

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI  
Original Application No. 1202 OF 2024**

**In the matter of:**

News Item titled "E. Coli traces of bleaching powder found in Greater Noida housing society water samples" appearing in the Indian Express dated 13.09.2024

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1.	<b>Reply</b> on behalf of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) i.e. Respondent No.3 in Original Application No. 1202 of 2024 in compliance to Hon'ble NGT order dated 01.10.2024.	
2.	<b>Annexure-I:</b> A copy of letter dated 22.11.2024 issued by CPCB to Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority (GNIDC) and Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board (UPPCB).	
3.	<b>Annexure-II:</b> A copy of reminder letter dated 07.01.2025 issued by CPCB to Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority (GNIDC) and Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board (UPPCB).	
4.	<b>Annexure-III:</b> A copy of Hon'ble NGT order dated 01.10.2024 in O.A No. 1202/2024	

*Srinivas Vishven*

**Filed by Adv. Srinivas Vishven**  
(On behalf of Central Pollution Control Board)

Dated: 27.01.2025

Place: Delhi

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL****PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI****Original Application No. 1202 OF 2024****In the matter of:**

News Item titled "E. Coli traces of bleaching powder found in Greater Noida housing society water samples" appearing in the Indian Express dated 13.09.2024

**REPLY ON BEHALF OF CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
(CPCB) i.e. RESPONDENT NO. 3**

1. That, Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 01.10.2024 and Notice dated 18.11.2024 has sought the reply of Central Pollution Control Board (hereinafter referred as CPCB) in the instant matter. Thereby, the reply is made in succeeding paragraphs.
2. That, CPCB is a statutory Board constituted under Section 3 of The Water (Prevention and control of Pollution) Act, 1974. It performs the functions under The Water (Prevention and control of Pollution) Act 1974 (hereinafter Water Act), The Air (Prevention and control of Pollution) Act, 1981 (hereinafter Air Act) and The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
3. That the present matter is related to the allegations of detection of *E. coli* bacteria and bleaching powder contamination in the water supply of Supertech Ecovillage 2, a housing society in Greater Noida West. The reported contamination has allegedly resulted in serious health complications for over 300 residents, including 170 children, raising critical concerns regarding public health and environmental safety.



4. That according to the news item published in *The Indian Express* dated 13.09.2024, the residents of the housing society experienced symptoms such as diarrhea, vomiting, stomach pain, and fever, allegedly due to the contaminated water supply. It is further brought out in the news item that the presence of *E. coli* bacteria in drinking water poses a significant health hazard, capable of causing severe gastrointestinal infections, with heightened risks for vulnerable groups such as children, the elderly, and individuals with weakened immune systems.
5. That water supply is usually provided by Local Body/concerned agency. There may also be internal distribution and maintenance of water supply infrastructure, including water storage tanks and pipelines, being managed by the owner of the premises where water supply is made available by such Local Body/concerned agency.
6. That in adherence to the Hon'ble Tribunal's directions dated 01.10.2024, CPCB initiated communication with the concerned authorities, specifically:
  - **Letter dated 22.11.2024:** Issued to Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority (hereinafter referred as GNIDA) and UPPCB requesting a status report and action taken report regarding the contamination incident.
  - **Reminder letter dated 07.01.2025:** Sent to the aforementioned agencies, emphasizing the urgency of the matter and requesting expeditious submission of the required reports.

Copies of these communications have been enclosed as **Annexure I** and **Annexure II**, respectively, for the kind consideration of the Hon'ble Tribunal.



7. That the requisite status report and action taken report from GNIDA and UPPCB, are still awaited. The absence of these reports restricts CPCB from making substantive submissions regarding the factual position and actions undertaken by the relevant agencies.
8. That, the status report/action taken report on the matter is still awaited from the concerned authorities. As the issues raised in the instant matter falls under the purview of local bodies and state-specific agencies such as GNIDA and UPPCB, therefore, it is respectfully prayed that the Hon'ble Tribunal may consider the response filed by concerned respondents for adjudication of the instant matter.
9. That, the answering respondent craves leave of the Hon'ble Tribunal to file additional reply, if required, in future.
10. That in the light of the above submissions, it is respectfully submitted that this Answering Respondent, i.e., CPCB, shall abide by any order(s) or direction(s) passed by this Hon'ble Court in the instant OA.



