

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

Original Application No. 600 OF 2025

IN THE MATTER OF:Shri Sanatan Dharam Kumar Sabha through
its President Sh. Bal Krishna Singla.

Applicant(s)

Versus

State of Punjab & Ors.

Respondent(s)

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Filed by



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Place: New Delhi

Dated: 25.03.2026

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

O.A NO.600 OF 2025

IN THE MATTER OF:

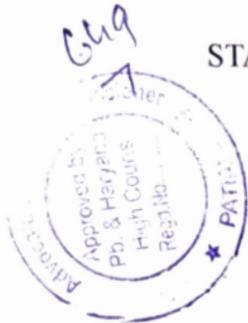
Shri Sanatan Dharam Kumar Sabha Thorough
Its President Sh. Bal Krishan Singla

...APPLICANT

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB

...RESPONDENTS



REPLY FILED ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT NO.4

I, Manreet Rana, Joint Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Patiala,

19 MAR 2026

do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under: -

BRIEF FACTS:

1. Briefly stated, one Bal Krishan Singla, President of Shri Sanatan Dharam Kumar Sabha, filed a complaint alleging that the answering respondent, Municipal Corporation, Patiala, is dumping garbage adjacent to the Ghalori Gate cremation ground. The complaint highlights environmental and public health hazards, noting that continuous dumping has resulted in massive refuse heaps and foul odors. This has caused severe inconvenience, nausea, and dizziness to mourners and workers at the site. Consequently, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) treated the said complaint as **Original Application No. 600 of 2025.**
2. This Hon'ble Tribunal, vide its order dated 04.12.2025, constituted a Joint Committee comprising the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB), and the District Magistrate, Patiala. The Committee was directed to convene within two weeks, conduct a site visit,

verify the factual grievances of the applicant, and take appropriate remedial action in accordance with the law. The Tribunal further directed the submission of a report within one month, designating the PPCB as the nodal agency for coordination and compliance. A copy of the order dated 04.12.2025 is annexed herewith as Annexure R-1..

3. In compliance with the directions of this Hon'ble Tribunal, members of the Joint Committee visited the site on 06.01.2026. While the complainant was not personally present, his representative attended alongside two representatives of the answering respondent. Subsequently, the Joint Committee submitted its factual report to this Hon'ble Tribunal via a forwarding letter dated 02.02.2026.

4. Following the submission of the Joint Committee's report, this Hon'ble Tribunal, vide order dated 06.02.2026, directed Respondents No. 1 to 4 (District Magistrate, Patiala; Municipal Corporation, Patiala; and PPCB) to file their respective responses. The Tribunal specifically mandated that the response must include—in a tabulated format—the action taken or contemplated in compliance with Rules 15(a) to (zl) of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016. Furthermore, the respondents were directed to detail the implementation of the Joint Committee's suggestions and the guidelines issued by the CPCB/PPCB. A copy of the order dated 06.02.2026 is annexed herewith as Annexure R-2.

5. Pursuant to the notice issued by the Board for directions under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, representatives of the answering respondent appeared before the Chairman of the Board on 24.01.2026 [Note: corrected year from 2024] to provide a

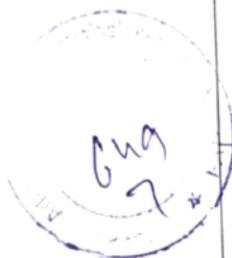


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comprehensive status update regarding the remedial works undertaken to date.

6. That in compliance to the directions passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal the compliance with respect to rule 15(a) to (zl) of the Solid waste management Rule 2016 is as under:-

Duties and responsibilities of local authorities	Suggestions of Joint Committee/CP CB/PPCB	Action taken report
(a) prepare a solid waste management plan as per state policy and strategy on solid waste management within six months from the date of notification of state policy and strategy and submit a copy to respective departments of State Government or Union territory Administration or agency authorised by the State Government or Union territory Administration;		The state of Punjab has formulated a policy of Integrated Solid Waste Management which provide solution of Solid Waste from door to door upto processing of the waste and its final disposal.
(b) arrange for door to door collection of segregated solid waste from all households including slums and informal settlements, commercial, institutional and other non residential premises. From multi-storage buildings, large commercial complexes, malls, housing complexes, etc., this may be collected from the entry gate or any other designated location;		The office of MC Patiala has awarded the work for integrated solid waste management in Patiala vide letter bearing No. 1475 dated 26.02.2026 to M/s Sunan Life which comprises door to door collection, Segregation, Transportation, Processing and Disposal of fresh waste from the 60 wards of Patiala City, Petrolling, Collection and Disposal of Silt from Drains.
(c) establish a system to recognise organisations of waste pickers or informal waste collectors and promote and establish a system for integration of these authorised waste-pickers and waste collectors to facilitate their participation in solid waste management including door to door collection of		That in the scope of work allotted to the above firm under the Solid Waste Management project, a provision has been kept for the engagement of informal waste pickers. The objective of this provision is to recognize their contribution and integrate them into the formal waste management system with dignity and respect. Their engagement will also help in improving segregation, recycling, and overall efficiency of waste collection and processing. The



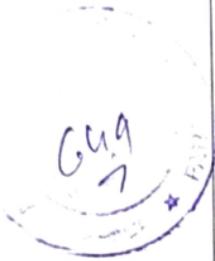
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waste;		firm has been advised to ensure their inclusion in accordance with the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016. This will also support social inclusion and livelihood opportunities for the informal waste picker community
(d) facilitate formation of Self Help Groups, provide identity cards and thereafter encourage integration in solid waste management including door to door collection of waste;		Self Help Groups (SHGs) have already been engaged in the Solid Waste Management system. Identity cards are being issued to the members, and they are being integrated into waste management activities including segregation, processing of waste, and awareness among citizens. Their involvement is also supporting the door-to-door collection system and promoting community participation in effective solid waste management.
(e) frame bye-laws incorporating the provisions of these rules within one year from the date of notification of these rules and ensure timely implementation;		Bye-laws incorporating the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules have been framed/notified by the Municipal Corporation. The provisions of these rules have been incorporated in the municipal bye-laws, and necessary steps are being taken to ensure their effective and timely implementation in the city."
(f) prescribe from time to time user fee as deemed appropriate and collect the fee from the waste generators on its own or through authorised agency;		User charges for Solid Waste Management services have been prescribed by the Municipal Corporation from time to time as per the applicable rules. The user fee is being collected from waste generators either directly by the Municipal Corporation or through the authorised agency engaged for door-to-door collection and management of municipal solid waste."
(g) direct waste generators not to litter i.e throw or dispose of any waste such as paper, water bottles, liquor bottles, soft drink canes, tetra packs, fruit peel, wrappers, etc., or burn or burry waste on streets, open public spaces, drains, waste bodies and to segregate the waste at source as prescribed under these rules and hand over the segregated waste to authorised the waste pickers or waste collectors authorised by the local body;		Directions have been issued to all waste generators not to litter or dispose of waste such as paper, plastic bottles, liquor bottles, cans, tetra packs, fruit peels, wrappers, etc. on streets, public places, drains, or water bodies, and also not to burn or bury waste in open spaces. Citizens have been instructed to segregate waste at source as per the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules and hand over the segregated waste to authorised waste pickers or waste collectors engaged by the Municipal Corporation. Regular awareness campaigns are also being conducted to ensure compliance with these provisions
(h) setup material recovery facilities or secondary storage		Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) and secondary storage facilities have been established by the Municipal



