

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, PRINCIPAL
BENCH, NEW DELHI

Original Application No. 1208/2024

IN THE MATTER OF: -

Tejasvi Minhas ... Applicant

Versus

Public Works Division, Punjab & Ors. ... Respondent(s)

**Report of the Joint Committee in Original Application
No. 1208 of 2024: Tejasvi Minhas versus Public Works
Division, Punjab & Ors. In compliance to the orders of
Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (PB) dated 03.10.2024.**

I, Himanshu Aggarwal, Chairman Joint Committee cum Deputy
Commissioner, Jalandhar in my official capacity do hereby
solemnly affirm and state as under: -

1. That a Joint Committee comprising of the representative
of the Member Secretary, CPCB, RO, MoEF&CC,
Chandigarh representative of PCCF (HoFF), Mohali and
District Magistrate, Jalandhar was formed by this Hon'ble
Tribunal vide order dated 03.10.2024.

2. That, this Hon'ble Tribunal vide order dated 03.10.2024 directed the Joint Committee to visit the site, ascertain the truthfulness of the allegations and the persons responsible for cutting the trees and also the mechanism existing in the State of Punjab to prevent felling of trees in the non-forest area and submit the report within a period of 8 weeks.
3. That in compliance to the orders of this Hon'ble Tribunal the committee has framed its report on the basis of facts and site condition, after listening to the stake holders. The Report of the Joint Committee in Original Application No. 1208 of 2024: Tejasvi Minhas versus Public Works Division, Punjab & Ors. in compliance to the orders of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (PB) dated 03.10.2024 is appended herewith as Annexure A1.

Chairman Joint Committee-cum-
Deputy Commissioner, Jalandhar



Report of the Joint Committee in Original Application No. 1208 of 2024: Tejasvi Minhas versus Public Works Division, Punjab & Ors. In compliance to the orders of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (PB) dated 03.10.2024

1.0 Background and the Order of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (PB):

The matter is related to a complaint dated 16.09.2024 raised by applicant Sh. Tejasvi Minhas, that illegal cutting of 20 heritage trees in the premises of Civil Surgeon Office, Jalandhar on the direction of Public Works Department (PWD) by one Sh. Baljeet Singh, contractor. The plea of the Applicant is that the Government of Punjab had ordered demolition of the old Civil Surgeon office building which was a heritage building to make a new 100- bed Critical Care Unit. The demolition was to be done by the PWD, Jalandhar. It is further plea of the Applicant that 20 trees existed in the premises which were 100-150 years old and were categorised as "heritage trees". It is also alleged that Jalandhar has hardly any forest cover and these heritage trees were the lungs of the city and the PWD in connivance with the contractor has illegally cut those trees. The Hon'ble NGT has passed an order which is as follows:

Para 03 : *Issue notice to the respondents for filing their response/reply by way of affidavit before the Tribunal at least one week before the next date of hearing through e-filing. If any respondent directly files the reply without routing it through his advocate, then the said respondent will remain virtually present to assist the Tribunal. The Applicant is directed to serve the respondents and file the affidavit of service at least one week before the next date of hearing.*

Para-04: *Having regard to the seriousness of the allegation made in the OA, we also form a Joint Committee comprising of the representative of the Member Secretary, CPCB, RO, MoEF&CC, Chandigarh representative of PCCF (HoFF), Mohali and District Magistrate, Jalandhar who will be the nodal agency. The Committee will visit the site, ascertain the truthfulness of the allegations and the persons responsible for cutting the trees and also the mechanism existing in the State of Punjab to prevent felling of trees in the non-forest area and submit the report within a period of 8 weeks.*

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench vide order dated 03.10.2024 (Annexure-I) has observed and directed, as follows:

2.0. Compliance of the directions of Hon'ble NGT:

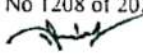
In compliance to the Orders of Hon'ble NGT, the Joint Committee comprising Deputy Commissioner Jalandhar, representative of the Member Secretary, CPCB, RO, MoEF&CC, Chandigarh representative of PCCF (HoFF), Mohali visited the subject site of Critical Care Unit (Old Civil Surgeon Office) Jalandhar on dated 9-12-2024 at around 1:30PM.

List of officials present during this site visit is enclosed herewith as 'Annexure- II'. After site visit and interactions with the officials from the PWD Department Jalandhar and Divisional Forest Office Jalandhar.

2.1. Findings of the Joint Committee:







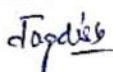


1. During visit, committee observed that the excavation work of the site has been completed.
2. The area is enclosed with boundary walls and buildings. There are no standing trees in this enclosed area.
3. The Provincial Division Punjab PWD B&R Br. Jalandhar, is the executing Authority at the subject site of 100 bedded Critical Care Block.
4. The site of Critical Care Block is situated at geo-coordinates (Latitude 31.32700 and Longitude 75.57405) in the Civil Hospital near Jyoti Chowk, Jalandhar. The site was earlier used as the Civil Surgeon Jalandhar Office, which has been demolished now for the construction of the Critical Care Block.
5. During the visit, the Executive Engineer was requested to submit the permission obtained regarding the cutting of trees and the Divisional Forest Officer was requested to submit the permission granted in this regard.

3.0 Site Visit for gathering relevant information and interaction with the complainants:

After the site visit on dated 09.12.2024, a meeting was held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Jalandhar, in his office, on dated 12-12-2024 which was attended through video conference by the other members of the joint committee. The Executive Engineer Provincial Division from the executing agency, the Divisional Forest Officer and the complainant- Mr Tejasvi Minhas were also present in this meeting.

List of officials/ complainants present during this meeting is enclosed herewith as 'Annexure-III'. During discussions with officials of PWD Department Jalandhar and Divisional Forest Office Jalandhar it was understood that the work of "Construction of 100 bedded Critical Care Block at Civil Surgeon Office distt. Jalandhar (Punjab) (basement+4 storey) under scheme PM-ABHIM" XEN, PWD further informed the committee that the Director Health and Family Welfare Department Punjab vide letter No. HWC 054-62 DATED 24.03.2024 has directed to remove trees from the sites of Critical Care Blocks to be constructed in various districts of Punjab. Accordingly, the Chief Engineer South cum Nodal Officer Buildings Punjab PWD B&R Patiala vide letter No. 1491-1503 dated 27.03.2024 directed the concerned Executive Engineers of PWD for cutting of standing trees and utility shifting for the construction of Critical Care Block in various districts of Punjab. As per the directions of Health and Family Welfare Department Punjab the case for assessment and cutting of trees at the site of Critical Care Block/ Civil Surgeon Office, was submitted to Divisional Forest Officer Jalandhar at Phillaur by the office of Executive Engineer Provincial Division PWD B&R Jalandhar Cantt, in reply to which the DFO vide letter No.637 dated 24.04.2024 sent the assessment of 20 number of trees and also intimated that jurisdiction for cutting and selling of these 20 trees falls under PWD only. It was also directed by the DFO to plant 5 times the number of trees as many cut for this work. XEN PWD further appraised that there is no mention of Old/ Heritage trees in the assessment report of DFO Jalandhar received vide letter No. 637 fated 24.0.2024. Accordingly, auctioning of trees was held and work of cutting of trees was allotted to Baljit Singh Contractor on dated 22.07.2024.XEN, PWD has shown geo tagged photographs of 100 no.s of trees planted in the



Civil Hospital Complex Jalandhar, in the lieu of 20 nos. tree cut in the premises of Civil Surgeon Office, Jalandhar. The applicant was also heard today; the applicant raised three grievances:

- a) The due procedure was not followed by PWD office for felling of trees.
- b) The value of green standing trees was not appropriately assessed by the Forest Department.
- c) XEN PWD did not respond to calls of the Applicant- Tejasvi Minhas.

The chairman of the committee- DC Jalandhar, directed the XEN PWD to submit reply for the grievance a) & c) stated above. It was directed to DFO Jalandhar to submit reply for the grievance b) stated above.

In response to the grievances of the complainant the Executive Engineer Provincial Division has submitted reply vide letter No. 2668 Dated 12.12.2024, enclosed herewith as **'Annexure- IV**, reproduced as under:

1. Grievance of the Applicant: *The due procedure was not followed by PWD office for felling of trees.*

Reply by Executive Engineer Provincial Division PWD Jalandhar office: "It is submitted that the work of "Construction of 100 bedded Critical Care Block at Civil Surgeon Office distt. Jalandhar (Punjab) (basement+ 4 storey) under scheme PM-ABHIM". The Director Health and Family Welfare Department Punjab vide letter no. HWC 054-62 DATED 24.03.2024 directed undersigned to remove trees from the sites of Critical Care Blocks to be constructed in various districts of Punjab. Accordingly, the Chief Engineer South cum Nodal Officer Buildings Punjab PWD B&R Patiala vide letter No. 1491-1503 dated 27.03.2024 directed the concerned Executive Engineers of PWD for cutting of standing trees and utility shifting for the construction of Critical Care Block in various districts of Punjab. As per the directions of Health and Family Welfare Department Punjab the case for assessment and cutting of trees at the site of Critical Care Block/ Civil Surgeon Office, was submitted to Divisional Forest Officer Jalandhar at Phillaur by the office of Executive Engineer Provincial Division PWD B&R Jalandhar Cantt, in reply to which the DFO vide letter No.637 dated 24.04.2024 sent the assessment of 20 number of trees and also intimated that jurisdiction for cutting and selling of these 20 trees falls under PWD only. It was also directed by the DFO to plant 5 times the number of trees as many cut for this work. XEN PWD further appraised that there is no mention of Old/ Heritage trees in the assessment report of DFO Jalandhar received vide letter No. 637 fated 24.0.2024. Accordingly, auctioning of trees was held and work of cutting of trees was allotted to Baljit Singh Contractor on dated 22.07.2024.XEN, PWD has shown geo tagged photographs of 100 no.s of trees planted in the Civil Hospital Complex Jalandhar, in the lieu of 20 nos. tree cut in the premises of Civil Surgeon Office, Jalandhar."

2. Grievance of the Applicant: *XEN PWD did not respond to calls of the Applicant.*

Reply by Executive Engineer PWD B&R Jalandhar office: "It is submitted that the undersigned was over busy in framing of replies and vetting, filing of the urgent high court matters in the month of September. Further, the undersigned was on leave for two

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days for some personal important work regarding visa appointment. The undersigned could not attend most of the calls in those days and might have missed calls from Mr. Tejasvi Minhas due to High Court matters and personal prefixed visa appointment."

In response to the grievances of the complainant the Divisional Forest Officer has submitted reply vide letter No. 11032 Dated 20.12.2024, enclosed herewith as 'Annexure- V, reproduced as under:

Grievance of the Applicant: *The value of green standing trees was not appropriately assessed by the Forest Department.*

Reply by Divisional Forest Officer: "It Submitted that the reserve price of standing green trees / dry tress was assessed as per norms and rates fixed by Punjab state forest development corporation ltd. after taking the required measurements of the standing trees at the spot."

Further, the assessment letter of DFO Jalandhar (Letter No. 637 dated 24.04.2024, enclosed herewith as **Annexure-VI**, has been deliberated upon as per which the DFO office has only assessed the rates but the jurisdiction for cutting and selling of these trees fall under the preview of PWD, the translated and the original copy of the letter enclosed herewith as '**Annexure- VII**'. Further, there is no mention of heritage trees in the assessment done by the office of DFO, vide letter No.637 dated 24.04.2024.

The compensatory afforestation at the site of Civil Hospital Jalandhar has been done by the Provincial Division PWD B&R Jalandhar in compliance to the directions of DFO Jalandhar issued vide letter No. 637 Dated 24.04.2024. The PWD has planted 100 number plants at Civil Hospital complex Jalandhar in lieu of 20 trees cut at this site. The geo tagged photographs of the plantation are enclosed herewith as **Annexure-VIII**.

Also, it is appraised by the DFO, Jalandhar that the state has released Notification No. DFWI.P-45/144/2024- O/o FINANCIAL COMM.-FOREST & WILDLIFE /I/925874/2024 Chandigarh, dated: 12-09-2024 - TREE PRESERVATION POLICY FOR NON FOREST GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC LANDS- 2024 enclosed herewith as '**Annexure- IX**'.

On the basis of site visit on dated 09.12.2024 and further deliberations on dated 12.12.2024, the joint committee is of the considerate view that:

1. The due prevailing process at the time of assessment of trees on the government land has been followed by the Divisional Forest Office Jalandhar.
2. The due prevailing process at the time of auctioning of trees on the government land has been followed by the executing agency i.e. Punjab PWD Jalandhar and the cutting of trees has been done consequently following the directions of the Health and Family Welfare Department Punjab, the owner of the land.
3. From the assessment done by the office of Divisional Forest Officer Jalandhar, it is evident that there were no heritage trees on this site of Critical Care Block (Old Civil Surgeon Office, Jalandhar).

4. The PWD, Jalandhar shall ensure comply with CPCB guideline on dust mitigation measures in handling of construction materials and C&D waste.

The above factual report of the Joint Committee is being submitted for the consideration of Hon'ble NGT, which may kindly be taken on record. The Joint Committee shall abide by further directions of the Hon'ble NGT in this matter.

(N.K. Dimri)
Member cum Representative of
Dy. Dir. Gen. MoEF,
Chandigarh

(Jarnail Singh, DFO, Jalandhar)
Member cum Representative of
PCCF (HoFF), Mohali

(Jagdish Prasad Meena)
Member cum SC.-'D', CPCB
RD, Chandigarh

Chairman, Joint Committee
cum Deputy Commissioner,
Jalandhar

Item No.03

Court No. 1

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

Original Application No. 1208/2024

Tejasvi Minhas

Applicant

Versus

Public Works Division, Punjab & Ors.

Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 03.10.2024

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

Applicant: Mr. Tejasvi Minhas, Applicant in Person (Through VC)

ORDER

1. In this original application, the Applicant has made a complaint regarding illegal cutting of 20 heritage trees in the premises of Civil Surgeon Office, Jalandhar on the direction of Public Works Department (PWD) by one Baljeet Singh, contractor. The plea of the Applicant is that the Government of Punjab had ordered demolition of the old Civil Surgeon office building which was a heritage building to make a new 100-bed Critical Care Unit. The demolition was to be done by the PWD, Jalandhar. It is further plea of the Applicant that 20 trees existed in the premises which were 100-150 years old and were categorised as "heritage trees". 14 such trees were cut on or before 16.09.2024 without any permission by any authority and, therefore, to protect the six remaining heritage trees, a protest was made on 17.09.2024 which was to be repeated on 18.09.2024 at 11.00 A.M. but before that, the remaining six trees were also cut by the authorities. The Applicant has also raised the plea that Jalandhar has hardly any forest cover and these heritage trees

were the lungs of the city and the PWD in connivance with the contractor has illegally cut those trees.

2. The OA raises substantial issues relating to compliance of the environmental norms and implementation of the provisions of the scheduled enactments.

3. Issue notice to the respondents for filing their response/reply by way of affidavit before the Tribunal at least one week before the next date of hearing through e-filing. If any respondent directly files the reply without routing it through his advocate, then the said respondent will remain virtually present to assist the Tribunal. The Applicant is directed to serve the respondents and file the affidavit of service at least one week before the next date of hearing.

4. Having regard to the seriousness of the allegation made in the OA, we also form a Joint Committee comprising of the representative of the Member Secretary, CPCB, RO, MoEF&CC, Chandigarh representative of PCCF (HoFF), Mohali and District Magistrate, Jalandhar who will be the nodal agency. The Committee will visit the site, ascertain the truthfulness of the allegations and the persons responsible for cutting the trees and also the mechanism existing in the State of Punjab to prevent felling of trees in the non-forest area and submit the report within a period of 8 weeks.

5. List on 24.01.2025.

6. Let a copy of this order be forwarded to the Member Secretary, CPCB, RO, MoEF&CC, Chandigarh, PCCF (HoFF), Mohali and District Magistrate, Jalandhar by e-mail for compliance.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

October 03, 2024
Original Application No. 1208/2024
dv..

**List of officials present during site visit on 09/12/2024 under the chairmanship
of Deputy Commissioner Jalandhar**

Sr. No.	Name and Designation
1.	Dr. Gurmeet Lal, Civil Surgeon, Jalandhar
2.	Sh. N.K. Dimri, Representative of Dy. Dir. Gen. MoEF, Chandigarh
3.	Sh. Jagdish Prasad Meena, SC-'D', CPCB Chandigarh
4.	Sh. Jarnail Singh, DFO, Jalandhar Representative of PCCF (HoFF), Mohali
5.	Sh. Sandeep Verma, Xen. PWD (Provincial Division), Jalandhar

**List of officials present during meeting on 12/12/2024 under the chairmanship
of Deputy Commissioner Jalandhar**

Sr. No.	Name and Designation
1.	Dr. Gurmeet Lal, Civil Surgeon, Jalandhar
2.	Sh. N.K. Dimri, Representative of Dy. Dir. Gen. MoEF, Chandigarh (Through video conferencing)
3.	Sh. Jagdish Prasad Meena, SC-'D', CPCB Chandigarh (Through video conferencing)
4.	Sh. Jarnail Singh, DFO, Jalandhar Representative of PCCF (HoFF), Mohali
5.	Sh. Sandeep Verma, Xen. PWD (Provincial Division), Jalandhar
6.	Range Forest Officer, Jalandhar
7.	Sh. Tejasvi Minhas, Complainant

To

The Deputy Commissioner,
Jalandhar.

No. 2668

Date: 12.12.2024

Subject: Review of compliance of orders dated 03-10-2024 passed by hon'ble NGT in original application no. 1208/2024.

Reference: Meeting held at DC Jalandhar Office on Dated 12-12-2024.

