

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL**  
**PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**  
**Original Application No. 1332 OF 2024**

**In the matter of:**

Kashmir Singh

Applicant

Vs.

State of Himachal Pradesh

Respondents

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**Filed by Adv. Soni Singh**

(On behalf of Central Pollution Control Board)

Dated: 09.02.2026

Place: Delhi

**Report/Comments of CPCB Member in OA No. 1332 of 2024; Kashmir Singh Vs. State of Himachal Pradesh and Ors. in compliance to the order dated 17/12/2025**

**1.0. Background and the Facts of the Matter:**

2. The supplementary report of the Joint Committee dated 15.04.2025 in the present matter, was considered by the Hon'ble NGT on 17/04/2025 and it was observed and directed in the order dated 17/04/2025 (**Annexure-1**) as follows:-

*"... 6. The Respondent No. 6- unit was found to be compliant whereas, air quality parameters outside the residence of the applicant were found to be violative of the environmental norms. The matter of air pollution particularly PM 2.5 exceeding the environmental norms is a matter of grave concern due to its adverse health impacts.*

*...7... We are not focusing on the causes and also the adverse impact of such air pollution for taking requisite remedial measures. On the other hand, we are increasingly becoming accustomed to ever rising levels of air pollution. The causes of air pollution have to be ascertained and remedial measures have to be taken not for well-being of the present generations but also for ensuring the well-being of future generations.*

*"8. In the facts and circumstances of the present case we direct the CPCB and the HPPCB to constitute a Joint Committee comprising of representatives to be nominated by the Chairman of CPCB and the Chairman of HPPCB and one or more Experts to be co-opted by them to ascertain the causes of air pollution in the area and suggest remedial measures. Report by the Joint Committee may be filed within 2 months. The HPPCB will be the nodal authority for the purpose of coordination and compliance and will bear the expenses of the Joint Committee and its Members as per rules..."*

3. In compliance to the above orders of Hon'ble NGT, a Joint Committee comprising representatives of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Himachal Pradesh State Pollution Control Board (HPSPCB) and an independent technical expert from IIT Ropar was constituted to ascertain the cause/sources of air pollution in the area and suggest remedial measures.

4. The Joint Committee proposed to adopt the following approach/methodology to ascertain the qualitative and quantitative source of air pollution in the area and for suggesting remedial measures in its Compliance and Status Report filed on 17/07/2025 (**Annexure-2**):
  - i. Estimation of dust emissions from plying of 400-500 trucks per day through a stretch of around 600 meters under reference by considering the emission factor.
  - ii. Validation of the data estimated through emission factor through ambient air quality monitoring for PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> emissions during peak loading and unloading period for 2 consecutive days.
  - iii. Real time dust monitoring (Concentration and particle size distribution in difference size ranges) during aforementioned ambient air quality monitoring, using GRIMM Aerosol Spectrophotometer and concerting the collected data to inhalable, thoracic and alveolic fractions.
  - iv. Preparation of remediation plan along with suggestive measures based on the data generated from the above steps with regard to concentration, particle size and source of dust emissions.
5. The Joint Committee revisited the site on 02/12/2025 alongwith technical expert from IIT, Ropar, to ascertain the qualitative and quantitative source of air pollution. The complainant and the project proponent were also involved.
6. The joint Committee was informed that the movement of trucks transporting cement/clinker on the cement exit road passing adjacent to the complainant's building/structure had been discontinued pursuant to a stay order issued by the Sessions Court, District Bilaspur in the favour of complainant. Therefore, Validation of the data estimated through emission factor through ambient air quality monitoring for PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> emissions during peak loading and unloading period for 2 consecutive days, as proposed by the Joint Committee in the report dated 17/07/2025 could not be done.
7. Since the subject road had been closed several days prior to the inspection due to Session Court's order and no vehicular movement was observed on the day of inspection. Accordingly, the Committee in consultation with the technical expert of IIT Ropar considered it appropriate to qualitatively estimate the dust present on the road under non traffic conditions & in the absence of traffic induces resuspension and establish its source.

