amount without any further opportunity.
3. The Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala shall verify the contentions made by the industry in its reply as per rules and regulations and submit its concrete recommendation within 15-days.
4. Further action will be taken after receipt of report from Regional Office.

The proceedings of the personal hearing were conveyed to the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Patiala vide Board's letter no. 6476 dated 24.08.2023 for compliance.

In view of the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in O.A. No. 606 of 2022, Environment Compensation amounting to Rs. 40 lacs (for a period from 01.07.2020 till 30.09.2023) has



been imposed upon Municipal Corporation, Patiala for non-compliance of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and legacy waste remediation, out of which only Rs. 9.0 lacs has been deposited by the State Government on behalf Municipal Corporation, Patiala.

The directions dated 26.05.2022 issued by CPCB w.r.t conducting comprehensive risk assessment studies and accordingly prepare detailed On-site Emergency Plan for dumpsite by concerned were forwarded to the Department of Local Govt., Government of Punjab by PPCB letter no. 805 dated 19.07.2022 to ensure compliance of said directions. Further, a copy of the directions w.r.t interim measure to be taken on priority till the time On-site/Off-site Emergency Plans are prepared was also forwarded to the Municipal Corporation vide PPCB letter nos. 1340-1507 dated 14.09.2022.

Meanwhile, complainant Sh. Davinder Pal Singh had filed a complaint in the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) alleging that the Municipal Corporation, Patiala is violating the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and orders passed by Hon'ble Tribunal w.r.t. imposing ban on burning of waste in open places and bulk waste burning in landfill sites in Patiala city. The complaint has further alleged that regular fires at the garbage dump site near Chotti Nadi in Patiala is causing nuisance in the nearby area and has requested to Hon'ble Tribunal for redressal of the matter.

The Hon'ble Tribunal has taken cognizance of the said complaint and the Hon'ble Tribunal vide orders dated 01.08.2023 had constituted a Joint Committee comprising of CPCB, PPCB, District Magistrate, Patiala and representative of Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Patiala to verify the factual situation at site and submit action taken report to the Hon'ble NGT. Hon'ble Tribunal has also directed the Joint Committee to undertake visits to the site, look into the grievances of the applicant, associate the applicant, verify the factual position by providing status of waste generation, waste processed and existence of legacy waste and its remediation and take appropriate remedial action by following due course of law. Punjab Pollution Control Board has been designated as nodal agency in the matter.

In compliance of the directions of the Hon'ble NGT in O.A. No. 434 of 2023, the Joint Committee visited the solid waste dump site of Patiala on 24.8.2023 along with complainant Sh. Davinder Pal Singh. The Joint Committee made following observations:

1. The total area of the dump site is about 8 acres. Reclamation has been done at two sites, one at site-A having area of about 3.5 acres and another site-B having area of about 3 acres.
2. The representative of the Municipal Corporation, Patiala informed that about 35000 MT fresh waste and 15000 MT legacy waste is dumped at site-B.
3. Mixed waste was found dumped at site-B.
4. A trommel system has been installed for recovery of the legacy waste. However, the same was not in operation as the legacy waste lying was in wet condition due to recent floods & rains in the area.
5. Although permanent fire control mechanism has not been provided at the dump site, however, one fire brigade was found stationed near the dump site for control of fire in case of any emergency.
6. Portable methane gas sensors are being used by Municipal Corporation, Patiala for detection of methane gas at the dump site.
7. ETP for treatment of leachate has been provided, however, it was found non-functional.
8. Plantation around the dump site was not found adequate.
9. Fencing around the dump site and gate at entrance point have not been provided.
10. Partial storm water drain has been provided.

The committee recommended that following measures to be taken by Municipal Corporation, Patiala in a time bound manner for prevention of fires at its dump site and management of solid waste.

