

**Jammu and Kashmir  
Pollution Control Committee**

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Transport Nagar, Jammu, 180 006

Silk Factory Road  
Rajbagh, Srinagar, 190 008

**The Consultant (Judicial),  
Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, (P.B)  
New Delhi.**

No. JKPCC/NGT/OA 1070-2024/ 4047-48.

Dt. 27-11-2024.

**Sub: - Report on behalf of Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee pursuant to Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Order dated 20-08-2024 in O.A No. 1070/2024 News item titled "Plastic Pollution poses threat to Kashmir's Great Lakes trek" appearing in the Rising Kashmir dated 09.08.2024."**

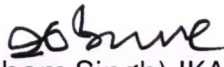
Sir,

In compliance to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal **20-08-2024 in O.A No. 1070/2024 News item titled "Plastic Pollution poses threat to Kashmir's Great Lakes trek"**, the Report of J&K Pollution Control Committee is submitted herewith.

It is therefore, requested that the report may kindly be taken on record and placed before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal for consideration.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: (As above)

  
(Ghansham Singh) JKAS  
Member Secretary  
JKPCC, Jammu 27.11.24

**Copy to the: -**

1. Sh. G.M Kawoosa, Additional Standing Counsel, Supreme Court of India / Hon'ble NGT New Delhi, for information and necessary action. This is in reference to Govt. of J&K Order No. 15387-JK(LD) of 2024 Dated 03-09-2024.

**3**  
**Before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal**  
**Principal Bench, New Delhi**

Original Application No. **1070 of 2024**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**“Plastic Pollution poses threat to  
Kashmir's Great Lakes trek”.**

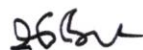
Report on behalf of Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee pursuant to Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Order dated 20-08-2024 in O.A No. 1070/2024 News item titled “Plastic Pollution poses threat to Kashmir's Great Lakes trek” appearing in the Rising Kashmir dated 09.08.2024.”

**Background:**

That the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi vide Order dated **20-08-2024** in **OA No. 1070 of 2024** directed as follows:-

*“The news item relates to the rising pollution in the seven Great Lakes trek in Central Kashmir's Ganderbal district. As per the news item, the pollution crisis is due to the irresponsible disposal of plastic by trekkers. The news item states that the plastic bottles and polythene bags are being discarded in pristine areas, contaminating the environment and contributing to the lakes' deterioration.”*

*“The news item highlights that the affected lakes include Vishansar, Gadsar, Gangabal, and Satsar, where trekking activities are at their peak. News item also stated that trekkers are leaving behind significant amounts of plastic waste, which is tarnishing the natural beauty of these sites.”*



*“Furthermore, Vishansar, situated at the foothills of the mountains and approximately 30 km from the tourist spot Sonamarg, is one of the lakes drawing numerous visitors each year. News item also highlighted that the Kashmir Great Lakes Trek, which includes treks to lakes such as Krishnasar, Gangabal, Satsar, and Gadsar, offers both short and long trekking options for experienced adventurers. However, the increasing pollution threatens to undermine the natural allure that makes these treks so popular.”*

*“The news item raises substantial issue relating to compliance of provisions of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 and the Environment Protection Act, 1986.”*

### **Status Report:**

In compliance to the directions of Hon’ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi, issued on **20-08-2024** in **OA No. 1070 of 2024**, the report of the J&K Pollution Control Committee is as follows:

1. Regional Director, Pollution Control Committee, Kashmir was requested to submit a comprehensive factual report w.r.t plastic waste littering on Kashmir Great Lakes Trek in Central Kashmir Ganderbal District Vide this office No. JKPCC/NGT/OA /1070 /2024 /1314; dated 09.11.2024 **(Copy enclosed as Annexure-1)**.
2. Regional Director, Pollution Control Committee, Kashmir has submitted the report vide No. PCC/RDK/LS(NGT)/2024/228-29; dated 22.11.2024 **(Copy enclosed as Annexure-2)**.

Highlight the reports are briefed as under:

- a) The Great Lakes Trek is situated at the foot hills of mountains far away from Sonamarg Tourist Spot.
- b) The Trek is inaccessible at present due to snowfall.