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<p>facilities with sufficient space for sorting of recyclable materials to enable informal or authorised waste pickers and waste collectors to separate recyclables from the waste and provide easy access to waste pickers and recyclers for collection of segregated recyclable waste such as paper, plastic, metal, glass, textile from the source of generation or from material recovery facilities; Bins for storage of bio-degradable wastes shall be painted green, those for storage of recyclable wastes shall be printed white and those for storage of other wastes shall be printed black</p>		<p>Corporation with adequate space for sorting and segregation of recyclable materials. These facilities enable informal as well as authorised waste pickers and waste collectors to separate recyclable waste such as paper, plastic, metal, glass, and textile from the collected waste. Easy access has been provided to waste pickers and recyclers for collection of segregated recyclable materials from the source of generation as well as from the Material Recovery Facilities. Further, colour-coded bins have been provided as per the Solid Waste Management Rules, wherein bins for bio-degradable waste are painted green, bins for recyclable waste are marked white, and bins for other waste are marked black</p>
<p>(i) establish waste deposition centres for domestic hazardous waste and give direction for waste generators to deposit domestic hazardous wastes at this centre for its safe disposal. Such facility shall be established in a city or town in a manner that one centre is set up for the area of twenty square kilometers or part thereof and notify the timings of receiving domestic hazardous waste at such centres;</p>		<p>Waste deposition centres for domestic hazardous waste have been established by the Municipal Corporation at suitable locations in accordance with the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules. Waste generators have been directed to deposit domestic hazardous waste at these centres for safe handling and disposal. Such facilities have been planned so that one centre caters to an area of approximately twenty square kilometres or part thereof. The timings for receiving domestic hazardous waste at these centres have also been notified for the convenience of the public."</p>
<p>(j) ensure safe storage and transportation of the domestic hazardous waste to the hazardous waste disposal facility or as may be directed by the State Pollution Control Board or the Pollution Control Committee;</p>		<p>"Necessary arrangements have been made by the Municipal Corporation to ensure safe storage and transportation of domestic hazardous waste. The collected domestic hazardous waste is being transported in a safe manner to the authorised hazardous waste disposal facility as per the directions issued by the State Pollution Control Board."</p>
<p>(k) direct street sweepers not to burn tree leaves collected from street sweeping and store them separately and handover to the waste collectors or agency authorised by</p>		<p>Directions have been issued to all street sweepers not to burn tree leaves collected during street sweeping. They have been instructed to store the leaves separately and hand them over to the waste collectors or the agency authorised by the Municipal Corporation for proper collection and processing."</p>



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local body;		
(l) provide training on solid waste management to waste-pickers and waste collectors;		Training programmes on Solid Waste Management are being organised from time to time for waste pickers and waste collectors. These trainings focus on proper waste segregation, safe handling of waste, use of protective equipment, and effective collection and processing practices to ensure efficient implementation of the Solid Waste Management system."
(m) collect waste from vegetable, fruit, flower, meat, poultry and fish market on day to day basis and promote setting up of decentralised compost plant or bio-methanation plant at suitable locations in the markets or in the vicinity of markets ensuring hygienic conditions;		Waste generated from vegetable, fruit, flower, meat, poultry and fish markets is being collected on a daily basis by the Municipal Corporation through the authorised agency to maintain proper sanitation and hygienic conditions. Efforts are also being made to promote the establishment of decentralised composting or bio-methanation plants at suitable locations in or near the markets for scientific processing and disposal of organic waste."
(n) collect separately waste from sweeping of streets, lanes and by-lanes daily, or on alternate days or twice a week depending on the density of population, commercial activity and local situation;		Waste generated from sweeping of streets, lanes and by-lanes is being collected separately by the Municipal Corporation on a daily basis, or on alternate days or twice a week depending upon the density of population, commercial activity and local conditions, to ensure proper cleanliness and effective solid waste management."
(o) set up covered secondary storage facility for temporary storage of street sweepings and silt removed from surface drains in cases where direct collection of such waste into transport vehicles is not convenient. Waste so collected shall be collected and disposed of at regular intervals as decided by the local body;		Covered secondary storage facilities have been provided by the Municipal Corporation for temporary storage of street sweepings and silt removed from surface drains where direct collection into transport vehicles is not convenient. The waste collected at these facilities is regularly lifted and transported for proper processing and disposal at designated sites as per the schedule decided by the Municipal Corporation."
(p) collect horticulture, parks and garden waste separately and process in the parks and gardens, as far as possible;		Horticulture waste generated from parks and gardens is being collected separately by the Municipal Corporation. As far as possible, such waste is processed within the parks and gardens through composting or other suitable methods to ensure its proper utilisation and environmentally sound disposal."
(q) transport segregated bio-degradable waste to the processing facilities like compost plant, bio-		Segregated bio-degradable waste is being transported to the designated processing facilities such as compost plants, bio-methanation plants, or other

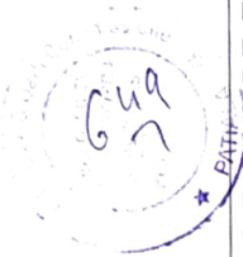
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methanation plant or any such facility. Preference shall be given for on site processing of such waste;		approved facilities for scientific processing. Wherever feasible, preference is being given to on-site processing of bio-degradable waste to promote decentralised waste management and reduce transportation."
(r) transport non-bio-degradable waste to the respective processing facility or material recovery facilities or secondary storage facility;		"Non-bio-degradable waste is being transported to the designated processing facilities, Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs), or secondary storage facilities for proper segregation, recycling, and further processing in accordance with the Solid Waste Management Rules."
(s) transport construction and demolition waste as per the provisions of the Construction and Demolition Waste management Rules, 2016;		Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste is being transported and managed in accordance with the provisions of the Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules, 2016. The waste is collected separately and transported to the designated sites or facilities identified for processing and disposal."
(t) involve communities in waste management and promotion of home composting, bio-gas generation, decentralised processing of waste at community level subject to control of odour and maintenance of hygienic conditions around the facility;		Communities are being actively involved in Solid Waste Management through awareness programmes and public participation initiatives. Efforts are being made to promote home composting, bio-gas generation, and decentralised processing of waste at the community level. Necessary measures are also being taken to control odour and maintain hygienic conditions around such facilities."
(u) phase out the use of chemical fertilizer in two years and use compost in all parks, gardens maintained by the local body and wherever possible in other places under its jurisdiction. Incentives may be provided to recycling initiatives by informal waste recycling sector.		Efforts are being made to gradually phase out the use of chemical fertilizers and promote the use of compost in parks and gardens maintained by the Municipal Corporation. Compost generated from organic waste is being utilised as far as possible for horticulture purposes within areas under the jurisdiction of the local body. The Municipal Corporation is also encouraging recycling initiatives and supporting the informal waste recycling sector to strengthen sustainable waste management practices."
(v) facilitate construction, operation and maintenance of solid waste processing facilities and associated infrastructure on their own or with private sector participation or through any agency for optimum utilisation of various components of solid waste adopting suitable		Solid waste processing facilities and associated infrastructure are being developed and maintained by the Municipal Corporation either on its own or through private sector participation/authorised agencies for optimal utilisation of various components of municipal solid waste. Suitable technologies are being adopted in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and the standards prescribed by

