

**Jammu and Kashmir
Pollution Control Committee**

chairman87jkspcb@gmail.com
membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com
0191 – 2472881, 2476925



Parivesh Bhavan, Forest Complex
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 826-2024/ **1231-1232**

Date: **15** -10-2024.

Sub: - Report on behalf of Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee pursuant to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal Order dated 16.07.2024 passed in OA No. 826 of 2024 titled "Pillars of Ravi-Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar River of Samba"

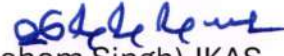
Sir,

In compliance to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal **Order dated 16.07.2024 passed in OA No. 826 of 2024 titled "Pillars of Ravi-Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar River of Samba"**, 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 **15-10-24**
JKPCC, Jammu

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.

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

Original Application No. 826 of 2024

IN THE MATTER OF

News item titled "Pillars of Ravi-Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar River of Samba"

Report on behalf of Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee pursuant to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal Order dated 16.07.2024 passed in OA No. 826 of 2024 titled "Pillars of Ravi-Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar River of Samba"

Background:

That the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal vide Order dated **16-07-2024** in OA No. 826 of 2024 directed as follows:-

- 1. The matter relates to unabated mining taking place in various parts of Jammu and Kashmir. As per the article, large scale mining is taking place along the various rivers and water bodies of Kathua and Samba districts in Jammu region and Ganderbal district in Kashmir Valley. It is alleged that this illegal mining has led to environmental hazards and affected the flora and fauna of the region.*
- 2. The news item highlights that in various parts of Kathua and Samba districts, the water has depleted in rivers and it has been a cause of concern for the local people living nearby these rivers as their hand pumps have dried up due to the water level going considerably low in the rivers. Furthermore, it is claimed that due to the lack of checking, the mafia at various places have even started digging near the abutments of bridges in the rivers posing a*

threat to them. It states that even the soil from Kahcharai land which is meant for grazing is being sold illegally.

3. The news item further alleges that fifteen people have died due to accidents caused by vehicles carrying mining materials in the last three years as there is no checking of the vehicles carrying double the load of their capacity. .

4. The above matter indicates violation of Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines 2016 and Environment Protection Act, 1986.

5. The news item raises substantial issue relating to compliance of the environmental norms and implementation of the provisions of scheduled enactment

Status Report:

In compliance to the order of the Hon'ble NGT dated **16-07-2024** in **OA No. 826 of 2024**, the report of the J&K Pollution Control Committee is as under:

1. Two 3 members Joint Committees of officers of J&K Pollution Control Committee was constituted for both Jammu and Kashmir divisions separately with the direction to visit the affected areas and furnish comprehensive reports alongwith recommendations vide order No. JKPCC/NGT/OA/826/2024/283-289; dated: 30.07.2024 & No. JKPCC/NGT/OA/826/2024/290-293; dated 30.07.2024 respectively (copy enclosed as **Annexure-1 & 2**) with following Terms of Reference:
 - i. To ascertain the scale of mining activity taking place along rivers & other water bodies of Kathua / Samba Districts, specifically in the vicinity of river – Tawi Canal Bridge & Railway Bridge.
 - ii. To assess the environmental impact caused by illegal activities, if found to be carried out in respective jurisdiction.

- iii. To ascertain the exact cause of depletion of water level specifically ground water level in respective areas.
 - iv. To assess the damage caused to bridges / pillars due to illegal mining activities.
 - v. To ascertain the cause of death of 15 people due to accidents caused by overloaded mining vehicles (as pointed out in NGT order).
 - vi. To assess the scale of violation of sustainable sand mining guidelines 2016 & the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
2. Similarly, the Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Deputy Commissioner Samba and Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal were also requested to share the status report with respect to the observation of the Hon'ble NGT. The Director, Geology and Mining Department J&K was also requested to share the status report with respect to the observation of the Hon'ble NGT as per the communications with Nos and dates indicated against each in the below mentioned table.

Stakeholders Departments/organizations	Refences of the communication	Annexure
Deputy Commissioner, Kathua	i. JKPCC/NGT/OA/826/2024/277-279; dated: 30.07.2024. ii. JKPCC/NGT/OA/826/2024/744; dated: 02.09.2024. iii. JKPCC/NGT/OA/826/2024/1037; dated: 21.09.2024. iv. JKPCC/NGT/OA/826/2024/106-107; dated: 05.10.2024	Annexure 3
Deputy Commissioner, Samba	i. JKPCC/NGT/OA/826/2024/280-282; dated: 30.07.2024.	Annexure 4

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. JKPCC/NGT/OA/826/2024/743; dated: 02.09.2024. iii. JKPCC/NGT/OA/826/2024/1036; dated: 21.09.2024. iv. JKPCC/NGT/OA/826/2024/102- 103; dated: 05.10.2024. 	
Director, Department of Geology & Mining Jammu/ Kashmir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. JKPCC/NGT/OA/826/2024/270; dated: 30.07.2024. ii. JKPCC/NGT/OA/826/2024/734; dated: 28.08.2024. iii. JKPCC/NGT/OA/826/2024/1093; dated: 27.09.2024. 	Annexure 5
Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. JKPCC/NGT/OA/826/2024/742; dated: 02.09.2024. ii. JKPCC/NGT/OA/826/2024/104-105; dated: 05.10.2024. 	Annexure 6
Chief Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Department, Jammu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. JKPCC/NGT/OA/826/2024/739; dated: 30.08.2024. ii. JKPCC/NGT/OA/826/2024/1035 dated: 21.09.2024 iii. JKPCC/NGT/OA/826/2024/96; dated: 04.10.2024. 	Annexure 7

3. The Joint Committees constituted by the J&K Pollution Control Committee have submitted their reports (Copies appended as **Annexure 8 and 9**).

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Highlights of the report submitted by the Committee constituted Kashmir Division (District Ganderbal) are as under:

- a) There are two minor mineral blocks, which are e-auctioned and are in operation for mining activities. Details as under:

Name of Mining Block	Maximum targeted extraction as per EC and Consent issued by JKPC	Quantity Extracted till date (Geology & Mining Department)
Block No. 04 (Arch Bridge downstream Sindh river Village Arch, Ganderbal)	72000 MT/Annum	Nallah Bajri=645849.79 cft Nallah Boulder= 1502880.34 cft Nallah Muck=694758.37 ft Sand=8205.41 cft Total=2851693.91cft or 71292.35 MT
Block No. 08 (Wussan Bridge upstream Brahmansar Nar, Wussan Kangan, Ganderbal)	36000 MT/Annum	Nallah Muck=690286.98 cft Nallah Boulder= 580072.6 cft Nallah Bajri=3588.63 cft Sand=200 cft Total=1274148.21cft or 31853.71MT

The Committee has made following observations after site visit of these two blocks:

- a) The blocks are not demarcated properly. No sign board has been installed in both the blocks.
- b) The excavation work is not being done to the extent of river bed only, but near the bank also. The permissible distance has not been left from the river banks during mining activity to maintain safety and stability of river bank i.e, 03 meters or 10 % of the width of the river

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whichever is more, has not been left intact as no mining zone. (Photographs enclosed).