- a) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall conduct comprehensive risk assessment studies and accordingly prepare detailed On-site Emergency Plan for its dump site addressing the following issues.
1. To cover potential risks / emergencies due to fire, obnoxious / flammable emissions, odour, vector borne diseases rodents, bird nuisance, seasonal affects i.e. summer / winter / monsoon (rainy season) and all other potential risks at the dumpsites.
  2. To address the worst possible case scenarios preferably using appropriate risk assessment softwares covering any or all of the potential emergency issues / scenarios cited above.
  3. To cover likely affected geographical area including population, flora & fauna in an around the dumpsites.
  4. To contain detailed remedial measures both hardware and software based for mitigating various emergency situations, which should finally be available with respective control rooms and on-site emergency notice boards.
- b) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall provide a permanent water hydrant system, which can be used to douse of the fire at any time in the year.
- c) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall implement following interim measures till the time onsite/off-site emergency plans are prepared:
1. Fresh waste not be disposed at the dump site where bio remediation is being undertaken.
  2. Methane gas detectors (on the down side) to be installed at the site so that area with high methane concentration can be identified and preventive actions be undertaken.
  3. Arrangements of fire extinguishers to be made especially in the summer seasons.
- d) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall install CCTV cameras at its dump site, provide weigh bridge for proper measurement of waste received at the dump site.
- e) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall install a permanent gate with one security personnel at its main entrance to avoid any unauthorized access to the solid waste site.
- f) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall provide fencing all around its dump site to avoid littering of any waste in any water body.
- g) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall increase the plantation area / green belt around its dump site.
- h) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall provide piezometers on four different locations in order to check the contamination of ground water.

The action taken report prepared by the Joint Committee has been filed by the Board in the Hon'ble NGT.

The matter was lastly heard by Hon'ble NGT on 08.11.2023 wherein Sh. Aditya Uppal, Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Patiala assured the Hon'ble Tribunal to look into all aspects of Solid Waste Management in District Patiala and will submit his detailed response with reference to the compliance with the directions issued by this Hon'ble tribunal in OA no. 606 of 2018 titled as Compliance of Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016. The matter has listed for 20.03.2024 for further consideration.

The Municipal Corporation, Patiala has not submitted comprehensive action plan for bioremediation of remaining legacy waste till date in the Board. Further, the Municipal Corporation, Patiala

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has not submitted any compliance regarding the activities / measure taken by it at the solid waste dump site, as recommended by the Joint Committee constituted by Hon'ble NGT in O.A. No. 434 of 2023.

Municipal Corporation, Patiala has not complied with the decision of the hearing given by the Chairman of the Board on 02.06.2023 and has also not deposited pending Environment Compensation of Rs. 31 lacs for the period 01.07.2020 till 30.09.2023.

It is clear from above facts that Municipal Corporation, Patiala is not serious to comply with the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and is violating the provisions of the said Rules causing degradation of environment. Thus, Municipal Corporation, Patiala has made itself liable under the "Polluter Pays Principle" to pay Environmental Compensation.

The matter has been considered by the Competent Authority and it was decided to issue following directions u/s 5 of Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 for violations of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, after affording an opportunity of personal hearing.

- i) That legal action will be initiated against the Municipal Corporation, Patiala and their responsible officers/ officials for violating the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- ii) That Environment Compensation of appropriate amount shall be imposed on the Municipal Corporation, Patiala for damaging the environment.

As such, notice to issue directions u/s 5 of Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 for violations of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016- regarding fire incident at old dump site, near Choti Nadi, Sanouri adda of Municipal Corporation, Patiala has been issued vide Board's letter no. 10137 dated 12/01/2024 with an opportunity to appear in person before the Chairman of the Board in his office Punjab Pollution Control Board, Vatavarn Bhawan, Nabha Road, Patiala on 24.01.2024.