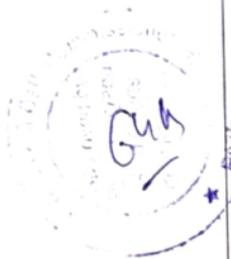
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<p>technology including the following technologies and adhering to the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Urban Development from time to time and standards prescribed by the Central Pollution Control Board. Preference shall be given to decentralised processing to minimize transportation cost and environmental impacts such as a) bio-methanation, microbial composting, vermi-composting, anaerobic digestion or any other appropriate processing for bio-stabilisation of biodegradable wastes; b) waste to energy processes including refused derived fuel for combustible fraction of waste or supply as feedstock to solid waste based power plants or cement kilns;</p>		<p>the Central Pollution Control Board. Preference is being given to decentralised waste processing to minimise transportation costs and environmental impacts. Technologies such as bio-methanation, microbial composting, vermi-composting, anaerobic digestion and other suitable methods are being promoted for bio-stabilisation of biodegradable waste. Further, waste-to-energy processes including Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) for combustible fractions of waste and its use as feedstock in waste-based power plants or cement kilns are also being encouraged wherever feasible."</p>
<p>(w) undertake on their own or through any other agency construction, operation and maintenance of sanitary landfill and associated infrastructure as per Schedule 1 for disposal of residual wastes in a manner prescribed under these rules;</p>		<p>Sanitary landfill facilities and associated infrastructure are being developed/maintained by the Municipal Corporation either on its own or through authorised agencies for the safe disposal of residual waste. The construction, operation and maintenance of the landfill site are being carried out in accordance with the provisions prescribed under Schedule I of the Solid Waste Management Rules to ensure environmentally sound disposal of residual waste."</p>
<p>(x) make adequate provision of funds for capital investments as well as operation and maintenance of solid waste management services in the annual budget ensuring that funds for discretionary functions of the local body have been allocated only after meeting the requirement of necessary funds for solid waste management and other obligatory functions of the local body as per these rules;</p>		<p>Municipal Corporation is making adequate provision of funds for capital investment as well as for operation and maintenance of Solid Waste Management services in the annual budget. Necessary funds for Solid Waste Management and other obligatory functions are being prioritised and allocated in accordance with the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules before allocation of funds for discretionary functions."</p>



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<p>(y) make an application in Form-I for grant of authorisation for setting up waste processing, treatment or disposal facility, if the volume of waste is exceeding five metric tones per day including sanitary landfills from the State Pollution Control Board or the Pollution Control Committee, as the case may be;</p>		<p>An application in Form-I for grant of authorisation for setting up waste processing, treatment or disposal facilities, including sanitary landfill sites where the quantity of waste exceeds five metric tonnes per day, has been submitted/shall be submitted to the State Pollution Control Board as per the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules.”</p>
<p>(z) submit application for renewal of authorisation at least sixty days before the expiry of the validity of authorisation</p>		<p>Application for renewal of authorisation is being submitted to the State Pollution Control Board at least sixty days prior to the expiry of the validity period of the existing authorisation, in accordance with the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules.”</p>
<p>(za) prepare and submit annual report in Form IV on or before the 30th April of the succeeding year to the Commissioner or Director, Municipal Administration or designated Officer;</p>		<p>Annual Report in Form-IV is being prepared and submitted to the Commissioner/Director, Municipal Administration or the designated officer on or before 30th April of the succeeding year in accordance with the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules.”</p>
<p>(zb) the annual report shall then be sent to the Secretary -in-Charge of the State Urban Development Department or village panchayat or rural development department and to the respective State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee by the 31st May of every year;</p>		<p>The Annual Report, after submission, is forwarded to the Secretary-in-Charge of the State Urban Development Department and to the State Pollution Control Board/Pollution Control Committee by 31st May every year, in accordance with the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules.”</p>
<p>(zc) educate workers including contract workers and supervisors for door to door collection of segregated waste and transporting the unmixed waste during primary and secondary transportation to processing or disposal facility;</p>		<p>Workers including contract workers and supervisors engaged in door-to-door collection are being educated and trained regarding collection of segregated waste and ensuring that the waste remains unmixed during primary as well as secondary transportation to the designated processing or disposal facilities.”</p>
<p>(zd) ensure that the operator of a facility provides personal protection equipment including uniform, fluorescent jacket, hand gloves, raincoats, appropriate foot wear and</p>		<p>It is being ensured that the operator of the facility provides personal protective equipment (PPE) including uniform, fluorescent jackets, hand gloves, raincoats, appropriate footwear and masks to all workers handling solid waste. The workers are also instructed to use the provided protective equipment</p>



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masks to all workers handling solid waste and the same are used by the workforce;		while performing their duties.”
(ze) ensure that provisions for setting up of centers for collection, segregation and storage of segregated wastes, are incorporated in building plan while granting approval of building plan of a group housing society or market complex; and		While granting approval of building plans for group housing societies or market complexes, provisions for setting up centres for collection, segregation and storage of segregated waste are being incorporated as per the Solid Waste Management Rules.”
(zf) frame bye-laws and prescribe criteria for levying of spot fine for persons who litters or fails to comply with the provisions of these rules and delegate powers to officers or local bodies to levy spot fines as per the bye laws framed; and		“Bye-laws have been framed incorporating provisions for levying spot fines on persons who litter or fail to comply with the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules. Powers have also been delegated to designated officers of the Municipal Corporation to impose spot fines in accordance with the prescribed bye-laws
(zg) create public awareness through information, education and communication campaign and educate the waste generators on the following; namely:- (i) not to litter; (ii) minimise generation of waste; (iii) reuse the waste to the extent possible; (iv) practice segregation of waste into bio-degradable, non-biodegradable (recyclable and combustible), sanitary waste and domestic hazardous wastes at source; (v) practice home composting, vermi-composting, bio-gas generation or community level composting; (vi) wrap securely used sanitary waste as and when generated in the pouches provided by the brand owners or a suitable wrapping as prescribed by the local body and place the same in the bin meant for nonbiodegradable waste; (vii) storage of segregated waste at source in different bins; (viii) handover segregated		Public awareness is being created through Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaigns to educate waste generators about proper solid waste management practices. Citizens are being sensitised not to litter, to minimise waste generation, and to promote reuse of waste wherever possible. They are encouraged to practice segregation of waste at source into bio-degradable, non-biodegradable (recyclable and combustible), sanitary waste and domestic hazardous waste. Awareness is also being promoted regarding home composting, vermi-composting, bio-gas generation and community level composting. Waste generators are advised to wrap used sanitary waste securely and dispose of it in the designated bins meant for non-biodegradable waste. They are further instructed to store segregated waste in separate bins and hand it over to authorised waste pickers, waste collectors or agencies engaged by the Municipal Corporation. Citizens are also encouraged to pay the prescribed user charges to ensure sustainability of the solid waste management system.”