8. The road dust sampling was carried out by the technical expert of IIT Ropar near the complainant's premises, in the presence of the complainant and representatives of the project proponent. A surface patch measuring 1 m × 3 m was demarcated and sampled using a vacuum-based dust collection method. To avoid edge effects and lateral deposition bias, approximately one meter from the road edges was excluded, and sampling was carried out from the central portion of the road. The road dust collected was 0.364 kg over a 3 m<sup>2</sup> area. The total surface area of the road was 3370 m<sup>2</sup>. The average loading on the road can be assumed as 0.121 Kg per square meter. The road dust was sieved through 600μ, 300μ, 150μ, 90μ, and 75μ sieves, as per the IS code for particle size distribution, to correlate with the analogous particle size of cement particles. Further, the GRIM 1.109 model (aerosol spectrometer) was used to analyse the fine dust collected on the pan of the sieve shaker.
9. The report submitted by the IIT Expert is attached as **Annexure-3**. The inference of the analysis data generated from the above assessment as submitted by the technical expert from IIT Ropar is reproduced under:
- Around 78% of particles of OPC and PPC are in the range of 2-50 μm;
  - Around 2% of road dust are in the same range as cement.
  - Around 43% of particles of road dust are more than 600μ(granules),
  - 41% of particles of the road dust are less than 0.5μ(very fine dust).
  - XRF and XRD analysis of those particles can confirm their constituents
10. Since moisture content in the atmosphere may result in agglomeration of the dust particles leading to change in particle size, the estimation made on the basis of particle size without knowing the composition and origin of dust particles, may lead to wrong conclusion. In view of the this, it was necessary to determine the composition through XRF/XRD analysis of the dust collected by the IIT Expert.
11. However, the nodal agency (HPPCB) circulated a report to the members of the Joint Committee on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2025 for review and signatures, with only one day left for submission of the report before the Hon'ble NGT as the matter was listed for hearing on December 17, 2025. *Observing that the report was not in line with the facts, directions of Hon'ble NGT and the findings of the Joint Committee, CPCB Member who was in J&K in connection with other NGT Matter, expressed his inability to sign the report in the present form, mentioning that the time is required for review the report and incorporate*

*comments.* It was suggested by CPCB Member that two members namely HPPCB Member and IIT Expert, may sign and file the report, if they are in agreement with the content of the report. The communication made by CPCB in this regard, is attached as **Annexure-4**.

12. After considering the response of respondent No. 5 (HPPCB), Hon'ble NGT in its order dated 17/12/2025 (**Annexure-5**) observed and directed as under:

*"... 1. Additional response dated 16.12.2025 has been filed by respondent no. 5 inter alia mentioning that the Joint Committee could not submit its report as there was delay in submission of technical expert report dated 13.12.2025 signed copy of which was received on 16.12.2025 and that email dated 16.12.2025 was received from another member of the Joint Committee namely Dr. Narender Sharma, Scientist 'F', CPCB.*

*2. The report signed by two members of the Joint Committee may be filed within four weeks.*

*3. Report/comments by Dr. Narender Sharma, Scientist 'F', CPCB, another member of the Joint Committee may also be filed within four weeks.*

*4. List on 12.02.2026 for further hearing. ..."*

## **2.0. Comments of CPCB Member alongwith suggestions for remedial measures:**

The CPCB member was directed by Hon'ble NGT in its order dated 17/12/2025 that *"Report/comments by Dr. Narender Sharma, Scientist 'F', CPCB, another member of the Joint Committee may also be filed within four weeks.*

In compliance to the directions of Hon'ble NGT, the comments of CPCB Member alongwith suggestions for remedial measures, are submitted in the following sections:

1. The report circulated by the Nodal Agencies for review and signatures on 15/12/2025, which could not be signed by CPCB Member for the following reasons is attached as **Annexure-6**:

- i. The report concluded that "Based on field observations, analytical results, and prevailing site conditions, the Committee concludes that the contribution of cement-related particulates to the road dust at the complainant's location is marginal (approximately 2%) under baseline conditions prevailing during the inspection" without scientific analysis of the data with regard to composition of dust collected by IIT expert through XRF/XRD analysis, as proposed by the IIT Expert and also*

*knowing the fact that there is no other visible source of pollution in the vicinity other than the Cement Plant.*

ii. The report did not address the direction of the Hon'ble NGT that:

*.....The causes of air pollution have to be ascertained and remedial measures have to be taken not for well-being of the present generations but also for ensuring the well-being of future generations.*

2. The Expert from IIT Ropar was requested to provide the XRF/XRF analysis report of dust samples collected during visit to ascertain the source of pollution, The XRF analysis report was provided to CPCB Member on 21/01/2026 and the copy of the same is attached as **Annexure-7.**

*As per XRF analysis report "The composition indicates a heterogeneous material. On average, 40% is CaO and 35% Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> shows a mix of limestone-based dust along with cementitious product." This suggests that approximately 75% of the dust collected from the adjoining road can be attributed to the cement plant.*

3. The complainant has been regularly forwarding videos and photographs, duly stamped with date and time, to the Nodal Agency as well as to the individual members of the Joint Committee.