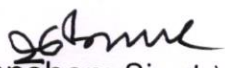
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- c) However plastic waste littering was noticed at the starting point of the trek.
- d) Legal notices have been issued to Block Development Officers Gund & Kangan in Ganderbal District vide No. JKPCC/ROK/LS/MSW/2024/672-74; dated 14.10.2024 by Regional Director, Pollution Control Committee, Kashmir (**Copy enclosed as Annexure-3**).
- e) Legal notice was also issued to Sonamarg Development Authority vide No. PCC/ROK/LS/MSW/2024/678-80; dated 14.10.2024 by Regional Director, Pollution Control Committee, Kashmir (**Copy enclosed as Annexure-4**).

The response from Block Development Officers Gund & Kangan & Sonamarg Development Authority is awaited.

### **Prayer:**

In the premises, it is therefore respectfully prayed that the report may kindly be taken on record before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal for consideration.

  
(GhanSham Singh)  
Member Secretary  
J&K PCC 27.10.24



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**ITUW TSA**  
NEW DELHI 2024

**URGENT**

**Regional Director,  
J&K Pollution Control Committee,  
Kashmir.**

**No:** JKPC/NGT/OA/1070/2024/1314

**Date:** 9-11-2024

**Sub:** O.A No. 1070/2024 News item titled "Plastic pollution poses threat to Kashmir's Great Lakes trek" appearing in the Rising Kashmir dated 09.08.2024.

**Ref:** Hon'ble NGT order dated 20.08.2024.

Sir,

Please refer to the subject & reference cited above. In this connection, I am to convey that Hon'ble NGT vide its order dated 20.08.2024 has made following observations in O.A No. 1070/2024 News item titled "Plastic pollution poses threat to Kashmir's Great Lakes trek" appearing in the Rising Kashmir dated 09.08.2024.

*"The news item relates to the rising pollution in the seven Great Lakes trek in Central Kashmir's Ganderbal district. As per the news item, the pollution crisis is due to the irresponsible disposal of plastic by trekkers. The news item states that the plastic bottles and polythene bags are being discarded in pristine areas, contaminating the environment and contributing to the lakes' deterioration."*



*"The news item highlights that the affected lakes include Vishansar, Gadsar, Gangabal, and Satsar, where trekking activities are at their peak. News item also stated that trekkers are leaving behind significant amounts of plastic waste, which is tarnishing the natural beauty of these sites."*

*marked  
a*

*"Furthermore, Vishansar, situated at the foothills of the mountains and approximately 30 km from the tourist spot Sonamarg, is one of the lakes drawing numerous visitors each year. News item also highlighted that the Kashmir Great Lakes Trek, which includes treks to lakes such as Krishnasar, Gangabal, Satsar, and Gadsar, offers both short and long trekking options for experienced adventurers. However, the increasing pollution threatens to undermine the natural allure that makes these treks so popular."*

In the light of above, you are requested to submit a comprehensive factual report w.r.t Plastic waste littering on Kashmir Great Lakes Trek in Central Kashmir's Ganderbal District by or before **20.11.2024** for further needful action as case is listed for hearing on 28.11.2024.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Ghansham Singh) JKAS  
Member Secretary 9.11.24  
J&K PCC  




Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
J&K POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR - KASHMIR

Sheikh-ul-Alam Campus, Rajbagh, Near Government Silk Factory, Srinagar-190008  
[www.jkspcb.in](http://www.jkspcb.in) Email: [regionaldirectorkmr@gmail.com](mailto:regionaldirectorkmr@gmail.com), Tel/fax 0194-2311842

The Member Secretary,  
Pollution Control Committee,  
Jammu.

No: PCC/RDK/LS (NGT)/2024/ 228-29

Date:- 22-11-24

**Subject: - O.A No. 1070/2024 News item titled "Plastic pollution poses threat to Kashmir's Great Lakes trek" appearing in the Rising Kashmir dated 09-08-2024.**