waste to waste pickers, waste collectors, recyclers or waste collection agencies; and (ix) pay monthly user fee or charges to waste collectors or local bodies or any other person authorised by the local body for sustainability of solid waste management.		
(zh) stop land filling or dumping of mixed waste soon after the timeline as specified in rule 23 for setting up and operationalisation of sanitary landfill is over;		"Necessary steps are being taken to stop the landfilling or dumping of mixed waste in accordance with the timelines specified under the Solid Waste Management Rules. Efforts are being made to ensure that only residual waste, after proper segregation and processing, is disposed of at the sanitary landfill site."
(zi) allow only the non-usable, non-recyclable, non-biodegradable, non-combustible and non-reactive inert waste and pre-processing rejects and residues from waste processing facilities to go to sanitary landfill and the sanitary landfill sites shall meet the specifications as given in Schedule-I, however, every effort shall be made to recycle or reuse the rejects to achieve the desired objective of zero waste going to landfill;		Only non-usable, non-recyclable, non-biodegradable, non-combustible and non-reactive inert waste, along with pre-processing rejects and residues from waste processing facilities, are being allowed for disposal at the sanitary landfill site. The sanitary landfill site is being maintained in accordance with the specifications prescribed under Schedule-I of the Solid Waste Management Rules. Efforts are also being made to maximise recycling and reuse of waste so as to minimise the quantity of waste going to the landfill and move towards the objective of zero waste to landfill."
(zj) investigate and analyse all old open dumpsites and existing operational dumpsites for their potential of biomining and bio-remediation and wheresoever feasible, take necessary actions to bio-mine or bio-remediate the sites;		"Old open dumpsites and existing operational dumpsites are being investigated and analysed to assess their potential for biomining and bio-remediation. Wherever feasible, necessary actions are being undertaken to carry out biomining and bio-remediation of such sites in accordance with the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules."
(zk) in absence of the potential of bio-mining and bio-remediation of dumpsite, it shall be scientifically capped as per landfill capping norms to prevent further damage to the environment.		In cases where the potential for biomining and bio-remediation of dumpsites is not feasible, such sites are being scientifically capped in accordance with landfill capping norms to prevent further environmental degradation."
Directions issued on Bio-minning by		Action taken report



CPCB/PPCB		
SPCBs/PCCs to provide complete list of Legacy Waste dumpsites in their States/UTs as per format enclosed.		
SPCBs/PCCs to ensure that necessary action for bio mining and bioremediation of these dumpsites is done by the concerned Local Authorities in compliance with provisions of SWM Rules, 2016.		
<p>SPCBs/PCCs shall ensure that concerned Local Authorities engaged in bio mining process of legacy waste follow procedures as per CPCB Guidelines for Disposal of Legacy Waste with specific compliance to the following points,</p> <p>i). Analysis of various screened fraction materials i.e. RDF, fine earth bio earth etc, prior to disposal/utilization.</p> <p>ii). Preparation of plan for utilization/disposal of screened fractions.</p> <p>iii). Adequate provisions for leachate treatment.</p> <p>iv). Maintenance of records/ documents for disposal/utilization of RDFs or fine earth and other materials</p>		
SPCBs/PCCs 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 SWM Rules, 2016 and Hon'ble NGT Directions on the matter are to be adhered to for remediation of these sites.		

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<p>SPCBs/PCCs to ensure that no fresh waste is disposed at these dumpsites and local authorities make proper arrangement for management of fresh solid waste.</p>		
<p>SPCBs to ensure that at least one legacy waste dumpsite is remediated to their jurisdiction which can be considered as model for compliance for other legacy waste dump sites in Non-attainment Cities (NAC).</p>		
<p>Suggestions by Joint Committee</p>		<p>Action taken report</p>
<p>The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall ensure bio-remediation and bio-mining of the existing legacy waste dump sites within its jurisdiction, in compliance with the CPCB directions issued under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1968, dated January 27, 2021 regarding bio-mining of legacy waste.</p>		<p>The Municipal Corporation, Patialahas already bio-remediated earlier 1,76,000 metric ton of legacy waste in first phase and thereafter bio-remediated 48,000 metric ton in second phase which is going to be finished on 14.03.2026 and further the work for bio-remediation of legacy waste of remaining 1,00,000 Mt ton in third phase has been awarded to M/s Call And Fix vide letter bearing no. 1483 dated. 06.03.2026 and the said firm will bio-remediate the remaining legacy waste with in period of 12 months from the date of its execution.</p>
<p>The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall install an appropriate leachate collection and effluent treatment system at the dump site to ensure proper treatment of the leachate prior to disposal.</p>		<p>An estimate is being framed for installation of an appropriate leachate collection and effluent treatment system at the dump site of Municipal Corporation, Patiala to ensure proper collection and treatment of leachate prior to its disposal, in compliance with the Solid Waste Management Rules.”</p>
<p>The Municipal Corporation, patiala shall construct a catch-pit drain around the dump site to ensure proper collection of leachate prior to treatment/disposal.</p>		<p>An estimate is being prepared for construction of a catch-pit drain around the dump site of Municipal Corporation, Patiala to ensure proper collection of leachate prior to its treatment and disposal.”</p>
<p>The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall develop a dense green belt adjoining the cremation ground, with the assistance of the Forest Department and/or the Municipal Corporation Horticulture Department and/or the Municipal</p>		<p>it is submitted that the said work couldn't be completed as the plants could not be preserved due to the uneven and hostile terrain of the dumpsite.</p>

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Corporation Horticulture Department, to minimize odour related issues and to function as a buffer zone.		
The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall ensure the immediate removal of waste dumped towards the cremation ground, prohibit any further dumping at this location, and undertake restoration of the area in compliance with the Solid Waste management Rules. 2016		That the office of the answering respondent has taken approximately 5 acres of land from the complainant Sabha on lease for a period of one year i.e. from 01.01.2026 to 31.12.2026 adjoining the site in dispute/cremation ground for the purpose of processing the remaining legacy waste. Necessary steps are also being taken to ensure removal of waste dumped near the cremation ground, to prohibit any further dumping at the said location and to restore the area in compliance with the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.”
The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall prepare and implement an adequate plan for the disposal and management of the screened fractions accumulated at the site in an environmentally sound manner.		The Municipal Corporation, Patiala is preparing and implementing an adequate plan for the disposal and management of the screened fractions accumulated at the site in an environmentally sound manner, in accordance with the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.”

7. In response to the aforementioned letter and in compliance with the order dated 06.02.2026, the answering respondent, rather than providing a traditional para-wise reply, respectfully submits the following significant points of compliance and status updates:

- A. Water Hydrants: The answering respondent has fully complied with the direction to install water hydrants at the dump site. The necessary apparatus for operation has been laid down, and the hydrants are currently fully functional.
- B. Risk Assessment Study: Regarding the risk assessment study (including on-site and off-site emergency plans), the study conducted by the Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology (TIET), Patiala, has been completed and submitted to the office of

J. Bio-remediation of Legacy Waste: The answering respondent has already bio-remediated 1,76,000 MT of legacy waste in the first phase and 48,000 MT in the second phase (scheduled for completion by 14.03.2026). Furthermore, the contract for the third phase (the remaining 1,00,000 MT) was awarded to M/s Call And Fix vide letter no. 1483 dated 06.03.2026. The firm is mandated to complete the work within 12 months from execution.

K. Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP): While the ETP was previously operational, it recently sustained structural damage due to a collision involving a tipper truck. Repair work is currently underway, and the plant is expected to be fully operational by 31.07.2026.

L. Fencing: Regarding the installation of a peripheral fence, the answering respondent submits that completion has been hindered by the highly uneven terrain of the dumping ground, which rendered standard fencing impractical at this stage.

M. Plantation Work: Similarly, the instructed plantation work faced challenges due to the hostile and uneven terrain of the site, which prevented the successful preservation of saplings.

N. Environmental Compensation: Regarding the direction to pay Rs. 31 Lakhs as Environmental Compensation, the matter has been referred to the Resolution Committee for formal administrative approval..

8. It is most respectfully submitted that the answering respondent has acted with due diligence and has substantially complied with the directions and instructions issued by the Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB), Patiala, as detailed in the preceding paragraphs.



the answering respondent. Comprehensive emergency plans are currently being developed based on the findings and conclusions of this study.