During the hearing on 12/1/2024, the representative of the Municipal Corporation, Patiala informed that Municipal Corporation has already contacted M/s Thapar Institute of Engineering & Technology, Patiala to conduct comprehensive risk assessment studies and to prepare detailed on site emergency plan for the dump site. A water tanker with fire brigade has already been placed at dump site to douse the fire in case of emergency, however permanent water hydrant system yet to be provided. He further informed that the company earlier engaged for bio remediation of the legacy waste is in the dispute with the Corporation and Corporation has floated tender for engagement of the new company for its bio remediation of the pending legacy waste. Corporation is having portable methane gas sensors, however, fixed detectors is yet to be installed. He informed that the Corporation has already floated tender to provide fencing around the dump site as well as to provide permanent gate at the site. Corporation has installed two no. piezometers out of the 4 which is to be installed as per the recommendations of the Joint Committee. He requested to give some time to complete the entire recommendations of the joint Committee as well as provisions of the SWM Rules, 2016.

After examining the facts of the record and hearing the Officers of the Board and representative of the Municipal Corporation, Patiala, the Chairman of the Board was of the view that Municipal Corporation has not yet complied with almost all the recommendations of the joint committee, not submitted any comprehensive plan for bioremediation of legacy waste, failed to deposit Environmental Compensation imposed by the Board for violation of the SWM Rules, 2016 as well as no written reply submitted by the Municipal Corporation. Further, the case is pending in the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal and action taken report is to be placed in the Hon'ble NGT by the Board. As such, the Chairman of the Board decided as under: -

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1. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall comply with all the recommendations of the Joint Committee by 04.02.2024 and shall submit the compliance report in writing to the Board. MCP shall be reheard before the Chairman of the Board on 05.02.2024 at 11:00 AM in his office at Patiala.
2. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala is to deposit Rs 40 Lac for violation of the SWM, Rules 2016 for the period 01.07.2020 to 30.09.2023. However, it has deposited only 9 lac so far. Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall deposit the balance amount of Environment Compensation of Rs 31 lac, immediately.
3. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall apply to obtain authorization as required under the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, within 07 days.
4. In case of the failure of the decisions at sr. no. 1 to 3 by Municipal Corporation, Patiala, the Board shall initiate legal action against the Municipal Corporation and its responsible officers for non-compliance of the Environmental Laws.
5. Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala shall visit the site to check the compliance by the Municipal Corporation, Patiala well before the next date of personal hearing to be given and submit its report during the course of hearing.
6. Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala shall also ensure to submit the report to the Hon'ble NGT in the OA no. 434 / 2023 well in time.

The proceedings of hearing were also conveyed to the MC, Patiala with a copy to Regional Office, Patiala vide Board's letter no. 10137-38 dated 12/1/2024 for making compliance.

Thereafter, Municipal Corporation, Patiala was asked to appear before the Chairman of the Board on 14/2/2024 in compliance to the decision no. 1 of the personal hearing as mentioned above.

The representative of the MC, Patiala attended the hearing and informed as under:

- 1) Municipal Corporation, Patiala has given work order for risk assessment and on-site and off-site emergency plan of dump site to Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology (TIET), Patiala and also made advance payment to the said institute in this regard.
- 2) Municipal Corporation, Patiala informed that the tender work for bioremediation of the legacy waste is under progress and they are perusing to finalize the same on priority.
- 3) Municipal Corporation, Patiala has installed water tank of capacity 2000 litre with submersible pump and underground pipeline has been laid for carrying water from this storage tank for dousing of fire.
- 4) Municipal Corporation, Patiala has purchased 3 methane gas detectors and same have been installed at site.
- 5) Municipal Corporation, Patiala has engaged the nearest weigh bridge namely Bharat Computerized Kanda for weighing of solid waste vehicles. However, new estimate has already been prepared for providing and installation of new weigh bridge at dump site and the work shall be completed by 30/4/2024.
- 6) Municipal Corporation, Patiala has provided entry gate at the dump site and two no. security guard were also deputed at site.
- 7) Municipal Corporation, Patiala has started the fencing of the dump site and the same shall be completed within one month.
- 8) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall start the plantation activity after completion of fencing work and complete plantation shall be done by 31/3/2024.