**Reference: - Your letter No. JKPC/NGT/OA/1070/2024/1314 dated 09-11-2024.**

Sir,

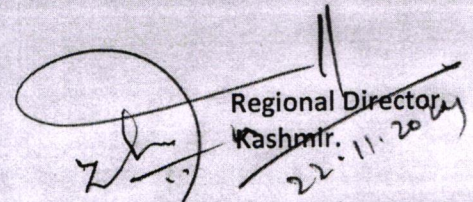
In context with the subject and reference cited above, I am to convey that inspection have been carried out by the Divisional Officer, PCC, Ganderbal to verify issue relates to the rising plastic pollution and littering of plastic waste in the Great Lakes Trek in Central Kashmir's Ganderbal District and on perusal of the report as submitted by the concerned Divisional Officer (copy whereof is enclosed for reference), it has surfaced that the Great Lakes Trek actually situated nearby the foot hills is far away from mountaineous area of Ganderbal's Sonamarg Tourist Resort. has been found presently snowbound and could not be accessible as such, the littering of plastic waste in the area of concern has not been ruled out though as verified by the inspection team, it is said that plastic waste has been witnessed scattered on the starting spot of the laky trek.

More so, a detailed report with respect to plastic waste pollution in Ganderbal district stand already submitted by the DO concerned in response to compliance status in **OA No. 1046/2024 titled News item appearing in India.com dated 27-07-2024 titled, "Saving Kashmir Brown Bears is a Race Against Time Wildlife SOS and J & K Wildlife Protection Department take Challenge."** Legal notices were issued to concerned Block Development Officers and the matter has been sent to the concerned District Magistrate vide No. PCC/DO/Gbl/plastic waste/2024/251-254 dated 19-08-2024 (copy whereof enclosed) for remedial action to mitigate plastic waste pollution in the whole Ganderbal District. Hence, submitted for kind perusal and further course of action required in the matter please.

Encls:- A/a.

Copy to:-

1. Divisional Officer, PCC, Ganderbal for information. This takes reference to the report submitted vide No. PCC/DO/GBL/2024/315 dated 21-11-2024.

  
Regional Director,  
Kashmir.  
22.11.2024



Jammu & Kashmir Pollution Control Committee  
District Office Ganderbal-Kashmir  
*Beehama Chowk near J&K Bank Ltd*

Regional Director,  
Pollution Control Committee,  
Kashmir

No. PCC/DO/Gbl/2024/315

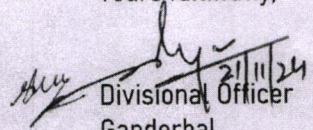

Date: 21/11/2024.

Subject: O.A No. 1070/2024 News item titled "Plastic pollution poses threat to Kashmir's Great Lakes trek" appearing in the Rising Kashmir dated 09-08-2024.  
Reference: No PCC/RDK/LS(NGT)/2024/210-11 dated 13-11-2024.

Sir,

Apropos to the subject and reference cited above, it is submitted that the Great lakes trek is situated at the foot hills of mountains far away from sonamarg tourist spot and at present due to the winter season, the area is inaccessible and snow bound. However, the plastic waste littering cannot be ruled out as the inspecting team visited upto the starting point of the trek and found plastic waste scattered (Photograph enclosed). It is pertinent to mention here that this office has already submitted a detailed report on plastic waste pollution in District Ganderbal in O.A No. 1046/2024 titled news item appearing in india.com dated 27-07-2024 and legal notices issued to Block Development officer, Gund/Kangan vide no. JKPC/ROK/LS/MSW/2024/675-77 dated 14-10-2024. The matter has also been highlighted with the Addl. Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal vide no. PCC/DO/Gbl/plastic waste/2024/251-254 dated 19-08-2024. (Copy enclosed).

Yours faithfully,

  
21/11/24.  
Divisional Officer  
Ganderbal  


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Jammu & Kashmir Pollution Control Committee  
 District Office Ganderbal-Kashmir  
 Beehama Chowk near J&K Bank Ltd

Addl. Deputy Commissioner  
 Ganderbal

No. PCC/DO/Gbl/Plastic waste/2024/251-254 Date 19/08/2024.

Subject: Urgent request for addressing Plastic Waste Pollution in the District Ganderbal.  
 Reference: This office earlier letter No. JKPCC/DO/Gbl/24/65, dated 18-04-2024.