- c) The depth of sand mining at some spots has been seen exceeding the permissible limits viz., 01 metre, which has increased, beyond the height of banks and there are chances of collapse of the river banks.
- d) No buffer zone with plantation has been witnessed on the peripheries of the rivers/ nallahs. The targeted plantation as mentioned in Environmental Clearance (EC) granted which is of 2500 in number in one hectare of area in consultation with locals / public committees, has not been fulfilled.
- e) Excavation in excess at some spots has been witnessed causing degradation of river bed. Bed degradation is responsible for channel shifting, causing loss of properties and degradation of landscape, it can also undermine bridge supports, pipelines or other structures.
- f) The unscientific mining taking place in these blocks has caused bed degradation, erosion of the peripheries, uprooting of plants along the banks.
- g) It has been observed that though there is no visible damage to the bridges, possibility of any future damage to the bridges near Arch village in block No. 4 and bridge near Wussan in block No. 08 cannot be ruled out.

Highlights of the report submitted by the Committee constituted Jammu Division (Districts Samba & Kathua) are as under:

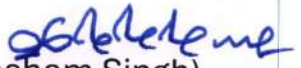
- a) There are no recent signs of mining in the area along the rivers / other water bodies of Kathua / Samba near Pillars of Ravi Tawi Canal bridge and Railway bridge.
- b) No recent mining activity reported.

25/6/22

However, status reports from the Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Samba, Ganderbal, Chief Engineer, Jal Shakti Department (PHE) and Director Geology and Mining J&K, are 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

15.10.
24

Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee

Parivesh Bhavan, Forest Complex || Silk Factory Road
Transport Nagar, Jammu, 180 006 || Rajbagh, Srinagar, 190 008

Tel - 0191-2476927; mail - membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com

Subject: Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Order dated 16-07-2024 in OA No. 826/2024 News item titled "Pillars of Ravi - Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.07.2024.

Reference: Hon'ble NGT order dated 16-07-2024.

ORDER

Whereas, the subject case has arisen out on account of the News item titled "**Pillars of Ravi - Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge** exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.07.2024.

Whereas, the Hon'ble NGT, while taking Suo-Moto cognizance of the matter and hearing the case on 16-07-2024, directed for filing of response at least one week before the next date of hearing in the case and the case has been listed on 16-10-2024.

Now therefore, in view of the aforesaid reasons, a Committee of the following officers of J&K Pollution Control Committee, is hereby constituted to visit the affected area and furnish a comprehensive report along with recommendations: -

- 1) **Sh. Angrej Singh AEE, Technical Officer**
- 2) **Sh. Hansraj Singh Galoach, AEE, DO, Samba South/ Sh. S.K Tripathi, JEE, DO, Kathua for respective Districts.**
- 3) **Sh. Mukesh Singh Bali, Scientist 'A', JKPC.**

Terms of References (TORs)

- 1) To ascertain the scale of mining activity taking place along rivers & other water bodies of Kathua / Samba Districts, specifically in the vicinity of Ravi-Tawi Canal Bridge & Railway Bridge.
- 2) To assess the environmental impact caused by illegal mining activities, if found to be carried out in respective jurisdiction.
- 3) To ascertain the exact cause of depletion of water level specifically ground water level in respective areas.

25/6/24

- 4) To assess the damage caused to bridges / pillars due to illegal mining activities.
- 5) To ascertain the cause of death of 15 people due to accidents caused by overloaded mining vehicles (as pointed out in NGT order).
- 6) To assess the scale of violation of sustainable sand mining guidelines 2016 & the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

The Committee after spot visit shall furnish a comprehensive report along with photographs and specific recommendations within a week's time positively.

Ghansham Singh
(Ghansham Singh) JKAS
Member Secretary 30.7.24
J&K PCC

No: JKPCC/NGT/OA/826/2024/283-289

Date: 30-07-2024

Copy to:

1. Deputy Commissioner, Kathua for information.
2. Deputy Commissioner, Samba for information.
3. Regional Director, J&K PCC, Jammu for information & necessary action.
4. Sh. Angrej Singh AEE, Technical Officer for information and necessary action.
5. Sh. Hansraj Singh Gahloch, AEE, DO, Samba South for information and necessary action.
6. Sh. S.K Tripathi, JEE, DO, Kathua for information and necessary action.
7. Sh. Mukesh Singh Bali, Scientist 'A', JKPCC for information and necessary action.

Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee

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Tel - 0191-2476927; mail - membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com

Subject: Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Order dated 16-07-2024 in OA No. 826/2024 News item titled "Pillars of Ravi - Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar River of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.07.2024.

Reference: Hon'ble NGT order dated 16-07-2024.

ORDER

Whereas, the subject case has arisen out on account of the News item titled "Pillars of Ravi - Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.07.2024, and

Whereas, the Hon'ble NGT, while taking Suo-Moto cognizance of the matter and hearing the case on 16-07-2024, directed for filing of response at least one week before the next hearing in the case and the case has been listed on 16- 10-2024.

Now therefore, in view of the aforesaid reasons, a Committee of the following officers of J&K Pollution Control Committee is hereby constituted to visit the affected area and furnish a comprehensive report along with recommendations: -

- 1) **Sh. Abhijeet Joshi, Regional Director Kashmir**
- 2) **Sh. Bashir Wani, Sc. 'B' Central Office, JKPC.**
- 3) **Sh. Mohd. Ayoub Ahanger, JEE, DO, JKPC, Ganderbal.**


Terms of References (TORs)

- 1) To ascertain the scale of mining activity taking place along rivers & other water bodies of Kathua / Samba districts, specifically in the vicinity of Ravi-Tawi Canal Bridge & Railway Bridge.
- 2) To assess the environmental impact caused by illegal mining activities, if found to be carried out in respective jurisdiction.

26/07/24

- 3) To ascertain the exact cause of depletion of water level specifically ground water level in respective areas.
- 4) To assess the damage caused to bridges / pillars due to illegal mining activities.
- 5) To ascertain the cause of death of 15 people due to accidents caused by overloaded mining vehicles (as pointed out in NGT order).
- 6) To assess the scale of violation of sustainable sand mining guidelines 2016 & the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

The Committee after spot visit shall furnish a comprehensive report along with photographs and specific recommendations within a week's time, positively.


(Ghansham Singh) JKAS
Member Secretary 30.7.24
J&K PCC

No: JKPCC/NGT/OA/826/2024/ 290-293

Date: 30-07-2024

Copy to:

1. Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal for information.
2. Regional Director, J&K PCC, Kashmir for information & necessary action.
3. Sh. Bashir Wani, Sc. 'B' Central Office, JKPCC for information and necessary action.
4. Sh. Mohd. Ayoub Ahanger, JEE, DO, JKPCC, Ganderbal for information and necessary action

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Tel - 0191-2476927; mail - membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com

Deputy Commissioner,
Kathua

No.: JKPCC/Sc./OA- 826/2024/277-279

Date: 30-07-2024

Sub: Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Order dated 16-07-2024 in OA No. 826/2024 News item titled "Pillars of Ravi - Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar River of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.07.2024.