In reference to the above subject, a meeting was held under your chairmanship on dated 12-12-2024, whereby it was directed to the undersigned to give reply to the grievances of the Applicant- Tejasvi Minhas, which is submitted hereby as under:

1. The due procedure was not followed by PWD office for felling of trees.

Reply:- It is submitted that the work of "Construction of 100 bedded Critical Care Block at Civil Surgeon Office distt. Jalandhar (Punjab) (basement+4 storey) under scheme PM-ABHIM". The Director Health and Family Welfare Department Punjab vide letter No. HWC 054-62 DATED 24.03.2024 directed undersigned to remove trees from the sites of Critical Care Blocks to be constructed in various districts of Punjab. Accordingly, the Chief Engineer South cum Nodal Officer Buildings Punjab PWD B&R Patiala vide letter No. 1491-1503 dated 27.03.2024 directed the concerned Executive Engineers of PWD for cutting of standing trees and utility shifting for the construction of Critical Care Block in various districts of Punjab. As per the directions of Health and Family Welfare Department Punjab the case for assessment and cutting of trees at the site of Critical Care Block/ Civil Surgeon Office, was submitted to District Forest Officer Jalandhar at Phillaur by the office of Executive Engineer Provincial Division PWD B&R Jalandhar Cantt, in reply to which the DFO vide letter No.637 dated 24.04.2024 sent the assessment of 20 number of trees and also intimated that jurisdiction for cutting and selling of these 20 trees falls under PWD only. It was also directed by the DFO to plant 5 times the number of trees as many cut for this work. XEN PWD further appraised that there is no mention of Old/ Heritage trees in the assessment report of DFO Jalandhar received vide letter No. 637 fated 24.0.2024. Accordingly, auctioning of trees was held and work of cutting of trees was allotted to Baljit Singh Contractor on dated 22.07.2024.XEN, PWD has shown geo tagged photographs of 100 no.s of trees planted in the Civil Hospital Complex Jalandhar, in the lieu of 20 nos. tree cut in the premises of Civil Surgeon Office, Jalandhar.

2. XEN PWD did not respond to calls of the Applicant.

Reply:- It is submitted that the undersigned was over busy in framing of replies and vetting, filing of the urgent high court matters in the month of September. Further, the undersigned was on leave for two days for some personal important work regarding visa appointment. The undersigned could not attend most of the calls in those days and might have missed calls from Mr. Tejasvi Minhas due to High Court matters and personal prefixed visa appointment.

This is for your information and further necessary action, please.

DA/ Nil.


Executive Engineer
Provincial Division
PWD B&R Jalandhar Cantt.

ਪੰਜਾਬ ਸਰਕਾਰ
ਵਣ ਅਤੇ ਜੰਗਲੀ ਜੀਵ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਆ ਵਿਭਾਗ, ਪੰਜਾਬ
ਦਫ: ਵਣ ਮੰਡਲ ਅਫਸਰ, ਜਲੰਧਰ

OFFICE OF DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, JALANDHAR

ਪੱਤਰ ਨੰਬਰ : 11032
ਮਿਤੀ : 20/12/24
dfojalandhar@gmail.com

Ph. No. : 01826-222537


E-mail

To,

Deputy Commissioner,
Jalandhar.

subject - Regarding Compliance of order of NGT Date 03/10/2024

It is Submitted that the grievance of applicant Regarding "the value of green standing trees was not Appropriately assessed by forest department" . It Submitted that the reserve price of standing green trees / dry tress was assessed as per norms and rates fixed by Punjab state forest development corporation ltd. after taking the required measurements of the standing trees at the spot.


Divisional Forest Officer,
Jalandhar at Phillaur.



PUC-6

ਦਫ਼: ਵਣ ਮੰਡਲ ਅਫਸਰ, ਜਲੰਧਰ

OFFICE OF DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, JALANDHAR

ਪੱਤਰ ਨੰਬਰ : 637

Ph. No. : 01826-222537

ਮਿਤੀ : 24-4-24

E-mail : dfojalandhar@gmail.com

(ਮਾਲ ਸਾਖਾ)

ਸੇਵਾ ਵਿਖੇ

ਕਾਰਜਕਾਰੀ ਇੰਜੀਨੀਅਰ,
ਪ੍ਰਾਂਤਕ ਮੰਡਲ, ਲੋ.ਨਿ.ਵਿ. ਭਤੇਮ ਸਾਖਾ,
ਜਲੰਧਰ ਛਾਉਣੀ।

ਵਿਸ਼ਾ: Pradhan Mantari Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) ਸਕੀਮ ਅਧੀਨ ਸਿਵਲ ਸਰਜਨ ਜਲੰਧਰ ਜੀ ਦੇ ਦਫਤਰ ਵਿਖੇ 100 bedded Critical Care Block (CCB) ਦੀ ਉਸਾਰੀ ਲਈ ਦਰੱਖਤਾਂ ਦੀ ਕਟਾਈ ਲਈ ਰੇਟ ਅਜੈਸ ਕਰਨ ਸਬੰਧੀ।

ਹਵਾਲਾ ਆਪ ਦਾ ਪੱਤਰ ਨੰਬਰ 3117 ਮਿਤੀ 16.02.2024

ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵਿਸ਼ੇ ਤੇ ਹਵਾਲੇ ਅਧੀਨ ਪੱਤਰ ਦੇ ਸਬੰਧ ਵਿੱਚ ਆਪ ਦੀ ਮੰਗ ਅਤੇ ਵਣ ਰੋਜ਼ ਅਫਸਰ, ਜਲੰਧਰ ਦੇ ਪੱਤਰ ਨੰਬਰ 35-ਜ ਮਿਤੀ 12.04.2024 ਦੀ ਰਿਪੋਟ ਨੂੰ ਮੁੱਖ ਰੱਖਦੇ ਹੋਏ ਕਾਰਜਕਾਰੀ ਇੰਜੀਨੀਅਰ, ਪ੍ਰਾਂਤਕ ਮੰਡਲ, ਲੋ.ਨਿ.ਵਿ. ਭਤੇਮ ਸਾਖਾ, ਜਲੰਧਰ ਛਾਉਣੀ ਦੇ ਰੁੱਖਾਂ ਦੀ ਕੀਮਤ ਨਿਰਧਾਰਿਤ ਕਰਕੇ ਭੇਜੀ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ। ਇਹ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਰੁੱਖਾਂ ਦੀ ਕੀਮਤ ਲਗਾਉਣ ਤੱਕ ਸੀਮਤ ਹੈ, ਰੁੱਖਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਕੱਟਣ/ਵੇਚਣ ਦਾ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ ਆਪਣੇ ਮਹਿਕਮੇ ਪਾਸੋਂ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਵੇ। ਨਿਲਾਮੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਵੱਧ ਘੱਟ ਆਈ ਕੀਮਤ ਦੀ ਇਸ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਦੀ ਕੋਈ ਜਿੰਮੇਵਾਰੀ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਦੇ ਨਾਲ ਹੀ ਇਹ ਵੀ ਲਿਖਿਆ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਖਾਲੀ ਜਗ੍ਹਾ ਤੇ 5 ਗੁਣਾ ਬੂਟੇ ਲਗਾਉਣਾ ਯਕੀਨੀ ਬਣਾਇਆ ਜਾਵੇ।

Species	V	IV	III	IIA	IIB	IA	IB	Total Trees	Volume	Price
Shisham	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2.8	32017
Mullberry	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.15	397
Drek	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	5473
Mango	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	7	26780
Misc	0	5	2	2	0	3	3	15	22.95	92196
Total	0	6	2	2	1	4	5	20	34.9	156863

ਵਣ ਮੰਡਲ ਅਫਸਰ,
ਜਲੰਧਰ ਐਟ ਫਿਲੋਰ

Office of Divisional Forest Officer, JalandharLetter No. 637

Ph. No. 01826-222537

Dated : 24.04.2024E-Mail : dfojalandhar@gmail.com**(Revenue Branch)**

To

Executive Engineer,
Provincial Division, PWD, B&R Br.,
Jalandhar Cantt.

Sub:- **Rate Access for Cutting of trees for the Construction of 100 Bedded Critical Care Block (CCB) at Civil Hospital Jalandhar under Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM- ABHIM)**

Ref:- Your letter no. 3117 dated 16.02.2024

In reference to the aforementioned subject, information as desired by your office & report submitted by Forest Range Office Jalandhar vide letter no. 35-7 Dt. 12.04.2024 the reserved prices for cutting of tress are hereby submitted to your office. Further, this office is only responsible for evaluation of the reserved prices. Your Office may get the NOC for Cutting/Selling of tress from your department. This office is not responsible for the bid prices received at low/above at reserved price. Also, please ensure the 5 times of plantation at the vacant site.

Species	V	IV	III	IIA	IIB	IA	IB	Total Trees	Volume	Price
Shisham	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2.8	32017
Mullberry	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.15	397
Drek	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	5473
Mango	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	7	26780
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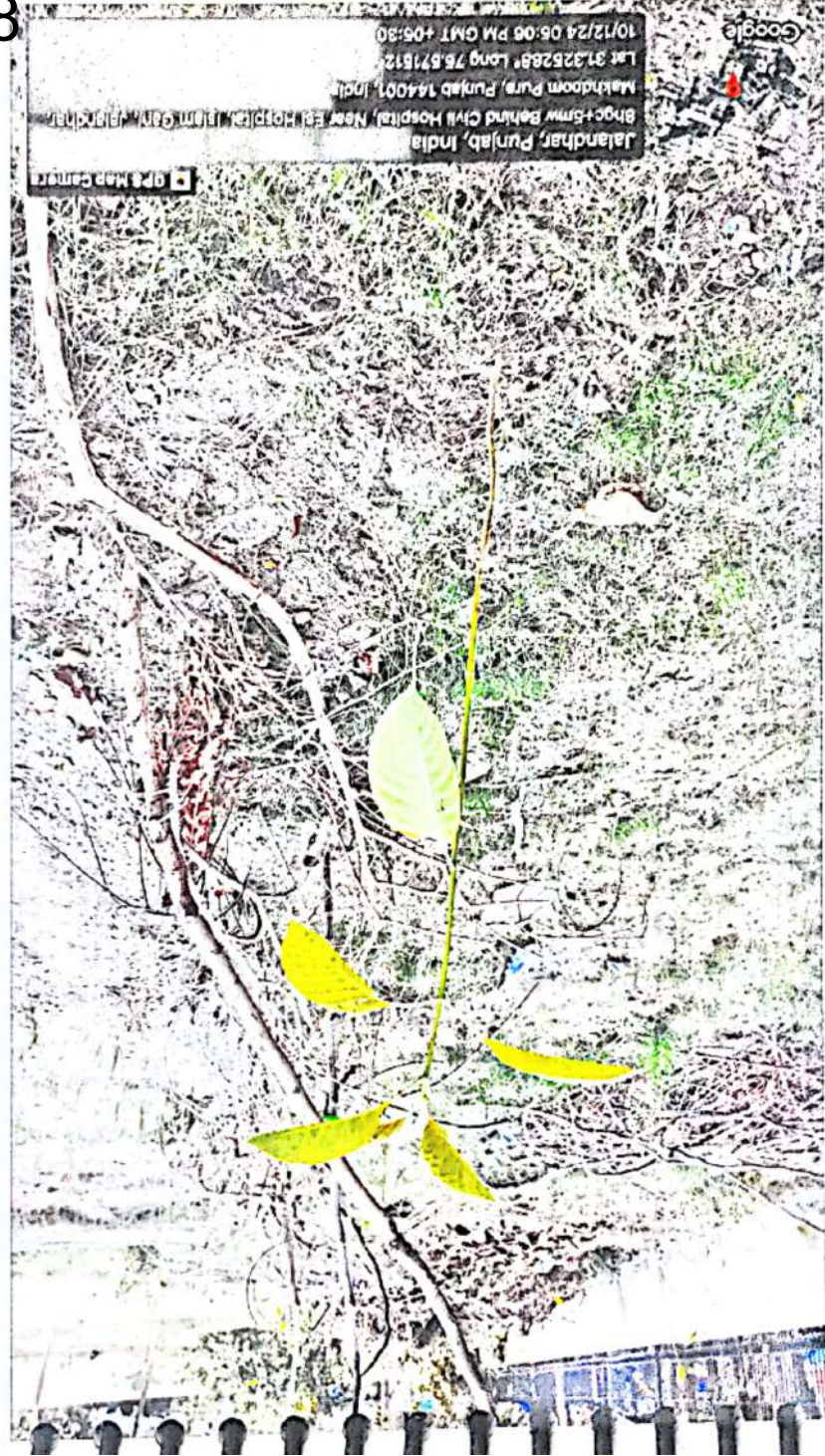
Forest Officer,
Jalandhar at Phillaur

True Translated Copy

Annexure - VIII



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Annexure - VIII







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GPS Map Camera

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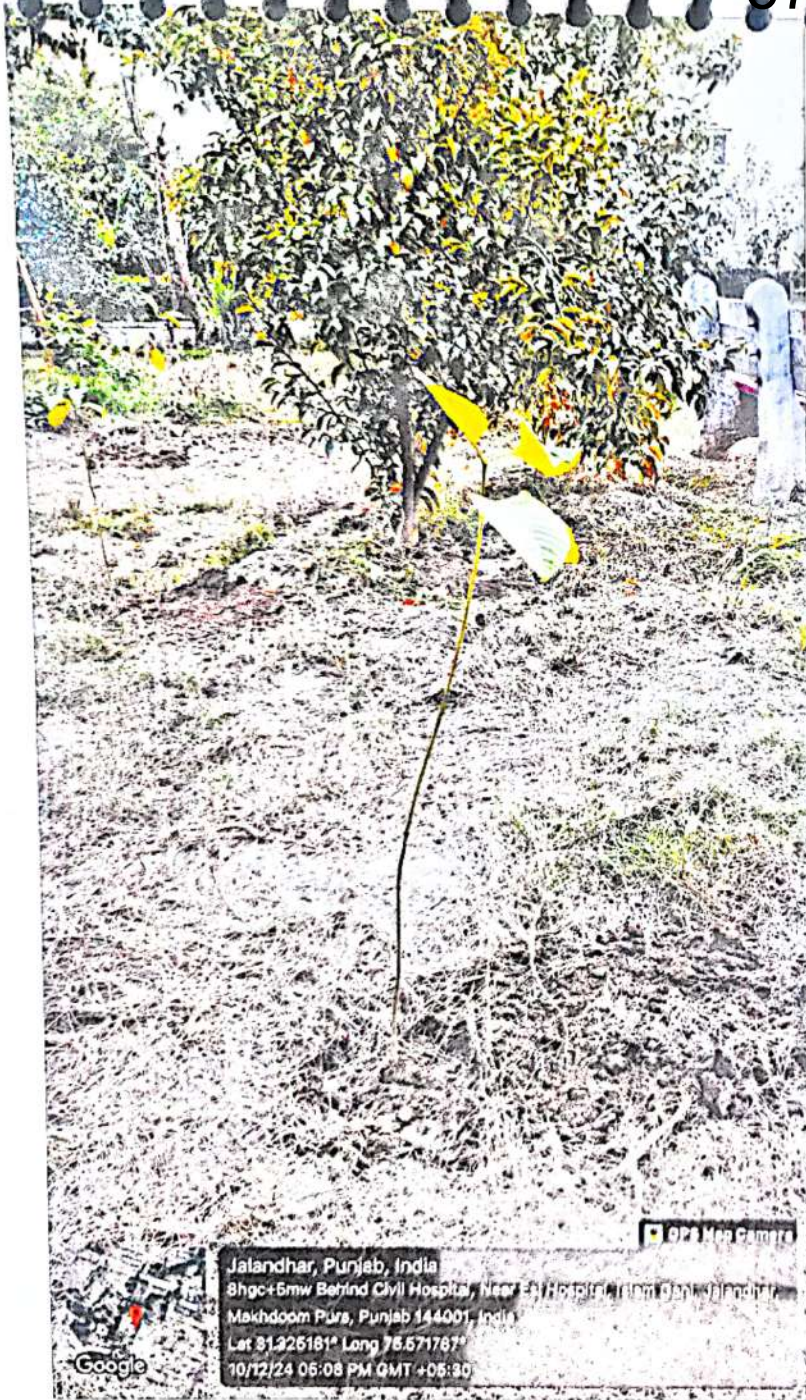