- 9) Municipal Corporation, Patiala has installed all the 4 nos. piezometers to check the groundwater quality
- 10) Municipal Corporation, Patiala has installed 8 no. CCTV cameras at main shed facing different locations at the dump site.
- 11) Municipal Corporation, Patiala has applied for CAF registration on the Investment Punjab Portal and authorization shall be applied after the approval of the CAF.
- 12) Municipal Corporation, Patiala has taken up the matter for deposition environmental compensation with its Higher Authorities and assured to deposit the same latest by 15/3/2024.

Further, the representative has given written reply during the hearing, which was taken on record. Also, Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala informed that the dump site was visited personally by him alongwith AEE on 5/2/2024 and verified the compliances as given by the MC, Patiala.

After examining the facts of the record and hearing the Officers of the Board and representative of the Municipal Corporation, Patiala, the Chairman of the Board decided as under:

- 1) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall deposit the balance amount of Environmental Compensation amounting to Rs. 31 Lakhs immediately without any further delay.
- 2) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall submit interim report regarding risk assessment study and on-site and off-site emergency plan of dump site from Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology (TIET), Patiala in the first week of March, 2024 in the O/o Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala. Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala shall personally review the progress in this regard on weekly basis and to send report accordingly.
- 3) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall expedite the tendering process for the bioremediation of legacy waste and shall ensure that the bioremediation of the legacy waste lying at the dump site be carried out at the earliest. Further, Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall not dispose off any fresh waste at the dump site. Municipal solid waste of the city be handled as per provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- 4) Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Patiala shall calculate the Environmental Compensation to be imposed on the Municipal Corporation, Patiala for non-compliance of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 including non-bioremediation of legacy waste period 1/10/2023 to 31/1/2024 and send the same to the EPA Cell to issue orders in this regard.
- 5) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall connect its CCTV cameras installed at dump site with the Board's server within 15-days. Asstt. Environmental Engineer (OS-WM), Head Office, Patiala shall monitor these CCTV cameras and in case any fire incident is observed, the concerned officer shall inform to the Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala immediately for taking action against the Municipal Corporation authorities.
- 6) Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala shall collect the groundwater sample from the piezometers installed by Municipal Corporation, Patiala and from the nearby vicinity (as reference sample) within 15-days.
- 7) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall make its ETP operational, which is provided for treatment of leachates being generated from the legacy dump site by 28/2/2024 positively.
- 8) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall obtain authorization under the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 by 28/2/2024.

- 9) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall submit bank guarantee amounting to Rs. 10 Lakhs as an assurance to comply with the all the commitments given above as well as recommendations of the Joint Committee within given time frame immediately.
- 10) Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall involve its horticulture wing to provide plantation along the boundary of the dump site and ensure that 50% work be completed by 10/3/2024 and remaining by 10/4/2024.

You are, therefore, requested to comply with the aforesaid decisions of the personal hearing.

*[Signature]*  
 d/c Environmental Engineer (ZP-1)  
 for & on behalf of the  
 Punjab Pollution Control Board  
 Dated 29/2/24

Endst. no. 12478

A copy of the above is forwarded to the Deputy Commissioner, Patiala for information as the matter is pending in the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi.

*[Signature]*  
 d/c Environmental Engineer (ZP-1)  
 for & on behalf of the  
 Punjab Pollution Control Board  
 Dated 29/2/24

Endst. no. 12479

A copy of the above is forwarded to the Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Patiala for information and compliance.

*[Signature]*  
 d/c Environmental Engineer (ZP-1)  
 for & on behalf of the  
 Punjab Pollution Control Board  
 Dated 29/2/24

Endst. no. 12480

A copy of the above is forwarded to the Environmental Engineer (HQ-3), Punjab Pollution Control Board, Head Office, Patiala for information and compliance.

*[Signature]*  
 d/c Environmental Engineer (ZP-1)  
 for & on behalf of the  
 Punjab Pollution Control Board