Sir

Please refer to the subject captioned above. In this connection, I am to convey that Hon'ble NGT Principal Bench New Delhi in the aforesaid O.A. vide its order date 16.07.2024 (copy enclosed) have made following observations :

1. Unabated Mining taking place along the various Rivers/ Water Bodies of Kathua & Samba Districts in Jammu region and Ganderbal District in Kashmir valley.
2. It is claimed that due to the lack of checking, the mafia at various places have even started digging near the abutments of bridges in the rivers posing a threat to them.
3. Even the soil from Kahcharai, land meant for grazing, is being sold illegally.
4. News item further alleges that fifteen people have died due to accidents caused by vehicles carrying mining materials in the last three years as there is no checking of the vehicles carrying double the load of their capacity.
5. Matter indicates violations of Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines 2016 and Environment Protection Act, 1986.

You are therefore, requested to kindly share a status report in the matter on the observations made by the Hon'ble NGT to the J&K PCC by or before 20.08.2024.

Yours Sincerely,


(Ghansham Singh)JKAS
Member Secretary
JK PCC

30.7.24

Copy to :-

- 1) The Divisional Commissioner, Jammu for favour of information.
- 2) Director, Geology and Mining Department, J&K, for information.

Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee

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Tel - 0191-2476927; mail - membersecretaryjkpcb@gmail.com

Deputy Commissioner,
Kathua.

No.: JKPCC/Sc./OA- 826/2024/744

Date: 2-09-2024

Sub: Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Order dated 16-07-2024 in OA No. 826/2024 News item titled "Pillars of Ravi - Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.07.2024.


Sir,

Kindly refer to this office letter No. JKPCC/Sc./OA-826/2024/277-279;dt. 30.07.2024, wherein you have been requested to share a status report in the said matter w.r.t observations made by Hon'ble NGT as under:

1. Unabated Mining taking place along the various rivers/ water bodies of Kathua & Samba districts in Jammu region and Ganderbal district in Kashmir valley.
2. It is claimed that due the lack of checking the mafia at various places have even started digging near the abutments of bridges in the rivers posing a threat to them.
3. Even the soil from Kahcharai, land meant for grazing, is being sold illegally.
4. News item further alleges that fifteen people have died due to accidents caused by vehicles carrying mining materials in the last three years as there is no checking of the vehicles carrying double the load of their capacity.
5. Matter indicates violation of Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines 2016 and Environment Protection act, 1986.

As such, you are again requested to expedite and share the requisite status report with JKPCC by or before **05.09.2024**.

Yours Sincerely,


(Ghansham Singh)JKAS
Member Secretary
2.9.24

**Jammu and Kashmir
Pollution Control Committee**

chairman87jkspcb@gmail.com
membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com

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Transport Nagar, Jammu, 180 006

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Rajbagh, Srinagar, 190 008

The Deputy Commissioner,
Kathua.

No.: JKPCC/Sc./OA- 826/2024/1037

Date: 21-09-2024

Sub: Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Order dated 16-07-2024 in OA No. 826/2024 News item titled "Pillars of Ravi – Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.07.2024.


Sir,

Please refer to this office letter No. **JKPCC/Sc/OA-826/2024/277-279** dated **30-07-2024**, followed by reminder dated **02-09-2024** (copies enclosed), wherein request was made to share status / comments on certain issues raised in aforesaid O.A relating to the illegal mining along rivers / water bodies, especially digging near the abutments of the bridges causing threat to them also leading to environmental hazards in the region.

The status report in the matter is awaited, which may please be expedited and shared to the J&K PCC as the same is to be incorporated in the compliance report to be filled by the J&K PCC before the Hon'ble NGT. The case has been listed on **16-10-2024**.

Yours Sincerely,

Encl: As above.


(Ghansham Singh) JKAS
Member Secretary 21-9-24
J&K PCC

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**Deputy Commissioner,
Kathua.**

No.: JKPC/Sc./OA- 826/2024/106-07

Date: 05.10.2024

Sub: Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Order dated 16-07-2024 in OA No. 826/2024 News item titled "Pillars of Ravi – Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.07.2024.


Sir,

Please refer this office letter No. JKPC/Sc./OA-826/2024/744 dated 02.09.2024 & JKPC/Sc./OA-826/2024/1037 dated 21.09.2024, on the subject captioned above. In this connection, I am to convey that the status report in the matter is awaited which may kindly be expedited and shared to the J&K PCC on the following points:-

- i) Illegal mining along rivers / water bodies in the District.
- ii) Digging near the abutments of the bridges, if any in the District.
- iii) Illegal selling of Kahcharai land, if any in the District.
- iv) Number of Deaths, if any taken place due to the accidents caused by vehicles carrying mining material during the last 3 years.

The status report may be shared by or before **07.10.2024**, as case is listed for hearing before the Hon'ble NGT on 15.10.2024 and J&K PCC has to file compliance/status report well before the next date of hearing.

Yours faithfully,


(Ghansham Singh)JKAS
Member Secretary 5.10.24

Copy to the:-

1. Senior Superintendent of Police, Kathua for information and similar necessary action.



Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee

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Transport Nagar, Jammu, 180 006 || Rajbagh, Srinagar, 190 008
Tel - 0191-2476927; mail - membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com

Deputy Commissioner,
Samba.

No.: JKPC/Sc./OA- 826/2024/ 280-282

Date: 30-07-2024

Sub: Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Order dated 16-07-2024 in OA No. 826/2024 News item titled "Pillars of Ravi - Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar River of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.07.2024.


Sir

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1. Unabated Mining taking place along the various Rivers/ Water Bodies of Kathua & Samba Districts in Jammu Region and Ganderbal District in Kashmir valley.
2. It is claimed that due to the lack of checking, the mafia at various places have even started digging near the abutments of bridges in the rivers posing a threat to them.
3. Even the soil from Kahcharai, land meant for grazing, is being sold illegally.
4. News item further alleges that fifteen people have died due to accidents caused by vehicles carrying mining materials in the last three years as there is no checking of the vehicles carrying double the load of their capacity.
5. Matter indicates violations of Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines 2016 and Environment Protection Act, 1986.

You are therefore, requested to kindly share a status report in the matter on the observations made by the Hon'ble NGT to the J&K PCC by or before 20.08.2024.

Yours Sincerely,


(Ghansham Singh)JKAS
Member Secretary 30.7.24
JK PCC

Copy to :-

- 1) The Divisional Commissioner, Jammu for favour of information.
- 2) Director, Geology and Mining Department, J&K, for information.

Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee

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Tel - 0191-2476927; mail - membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com

Deputy Commissioner,
Samba.

No.: JKPCC/Sc./OA- 826/2024/743

Date: 2 09-2024

Sub: Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Order dated 16-07-2024 in OA No. 826/2024 News item titled "Pillars of Ravi - Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.07.2024.


Sir,

Kindly refer to this office letter No. JKPCC/Sc./OA-826/2024/280-282;dt. 30.07.2024, wherein you have been requested to share a status report in the said matter w.r.t observations made by Hon'ble NGT as under:

1. Unabated Mining taking place along the various rivers/ water bodies of Kathua & Samba districts in Jammu region and Ganderbal district in Kashmir valley.
2. It is claimed that due the lack of checking the mafia at various places have even started digging near the abutments of bridges in the rivers posing a threat to them.
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4. News item further alleges that fifteen people have died due to accidents caused by vehicles carrying mining materials in the last three years as there is no checking of the vehicles carrying double the load of their capacity.
5. Matter indicates violation of Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines 2016 and Environment Protection act, 1986.