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APA MOB CAMERA



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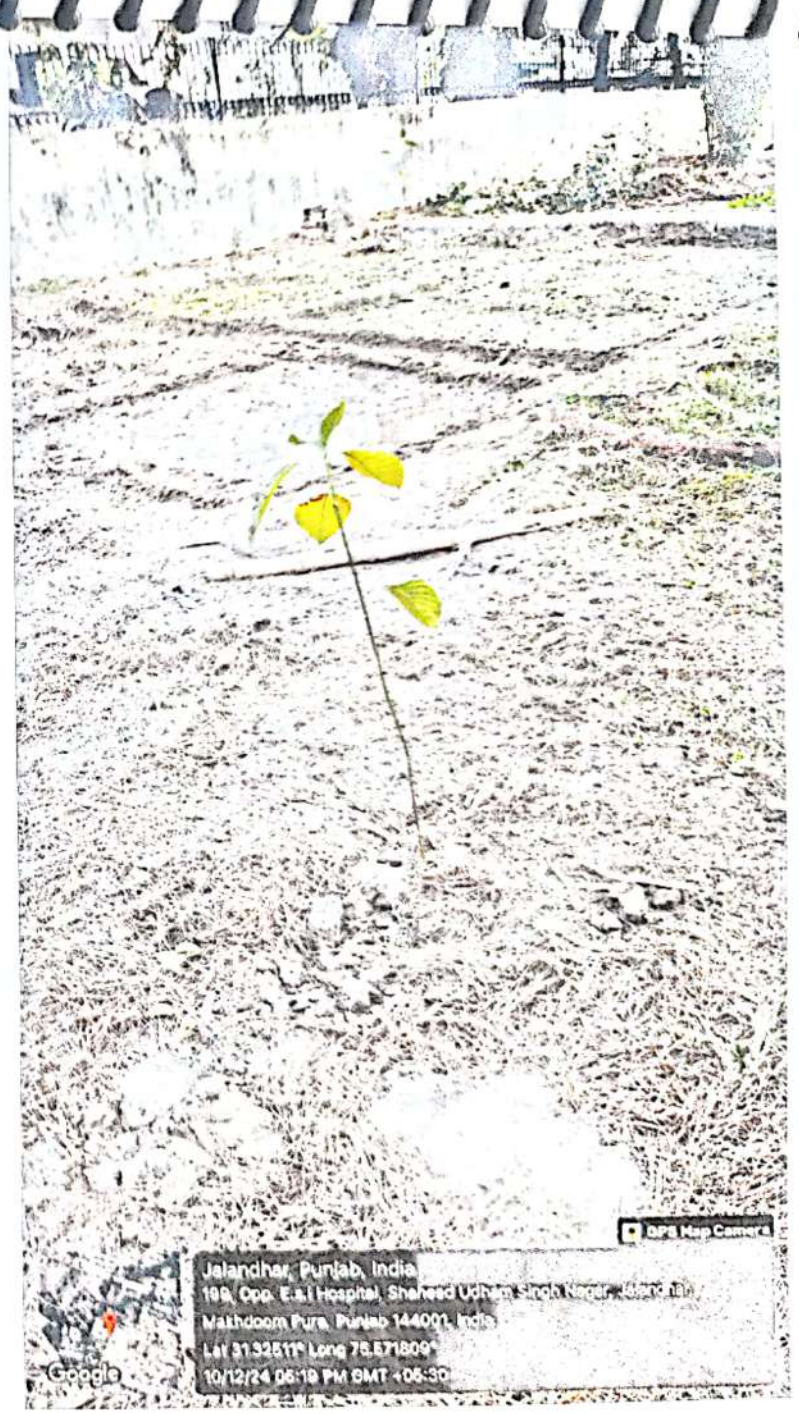
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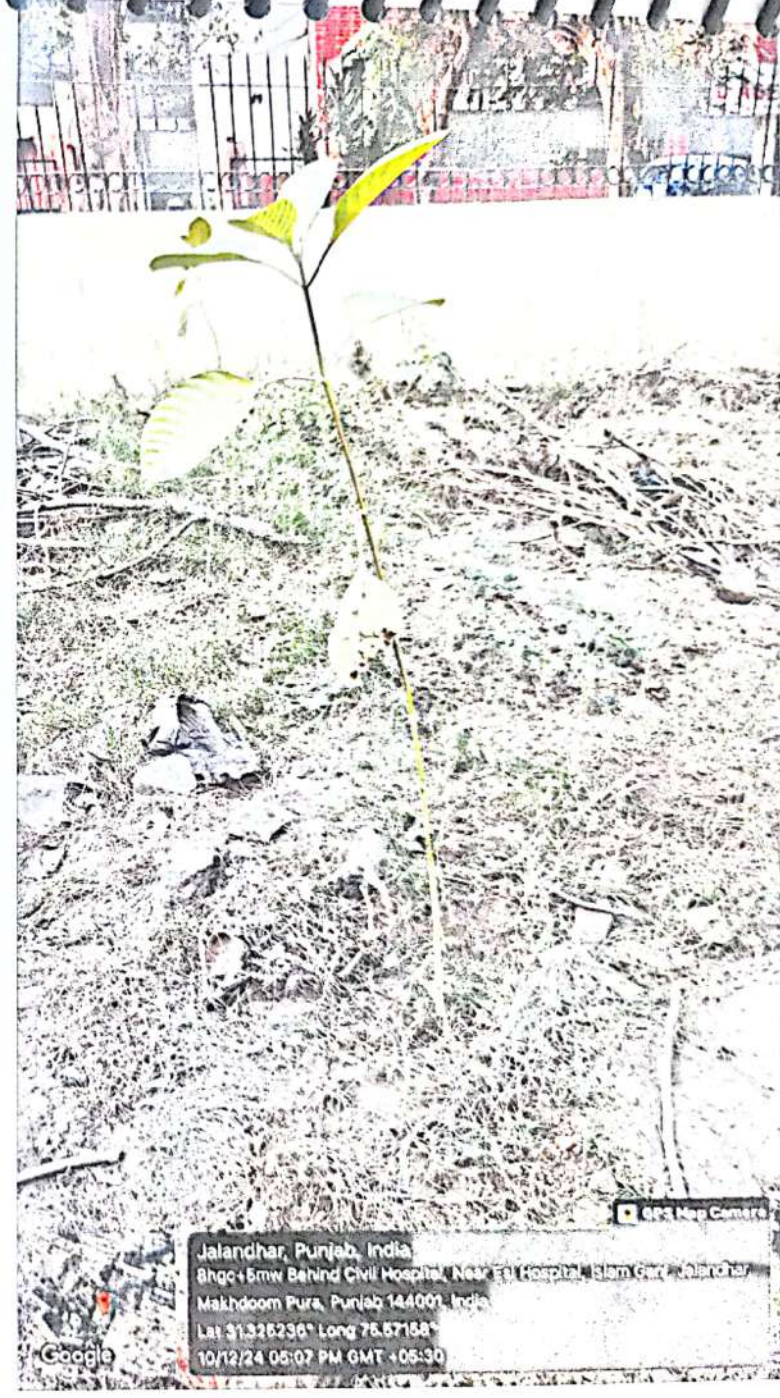
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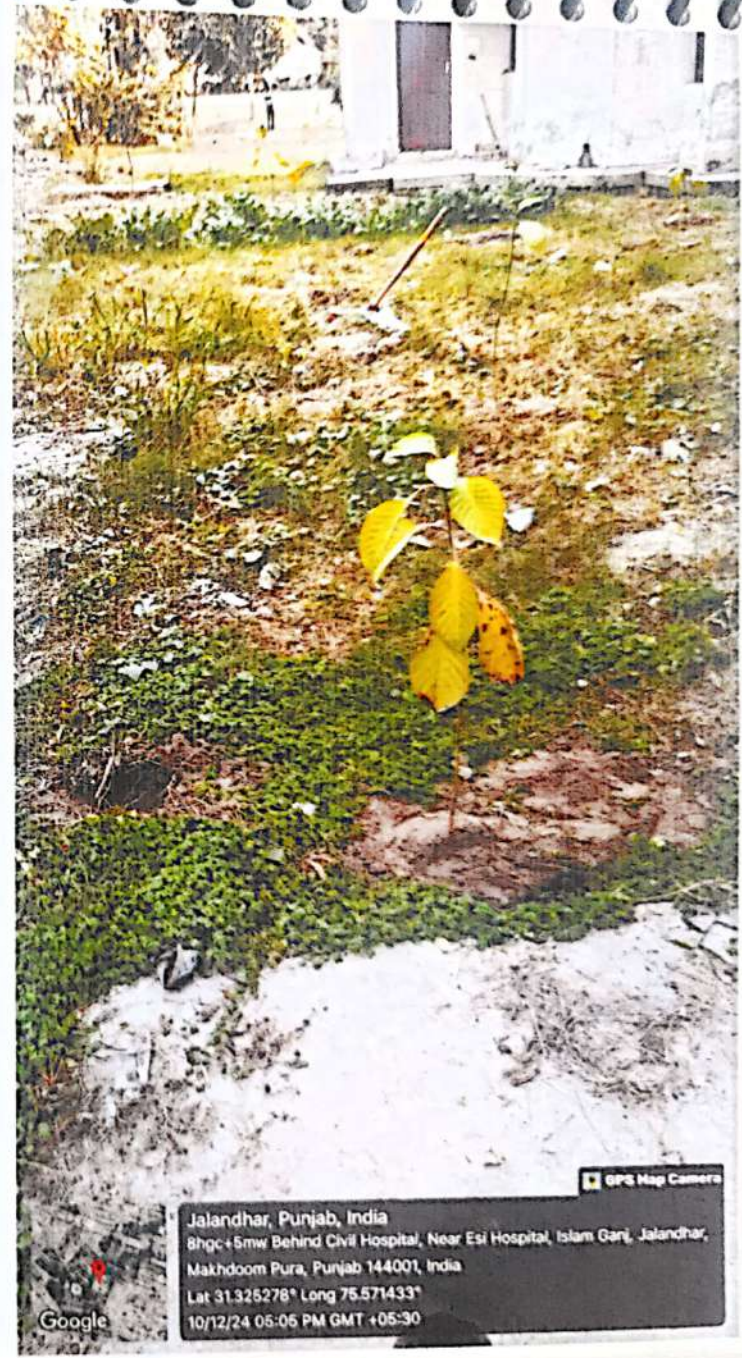


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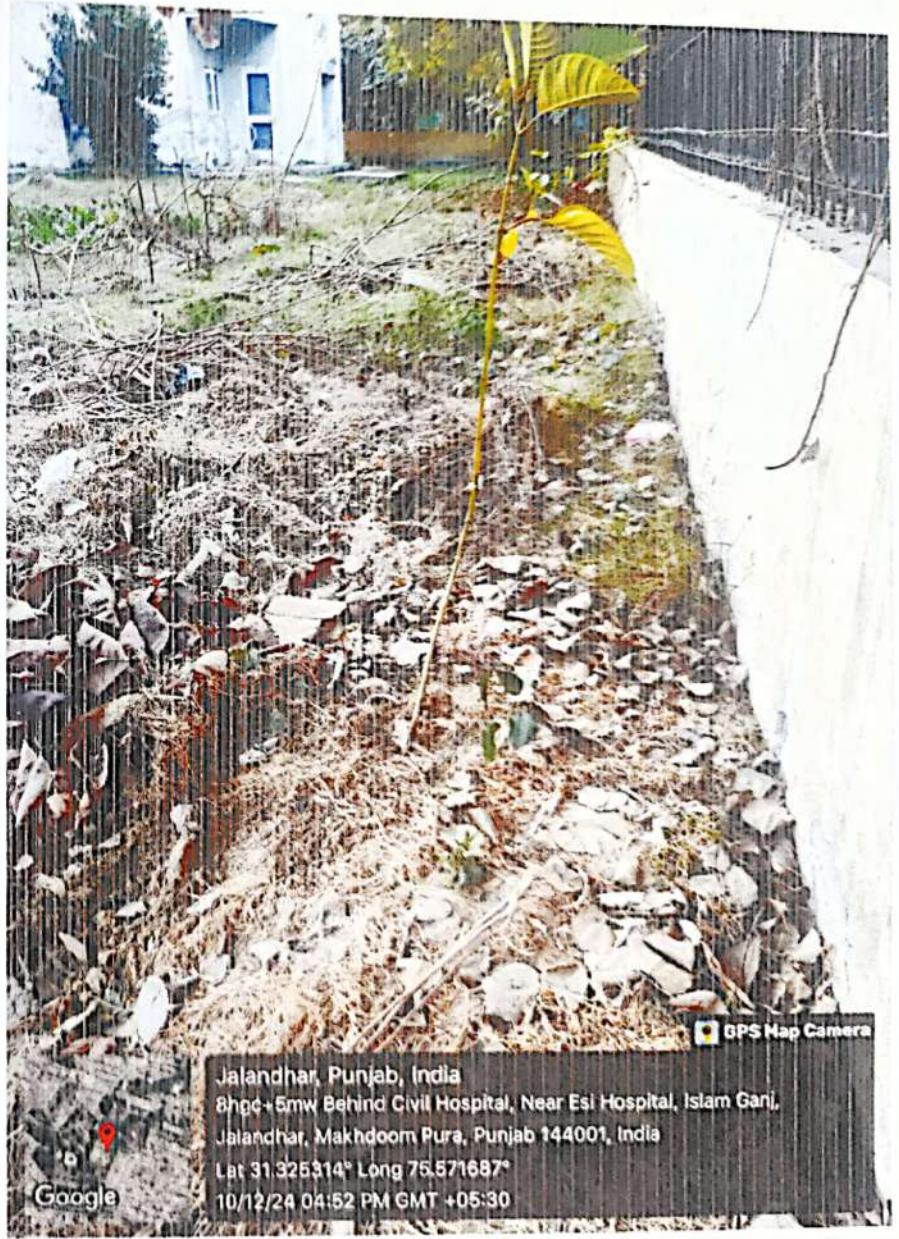