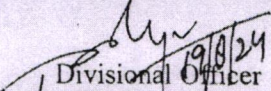
Sir,

Apropos to the subject and reference cited above, your kind attention is requested to an ongoing issue of plastic waste pollution within our District, which has been a concern that has been previously highlighted. Today's local newspaper (Greater Kashmir) has featured an alarming news item titled "Sindh Nallah polluted, trout habitat threatened in Ganderbal" regarding the worsening situation of plastic waste in various parts of the District. The news item outlines significant environmental and health impacts caused by the proliferation of plastic waste, including its detrimental effects on local water bodies, soil quality, and wildlife.

In light of this urgent matter, it is respectfully requested your esteemed office to take cognizance of the report and direct the concerned officers (MCs/ULBs) under your jurisdiction to take cognizance of this issue and initiate measures to mitigate the effects of plastic waste pollution in the whole District. Addressing this issue with the urgency it demands, will not only improve the environmental health of our District but also enhance the quality of life.

Encl: (News paper cutting).

Yours faithfully,

  
 19/08/24  
 Divisional Officer  
 Ganderbal

Copy to the:

1. Regional Director, JKPCC Kashmir for information and necessary action pl.
2. Assistant Commissioner, Development, Ganderbal for information and necessary action please.
3. CEO, MC Ganderbal for information & necessary action.

**J&K POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE**  
**OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR - KASHMIR**  
 Sheikh-ul-Alam Campus, Rajbagh, Near Government Silk Factory, Srinagar-190008  
www.jkpcc.jkg.net.in Email: [regionaldirectorkmr@gmail.com](mailto:regionaldirectorkmr@gmail.com), Tel/fax 0194-2311842

Block Development Officer,  
 Gund/Kangan,  
 Ganderbal Kashmir.

Legal Notice  
 (By Regtd. Post)

No:- JKPC/ROK/LS/MSW/2024/672-74

Dated:- 14-10-24

**Subject:- Notice for initiating legal action under Environmental Laws**

- Whereas, Municipal Solid Waste is to be collected, transported and disposed of in accordance with Solid Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 2016 framed by the Government in exercise of powers conferred under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
  - Whereas, the JK Pollution Control Committee Ganderbal was conducted a joint inspection, and on sport verification at the site, the report submitted by the District Officer, Pollution Control Committee, Ganderbal has revealed that the Solid Waste Management shed constructed by Rural Development Department at Surfraw-B Block Gund Kangan, but during inspection the solid waste was found scattered in the premises without any treatment and safe disposal. The shed constructed for treatment purpose are being used as stores for waste bins and furniture. Further at Ganiwan, Block Gund Kangan dumps of unsanitary and illegal solid waste found on the banks of River Sindh near Bridge, which is detrimental and harmful to the environment, the human life and the water body as well.
  - Whereas, this practice of unsanitary/unscientific dumping and disposal of solid waste onto the specified areas is in contravention to the Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) besides being violation of the relevant environmental laws as referred hereinbefore, which is an offence and attracts the legal action prescribed in the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- Now, therefore, in light of the above, you are hereby directed to remove this unsanitary solid waste/ legacy waste from the specified locations and dispose of the same in the scientific landfill site consented by the J & K Pollution Control Committee as per the Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules and ensure zero waste as well as stoppage of throwing of legacy waste with a complete ban on illegal dumping of waste onto the banks of rivers and submit compliance within 15-days from date of issuance of the present notice. In the event of your failure to do the needful within notice period, action shall become obvious in the matter and JK Pollution Control Committee at liberty to proceed further as per the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) directions and the Municipal Solid Waste Management & Handling) Rules, 2016.

Copy to:

1. Solid Waste Management JKPC.Srinagar for information.
2. District Officer, PCC, Ganderbal, for information and submit follow up report within notice period.

Regional Director,  
 Kashmir

Annex-4

J&K POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE  
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR - KASHMIR  
Sheikh-ul-Alam Campus, Rajbagh, Near Government Silk Factory, Srinagar-190008  
[www.jkpcc.jkg.net.in](http://www.jkpcc.jkg.net.in) Email: [regionaldirectorkmr@gmail.com](mailto:regionaldirectorkmr@gmail.com), Tel/fax 0194-2311842

Sonamarg Development Authority,  
Sonamarg, Ganderbal,  
Kashmir.

Legal Notice  
(By Regd. Post)

No: PCC/ROK/LS/MSW/2024/678-80

Date:- 14-10-24.