As such, you are again requested to expedite and share the requisite status report with JKPCC by or before **05.09.2024**.

Yours Sincerely,


(Ghansham Singh)JKAS
Member Secretary 2.9.24

**Jammu and Kashmir
Pollution Control Committee**

chairman87jkspcb@gmail.com
membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com

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Rajbagh, Srinagar, 190 008

The Deputy Commissioner,
Samba.

No.: JKPCC/Sc./OA- 826/2024/1036

Date: 21-09-2024

Sub: Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Order dated 16-07-2024 in OA No. 826/2024 News item titled "Pillars of Ravi – Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.07.2024.

Sir,

Please refer to this office letter No. **JKPCC/Sc/OA-826/2024/280-82** dated **30-07-2024**, followed by reminder dated **02-09-2024** (copies enclosed), wherein request was made to share status / comments on certain issues raised in aforesaid O.A relating to the illegal mining along rivers / water bodies, especially digging near the abutments of the bridges causing threat to them also leading to environmental hazards in the region.

The status report in the matter is awaited, which may please be expedited and shared to the J&K PCC as the same is to be incorporated in the compliance report to be filled by the J&K PCC before the Hon'ble NGT. The case has been listed on **16-10-2024**.

Yours Sincerely,

Encl: As above.

mailed

Ghansham Singh
(Ghansham Singh) JKAS
Member Secretary *21.9.24*
J&K PCC



**Deputy Commissioner,
Samba.**

No.: JKPC/Sc./OA- 826/2024/102-103

Date: 05-10-2024

Sub: Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Order dated 16-07-2024 in OA No. 826/2024 News item titled "Pillars of Ravi – Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.07.2024.


Sir,

Please refer this office letter No. JKPC/Sc./OA-826/2024/743 dated 02.09.2024 & JKPC/Sc./OA-826/2024/1036 dated 21.09.2024, on the subject captioned above. In this connection, I am to convey that the status report in the matter is awaited which may kindly be expedited and shared to the J&K PCC on the following points:-

- i) Illegal mining along rivers / water bodies in the District.
- ii) Digging near the abutments of the bridges, if any in the District.
- iii) Illegal selling of Kahcharai land, if any in the District.
- iv) Number of Deaths, if any taken place due to the accidents caused by vehicles carrying mining material during the last 3 years.

The status report may be shared by or before **07.10.2024**, as case is listed for hearing before the Hon'ble NGT on 15.10.2024 and J&K PCC has to file compliance/status report well before the next date of hearing.

Yours faithfully,


(Ghansham Singh)JKAS
Member Secretary 5.10.24

Copy to the:-

1. Senior Superintendent of Police, Samba for information and similar necessary action.



Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee

Parivesh Bhavan, Forest Complex || Silk Factory Road
Transport Nagar, Jammu, 180 006 || Rajbagh, Srinagar, 190 008
Tel - 0191-2476927; mail - membersecretaryjkpcb@gmail.com

Director,
Department of Geology & Mining
Jammu / Kashmir.

No.: JKPC/Sc./OA- 826/2024/ 270

Date: 30-07-2024

Sub: Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Order dated 16-07-2024 in OA No. 826/2024 News item titled "Pillars of Ravi - Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.07.2024.

Sir

Please refer to the subject captioned above. In this connection, Hon'ble NGT vide order date 16.07.2024 (copy enclosed) has made observations as under:

1. Unabated Mining taking place along the various rivers/ water bodies of Kathua & Samba districts in Jammu region and Ganderbal district in Kashmir valley.
2. It is claimed that due the lack of checking the mafia at various places have even started digging near the abutments of bridges in the rivers posing a threat to them.
3. Even the soil from Kahcharai, land meant for grazing, is being sold illegally.
4. News item further alleges that fifteen people have died due to accidents caused by vehicles carrying mining materials in the last three years as there is no checking of the vehicles carrying double the load of their capacity.
5. Matter indicates violation of Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines 2016 and Environment Protection act, 1986.

As such, you are requested to provide the status in respect of observations briefed above to J&KPC by or before **24.08.2024**. The case is listed for hearing on 16.10.2024.

Yours Sincerely,


(Ghansham Singh)JKAS

Member Secretary

30.7.24

Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee

Parivesh Bhavan, Forest Complex || Silk Factory Road
Transport Nagar, Jammu, 180 006 || Rajbagh, Srinagar, 190 008
Tel - 0191-2476927; mail - membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com

Director,
Department of Geology & Mining
Jammu / Kashmir.

No.: JKPCC/Sc./OA- 826/2024/ 734

Date: 28-08-2024

Sub: Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Order dated 16-07-2024 in OA No. 826/2024 News item titled "Pillars of Ravi - Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.07.2024.

Sir,

With reference to this office No. JKPCC/Sc./OA826/2024/270; dt. 30.07.2024, information w.r.t observations pointed out by Hon'ble NGT, viz., unabated mining along various rivers / water bodies of Kathua & Samba in Jammu region and Ganderbal in district of Kashmir, lack of checking the Mafia digging near the abutments of bridges in the rivers, illegal sale of soil from Kahcharai, death of fifteen people due to mining vehicles & violation of sustainable sand mining guidelines 2016 is still awaited, which may be expedited and shared with this office by or before **02.09.2024** for further submission of compliance Report to Hon'ble NGT.

Yours Sincerely,


(Ghansham Singh)JKAS
Member Secretary 28-8-24

**Jammu and Kashmir
Pollution Control Committee**

chairman87jkspcb@gmail.com
membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com

0191 – 2472881, 2476925



Parivesh Bhavan, Forest
Complex
Transport Nagar, Jammu,
180 006
Silk Factory Road
Rajbagh, Srinagar, 190 008

25

**Director,
Department of Geology & Mining,
Jammu & Kashmir.**

No.: JKPCC/Sc./2024/1093

Date: 27-09-2024

Sub: Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Order dated 16-07-2024 in O.A No. 826/2024 News item titled "Pillars of Ravi-Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02-07-2024.

Ref: Hon'ble NGT order dated 16-07-2024

Sir,

Please refer to this office letter No. JKPCC/Sc./OA-826/2024/1036 dated 21-09-2024, on the subject cited above. In this connection, I am to convey that Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 16-07-2024 in O.A 826/2024 "Pillars of Ravi-Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" (copy enclosed) has pointed out that:-


- 1) Unabated Mining taking place along the various rivers/water bodies of Kathua & Samba districts in Jammu region and **Ganderbal District in Kashmir valley.**
- 2) It is claimed that due the lack of checking the mafia at various places have even started digging near the abutments of bridges in the rivers posing a threat to them.
- 3) News item further alleges that fifteen people have died due to accidents caused by vehicles carrying mining material in the last three years as there is no checking of the vehicles carrying double the load of their capacity.
- 4) Matter indicates violation of Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines 2016 and Environment Protection act, 1986

As such, you are requested to share the factual status report with J&K PCC so that compliance may be filed to Hon'ble NGT well in time.

The case is listed for hearing on 16-10-2024.