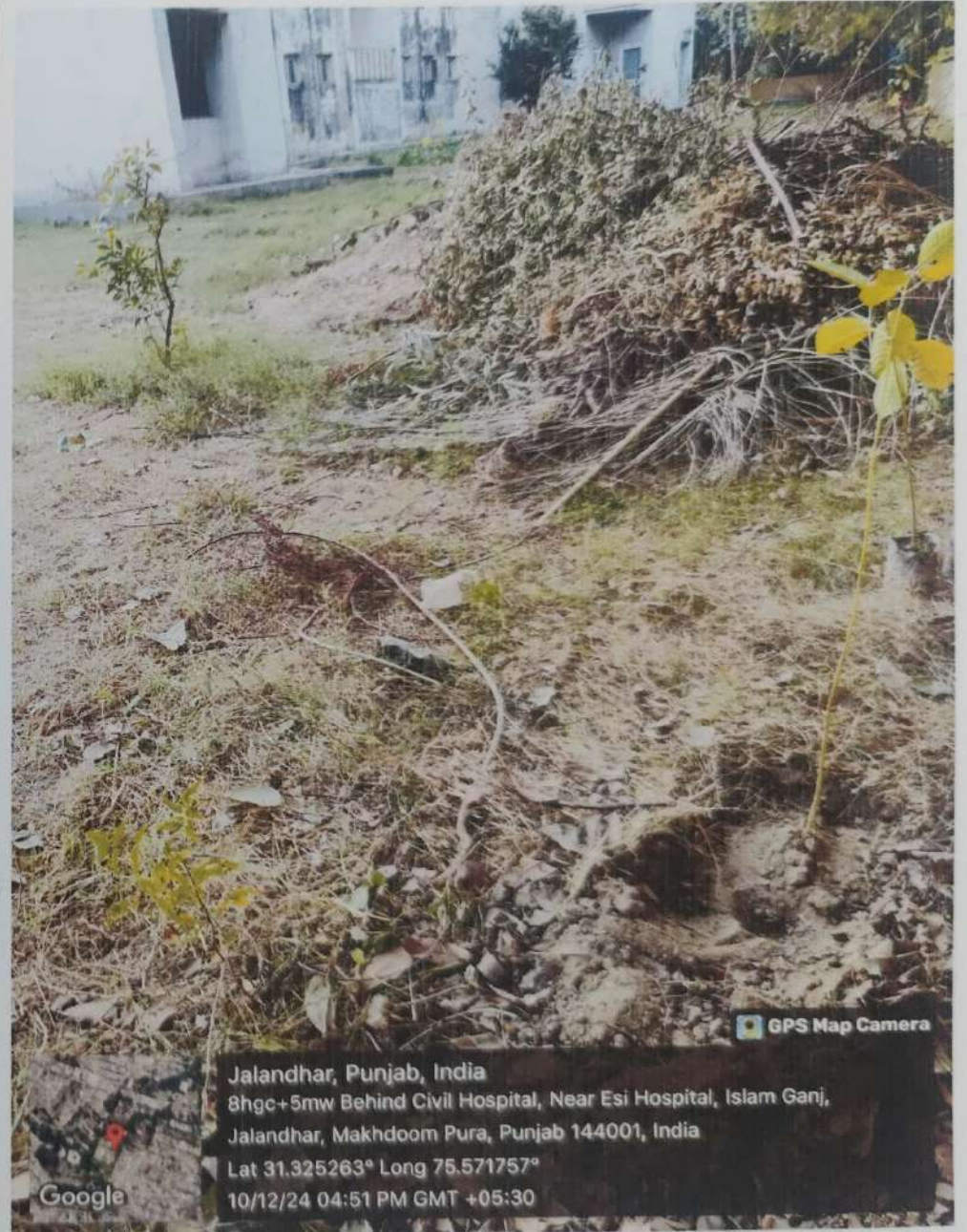
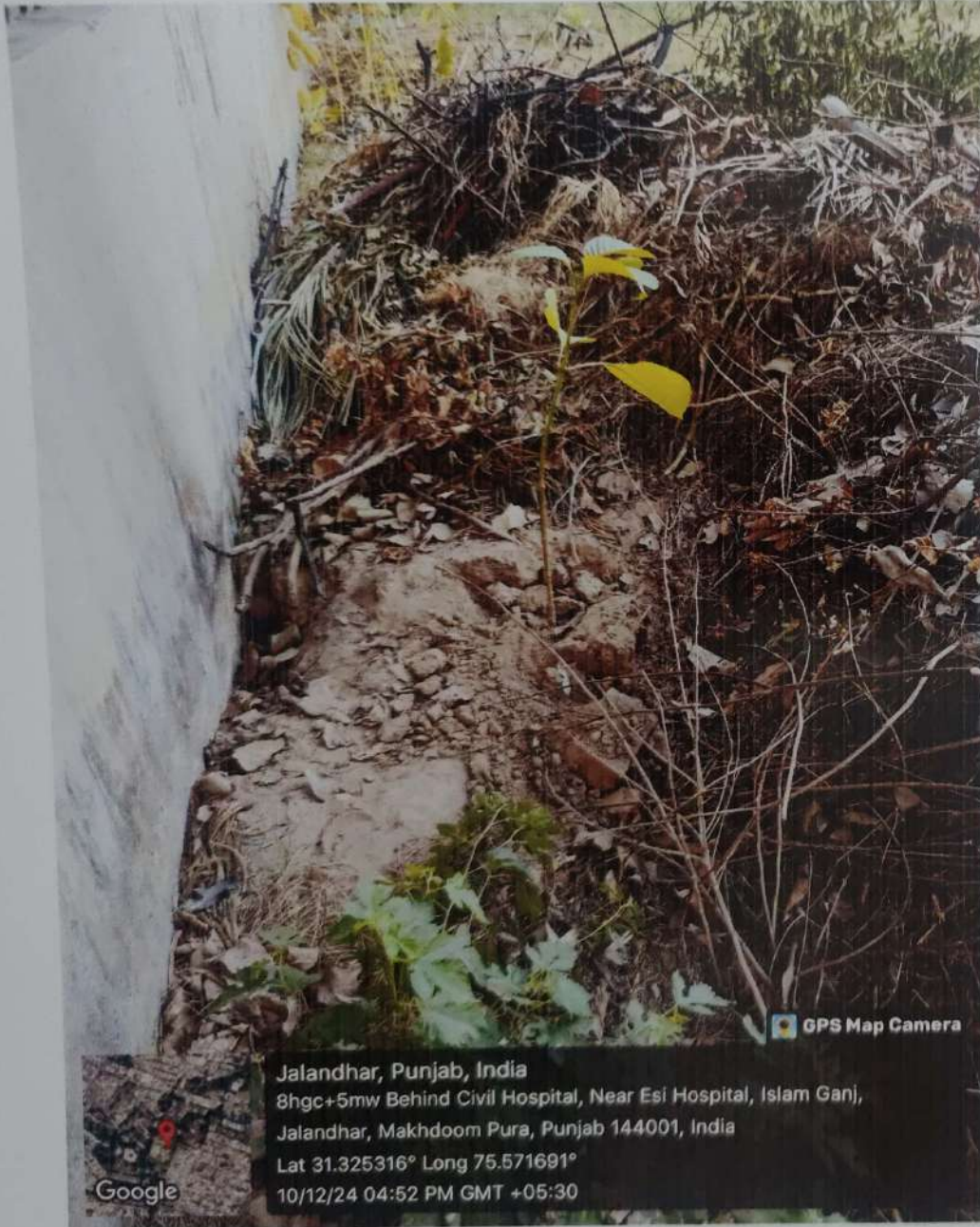
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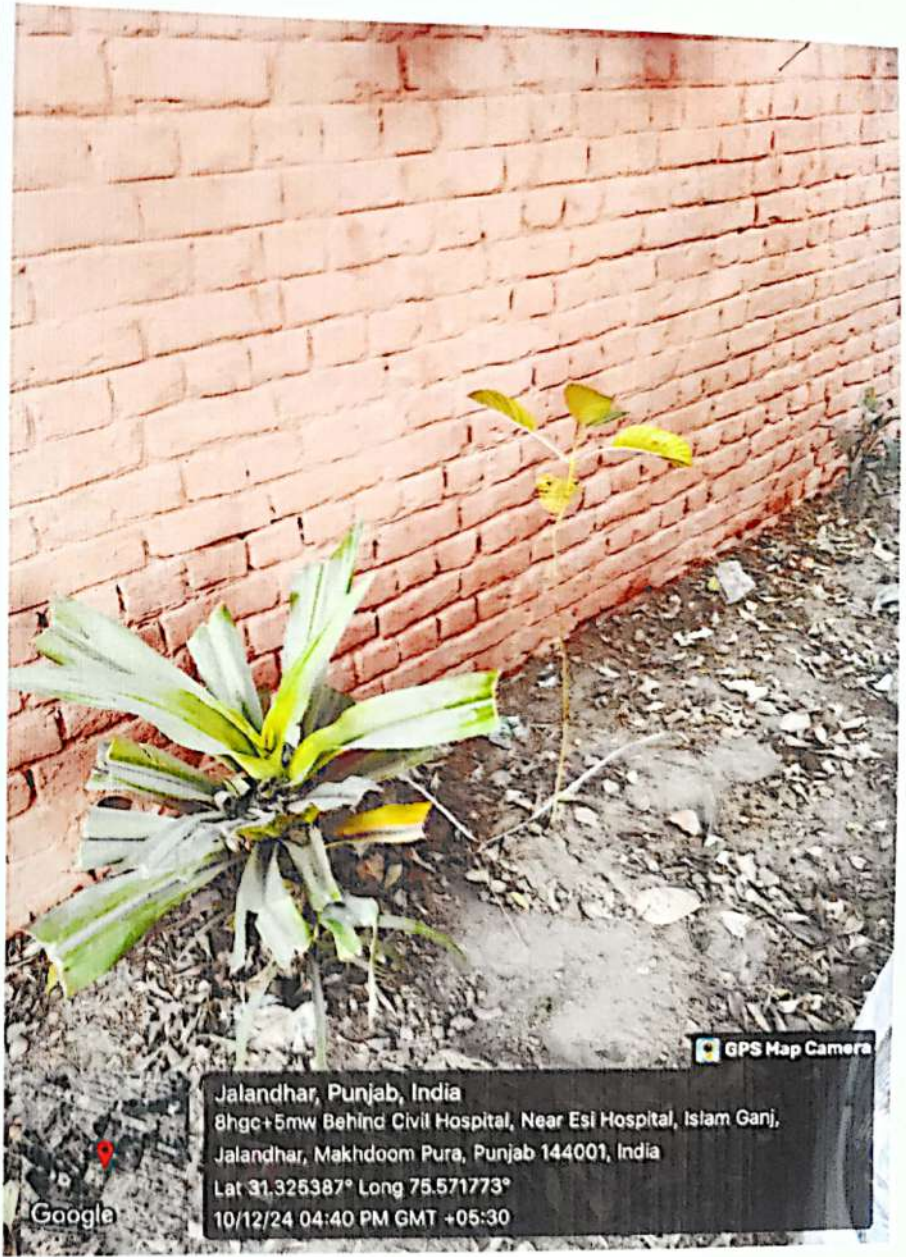




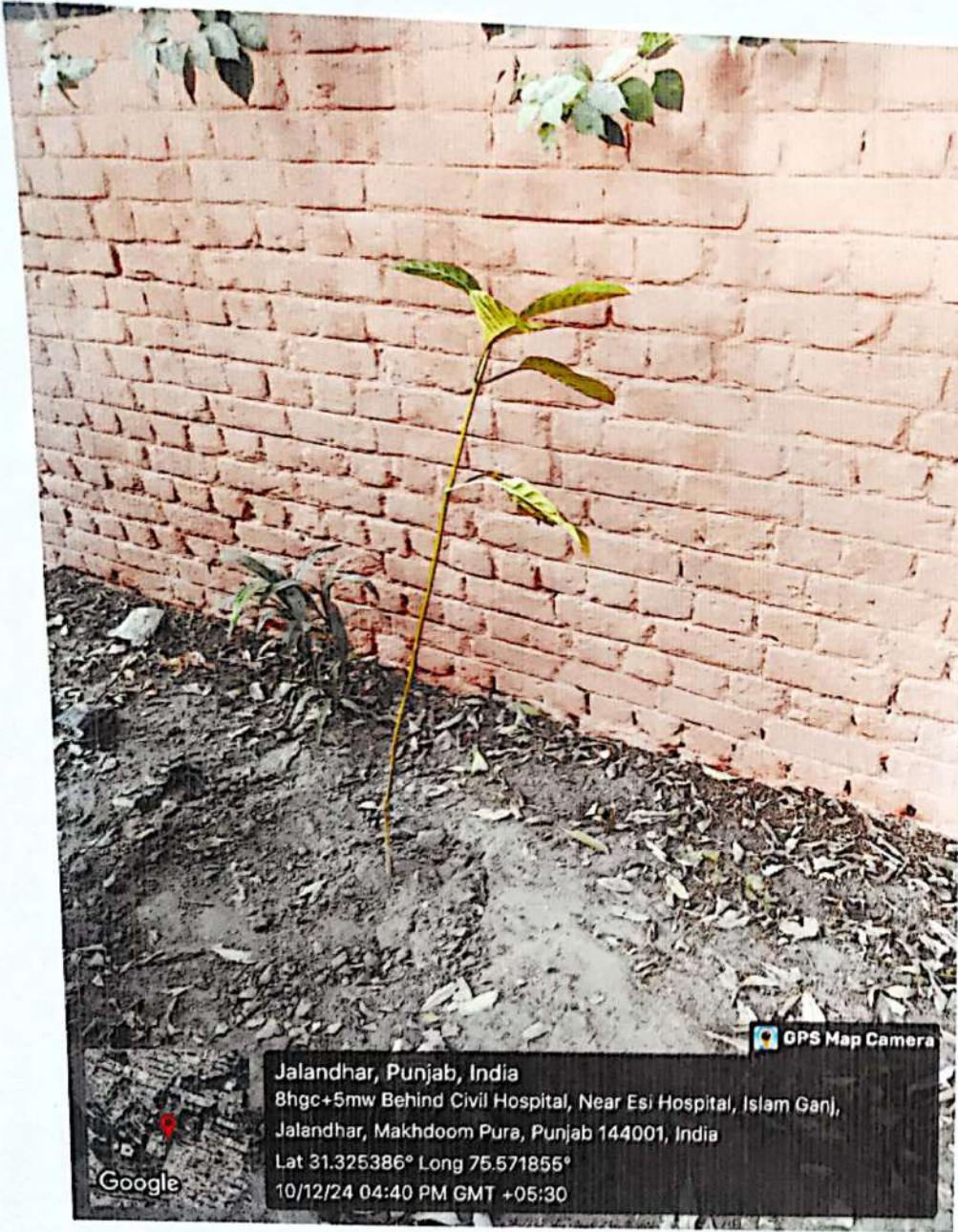


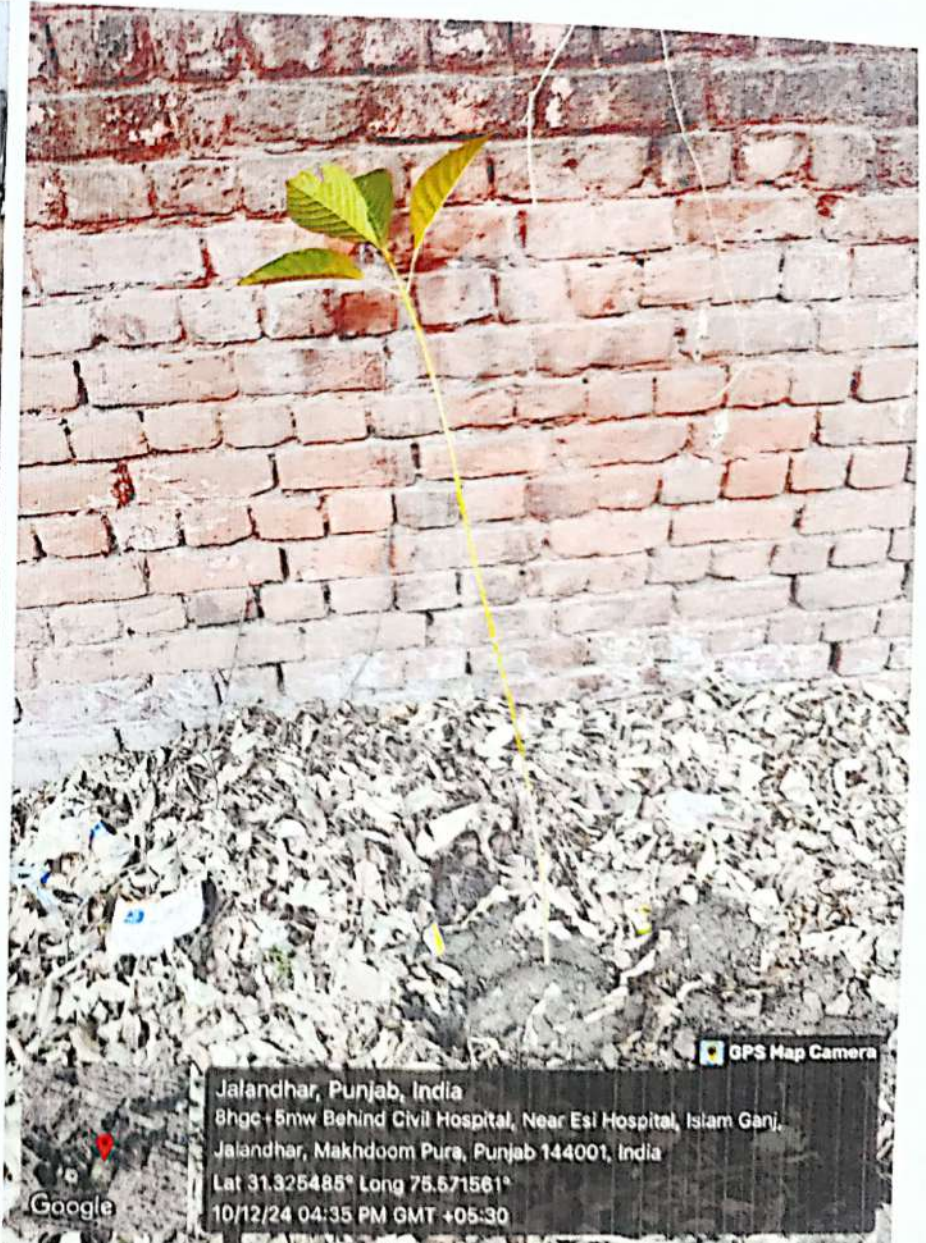


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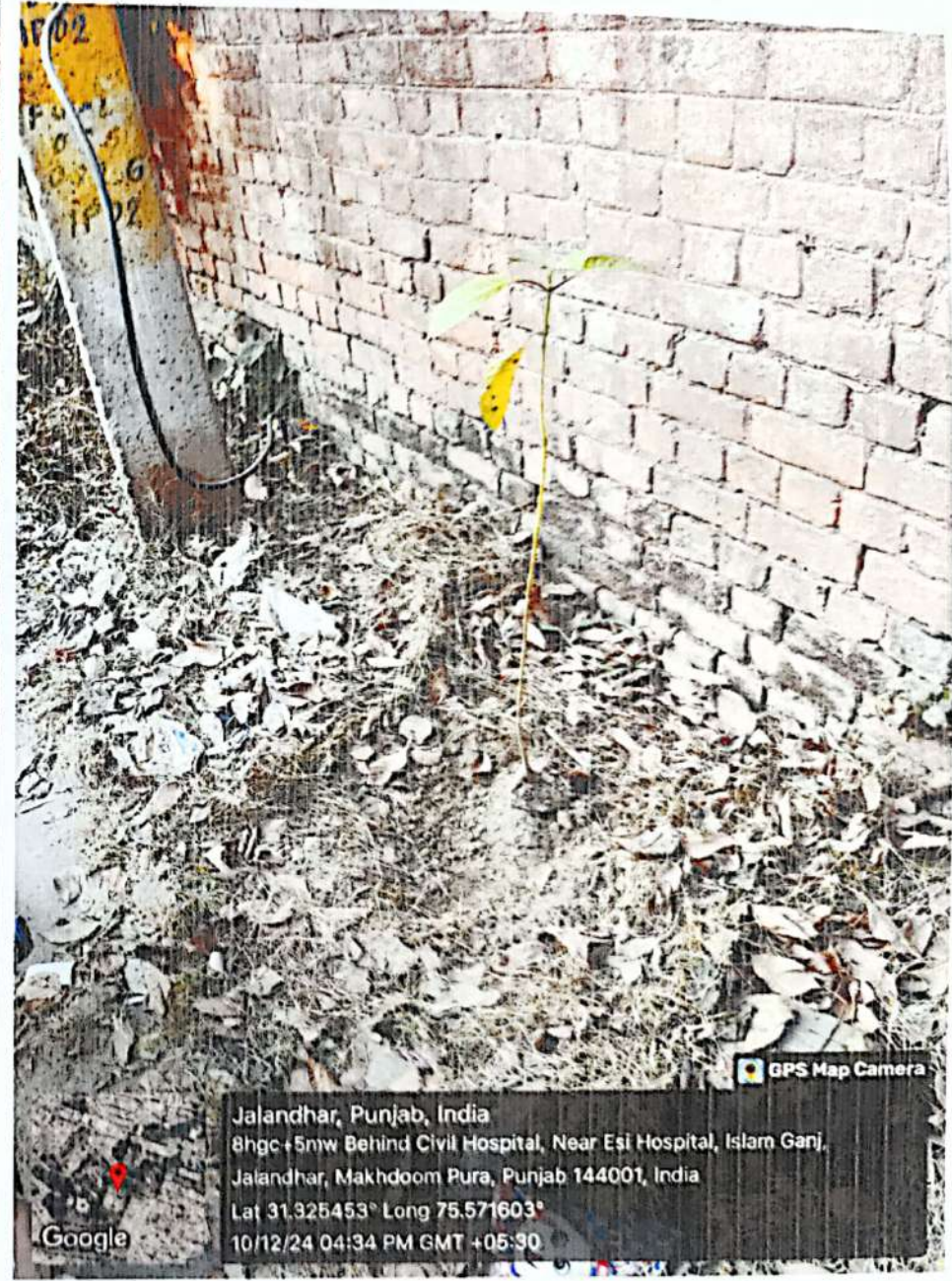
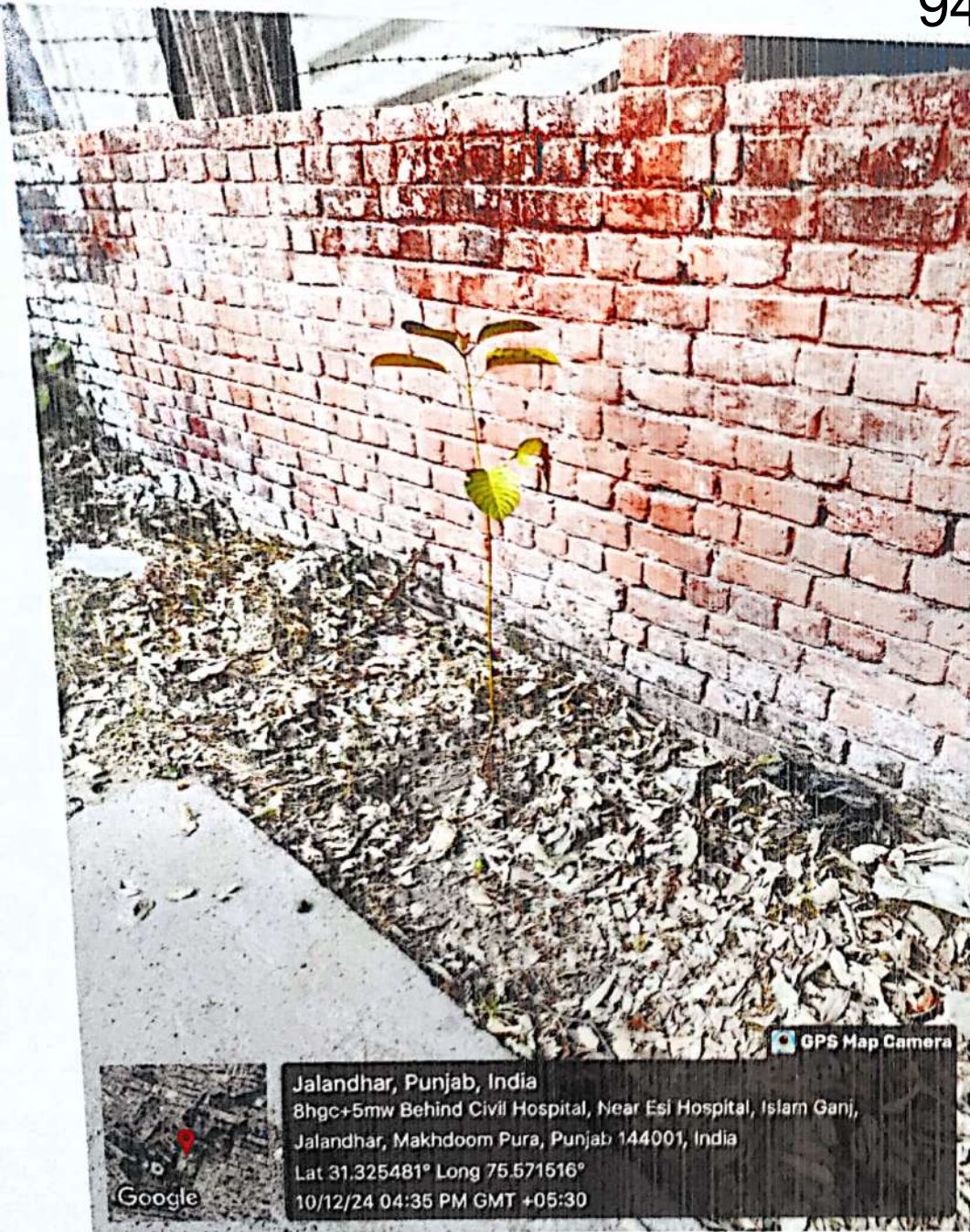