- C. Methane Detectors: The instruction to install methane detectors at the dump site has been fulfilled. All detectors are installed and operational.
- D. Weighbridge: An estimate for the installation of a weighbridge was prepared and subsequently tendered through newspaper publication. Following the opening of bids, the work order has been officially issued.
- E. Site Entry Gate: A gate at the entry to the dump site has been successfully installed by the answering respondent.
- F. Piezometers: In accordance with the instructions to install four piezometers, the answering respondent confirms that all four units have been installed and are in working condition.
- G. CCTV Surveillance: Eight CCTV cameras have been installed at the dump site. All cameras are functional and have been integrated with the Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB), Patiala servers for real-time monitoring.
- H. Solid Waste Authorization: The answering respondent has applied for the Solid Waste Authorization Certificate from the PPCB. All required documents have been uploaded to the official portal, and the final authorization is currently awaited.
- I. Security Personnel: To ensure site security, the answering respondent has appointed four security guards who are currently stationed at the dump site.



14/06/2026

9. In light of the comprehensive remedial measures already undertaken—including the installation of monitoring equipment and the ongoing bio-remediation process—the answering respondent clarifies that nearly all stipulated instructions have been fulfilled. Consequently, it is humbly prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may graciously exempt the answering respondent from the requirement to furnish bank guarantees or pay Environmental Compensation amounting to Rs. 31 Lakhs, as the intent of the environmental restoration is being actively realized.

10. To further demonstrate its commitment, the answering respondent reiterates that it has successfully bio-remediated 1,76,000 MT of legacy waste in the first phase, followed by 48,000 MT in the second phase, which is slated for completion by 14.03.2026. Furthermore, the contract for the third phase, involving the remaining 1,00,000 MT, has already been awarded to M/s Call And Fix vide letter no. 1483 dated 06.03.2026. The said firm is strictly mandated to complete the bio-remediation of the remaining legacy waste within twelve months from the date of execution.

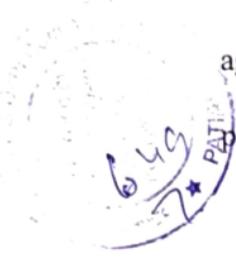
11. The answering respondent has officially awarded the contract for Integrated Solid Waste Management in Patiala to M/s Suntan Life vide letter no. 1475 dated 26.02.2026. This comprehensive project includes door-to-door collection, segregation, transportation, processing, and disposal of fresh waste across all 60 wards of Patiala City. The scope of work also encompasses patrolling, as well as the collection and disposal of silt from municipal drains.

12. To expedite the processing of the remaining legacy waste, the answering respondent has entered into a lease agreement with the complainant Sabha. Under this agreement, the respondent has secured 5 acres of land adjoining



the disputed site/cremation ground for a period of one year, effective from 01.01.2026 to 31.12.2026. This additional space is being utilized specifically to facilitate the bio-remediation and processing of the legacy waste heaps mentioned in the complaint.

13. The Municipal Corporation is steadfastly striving for full compliance with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016. The aforementioned measures—ranging from infrastructure upgrades to the appointment of specialized agencies—are integral components of the Corporation’s time-bound action plan to ensure environmental sustainability and public health.



649
T

14 MAR 2026

Certified that the above statement is made on solemn affirmation before me this 12th day of March 2026 of Patiala District. 649 who has been certified by [Signature] is personally known to me [Signature] No. & year of Register [Signature] Serial No. & date of entry [Signature]

[Signature]

DEPONENT

Joint Commissioner
Municipal Corporation
Patiala.

VERIFICATION:-

Verified at Patiala on this 12th day of March 2026, that

the facts stated in the above affidavit are true to best of my knowledge and belief. No part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

19 MAR 2026

Balkrishan S/O
Dasmesh Kumar, law
Patiala Municipal Corporation
Fronted the deposition
Sh. Sanchar Anand
Pr Supreme Court
of India.

[Signature]
8558866572

[Signature]

DEPONENT

Joint Commissioner
Municipal Corporation
Patiala.

ATTESTED
[Signature]
(GURPARTAP KAUR)
Advocate & Oath Commissioner
PATIALA

19/3/2026

19 MAR 2026

ANNEXURE R-1

Item No.03

Court No. 2

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

Original Application No. 600/2025

Shri Sanatan Dharam Kumar Sabha through
its President Sh. Bal Krishna Singla

Applicant

Versus

State of Punjab & Ors.

Respondents

Date of hearing: 04.12.2025

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR TYAGI, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. AFROZ AHMAD, EXPERT MEMBER**

Applicant: None for the Applicant.

ORDER

1. Shri Sanatan Dharam Kumar Sabha through its President Sh. Bal Krishna Singla, has sent the present letter petition to this Tribunal by post, which has been treated and registered as O.A. No. 600/2025 for exercise of suo moto jurisdiction in view of law laid down by Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai vs. Ankita Sinha, (2022) 13 SCC 401.***

2. The original application has been registered with title in the name of 'Bal Krishan Singla' personally instead of registering the same in the name of 'Shri Sanatan Dharam Kumar Sabha through its President Sh. Bal Krishna Singla' and title of the original application is ordered to be corrected accordingly.

3. The relevant part of the letter petition enumerating grievances of the applicant is reproduced as follows:-

xxx.....xxx.....xxx

“Sub.: Heaps of garbage adjoining Cremation Grounds. Ghalori Gate, Patiala

Hon'ble Sir,

Respectfully stated that the mountain type heaps of garbage has come to everyone's neck intolerable even to cremate the bodies

Please give strict orders to Municipal Corporation, Patiala.”

4. The applicant has enclosed copy of letter with the letter petition. The relevant part of the letter reads as under:-

“Sub.: Request for immediate removal of garbage dump.

Hon'ble Sir,

We are 113 years old an NGO running 17-18 institutions in the service of people of Patiala. To name a few some, Aggarsain Hospital, Apahaj Ashram (for differently abled people), Bal Niketan for orphan School, three community centres, two cremation Grounds etc.

One Cremation Ground at Rajpura Road has no its match in Punjab. Everyone appricates. The another ground situated at Ghalori Gate has become a shame for us. It is so much filled with foul smell as people who come along for cremation, finds difficult to stand. The cremationare controlled by our employees as many people start vomiting and giddiness with foul smell. The reason is Municipal Corporation unloading total city garbage adjoining.

The Corporation has created hell for the people. People living nearby, has demonstrated many times but no effect on deaf ears. Sir, it may lead to some epidemic.

While keeping in mind the people's problem and our concerns, we request you Sir, please relieve us from this unbearable problem.”

5. The applicant has not appeared today personally or through authorized representative.

6. We have gone through the original application and documents enclosed with the same.

7. *Prima facie* the averments made in the application raise substantial questions relating to environment arising out of the implementation of the

enactments specified in Schedule-I to the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

8. In view of the averments in the application, we consider it appropriate to have response of (1) State of Punjab through Principal Secretary, Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of Punjab (2) District Magistrate, Patiala (3) Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB) through Member Secretary (4) Municipal Corporation, Patiala through its Commissioner who stand impleaded as respondents No. 1 to 4. The Registry is directed to prepare and attach memo of parties to the application and issue notices to respondents No. 1 to 4 requiring them to file their replies/responses within one month.