Yours faithfully,

mailed


(Ghansham Singh) JKAS
Member Secretary

27.9.24

Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee

Parivesh Bhavan, Forest Complex || Silk Factory Road
Transport Nagar, Jammu, 180 006 || Rajbagh, Srinagar, 190 008
Tel - 0191-2476927; mail - membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com

Deputy Commissioner,
Ganderbal

No.: JKPC/Sc./OA- 826/2024/ 742

Date: 2-09-2024

Sub: Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Order dated 16-07-2024 in OA No. 826/2024 News item titled "Pillars of Ravi - Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.07.2024.

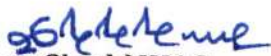
Sir,

Please refer to the subject captioned above. In this connection, I am to convey that Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 16.07.2024 (copy enclosed) has made observations as under:

- 1) *Unabated Mining taking place along the various rivers/ water bodies of Kathua & Samba districts in Jammu region and **Ganderbal district in Kashmir valley.***
- 2) *It is claimed that due the lack of checking the mafia at various places have even started digging near the abutments of bridges in the rivers posing a threat to them.*
- 3) *News item further alleges that fifteen people have died due to accidents caused by vehicles carrying mining materials in the last three years as there is no checking of the vehicles carrying double the load of their capacity.*
- 4) *Matter indicates violation of Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines 2016 and Environment Protection act, 1986.*

As such, you are requested to provide the status in respect of observations briefed above to J&KPC by or before **05.09.2024**. The case is listed for hearing on 16.10.2024.

Yours Sincerely,


(Ghansham Singh)JKAS 2.9.24
Member Secretary

**Jammu and Kashmir
Pollution Control Committee**

chairman87jkspcb@gmail.com
membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com

0191 – 2472881, 2476925



PariveshBhavan, Forest
Complex
Transport Nagar, Jammu, 180
006
Silk Factory Road
Rajbagh, Srinagar, 190 008

**Deputy Commissioner,
Ganderbal.**

No.: JKPCC/Sc./OA- 826/2024/104-105

Date: 05-10-2024

Sub: Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Order dated 16-07-2024 in OA No. 826/2024 News item titled "Pillars of Ravi – Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.07.2024.

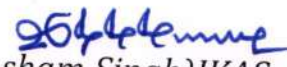
Sir,

Please refer this office letter No. JKPCC/Sc./OA-826/2024/742 dated 02.09.2024 & JKPCC/Sc./OA-826/2024/1034 dated 21.09.2024, on the subject captioned above. In this connection, I am to convey that the status report in the matter is awaited which may kindly be expedited and shared to the J&K PCC on the following points:-

- i) Illegal mining along rivers / water bodies in the District.
- ii) Digging near the abutments of the bridges, if any in the District.
- iii) Illegal selling of Kahcharai land, if any in the District.
- iv) Number of Deaths, if any taken place due to the accidents caused by vehicles carrying mining material during the last 3 years.

The status report may be shared by or before **07.10.2024**, as case is listed for hearing before the Hon'ble NGT on 15.10.2024 and J&K PCC has to file compliance/status report well before the next date of hearing.

Yours faithfully,


(Ghansham Singh)JKAS
Member Secretary 5.10.24

Copy to the:

1. Senior Superintendent of Police, Ganderbal for information and similar necessary action.



Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee

Parivesh Bhavan, Forest Complex || Silk Factory Road
Transport Nagar, Jammu, 180 006 || Rajbagh, Srinagar, 190 008
Tel - 0191-2476927; mail - membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com

Chief Engineer,
Jal Shakti (PHE) Department,
Jammu.

No.: JKPCC/Sc./OA- 826/2024/739

Date: 30-08-2024

Sub: Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Order dated 16-07-2024 in OA No. 826/2024 News item titled "Pillars of Ravi - Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.07.2024.

Ref: NGT order dated 16.07.2024.

Sir,

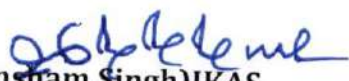
Please refer to the subject and reference captioned above. In this connection, I am to convey that Hon'ble NGT in its order dated 16.07.2024, (copy enclosed) has pointed out that

"The matter relates to unabated mining taking place in various parts of Jammu and Kashmir. As per the article, large scale mining is taking place along the various rivers and water bodies of Kathua and Samba districts in Jammu region and Ganderbal district in Kashmir Valley. It is alleged that this illegal mining has led to environmental hazards and affected the flora and fauna of the region."

"The news item highlights that in various parts of Kathua and Samba districts, the water has depleted in rivers and it has been a cause of concern for the local people living nearby these rivers as their hand pumps have dried up due to the water level going considerably low in the rivers. Furthermore, it is claimed that due to the lack of checking, the mafia at various places have even started digging near the abutments of 2 bridges in the rivers posing a threat to them. It states that even the soil from Kahcharai land which is meant for grazing is being sold illegally."

In the light of above, you are requested to share a brief status report with J&KPCC by or before 05.09.2024.

Yours Sincerely,


(Ghansham Singh)JKAS
Member Secretary

24.8.24

**Jammu and Kashmir
Pollution Control Committee**

chairman87jkspcb@gmail.com
membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com

0191 – 2472881, 2476925



Parivesh Bhavan, Forest Complex
Transport Nagar, Jammu, 180 006

Silk Factory Road
Rajbagh, Srinagar, 190 008

Chief Engineer,
Jal Shakti (PHE) Department,
Jammu.

No.: JKPC/Sc./OA- 826/2024/1035

Date: 21-09-2024

Sub: Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Order dated 16-07-2024 in OA No. 826/2024 News item titled "Pillars of Ravi – Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.07.2024.


Sir,

Please refer to this office letter No. **JKPC/Sc/OA-826/2024/739** dated **30-08-2024** (copy enclosed), wherein request was made to share status / comments on certain issues raised in aforesaid O.A relating to the illegal mining along rivers / water bodies, especially digging near the abutments of the bridges causing threat to them also leading to environmental hazards in the region.

The status report in the matter is awaited, which may please be expedited and shared to the J&K PCC as the same is to be incorporated in the compliance report to be filled by the J&K PCC before the Hon'ble NGT. The case has been listed on **16-10-2024**.

Encl: As above.

Yours Sincerely,


(Ghansham Singh) JKAS
Member Secretary 21.9.24
J&K PCC



30

**Jammu and Kashmir
Pollution Control Committee**chairman87jkspcb@gmail.com
membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com

0191 - 2472881, 2476925

Parivesh Bhavan, Forest
Complex
Transport Nagar, Jammu,
180 006
Silk Factory Road
Rajbagh, Srinagar, 190 008**Chief Engineer,
Jal Shakti (PHE) Department,
Jammu.****No.: JKPCC/Sc./OA- 826/2024/96****Date: 04-10-2024****Sub: Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Order dated 16-07-2024 in OA No. 826/2024 News item titled "Pillars of Ravi - Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.07.2024.****Ref: i) JKPCC/Sc./OA-826/2024/739; dated 30.08.2024.
ii) JKPCC/Sc./OA-826/2024/1035; dated 21.09.2024.****Sir,**

With reference to this office letter No. JKPCC/Sc./OA-826/2024/739; dated 30.08.2024 & JKPCC/Sc./OA-826/2024/1035; dated 21.09.2024, on the subject captioned above, no information has been received till now.