  
(Vishal Gandhi)  
Scientist 'E'  
Central Pollution Control Board

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI  
Original Application No. 1202 OF 2024**

**In the matter of:**

News Item titled "E. Coli traces of bleaching powder found in Greater Noida housing society water samples" appearing in the Indian Express dated 13.09.2024

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, **Vishal Gandhi** working as Scientist 'E' in Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi, the Respondent No. 3 in the above matter, do hereby solemnly affirm, declare on oath and state as under :-

1. That I, the deponent herein is authorized representative to represent the Respondent CPCB in the present case, and as such, I am well conversant with the facts and circumstances of the present case on the basis of the information derived from the official records, and hence, I am competent and authorized to verify, sign and swear this affidavit on behalf of the Respondent CPCB.
2. That the accompanying reply may be read part and parcel of the present affidavit.
3. That the accompanying reply has been drafted and filed under my instructions and authority the contents thereof are true and correct on the basis of the record maintained during ordinary course of business of CPCB and available records and documents and the contents of the same are read over and explained to me and are not repeated herein for the sake of brevity.



  
**DEPONENT**

**विशाल गांधी / Vishal Gandhi**  
**वैज्ञानिक 'ई' / Scientist 'E'**  
**केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड**  
**Central Pollution Control Board**  
(पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)  
(Mo Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India)  
परिवेश भवन, पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली-110032  
Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032

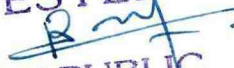
VERIFICATION

Verified at New Delhi on this day of 27 JAN 2025 2025 that the contents of the above reply are correct and true on the basis of the records of the case as mentioned in the day-to-day affairs of the CPCB. Nothing has been concealed therefrom or misstated.

  
DEPONENT



विशाल गांधी / Vishal Gandhi  
वैज्ञानिक 'ई' / Scientist 'E'  
केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड  
Central Pollution Control Board  
(पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)  
(Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India)  
परिवेश बवन, पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली-110032  
Bhavani Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032

ATTESTED  
  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
GOVT. OF INDIA  
27 JAN 2025

*[Faint mirrored text from the reverse side of the page]*



Speed Post/E-mail

CM-13011/259/2024-LAW-HO-CPCB-HO / 717

22/11/2024

To

**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority (GNIDA)**  
Plot No. 01, Knowledge Park-04,  
Greater Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar,  
Uttar Pradesh- 201308

**Subject: Direction of Hon'ble NGT dated 01.10.2024 in OA No. 1202/2024-reg.**

Sir,

This is reference to Hon'ble NGT (PB) Order dated 01.10.2024 in OA No. 1202/2024, Suo Moto matter In re: News item appearing in the Indian Express dated 13.09.2024 Titled "E. Coli, traces of bleaching powder found in Greater Noida housing society water samples" (copy enclosed). In this matter, Hon'ble NGT has directed CPCB to file a response in the form of affidavit before the Tribunal.

It is therefore, you are requested to kindly provide the detailed report of the incident to CPCB at the earliest for further necessary action to ensure timely compliance of Hon'ble NGT order.

Yours faithfully

(Vishal Gandhi)  
Scientist 'E',  
WQM-I Division

Encl: As above

**'परिवेश भवन' पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली - 110032.**  
**Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 110 032.**

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



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केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड  
CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार.  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE, GOVT. OF INDIA.

Speed Post/E-mail

CM-13011/259/2024-LAW-HO-CPCB-HO /717

22/11/2024

To

Member Secretary  
Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board  
5th Floor, Sarojini Naidu Marg,  
Lucknow - 226001, Uttar Pradesh


**Subject: Direction of Hon'ble NGT dated 01.10.2024 in OA No. 1202/2024-reg.**

Sir/Madam,

This is reference to Hon'ble NGT (PB) Order dated 01.10.2024 in OA No. 1202/2024, Suo Moto matter In re: News item appearing in the Indian Express dated 13.09.2024 Titled "E. Coli, traces of bleaching powder found in Greater Noida housing society water samples" (copy enclosed). In this matter, Hon'ble NGT has directed CPCB to file a response in the form of affidavit before the Tribunal.

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Yours faithfully

  
(Vishal Gandhi)  
Scientist 'E',  
WQM-I Division

Encl: As above

Direction of Hon'ble NGT

‘परिवेश भवन’ पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली - 110032.

Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 110 032.

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



**Speed Post/E-mail**

**Reminder-I**

Dated: 07.01.2025

F.No CM-13011/259/2024-LAW-HO-CPCB-HO/- 0/0

To

Chief Executive Officer  
Greater Noida Industrial Development  
Authority (GNIDA)  
Plot No. 01, Knowledge Park-04,  
Greater Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar,  
Uttar Pradesh- 201308

**Subject:** Direction of Hon'ble NGT (PB) order dated 01.10.2024 in the matter of OA No. 1202/2024; News item appearing in the Indian Express dated 13.09.2024 Titled "E. Coli, traces of bleaching powder found in Greater Noida housing society water samples"-reg.