9. In view of the averments made in the application, we also consider it appropriate that a Joint Committee be constituted to verify the factual position and take appropriate remedial action. Accordingly, we constitute a Joint Committee comprising of representatives of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), PPCB and District Magistrate, Patiala and direct the same to meet within two weeks, undertake visits to the site, look into the grievances of the applicant, verify the factual position and take appropriate remedial action by following due course of law and submit its report within one month. The PPCB will be the nodal agency for coordination and compliance.

10. List on 06.02.2026 for further consideration.

11. The applicant may be informed about the next date of hearing fixed and be asked to join the proceedings physically or through V.C. on the date fixed.

12. A copy of this order may be sent to the Member Secretary, CPCB, Member Secretary, PPCB and District Magistrate, Patiala by email for requisite compliance.

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. Afroz Ahmad, EM

December 04th, 2025
Original Application No. 600/2025
AB



// TRUE COPY //

ANNEXURE R-2

Item No. 09

Court No. 2

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

Original Application No. 600/2025

Shri Sanatan Dharam Kumar Sabha through
its President Sh. Bal Krishna Singla

Applicant

Versus

State of Punjab & Ors.

Respondents

Date of hearing: 06.02.2026

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR TYAGI, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. AFROZ AHMAD, EXPERT MEMBER**

Applicant: Mr. Ganesh A. Khemka, Advocate for the Applicant.

Respondents: Ms. Sheenu Priya, Advocate for respondents no. 1 and 2.
Mr. Anant Sangal, Advocate for respondent no. 3.
Ms. Kanwaldeep Kaur, Environment
Mr. Sanchar Anand, Advocate for respondent no. 4.**ORDER**

1. Report of the Joint Committee has been filed by learned counsel for PPCB through forwarding letter dated 02.02.2026.
2. Additional affidavit dated 05.02.2026 has been filed by the Applicant.
3. Learned counsels for respondents no. 1 to 4 seeks six weeks for filing of their responses.
4. Responses by respondents no. 1 to 4 may be filed within six weeks.
5. In their responses, the respondents shall respond to the averments made in the letter petition. Relevant part of which was reproduced by this

Tribunal in order dated 04.12.2025 and additional affidavit dated 17.01.2026 filed by the Applicant.

6. Respondent no. 4 is also directed to mention in its response action taken/contemplated in compliance with Rule 15 (a) to (zl) of the Solid Waste Management Rule, 2016 in tabulated form with categorical response to each of the clauses and also action taken/contemplated for implementation of the suggestions of the Joint Committee and guidelines and directions issued by CPCB and PPCB.

7. In their responses, respondents no. 1 and 2 shall specifically mention action taken/contemplated in compliance of Rule 11 and 12 of the Solid Waste Management Rule, 2016.

8. List on 30.03.2026 for further consideration.

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. Afroz Ahmad, EM

February 06th, 2026
Original Application No. 600/2025
AB



// TRUE COPY //

ANNEXURE R-3**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL****PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI****ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 600 OF 2025****IN THE MATTER OF:-**

Shri Sanatan Dharam Kumar Sabha through its President Sh. Bal Krishna Singla

... APPLICANT

VERSUS

... RESPONDENTS

STATE OF PUNJAB & ORS.

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3	ANNEXURE –II Copy of Photographs taken during site visit	12-13
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Through



Anant Sangal
Advocate for the PPCB
34, Lower Ground Floor, Babar Lane,
Bengali Market, New Delhi-110001
Email ID:- a.anantsangal.a@gmail.com
Mobile No. +91 9911453576

Place:- Delhi

Dated:- 02.02.2026

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

Original Application No.600/2025

Report of Joint Committee, in compliance to Hon'ble NGT order dated 04.12.2025 in Original Application No. 600 of 2025 in the matter of Shri Sanatan Dharam Kumar Sabha through its President Sh. Bal Krishna Singla Versus State of Punjab & Ors.

1.0 Background and the Directions of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal:

In the matter of Original Application No. 600 of 2025, a letter petition has been submitted by Sh. Sanatan Dharam Kumar Sabha through its President Shri Bal Krishna Singla highlighting the dumping of municipal solid waste adjoining the cremation ground at Ghalori Gate, Patiala. Considering the environmental and public health issues raised, the applicant, a long-standing social welfare organization, has alleged that continuous dumping of city garbage by the Municipal Corporation, Patiala has resulted in large garbage heaps, foul odour, and severe inconvenience to mourners and workers at the cremation ground, causing health issues such as nausea and dizziness. Despite repeated representations and public protests, no effective remedial action has been taken. The Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 04.12.2025 in the matter (**Attached as Annexure-1**) directed in Para 08, 09 as reproduced below:

***“Para-08:** In view of the averments in the application, we consider it appropriate to have response of (1) State of Punjab through Principal Secretary, Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of Punjab (2) District Magistrate, Patiala (3) Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB) through Member Secretary (4) Municipal Corporation, Patiala through its Commissioner who stand impleaded as respondents No. 1 to 4. The Registry is directed to prepare and attach memo of parties to the*

application and issue notices to respondents' No. 1 to 4 requiring them to file their replies /responses within one month.

Para-09: *In view of the averments made in the application, we also consider it appropriate that a Joint Committee be constituted to verify the factual position and take appropriate remedial action. Accordingly, we constitute a Joint Committee comprising of representatives of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), PPCB and District Magistrate, Patiala and direct the same to meet within two weeks, undertake visits to the site, look into the grievances of the applicant, verify the factual position and take appropriate remedial action by following due course of law and submit its report within one month. The PPCB will be the nodal agency for coordination and compliance."*

2.0. Compliance of the orders of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal:

2.1. Constitution of the Joint Committee:

In compliance to the Orders of Hon'ble NGT, a Joint Committee comprising of the following members was constituted:

- i. Smt. Ismat Vijay Singh, Additional Deputy Commissioner (UD) (Member nominated by District Magistrate, Patiala)
- ii. Er. Kanwaldeep Kaur, Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Patiala (Member nominated by PPCB and nodal agency)
- iii. Er. Jagdish Prasad Meena, Scientist 'E', CPCB Regional Directorate, Chandigarh (Member nominated by Member Secretary)

2.2. Site Visit by Joint Committee:

The site visit was conducted by the Joint Committee on 06.01.2026. The complainant has raised the following two main issues in its complaint:

- i. Mountain-like heaps of municipal garbage has been dumped by Municipal Corporation, Patiala adjacent to the Ghalori Gate

Cremation Ground, Patiala.

- ii. This causes intense foul smell, making it difficult to perform cremation rituals, with people experiencing vomiting, giddiness, and discomfort.

At the time of the visit, the complainant, Shri Sanatan Dharam Kumar Sabha through its President Shri Bal Krishna Singla, was not present. However, a representative, Shri Jora Singh, Caretaker of the Ghalori Gate Cremation Ground, was present and the Committee interacted with him to understand the issues. Further, two representatives of the Municipal Corporation, Patiala, namely Dr. Navinder Singh, Medical Officer and Sh. Harwinder Singh, Sanitary Inspector, were also present during the site inspection.

2.3 Feedback from the Complainant Sh. Jora Singh:

At the time of visit, Sh. Jora Singh, Caretaker of Cremation Ground, Ghalori Gate informed that the leachate is coming out in the premises of cremation ground from the adjacent dump site, which has destroyed their plants and foul smell makes environment unhealthy, which cause nuisance in the cremation ground.