You are therefore, again requested to expedite the status report w.r.t certain issues raised in aforesaid O.A pertaining to your department, viz., depletion of water in rivers, drying of hand pumps due to low water levels, digging along the abutments of bridges.

The status report may be submitted to this office by or before **07.10.2024** as the case has been listed for hearing on 16.10.2024.

Yours faithfully,

Ghansham Singh
(Ghansham Singh)JKAS
Member Secretary 4.10.24

to

marked B



Government of Jammu and Kashmir
 J&K Pollution Control Committee
 Office of the Regional Directorate Kashmir
 email: regionaldirectorkmr@gmail.com



The Member Secretary,
 JKPCC Jammu.

No. Pccck/wm/2024/43-44

Dated: 07-10-2024

Subject:- Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, order dated 16-07-2024 in OA No. 826/2024 News item titled "Pillars of Ravi – Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.07.2024.

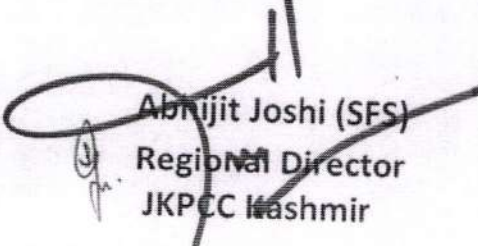
Ref: 1. Order No. JKPCC/NGT/OA/826/2024/290-293; dated: 30-07-2024
 2. JKPCC/Sc./OA-826/2024/716 dated 14-08-2024

Sir,

In compliance to the order in reference kindly find enclosed a comprehensive report with recommendations for further necessary action at your end please.

Yours faithfully,

Gmll (AA)


 Abhijit Joshi (SFS)
 Regional Director
 JKPCC Kashmir

Comprehensive report on illegal Sand Mining in District Ganderbal

In compliance to the order no. JKPC/SC/OA-826/2024/716 dated 14-08-2024 a team of officers of JKPC under the supervision of Regional Director JKPC Kashmir conducted a visit of district Ganderbal on 21-08-2024 for spot verification of sand mining activity carried out in the said district. The observations recorded are given as below:-

1. There are two minor minerals blocks which are e-auctioned and are in operation for mining. The minor minerals are excavated and the total quantity excavated till date as per Geology and Mining Department against the permitted quantity is detailed as under:-

Name of Block	Maximum targeted extraction as per EC and Consent issued by JKPC	Quantity Extracted till date (Geology and Mining Department)
Block No. 04 (Arch Bridge downstream Sindh river village Arch, Ganderbal)	72000 MT/ Annum	Nallah Bajri=645849.79 cft Nallah Boulder=1502880.34 cft Nallah Muck=694758.37 cft Sand=8205.41 cft Total = 2851693.91 cft or 71292.35 MT
Block No. 08 (Wussan Bridge upstream Brahmansar Nar, Wussan Kangan, Ganderbal)	36000 MT/ Annum	Nallah Muck=690286.98 cft Nallah Boulder=580072.6 cft Nallah Bajri=3588.63 cft Sand=200 cft Total= 1274148.21 cft or 31853.71 MT

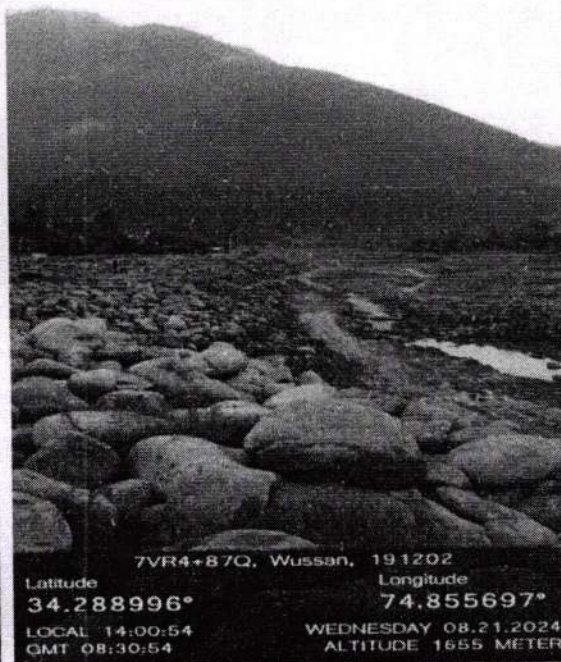
The on spot observations of these two blocks are as under:

- a) The blocks are not demarcated properly. No sign board has been found installed in both the blocks.
- b) The excavation work is not being done to the extent of river bed only but near the banks also. The permissible distance has not been left from the river banks during mining activity to maintain safety and stability of river banks i.e. 03 metres or 10% of the width of the river whichever is more has not been left intact as no mining zone. Photographs enclosed.

By



Mining near banks in block no. 04



Mining near banks in block no. 08

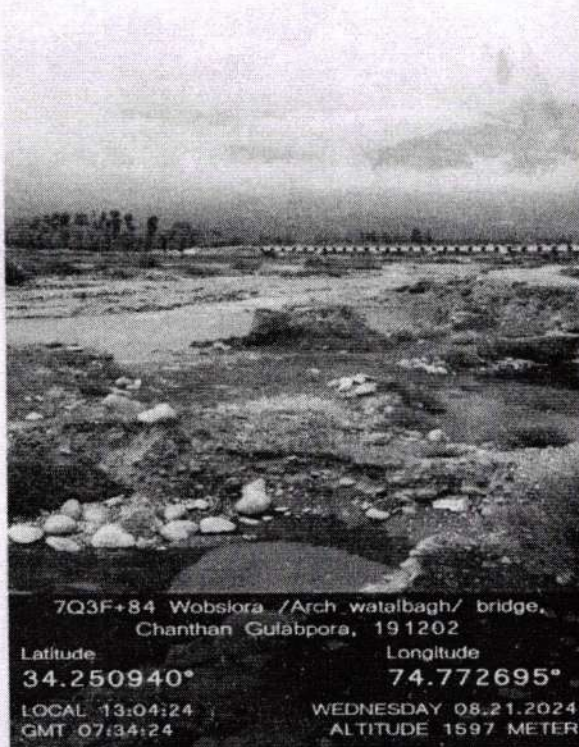


Mining near banks in block no. 08

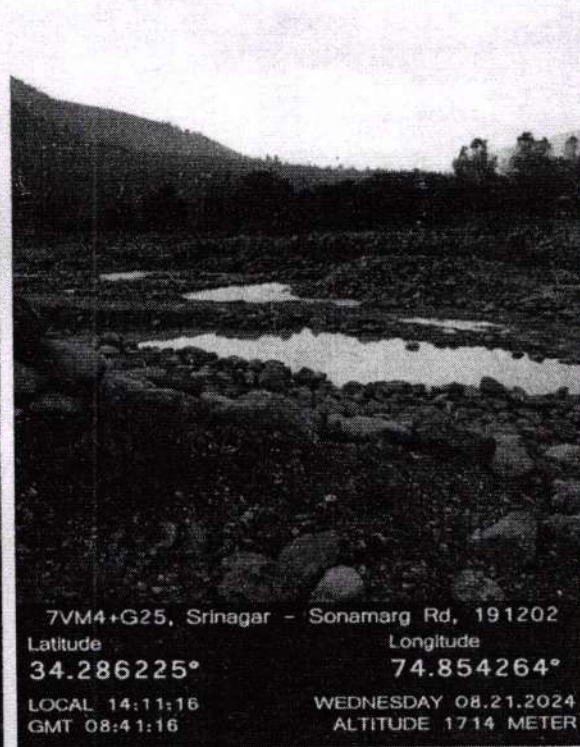
- c) The depth of sand mining at some spots has been seen exceeding the permissible limits viz. 01 metre which has increased the height of banks and there are chances of collapse of the river banks.