**Ref:** CPCB letter No. CM-13011/259/2024-LAW-HO-CPCB-HO dated- 22.11.2024

Sir/Madam,

Kindly refer to our earlier letter of even dated 22.11.2024 wherein it was requested to provide the detailed report/ action taken report in the said matter as per the directions of Hon'ble NGT. However, the reply is still awaited.

In this context, it is further requested to provide the requisite details of status report at an early date, preferably by 20.01.2025.

This may be treated as 'URGENT'.

Yours faithfully

(Vishal Gandhi)  
Scientist 'E',  
WQM-I Division

Encl: As above

**'परिवेश भवन' पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली - 110032.**

**Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 110 032.**

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



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केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड

CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार.

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST &amp; CLIMATE CHANGE, GOVT. OF INDIA.

**Speed Post/E-mail**

F.No CM-13011/259/2024-LAW-HO-CPCB-HO/-/0

To

**Member Secretary****Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board**

5th Floor, Sarojini Naidu Marg,

Lucknow - 226001, Uttar Pradesh

**Reminder-I**

Dated: 07.01.2025

**Subject:** Direction of Hon'ble NGT (PB) order dated 01.10.2024 in the matter of OA No. 1202/2024; News item appearing in the Indian Express dated 13.09.2024 Titled "E. Coli, traces of bleaching powder found in Greater Noida housing society water samples"-reg.

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This may be treated as 'URGENT'.

Yours faithfully

  
(Vishal Gandhi)  
Scientist 'E',  
WQM-I Division

Encl: As above

‘परिवेश भवन’ पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली - 110032.

Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 110 032.

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

Item No.03

Court No. 1

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**

Original Application No. 1202/2024

News Item titled "E. Coli traces of bleaching powder found in Greater Noida housing society water samples" appearing in the Indian Express dated 13.09.2024

Date of hearing: 01.10.2024

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRAKASH SHRIVASTAVA, CHAIRPERSON  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR TYAGI, JUDICIAL MEMBER  
HON'BLE DR. A. SENTHIL VEL, EXPERT MEMBER  
HON'BLE DR. AFROZ AHMAD, EXPERT MEMBER**

Applicant: None appeared

**ORDER**

1. This original application is registered *suo-motu* on the basis of the news item titled "E.Coli traces of bleaching powder found in Greater Noida housing society water samples" appearing in the Indian Express dated 13.09.2024.

2. The news item relates to the discovery of E.coli bacteria and bleaching powder in the water supply of a Greater Noida housing society which led to over 300 residents, including 170 children falling ill due to contaminated water. The affected residents experienced symptoms such as diarrhea, vomiting, stomach pain, and fever. As per the article, the incident occurred at Supertech Ecovillage 2 in Greater Noida West.

3. The news item states that the presence of E. coli in drinking water poses significant health risks, including gastrointestinal infections, diarrhea, and more severe health issues, particularly for vulnerable populations like children and the elderly. The article claims that the contamination could be due to various reasons including not flushing the

water tank properly. It is also claimed that the Greater Noida Authority supplies water up to the reservoir of group housing societies, but the internal distribution is managed by the builder or the Apartment Owners Association (AOA).

4. Power of the Tribunal to take up the matter *suo-motu* has been recognized by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of "*Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai vs. Ankita Sinha &Ors.*" reported in 2021 SCC Online SC 897.

5. The news item raises substantial issue relating to compliance of provisions of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Environment Protection Act, 1986.

6. Hence, we implead the following as respondents in the matter:

**(1). Chairman, Greater Noida Authority,** Greater Noida Authority, C-14, Site-C, Industrial Area, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh – 201310

**(2). Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Through its Member Secretary,** Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board, 5th Floor, Sarojini Naidu Marg, Lucknow – 226001 Uttar Pradesh, India

**(3). Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Through its Member Secretary,** Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 110032, India

**(4). District Magistrate (DM), Greater Noida,** Office of the District Magistrate, District Administrative Complex, Greater Noida – 201310, Uttar Pradesh, India

7. Issue notice to the above respondents for filing their response /reply in the form of affidavit before the Tribunal at least one week before the next date of hearing. If any of the respondents directly files the reply without routing it through his advocate then the said respondent will remain virtually present to assist the Tribunal.

8. List on 28.01.2025.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

Dr. Afroz Ahamd, EM

October 01, 2024  
Original Application No. 1202/2024  
SN..