3.0 Observations of the Committee during site visit 06.01.2026:

1. At the time of the visit, the Committee observed that the Ghalori Gate Cremation Ground is located adjacent to the Municipal Solid Waste dumping ground of Patiala city.
2. During the site visit, the Committee observed a garbage heaps of approximately 20 feet in height along one side of the Ghalori Gate Cremation Ground, abutting the cremation premises.
3. It was further informed by the representative of the Municipal Corporation, Patiala that a part of the cremation ground land has been leased out for carrying out biomining/bioremediation of the legacy waste dumped at the site.
4. During the inspection, the Committee experienced foul smell in the

- vicinity. The cremation ground workers further stated that the odour intensity increases when the wind direction is towards the cremation ground, resulting in discomfort to the persons present at the site.
5. During the visit, the Committee interacted with the representatives of the cremation ground, who informed that leachate generated from the adjacent dumped waste is flowing into the cremation ground premises, and that such leachate discharge has resulted in damage to trees and vegetation within the cremation ground area.
 6. The Committee additionally observed leachate flow and stagnation towards the cremation ground side abutting the dump site. The cremation ground representatives further informed that the volume of leachate increases during the rainy season, and therefore the possibility of leachate runoff entering into the cremation ground premises cannot be ruled out, posing potential environmental and public health concerns.
 7. The Committee observed that the Municipal Corporation, Patiala has not provided any catch pit or leachate collection drain for managing the leachate generated from the dumped solid waste. The committee noted that no leachate collection and treatment system has been installed, and the leachate remains stagnated within the dump site, posing a potential environmental and groundwater contamination risk.
 8. As informed by the Municipal Corporation, Patiala, approximately 2.5 lakh metric tonnes (MT) of legacy waste has been dumped at the site, covering an area of about 8 acres. The biomining/bioremediation work is stated to be carried out through a tendered agency, and it was further informed that around 33,000 MT of legacy waste has been remediated so far.
 9. It was observed that no buffer zone or green belt has been maintained by the Municipal Corporation, Patiala along the boundary abutting the cremation ground and other side, which is essential to

minimize odour nuisance, prevent leachate migration, and mitigate environmental impacts.

10. At the time of the visit, the committee observed that bioremediation and bio-mining processes were carried out at these dump sites. Further, representatives of the Municipal Corporation, Patiala informed that the screened fractions generated from the bioremediation/biomining process, i.e., RDF and other screened fractions, have accumulated at the dump site.
11. Photographs taken during site visit is shown as per **Annexure-II**.

4.0 Action Taken by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) :

4.1. Guidelines and directions issued by CPCB and compliance by SPCBs/PCCs: Guidelines for Disposal of Legacy Waste

CPCB has prepared "Guidelines for Disposal of Legacy Waste (Old Municipal Solid Waste)", February 2019 under the provision of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, as to ensure that concerned Local Authorities engaged in the bio-mining process of legacy waste follow procedures with specific compliance to the following points;

- a) Analysis of various screened fraction materials i.e. RDF, fine earth / bio earth etc., prior to its disposal/utilization.
- b) Preparation of plan for utilization/disposal of screened fractions.
- c) Adequate provisions for leachate treatment.
- d) Maintenance of records / documents for disposal/utilization of the RDFs or fine earth and other materials

4.2 Directions issued on Bio-mining :

CPCB issued Directions under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to all SPCB/ PCCs for bio-mining of legacy waste on 27.1.2021. CPCB had also directed all states to submit the action taken report within 30 days

of issuance of this directions. The following directions were issued for compliance by the SPCBs/PCCs:

1. SPCBs/PCCs to provide complete list of Legacy Waste dumpsites in their States/UTs as per format enclosed.
2. SPCBs/PCCs to ensure that necessary action for bio mining and bioremediation of these dumpsites is done by the concerned Local Authorities in compliance with Provisions of SWM Rules, 2016.
3. SPCBS / PCCs shall ensure that concerned Local Authorities engaged in the bio mining process of legacy waste 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. SPCBs / PCCs 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 SWM Rules, 2016 and Hon'ble NGT Directions on the matter are to be adhered to for remediation of these sites.
5. SPCBs / PCCs to ensure that no fresh waste is disposed at these dumpsites and local authorities make proper arrangement for management of fresh solid waste.
6. SPCBs to ensure that at least one legacy waste dumpsite is remediated in their jurisdiction which can be considered as model for compliance for other legacy Waste dump sites in Non-Attainment Cities (NAC). Copy of the directions on bio-mining of legacy waste is attached as

Annexure-III.

Committee Suggestion:

1. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall ensure bio-remediation and bio-mining of the existing legacy waste dump sites within its jurisdiction, in compliance with the CPCB directions issued under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, dated January 27, 2021, regarding biomining of legacy waste.
2. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall install an appropriate leachate collection and effluent treatment system at the dump site to ensure proper treatment of the leachate prior to disposal.
3. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall construct a catch-pit drain around the dump site to ensure proper collection of leachate prior to treatment/disposal.
4. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall develop a dense green belt adjoining the cremation ground, with the assistance of the Forest Department and/or the Municipal Corporation Horticulture Department, to minimize odour-related issues and to function as a buffer zone.
5. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall ensure the immediate removal of waste dumped towards the cremation ground, prohibit any further dumping at this location, and undertake restoration of the area in compliance with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
6. The Municipal Corporation, Patiala shall prepare and implement an adequate plan for the disposal and management of the screened fractions accumulated at the site in an environmentally sound manner.


Ismat Vijay Singh
Additional Deputy
Commissioner (UD)


Er. Kanwaldeep Kaur
Environmental Engineer,
Regional Office, Patiala


**Er. Jagdish Prasad
Meena**
Scientist 'E',
CPCB, Regional
Directorate, Chandigarh

Item No.03

Court No. 2

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

Original Application No. 600/2025

Shri Sanatan Dharam Kumar Sabha through
its President Sh. Bal Krishna Singla

Applicant

Versus

State of Punjab & Ors.

Respondents

Date of hearing: 04.12.2025

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR TYAGI, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. AFROZ AHMAD, EXPERT MEMBER**

Applicant: None for the Applicant.

ORDER

1. Shri Sanatan Dharam Kumar Sabha through its President Sh. Bal Krishna Singla, has sent the present letter petition to this Tribunal by post, which has been treated and registered as O.A. No. 600/2025 for exercise of suo moto jurisdiction in view of law laid down by Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai vs. Ankita Sinha, (2022)***

13 SCC 401.

2. The original application has been registered with title in the name of 'Bal Krishan Singla' personally instead of registering the same in the name of 'Shri Sanatan Dharam Kumar Sabha through its President Sh. Bal Krishna Singla' and title of the original application is ordered to be corrected accordingly.

3. The relevant part of the letter petition enumerating grievances of the applicant is reproduced as follows:-

xxx.....xxx.....xxx

“Sub.: Heaps of garbage adjoining Cremation Grounds. Ghalori Gate, Patiala

Hon'ble Sir,

Respectfully stated that the mountain type heaps of garbage has come to everyone's neck intolerable even to cremate the bodies

Please give strict orders to Municipal Corporation, Patiala.”

4. The applicant has enclosed copy of letter with the letter petition. The relevant part of the letter reads as under:-

“Sub.: Request for immediate removal of garbage dump.

Hon'ble Sir,

We are 113 years old an NGO running 17-18 institutions in the service of people of Patiala. To name a few some, Aggarsain Hospital, Apahaj Ashram (for differently abled people), Bal Niketan for orphan School, three community centres, two cremation Grounds etc.