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- d) No buffer zone with plantation has been witnessed on the peripheries of the rivers/ nallahs. The targeted plantation as mentioned in EC granted which is of 2500 in no. in 01 hectare of area in consultation with locals/ public committees has not been fulfilled.
- e) Excavation in excess at some spots has been witnessed causing degradation of river bed. Degradation may change the morphology of the river bed, which constitutes one aspect of the aquatic habitat. Bed degradation is responsible for channel shifting, causing loss of properties and degradation of landscape, it can also undermined bridge supports, pipelines or other structures. Photographs enclosed.



River Bed degradation in block no. 04

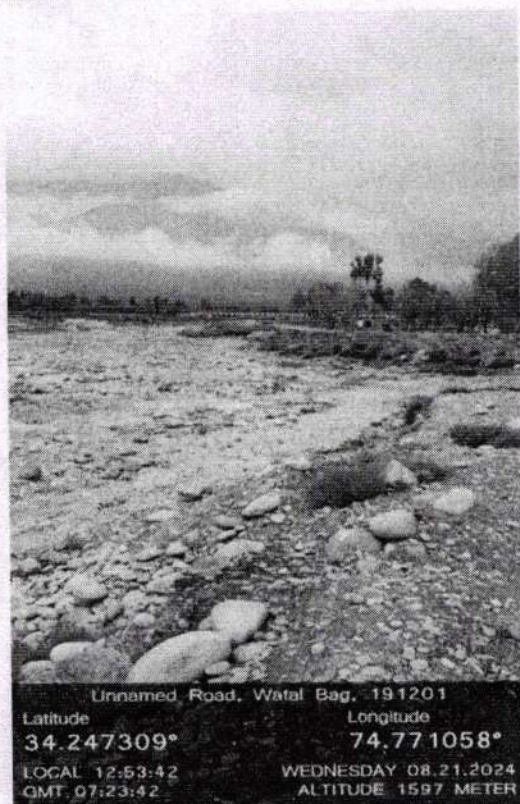


River Bed degradation in block no. 08

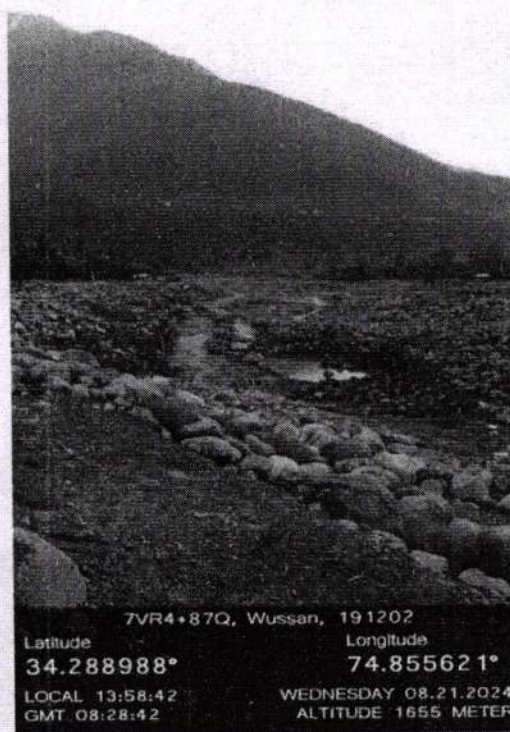
It is observed that the mining activity taking place at the designated sites listed above in Ganderbal district is not carried out as per the provisions of EC, JKPC consent. Further the quantity as extracted till date mentioned in the information received from Geology and Mining Department seems incorrect based on the spot inspection and extent of mining done in these blocks. The photographs submitted above shows the actual scale of mining activity in these blocks.

hw B

The unscientific mining taking place in these blocks has caused bed degradation, erosion of the peripheries, uprooting of plants along the banks. This may change the morphology of river bed that constitutes one aspect of the aquatic ecosystem and can also affect bridge supports, pipelines and other structures in coming time if it is not addressed at this time.



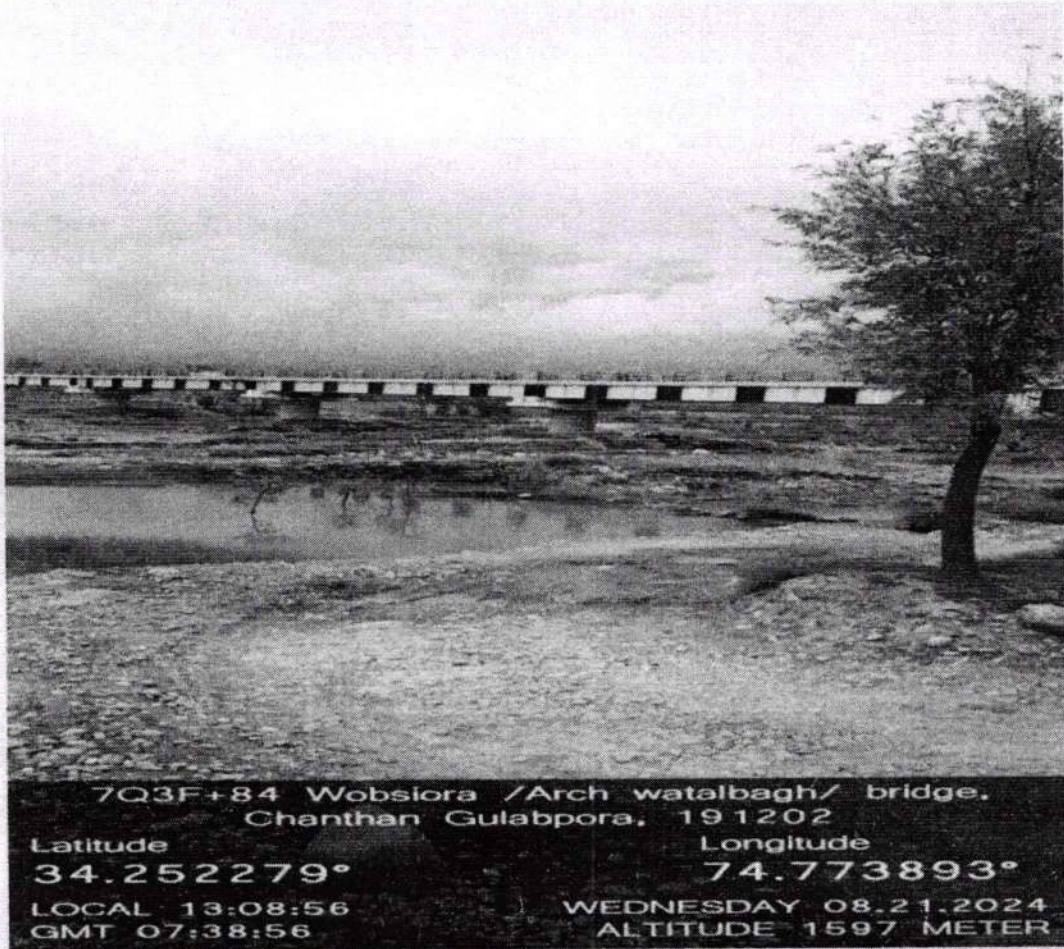
MMB 04



MMB 08

2. During inspection by the JKPC inspection team, it has been observed that visibly no bridge which falls in the block no. 04 and block no. 08 is damaged till date. However, it has been observed that the bridges near Arch village in block no. 04 and bridge near Wussan village in block no. 08 are vulnerable to damages in future if sand mining continues without maintaining 500mts distance from the bridges as per sand mining guidelines. Photographs depicting present status of bridges are enclosed.