**Subject:- Notice for initiating legal action under Environmental Laws**

- Whereas, Municipal Solid Waste is to be collected, transported and disposed of in accordance with Solid Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 2016 framed by the Government in exercise of powers conferred under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
  - Whereas, no solid waste dumping/nor solid waste treatment facility can be established and put in operation without mandatory consent of this Pollution Control Committee and without proper pollution control devices/ pollution control measures as envisaged under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
  - Whereas, on spot verification the report submitted by the District Officer, Pollution Control Committee, Ganderbal has revealed that the Solid Waste Management Plant at Sarbal Sonamarg, was lacks of the collection, storage facility as per the Solid waste Management Rules. The solid waste found dumped within the premises in open without any segregation and proper storage/facility, which is violation of Solid Waste Management Rules and harmful to the environment.
  - Whereas, this practice of unsanitary/unscientific dumping and disposal of solid waste at the specified area is in contravention to the Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) besides being violation of the relevant environmental laws as referred hereinbefore, which is an offence and attracts the legal action prescribed in the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- Now, therefore, in light of the above, you are hereby directed to remove this unsanitary solid waste/ legacy waste from the specified location and dispose of the same in the scientific/proper treatment as per the Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules and submit compliance within 15-days from date of issuance of the present notice. In the event of your failure to do the needful within notice period, action shall become obvious in the matter and Pollution Control Committee is at liberty to proceed further as per the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) directions and the Municipal Solid Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 2016.

Copy to:

1. I/c Solid Waste Management, JKPC Srinagar for information.
2. District Officer, Pollution Control Committee, Ganderbal, for information and submit the action taken report in the matter within notice period.

Regional Director,  
Kashmir.

**J&K POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE**  
**OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR - KASHMIR**  
*Sheikh-ul-Alam Campus, Rajbagh, Near Government Silk Factory, Srinagar-190008*  
[www.jkpcc.jkg.net.in](http://www.jkpcc.jkg.net.in) Email: [regionaldirectorkmr@gmail.com](mailto:regionaldirectorkmr@gmail.com), Tel/fax 0194-2311842

Block Development Officer,  
Gund/Kangan,  
Ganderbal Kashmir.

Legal Notice  
(By Regtd. Post)

No:- JKPC/ROK/LS/MSW/2024/675-77

Dated:- 14-10-24

**Subject:- Notice for initiating legal action under Environmental Laws**

- Whereas, Municipal Solid Waste is to be collected, transported and disposed of in accordance with Solid Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 2016 framed by the Government in exercise of powers conferred under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- Whereas, the JK Pollution Control Committee Ganderbal was conducted a joint inspection and on sport verification at the site, the report submitted by the District Officer, Pollution Control Committee, Ganderbal has revealed that the Solid Waste Management shed constructed by Rural Development Department at Surfraw-B Block Gund Kangan, but during inspection the solid waste was found scattered in the premises without any treatment and safe disposal. The shed constructed for treatment purpose are being used as stores for waste bins and furniture. Further at Ganiwan, Block Gund Kangan dumps of unsanitary and illegal solid waste found on the banks of River Sindh near Bridge, which is detrimental and harmful to the environment, the human life and the water body as well.
- Whereas, this practice of unsanitary/unscientific dumping and disposal of solid waste onto the specified areas is in contravention to the Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) besides being violation of the relevant environmental laws as referred hereinbefore, which is an offence and attracts the legal action prescribed in the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Now, therefore, in light of the above, you are hereby directed to remove this unsanitary solid waste/ legacy waste from the specified locations and dispose of the same in the scientific landfill site consented by the J & K Pollution Control Committee as per the Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules and ensure zero waste as well as stoppage of throwing of legacy waste with a complete ban on illegal dumping of waste onto the banks of rivers and submit compliance within 15-days from date of issuance of the present notice. In the event of your failure to do the needful within notice period, action shall become obvious in the matter and JK Pollution Control Committee is at liberty to proceed further as per the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) directions and the Municipal Solid Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 2016.

Regional Director,  
Kashmir.

Copy to:

1. I/c Solid Waste Management, JKPC Srinagar for information.
2. District Officer, PCC, Ganderbal, for information and submit follow up report within notice period.