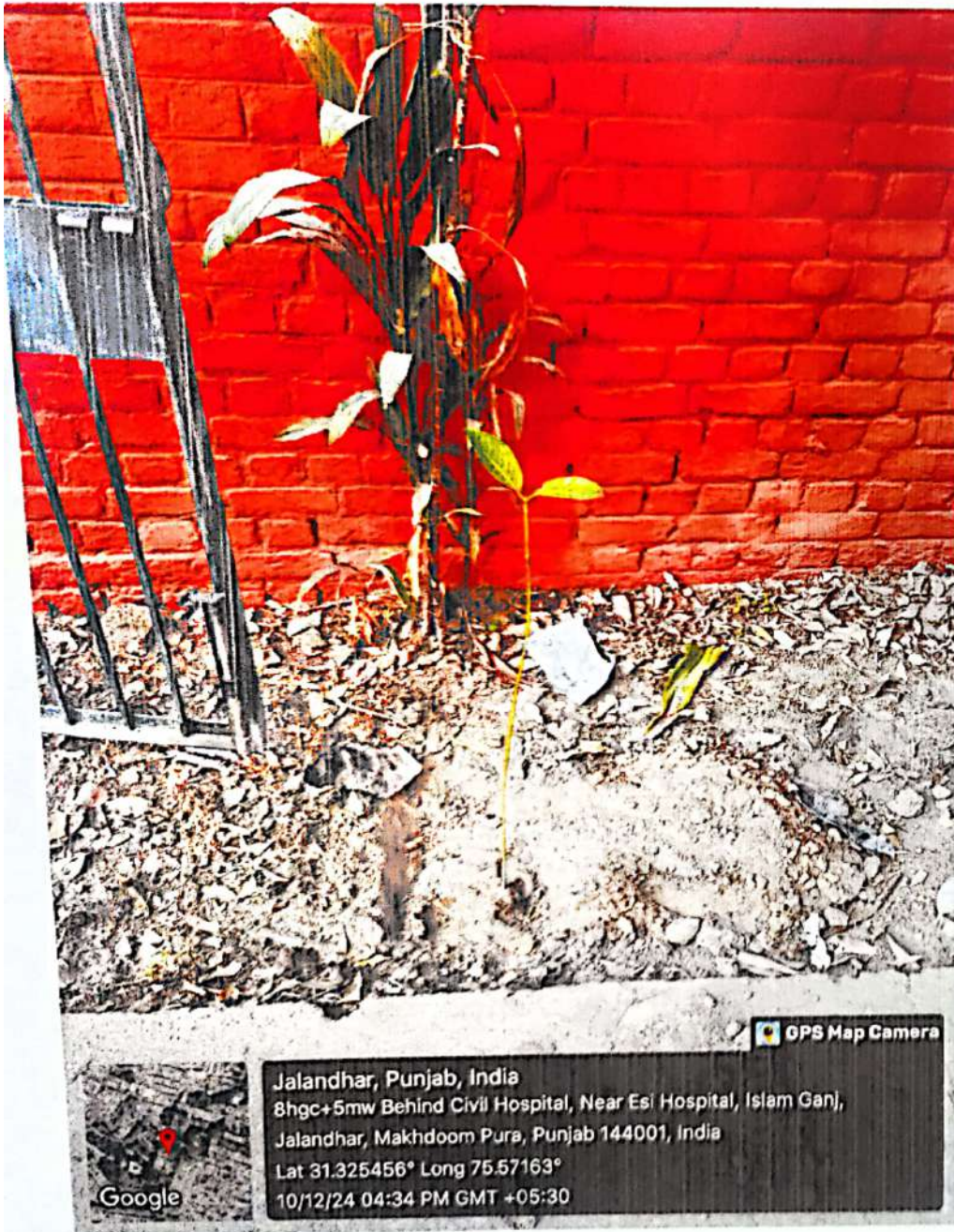


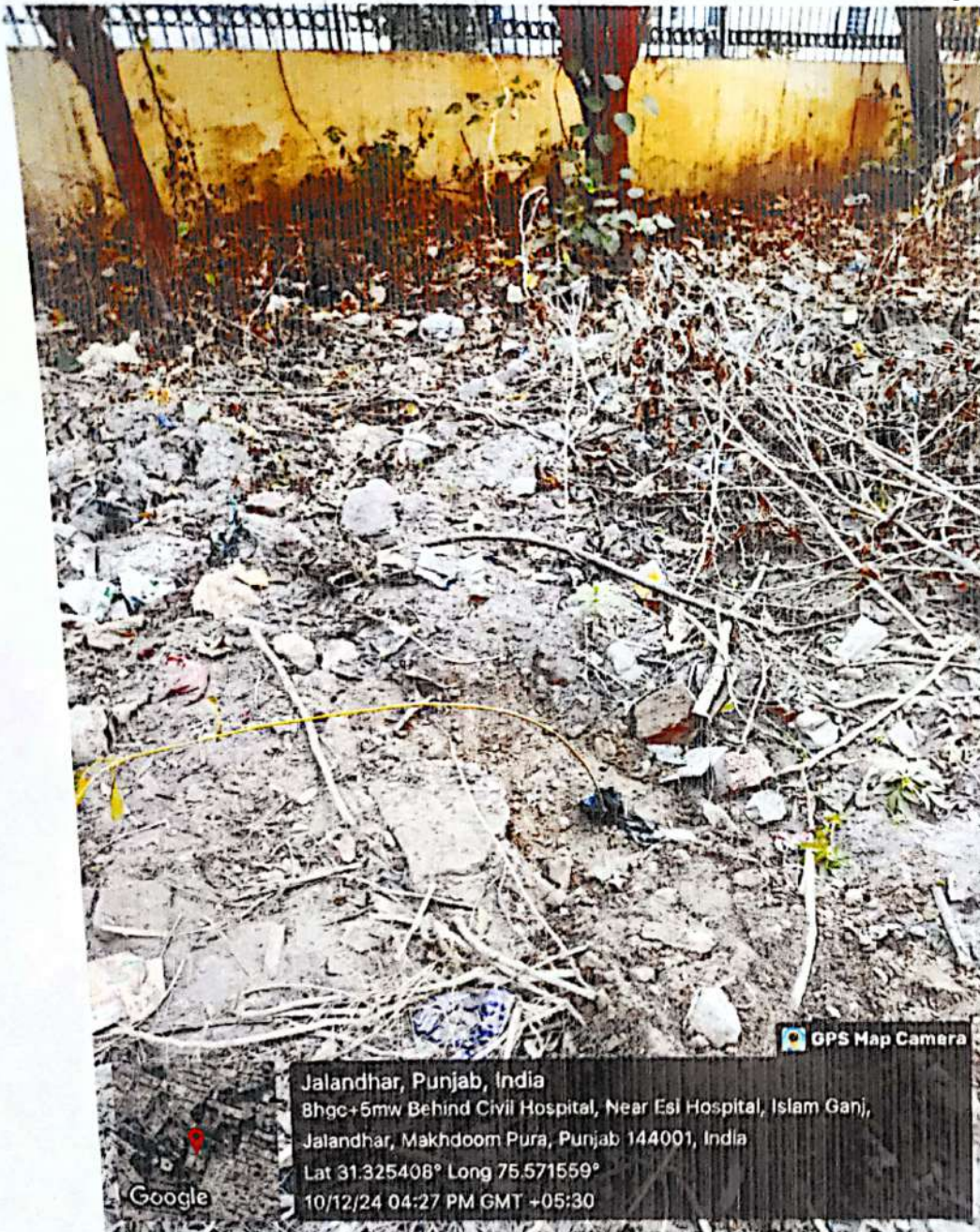
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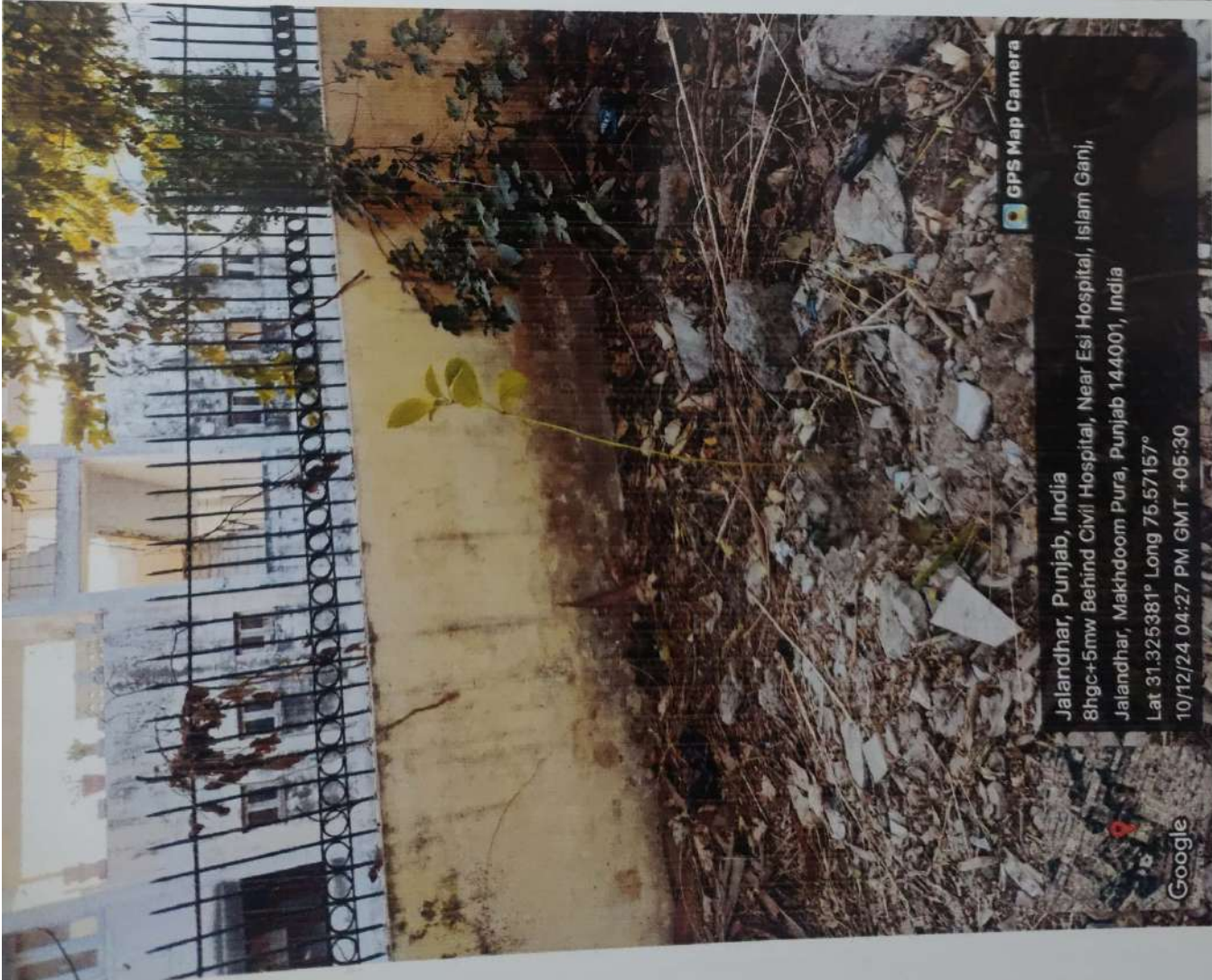


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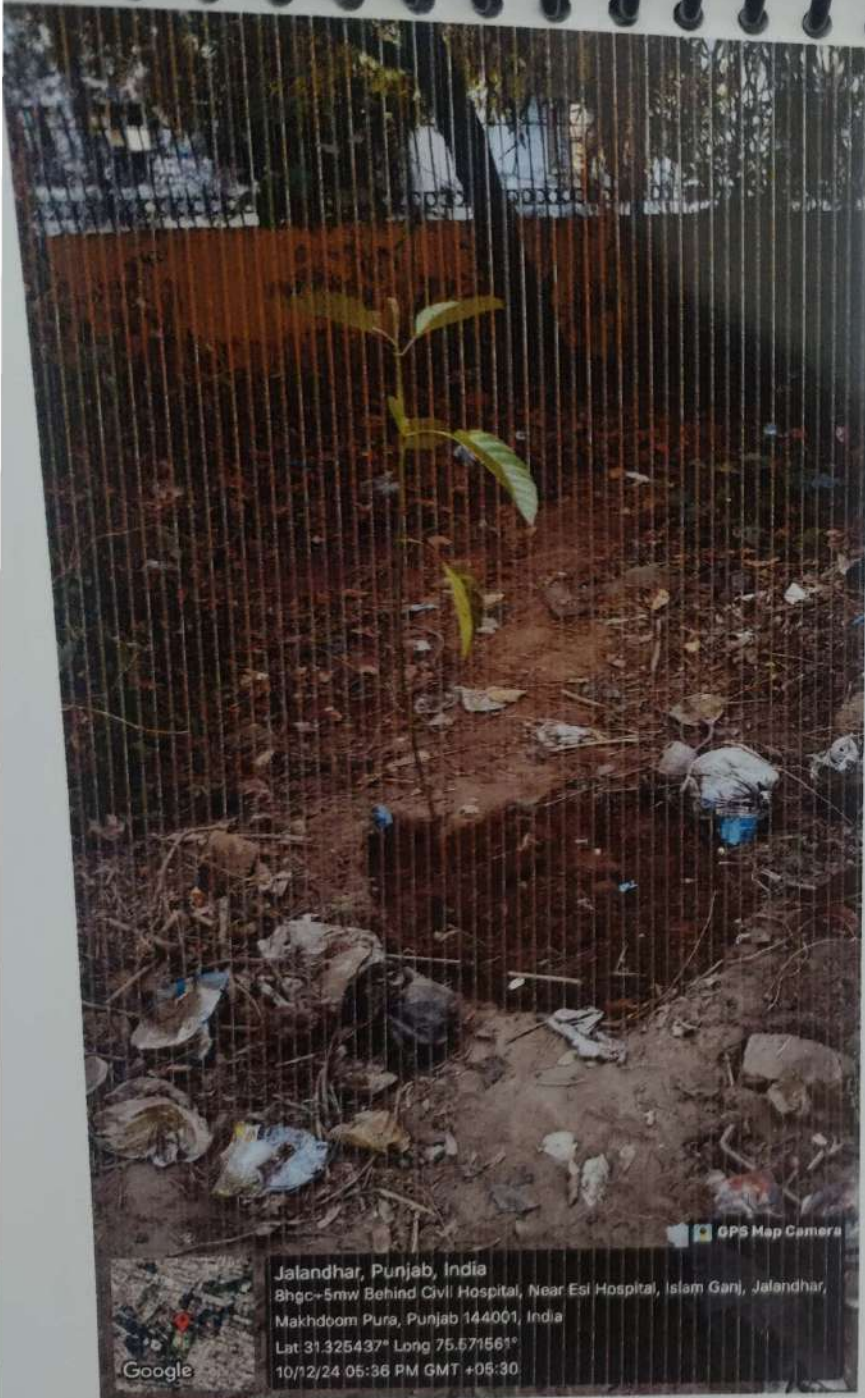