Signature



7Q3F+84 Wobsiora /Arch watalbagh/ bridge.
Chanthan Gulabpora, 191202

Latitude 34.252279° Longitude 74.773893°

LOCAL 13:08:56 GMT 07:38:56 WEDNESDAY 08.21.2024 ALTITUDE 1597 METER

Mining activity near Arch Bridge



7VJ2+WJM, Wussan, 191202

Latitude 34.283607° Longitude 74.850272°

LOCAL 14:22:36 GMT 08:52:36 WEDNESDAY 08.21.2024 ALTITUDE 1713 METER

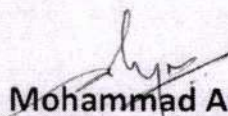
Mining Activity near Wussan Bridge

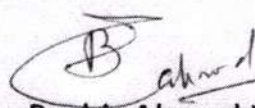
dy By


3. There is violation of sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines 2016 and the Environment Protection Act 1986 with respect to mining practices adopted by the Mining holders like
- Exceeded depth of mining in river bed at various spots from permissible limit of 1 m.
 - Mining has been seen from the river bank without maintaining the permissible distance.
 - No provisions have been made for the safety and stability of river banks.
 - No provision has been adopted to control air pollution and dust management. The vehicles carrying the mineral were found uncovered.
 - No specific road for transport of the material has been seen on spot.
 - The conditions regarding issuance of consent to operate (renew) has not been found in compliance by the project proponent.

Recommendations

The controlling department for mining i.e. Department of Geology and Mining shall be directed to have a proper vigil, maintain record of minor mineral excavations and take appropriate action against the violators of Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines 2016 and other rules. JKPC shall initiate legal action against the said mining blocks.


Mohammad Ayub
District Officer JKPC
Ganderbal


Bashir Ahmed Wani
Scientist "B" JKPC


Abhijit Joshi (SFS)
Regional Director JKPC
Kashmir

The Member secretary,
J&K Pollution Control Committee.
Jammu.

Subject. Hon'ble NGT order dated 16-07-2024 in OA No. 826/2024 news item titled "pillars of Ravi-Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in The Daily Excelsior dated 02-07-2024.

Ref. Order No. JKPC/Sc./OA-826/2024/676 dated 17-08-2024.

Sir,


With reference to the above mentioned letter regarding the assessment as per the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal order in OA No. 826/2024, we would like to inform you of the following:

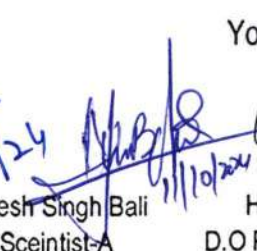
1. **Site Visit:** The Committee constituted as per the order has visited the mentioned area. Our observations during the visit confirm that there are no recent sign of mining in the area along the rivers and other water bodies of Kathua/Samba near pillars of Ravi-Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge. We noted that there is currently no mining activities taking place, and the site appears to be undisturbed.
2. **TOR Clarification:** it is also important to note that certain points in the Terms of Reference (TORs) outlined which include, ascertaining the exact cause of depletion of water level whether the reason alleged are true or not can be verified only by the concerned competent authority dealing with ground water level and regarding the death of 15 persons due to accidents caused by overloaded vehicles carrying mining material needs to be verified from the concerned Police Stations. Further, the environmental assessment and reports from our end can only be provided based on the environmental clearance parameters and consent conditions issued by the JKPC.

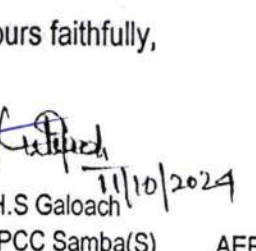
Hence submitted for the further necessary action please.

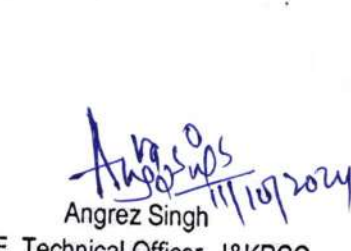
No: - JKPC/TIC/EC/2024/60
Dated: 11/10/2024

Yours faithfully,


 S.K. Tripathi
 D.O PCC Kathua


 Mukesh Singh Bali
 Scientist-A


 H.S. Galoach
 D.O PCC Samba(S)


 Angrez Singh
 AEE, Technical Officer, J&KPC

JA
Prepare to go.

**Member Secretary,
J&K Pollution Control Committee,
Jammu.**

Subject: **Hon'ble NGT order dated 16.07.2024 in OA No 826/2024 News item titled "Pillars of Ravi-Tawi Canal Bridge and Railway Bridge exposed after mining in Basantar river of Samba" appearing in Daily Excelsior dated 02.07.2024.**

Reference: Order No. JKPCC/Sc./OA-826/2024/676, dated 17-08-2024.

Sir,

With reference to the above-mentioned letter regarding the assessment as per the **Hon'ble National Green Tribunal's order in OA No. 826/2024**, we would like to inform you of the following:

1. **Site Visit:** The committee constituted as per the order has visited the mentioned areas on the **7th of August, 2024**. However, due to the ongoing rainy season, it was not possible to comprehensively assess the situation on the ground. Additionally, mining activities in the region are currently halted due to the seasonal closure, further restricting our ability to carry out a full assessment.
2. **TORs Clarification:** It is also important to note that certain points in the Terms of Reference (TORs) outlined which include, ascertaining the exact cause of depletion of water level whether the reasons alleged are true or not can be verified only by the concerned competent authority dealing with ground water level. And regarding the death of 15 people due to accidents caused by overloaded vehicles carrying mining material needs to be verified from concerned police stations. Further, the environmental assessment and reports from our end can only be provided based on the environmental clearance parameters and consent conditions issued by the JKPCC.

Further it is submitted that a thorough assessment can be conducted once the rainy season over and resumption of the mining activities i.e. after 15th of September 2024.

Hence submitted for the further necessary action please


No; JKPCC/TIC/AEE/2024/572

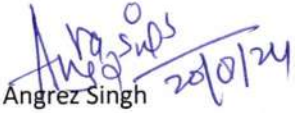
Date; 20/8/2024

Yours faithfully,


S.K. Tripathi
D.O PCC Kathua


Mukesh Singh Bali
Scientist-A


H.S. Galbach
D.O PCC Samba South


Angrez Singh
AEE, Technical Officer, J&K PCC

AEE/A

26/08/24
22-8-24