One Cremation Ground at Rajpura Road has no its match in Punjab. Everyone appricates. The another ground situated at Ghalori Gate has become a shame for us. It is so much filled with foul smell as people who come along for cremation, finds difficult to stand. The cremationare controlled by our employees as many people start vomiting and giddiness with foul smell. The reason is Municipal Corporation unloading total city garbage adjoining.

The Corporation has created hell for the people. People living nearby, has demonstrated many times but no effect on deaf ears. Sir, it may lead to some epidemic.

While keeping in mind the people's problem and our concerns, we request you Sir, please relieve us from this unbearable problem.”

5. The applicant has not appeared today personally or through authorized representative.

6. We have gone through the original application and documents enclosed with the same.

7. *Prima facie* the averments made in the application raise substantial questions relating to environment arising out of the implementation of the

enactments specified in Schedule-I to the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

8. In view of the averments in the application, we consider it appropriate to have response of (1) State of Punjab through Principal Secretary, Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of Punjab (2) District Magistrate, Patiala (3) Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB) through Member Secretary (4) Municipal Corporation, Patiala through its Commissioner who stand impleaded as respondents No. 1 to 4. The Registry is directed to prepare and attach memo of parties to the application and issue notices to respondents No. 1 to 4 requiring them to file their replies/responses within one month.

9. In view of the averments made in the application, we also consider it appropriate that a Joint Committee be constituted to verify the factual position and take appropriate remedial action. Accordingly, we constitute a Joint Committee comprising of representatives of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), PPCB and District Magistrate, Patiala and direct the same to meet within two weeks, undertake visits to the site, look into the grievances of the applicant, verify the factual position and take appropriate remedial action by following due course of law and submit its report within one month. The PPCB will be the nodal agency for coordination and compliance.

10. List on 06.02.2026 for further consideration.

11. The applicant may be informed about the next date of hearing fixed and be asked to join the proceedings physically or through V.C. on the date fixed.

12. A copy of this order may be sent to the Member Secretary, CPCB, Member Secretary, PPCB and District Magistrate, Patiala by email for requisite compliance.

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. Afroz Ahmad, EM

December 04th, 2025
Original Application No. 600/2025
AB

Photographs taken during the day of visit on 06.01.2026



View of Solid Waste Heap



View of Solid Waste Heap



View of Leachate & dumping of fresh waste at Dump Site



View of Solid Waste Heap



View of Solid Waste Heap & Leachate collection tank



View of Solid Waste Heap towards Cremation Ground



View of Solid Waste Heap



View of Solid Waste Heap



View of Collection of leachate at Cremation Ground sides pits



View stagnation of Leachate and Dry trees at Cremation Ground area



View seepage of Leachate and Dry trees at Cremation Ground



View of weigh bridge for bioremediation trucks



Annexure - III

SPEED POST**Annexure III**

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

F. No. B-11011/UPC-II/MSW(Direction)/2020-21

27 .01.2021

To,

15320-15354

The Chairman,
All SPCBs/PCCs

Direction under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for enforcement of Provisions of Solid Waste Management (SWM) Rules, 2016 regarding bio mining of legacy waste.

WHEREAS, the Central Government has notified the standards for discharge of environmental pollutants from various categories of industries under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the rules framed there under;

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

WHEREAS, under Rule 15(z) of SWM Rules, 2016 local authorities and village Panchayats shall investigate and analyse all old open dumpsites and existing operational dumpsites for their potential of bio-mining and bio-remediation and whosoever feasible, take necessary actions to bio-mine or bio-remediate the sites;

WHEREAS, under Rule 16(a) of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, the State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee shall enforce these rules in their State through local bodies in their respective jurisdiction and review implementation of these rules at least twice a year in close coordination with concerned Directorate of Municipal Administration or Secretary-in-charge of State Urban Development Department;

WHEREAS, remediation of all Dumpsites has to be completed by April 7, 2021 as per Rule 22 of SWM Rules, 2016.

WHEREAS, in compliance of Hon'ble NGT Order dated 16.01.2019 in the matter of OA no. 606/2018, CPCB published Guidelines for Disposal of Legacy waste;

WHEREAS, Hon'ble NGT has issued several Directives on the matter including the following:

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- (i) In OA no. 519/2019, all Chief Secretaries, States/UTs to ensure completion of remediation of dumpsites by October, 2020.
- (ii) In OA no. 53/2020, CPCB to complete inventorization of dumpsites in the Country.
- (iii) In OA no. 593/2017, CPCB to compile information related to Legacy Waste Management and identify gaps thereof.

WHEREAS in compliance with above orders of Hon'ble NGT, several communications dated 14.05.2020, 28.07.20 & 31.07.2020 have been issued by CPCB to States/UTs to provide requisite information on the matter.

WHEREAS complete information on the matter is yet to be received from all States/UTs.

WHEREAS, CPCB officials inspected dumpsites in various States where bioremediation of legacy waste is being carried out and made the following observation:

- i. Most of the ULBs engaged in the bio mining process of the legacy waste not following CPCB Guidelines on disposal of legacy waste.
- ii. Analysis of different screened fractions is not being carried out prior to disposal/utilization.
- iii. Poor quality of screen fractions and screened fractions not being lifted by the users.
- iv. Adequate plan for disposal of screened fractions at the dumpsites not prepared and screened fractions accumulated on site.
- v. No leachate treatment being carried out and stagnation of leachate noticed at the dumpsites.
- vi. Records/documents for the sale of the RDFs, inerts and other materials not maintained.
- vii. Fresh Solid Waste continued to be dumped at these dumpsites.

WHEREAS, vide Order dated 21-8-2020 in the matter of OA no. 681/2018, Hon'ble NGT directed CPCB to issue fresh Direction in this regard to all the State PCBs/ PCCs to coordinate with concerned Local Authorities for further Action in the matter. Further, as per the Hon'ble NGT's Direction, at least one site is to be remediated and made a model of compliance in each of the 122 Non-Attainment Cities;

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NOW THEREFORE, in view of the above and in exercise of powers delegated to the Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the following directions are issued for compliance:

1. SPCBs/PCCs to provide complete list of Legacy Waste dumpsites in their States/UTs as per format enclosed.
2. SPCB/PCCs to ensure that necessary action for biomining and bio-remediation of these dumpsites is done by the concerned Local Authorities in compliance with Provisions of SWM Rules, 2016.
3. SPCBs/PCCs shall ensure that concerned Local Authorities engaged in the bio mining process of legacy waste 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. SPCBs/PCCs shall ensure that the local bodies prepare time targeted Action Plan for biomining /bio-remediation of these dumpsites in compliance with points listed above. The timelines as specified in SWM Rules, 2016 and Hon'ble NGT Directions on the matter are to be adhered to for remediation of these sites.
5. SPCBs/PCCs to ensure that no fresh waste is disposed at these dumpsites and local authorities make proper arrangement for management of fresh solid waste.
6. SPCBs to ensure that at least one legacy waste dumpsite is remediated in their jurisdiction which can be considered as model for compliance for other legacy waste dumpsites in Non-Attainment Cities (NAC).

SPCBs/PCCs are hereby directed to submit action taken report within **30 days** from receipt of these Directions.



(Shiv Das Meena)
Chairman

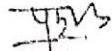
Copy to:

1. **Joint Secretary (CP),**
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,
Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jorbagh Road,
New Delhi-110003

: For necessary information pls

2. ✓ **DH- IT Division, CPCB**

: For uploading on website pls


✓ **(Prashant Gargava)**
Member Secretary 



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