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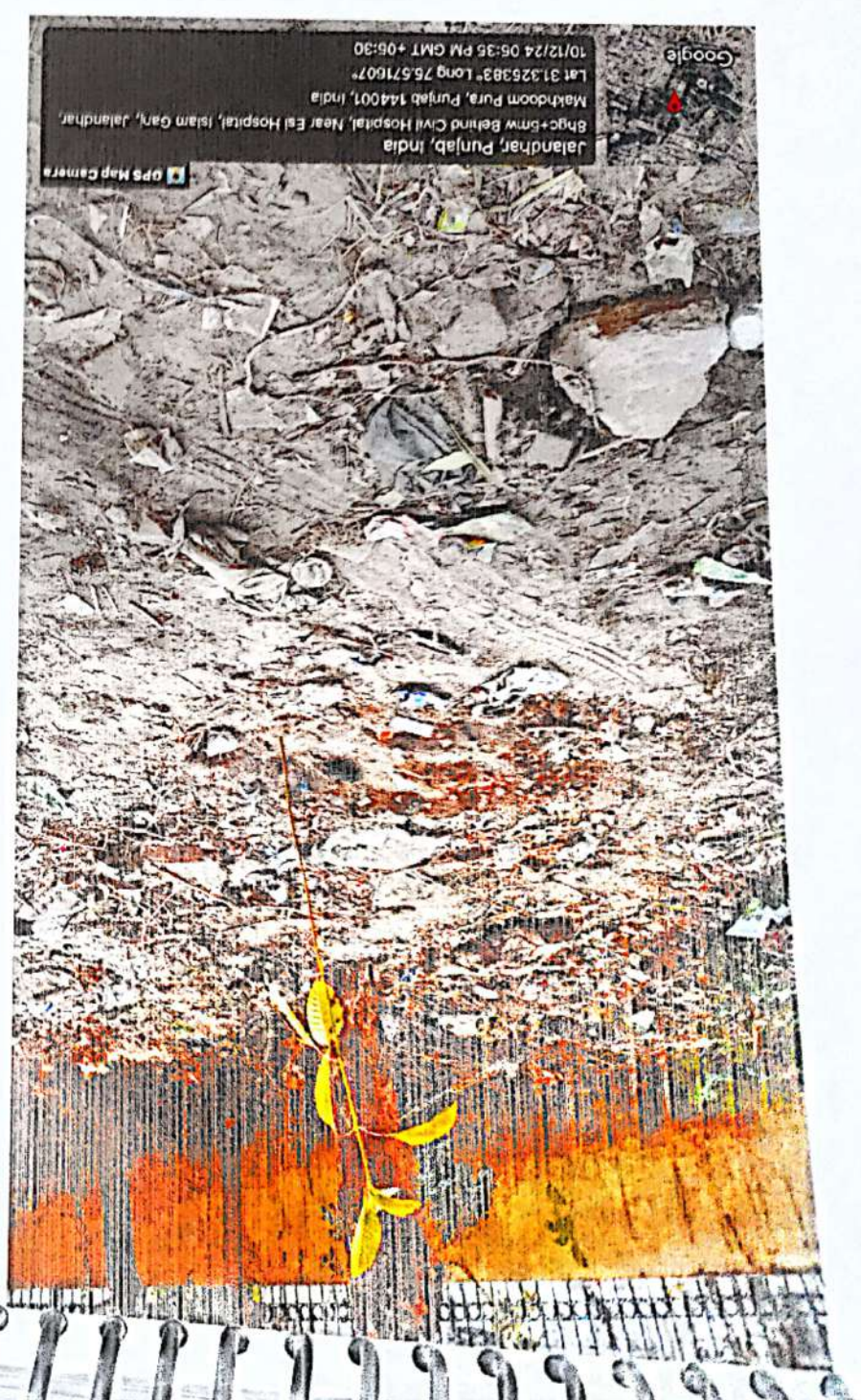
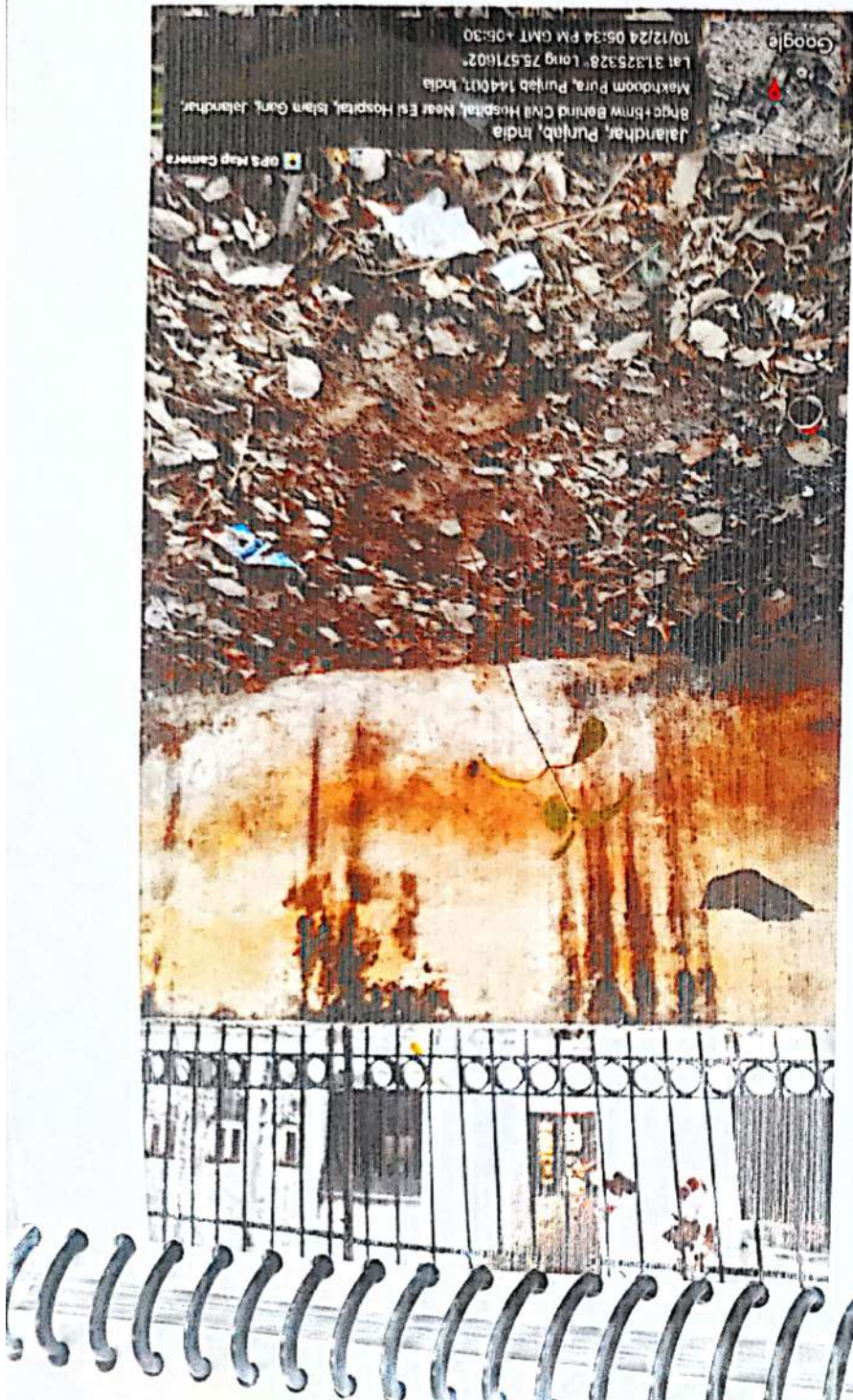
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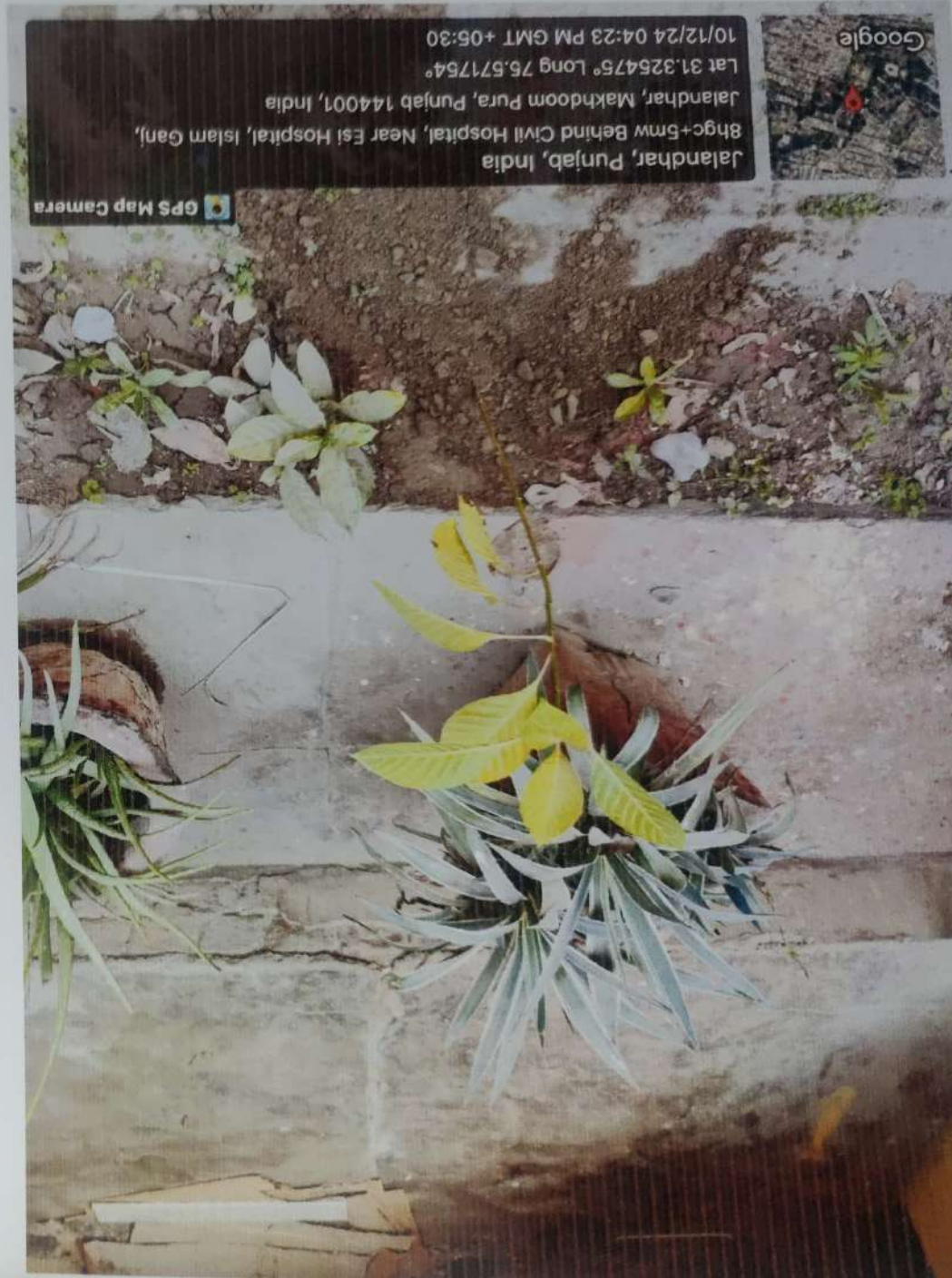


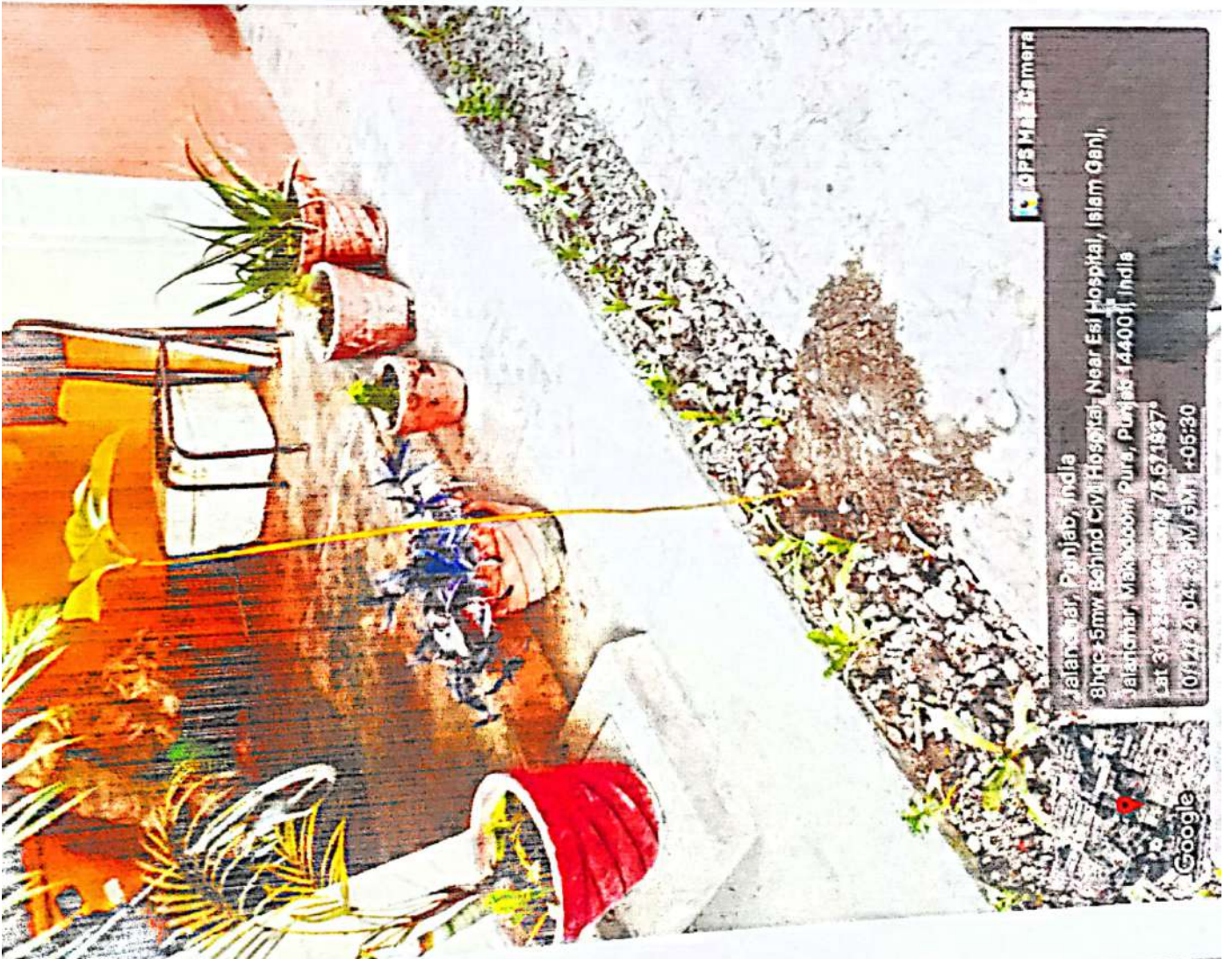
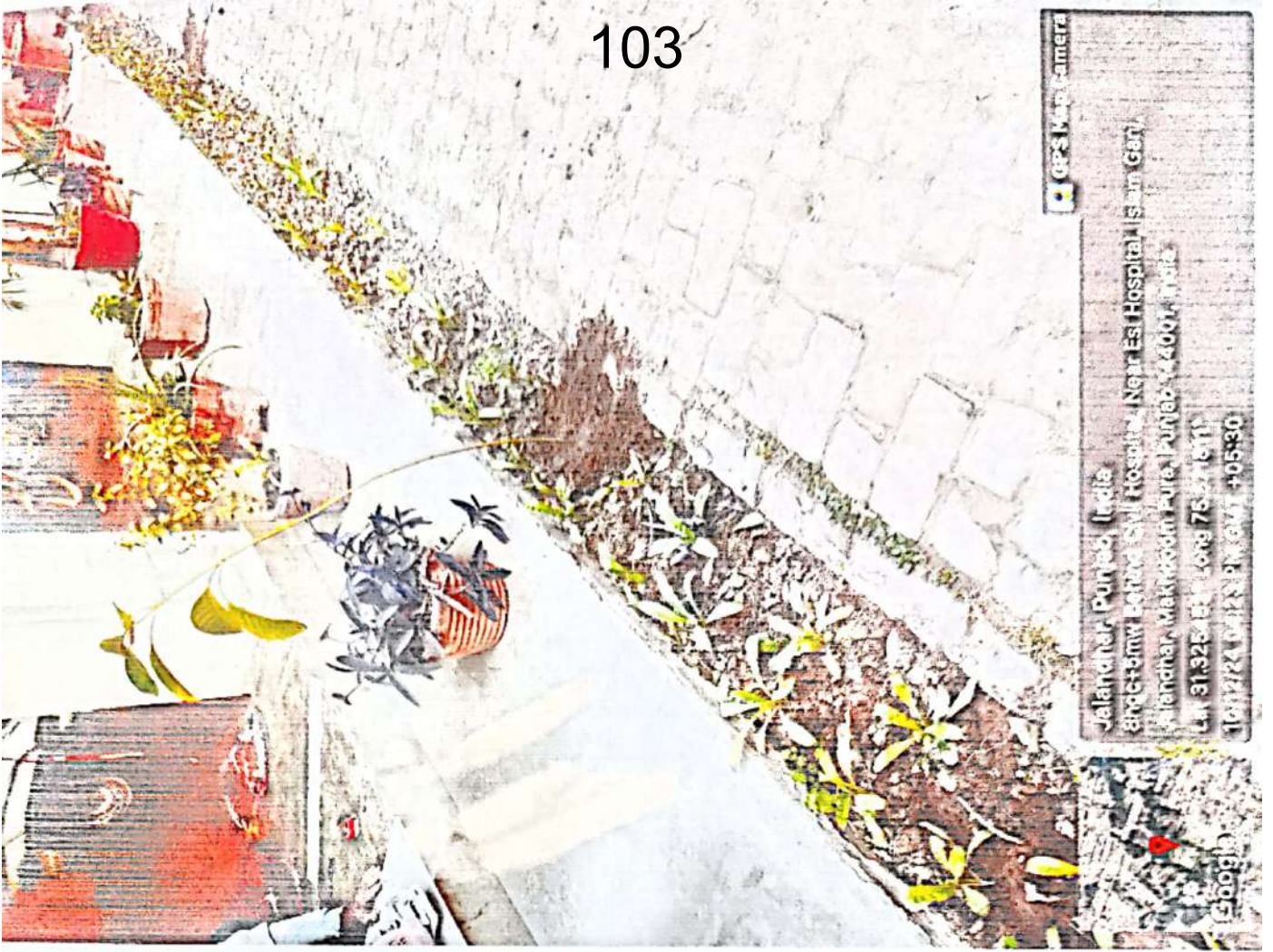
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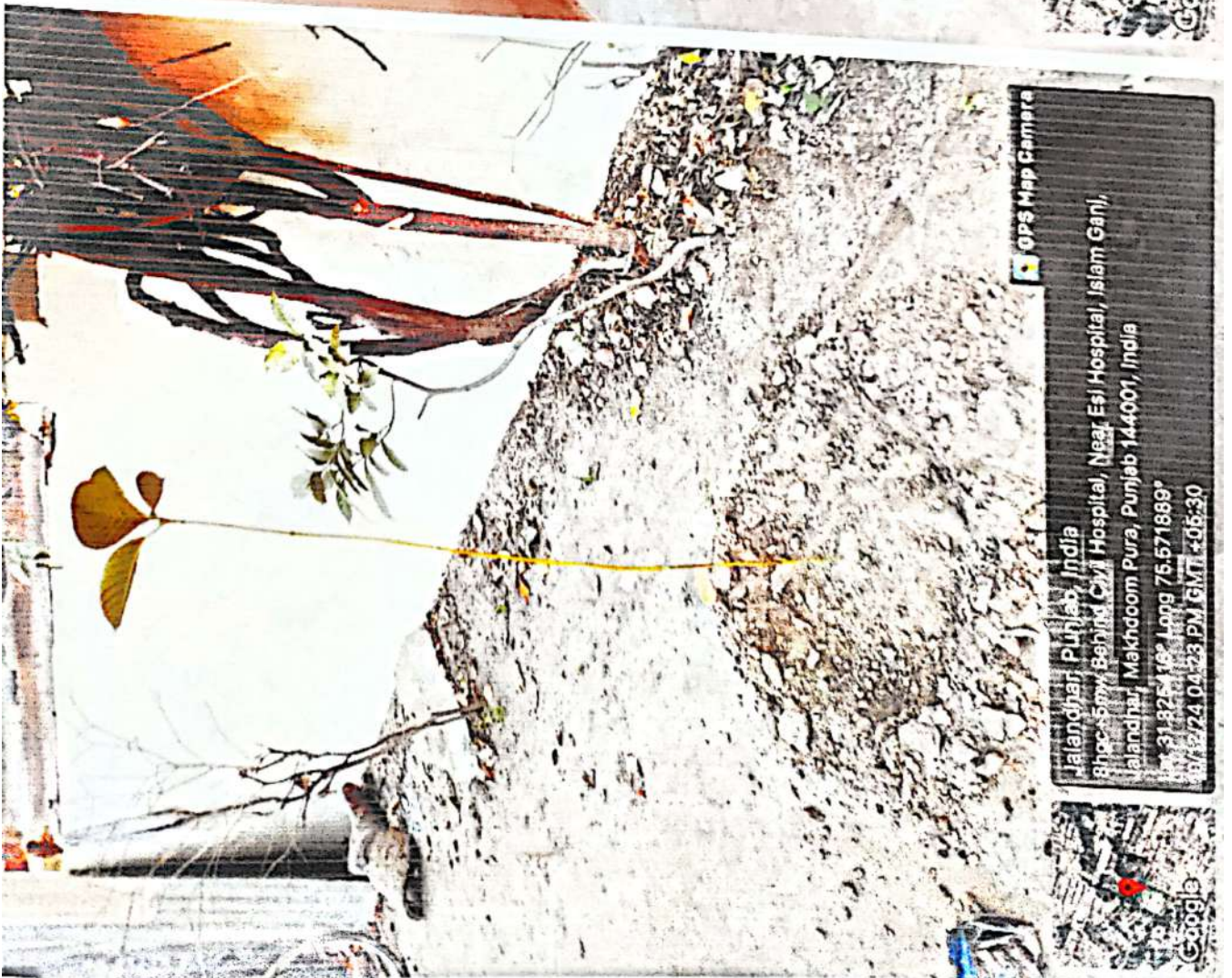
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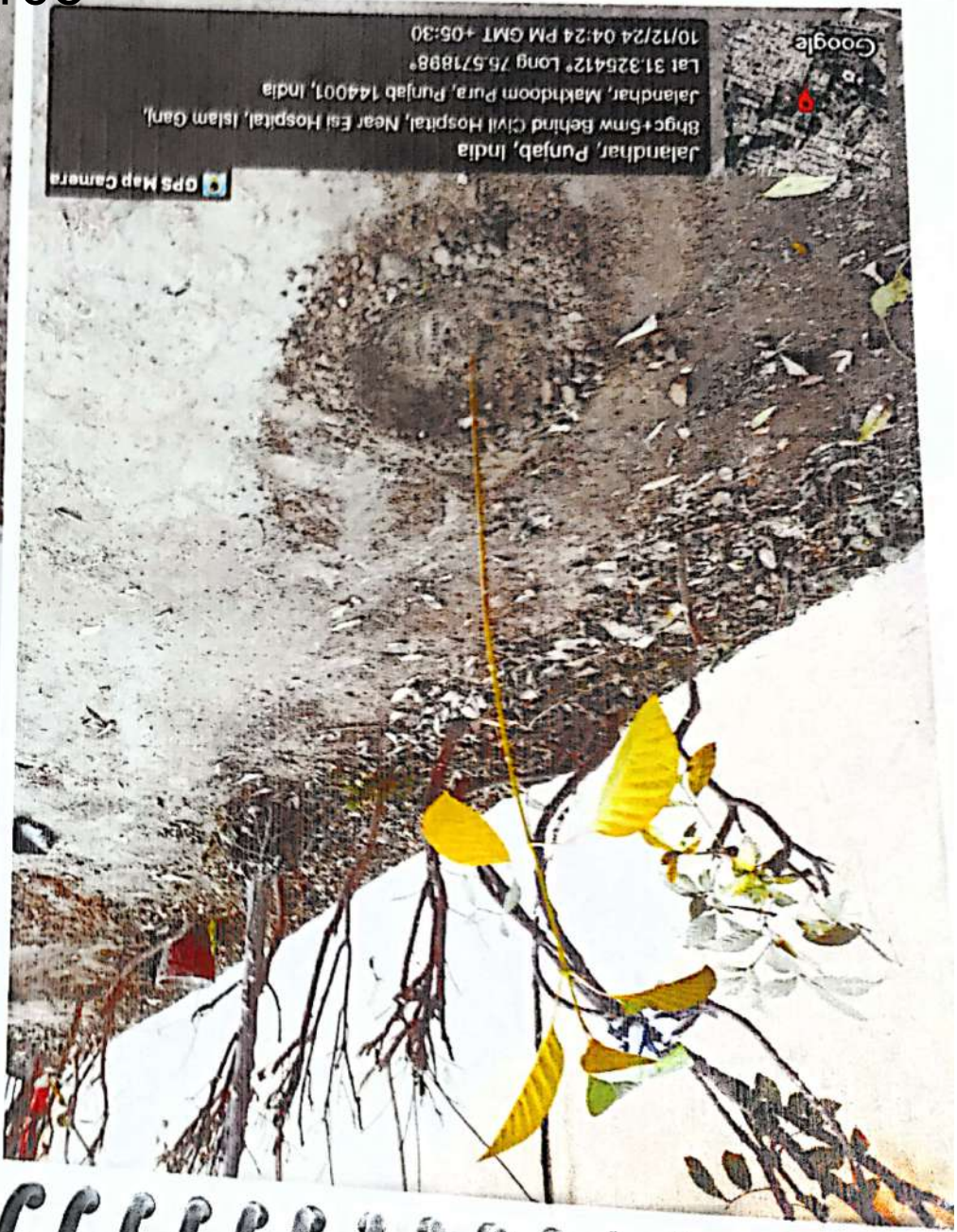
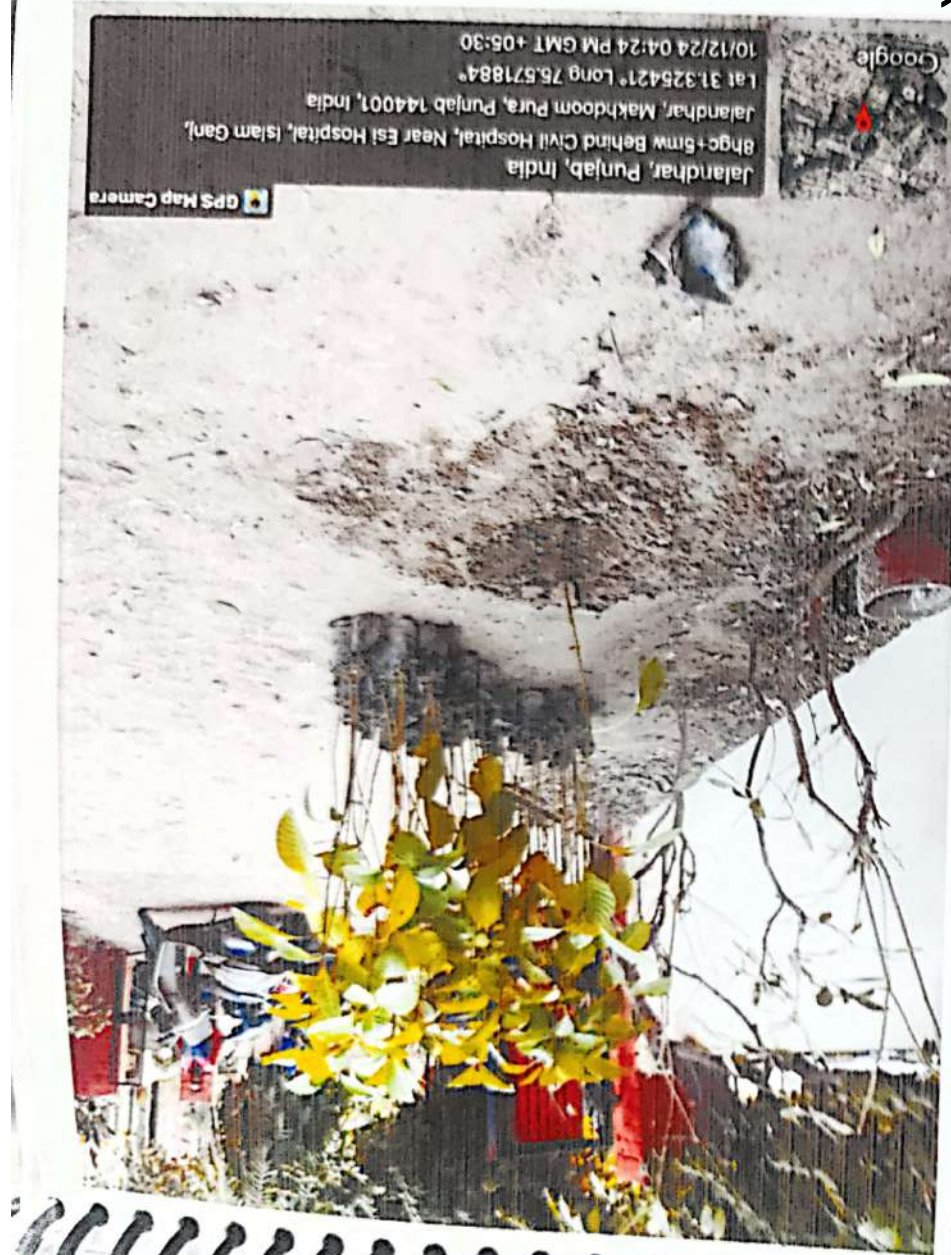
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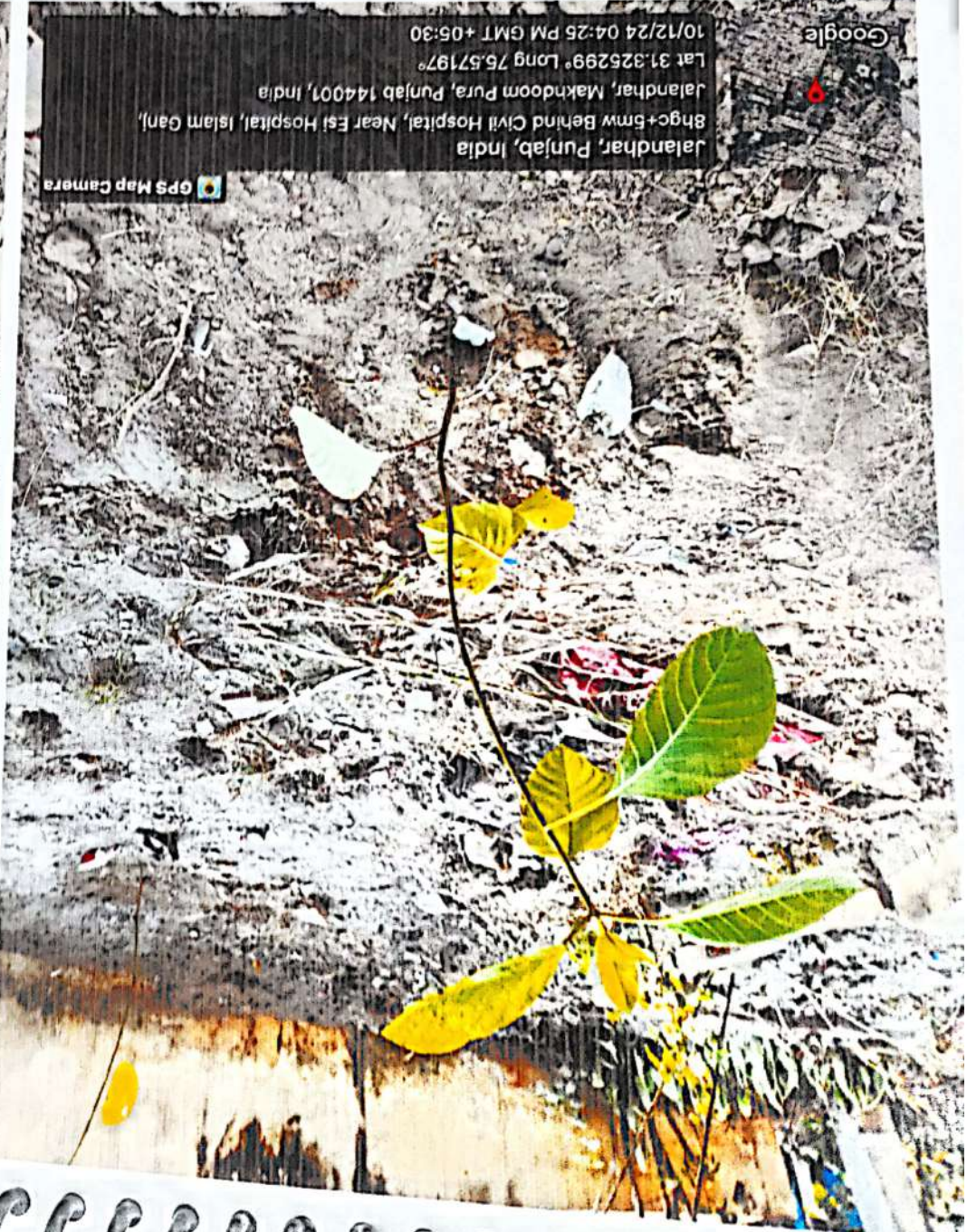


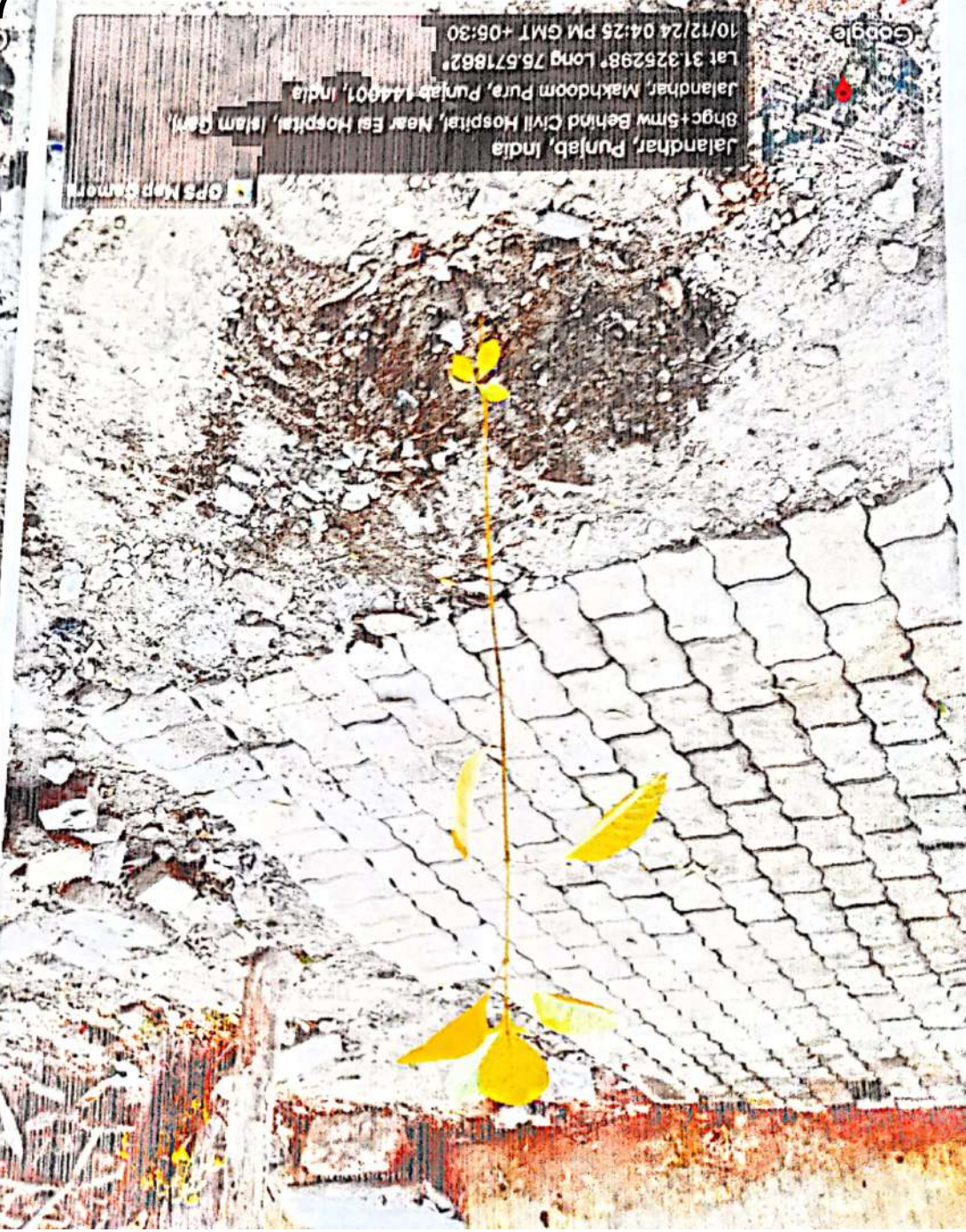
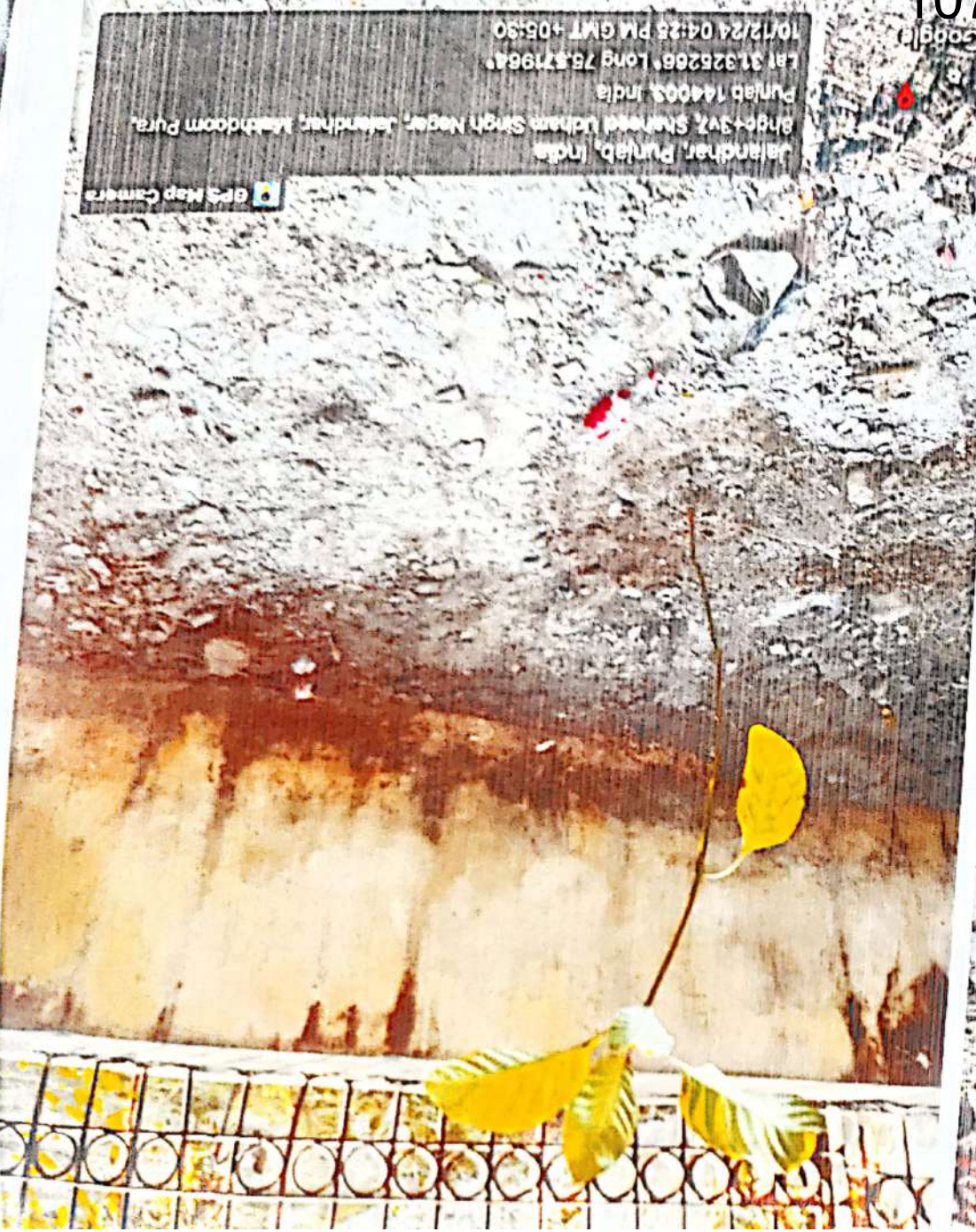














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GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS & WILDLIFE PRESERVATION
(FOREST BRANCH)

Notification No. DFWLP-45/ 144 /2024 -O/o FINANCIAL COMM.-FOREST &
WILDLIFE /I/925874/2024

Chandigarh, Dated: 12-09-2024

TREE PRESERVATION POLICY FOR NON FOREST GOVERNMENT AND
PUBLIC LANDS- 2024

1. PREAMBLE

1.1 Punjab, the grain basket of India has about 85% of its area under agriculture and the remaining area is under other land uses like residential/commercial, roads/railways infrastructure, industrial, irrigation canals, forests etc. The forest and tree cover of the state is around 5.92% of the geographical area and as per the Sustainable Development Goals, the State is aiming to increase it to 7.5% by promoting tree plantation and conserving existing tree cover on both forest as well as non- forest lands by the year 2030. Promoting Agroforestry is also one of the key thrust areas to achieve this target. In order to provide a healthy environment, mitigate global warming and to arrest fall of ground water level, efforts are being made to protect existing tree cover on forest as well as non-forest lands and promote diversification of agriculture so as to bring more and more area under tree cover.

1.2 The analysis of current legal and administrative provisions pertaining to trees on non-forest government land/public land (henceforth termed as the "SAID LANDS") necessitates a specific policy which brings uniformity of regulations, provides improved inbuilt provisions for protection of trees on SAID LANDS, regulation of removal/felling of trees for developmental and safety purposes from SAID LANDS based on well reasoned justifications apart from compensating environmental losses caused by felling of trees.

2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Policy are as follows –

2.1 Provide institutional mechanism to provide adequate protection to trees standing on the SAID LANDS and to facilitate well-reasoned decision making in cases where removal of trees is inevitable for development and safety and other purposes.

2.2 To provide adequate mechanism to compensate the environmental loss caused by the felling of trees while implementing developmental projects on the said lands.

2.3 Provide adequate tree cover on the SAID LANDS thereby safeguarding and providing a better living environment to the people of the State.

3. EXTENT

3.1 The policy is applicable on all non-forest lands owned by the State Government Departments, all State owned institutions, Local Bodies and lands of Panchayats excluding lands notified under Punjab Land Preservation Act, 1900.

3.2 The policy will however, not be applicable in cases where any government or semi government research institutes require felling of trees for the purpose of research.

4. REGULATION OF FELLING OF TREES AND PROTECTION OF TREES

4.1 The owners of the SAID LAND will take all necessary and possible measures to protect trees from illicit felling, pruning and pollarding by evolving their own mechanisms and use provisions of Indian Penal Code or any other law applicable to penalize offenders, if required, so as to deter illicit felling, pruning and pollarding of trees on the said lands.

4.2 Following Committees at sub-divisional level, District level and

State level shall be constituted to regulate the policy:

4.2.1 The Sub-Divisional Level Committee:

(a)

Sr. no.	Designation	
(i)	Sub-Divisional Magistrate	Chairman
(ii)	Forest Range Officer	Member Secretary
(iii)	Sub-Divisional Level Officer of Concerned land owning Department or any other officer in case there is no sub-divisional officer	Member
(iv)	Representative of concerned Municipal body	Member
(v)	Block Development and Panchayat Officer of Block Concerned	Member

(b) For the areas under the jurisdiction of the Urban Development Authorities of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the following committee shall take appropriate decisions instead of committee at sub para (a) above:

Sr. no.	Designation	
(i)	Chief Administrator of the respective authority	Chairman
(ii)	Forest Range Officer	Member Secretary
(iii)	Representative of the Deputy Commissioner concerned	Member
(iv)	Representative of the concerned Municipal body	Member

4.2.2 The District Level Committee:

Sr.	Designation	

no.		
(i)	Deputy Commissioner	Chairman
(ii)	Divisional Forest Officer	Member Secretary
(iii)	Commissioner or Executive Officer of Municipal Corporation/Municipal Committee as the case may be.	Member
(iv)	Divisional Level Officer of the SAID LAND (PWD, B&R, Water Resources, PSPCL etc.)	Member
(v)	District Development and Panchayat Officer	Member
(vi)	District Level Head of the concerned land Owning Department	Member

4.2.3 The State Level Committee:

Sr. no.	Designation	
(i)	Financial Commissioner (Forests)	Chairman
(ii)	Administrative Secretary Department of Local Government or his representative	Member
(iii)	Administrative Secretary, Housing & Urban Development, or his representative	Member
(iv)	Administrative Secretary Department of Rural Development and Panchayats or his representative	Member
(v)	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF)	Member
(vi)	All Deputy Commissioners in the State of Punjab	Members
(vii)	Officer of the Rank of CCF/APCCF in the Forest Department	Member Secretary

4.3 The State level committee shall review the implementation of the policy from time to time and should meet preferably once in every three months. This committee will also suggest necessary changes required in the policy from time to time and look into the inter departmental

coordination issues.

4.4 The respective Member Secretaries in all the committees as mentioned in para 4.2.1 and 4.2.2 shall place the agenda before the respective Committees as received from the respective departments. The concerned officers of the land owning department will submit the agenda to the Member Secretary to the respective committee.

4.5 Sub-Divisional Committee shall decide about developmental cases involving felling of up to 100 trees per case. District level committee shall decide cases involving felling of more than 100 trees per case. The committees shall prescribe the compensatory plantation plans in case of developmental felling of trees.

4.6 All Departments/institutions desiring to fell trees for developmental works from the SAID LANDS shall send the details of development project and list of trees to be felled through its District level head to a Committee at Sub-Division or District level depending upon the number of trees required to be felled in each case. These Sub-Division or District level committees shall scrutinize and decide upon the need of felling of trees from the SAID LANDS for developmental purposes and issue necessary approvals.

4.7 In cases involving removal of trees posing imminent threat to life and property and where immediate removal of such trees is essential and unavoidable, instead of referring the case to Sub-Division/District/Municipal Corporation Committees, the in-charge of such premises /institute shall report the matter immediately to the District Head of the concerned department, who shall in turn constitute a departmental committee immediately to inspect and certify the threat imposed by such trees. The report of the committee after due acceptance by the District Head of the Department concerned shall be sent to the

concerned premises in- charge and the same shall be treated as permission to fell such trees which are an immediate threat to life and property. District Head of the Department shall also endorse the copy of above letter (along with committee report) to concerned chairpersons of the committees for information. Value of such trees will be got assessed by respective Divisional Forest Officer before felling of trees. The Divisional Forest Officers shall determine the price of such trees within 24 hours of receipt of such reference from the district head of the Department. This will be applicable to all species of trees.

4.8 In case of trees which require pruning or removal due to high tension wires, PSPCL will be the nodal department to take up the case to the concerned district/sub-divisional level committee in coordination with the institutions/owners of the trees.

4.9 All departments shall adopt the approach of avoidance, reduction and offsetting with respect to need of felling of trees on the SAID LANDS while designing and implementing the developmental projects. Efforts shall be made to preserve Old/Heritage trees of species like Pipal, Bohar, Neem etc. and recommendation of their felling should be made only in rarest of rare cases.

4.10 District Level officers of various departments shall ensure that no felling of trees take place in their jurisdiction without the approval obtained as per the provisions of this policy. In case there is a violation of the policy, apart from the other actions as per the policy and the law applicable, such district level officers shall be proceeded as per the disciplinary proceedings as provided in the Punjab Civil Services Punishment Conduct and Appeal Rules. Further, in case of the educational institutions in particular, apart from the district level officers, such an action shall also be initiated against the respective institutional head.

4.11 In case trees are required to be felled for the research purpose, prior written intimation of the same to the concerned district/sub-divisional level committee should be done by the concerned department.

4.12 If a village Panchayat is promoting agroforestry on their own lands and enhancing the tree cover of the state, no restriction in felling of such trees should be imposed provided such Panchayat agree to replant the equivalent area with trees/agroforestry. The Panchayat shall pass a resolution to this effect. In such cases, separate Compensatory plantation should not be made mandatory on Panchayats as mentioned in Para 5 of the Policy.

4.13 Decision on any issue which is not covered in this policy, shall be taken at the discretion of the concerned Committee, which shall take an appropriate and well reasoned decision in the best interest of State and Environment.

5 COMPENSATORY PLANTATIONS

5.1 All Departments shall mainstream Compensatory plantation in their developmental projects which needs to be a compulsory and an embedded part of development project- proposal itself. There shall be adequate financial provisions for offsetting the effects of proposed felling of trees. This aspect shall also be considered by the committees at sub-division and District level while according the approval for felling of trees.

5.2 The normal ratio for taking up of compensatory plantation will be 1:5 (planting 5 saplings for every one tree felled) along with minimum of 5 years maintenance. Plants to be planted should be of good quality and not less than 4 to 5 feet of height.

5.3 For taking up of compensatory plantation, every department shall identify a suitable land bank from lands owned by it preferably at same site to the extent possible and if it is not possible then alternatively at the

nearest possible site within same District from where trees are to be felled.

5.4 Compensatory Plantation shall be taken up by the respective departments on their own. In case, the department does not have land bank suitable for compensatory plantation or not able to take up plantation, same shall be certified by the concerned Head of Department and it shall deposit amount as per the plantation cost models of Forest Department in Green Punjab Mission Fund of State Government in consultation with the concerned Range Officer or Divisional Forest Officer. This amount shall be utilized as per the guidelines of Green Punjab Mission Scheme.

5.5 The revenue realized from developmental and other felling on the SAID LANDS shall be ploughed back for compensatory plantation and their maintenance. If this amount is not sufficient for the compensatory plantation, then respective department has to make adequate financial provision.

5.6 Actual felling of trees shall start only after securing funds for compensatory plantation in a manner mentioned in **5.4 and 5.5**.

5.7 The condition of compensatory plantation shall be mandatory for developmental felling and is only suggestive in other category of fellings.

6 MONITORING & EVALUATION

6.1 All the departments will create their inventory of trees standing on the SAID LAND by enumerating such trees within one year of notification of this policy in the prescribed format which will be circulated by the Forest Department.

6.2 Subsequently, record of such trees standing on the SAID LANDS shall be annually maintained by the concerned departments to safeguard and monitor these trees.

6.3 Efforts shall be made to create a digital database for trees standing on the SAID LANDS by creating an online portal/mobile application for better monitoring of trees. Inventory of trees shall be continuously updated when trees are cut after obtaining the approval of the respective committees in this regard.

6.4 Each department shall have its own monitoring and evaluation mechanism to assess and monitor the compensatory plantations undertaken, which shall be reviewed by the State Level Committee from time to time.

Chandigarh, Dated: 12-09-2024 **Ajoy Sharma, IAS,**
Financial Commissioner to Government of Punjab,
Department of Forests and Wildlife Preservation.

Endst. No. DFWLP-45/144/2024-O/o FINANCIAL COMM.-FOREST & WILDLIFE
/I/925874/2024

Chandigarh, Dated: 12-09-2024

A copy of this notification is forwarded to the following for information and further necessary action:-

1. Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Punjab.
2. Secretary to Hon'ble Forest and Wildlife Preservation Minister, Punjab.
3. Private Secretary to Financial Commissioner Forest, Punjab.
4. All Administrative Secretaries, Government of Punjab.
5. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (HoFF), Punjab
6. All Deputy Commissioners, Punjab.
7. All Head of the Departments, Punjab.
8. All Sub Divisional Magistrates, Punjab.

KULDEEP SINGH SYAN
UNDER SECRETARY
12-09-2024