*The videos and photographs shared by the complainant were examined and it was observed that that a majority of the photographs depicting stack emissions may also represent water vapour or condensate formed due to the temperature differential between the hot flue gases and the surrounding ambient atmosphere, rather than particulate matter as also evidenced from the OCEMS data.*

*However, the photographs and videos of the other operational areas of the plant including the grinding and loading section indicate the presence of fugitive dust emissions coming from the plant sheds, indicating inadequate dust control measures in these sections.*

4. In view of the above observations and findings, it is suggested that:

- i. Although ACC Ltd has implemented the suggestions including tyre washing, three layer green belt, 9 meter high wind breaking wall, sliding door in clinker loading section made by the Joint Committee in its previous report, the videos and photographic evidence shared by the complainant indicate insufficient fugitive emission control measures in grinding and loading sections.

*It is therefore suggested that ACC Ltd., Barmana, shall undertake a comprehensive adequacy study with respect to the control of fugitive dust emissions across all sections of the plant and provide suitable and sufficient arrangements for capturing the fugitive particulate matter through the use of suction systems and bag filters.*

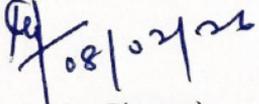
This is of particular significance in view of the fact that stacks are specifically designed to discharge and disperse particulate matter and other pollutants into the upper atmosphere in a manner that minimizes their impact on ground-level particulate matter concentration, whereas, fugitive dust emissions are uncontrolled and may directly contribute to elevated ground-level particulate matter concentrations, which appears to be the case in the present instance.

- ii. The road adjoining the cement plant, located in front of the complainant's residence, has been concretized by ACC Ltd., Barmana for mitigating dust emissions earlier generated due to the movement of trucks on the unpaved or partially paved road.

*It has been reported that the combination of road paving along with vacuum sweeping and water sprinkling can achieve an efficiency of up to 95% in controlling dust emissions(Ref: Guidelines: Emission factors for paved and unpaved haul roads. Department of Environmental Quality, State of Utah). Therefore, it is suggested that ACC Ltd. shall implement regular vacuum sweeping and systematic watering through sprinklers on this 680-metre stretch of road adjacent to the plant and in front of the complainant's house, to ensure effective dust suppression while avoiding water flooding.*

The above suggestion may be implemented, if the matter regarding use of this road is decided by the District Court, Bilaspur in the favour of ACC Ltd., Barmana. *At present, the District Judge vide order dated 16/01/2026 has restrained ACC Ltd. from plying the heavy trucks and transporting the cement and clinker through the suit land (Rod under reference in the present matter in OA 1332 of 2024) till the next date of hearing i.e. 03/03/2026 (Annexure-8).*

The above comments/report of CPCB Member are being submitted for the consideration of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal. The CPCB Member shall comply with further directions of Hon'ble NGT in the matter.

  
(Dr. Narender Sharna)  
Scientist 'F'

Date: February 8, 2026

Item No. 05

Court No. 2

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

Original Application No. 1332/2024

Kashmir Singh

Applicant

Versus

State of Himachal Pradesh &amp; Ors.

Respondents

Date of hearing: 17.04.2025

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

Applicant: None for the applicant.

Respondents: Mr. Anil Jaryal, Advocate for respondents no. 1 to 3.  
Mr. Raj Kumar, Advocate for respondent no. 4.  
Mr. Vaibhav Srivastava, AAG, Ms. Sugandha Anand and Mr. Bhargava  
Ravikumar, Advocates for respondent no. 5.  
Mr. Atmaram N S Nadkarni, Senior Advocate with Mr. Uday N Tiwary, Mr.  
Akshat Tiwary and Mr Aswin BP Advocates for respondent no. 6.

**ORDER**

1. The applicant- Kashmir Singh had sent a letter petition dated 25.09.2024 to this Tribunal which has been treated and registered as OA No. 1332 of 2024.

2. The applicant raised the grievances regarding dust pollution in the area attributing the same to operation of cement manufacturing company namely M/s ACC Limited Massage ACC Limited. The applicant alleged that dust emitted during the process of cement production was accumulating on pathways, concrete roads and nearby residential accommodations.

3. Vide order dated 02.12.2024, this Tribunal constituted a Joint Committee comprising HPPCB, CPCB and District Magistrate, Bilaspur with direction to visit the site, collect relevant information and find out whether all the requisite steps for containing environment free from pollution have been taken and observed effectively by the Project Proponent in question or there is violation of environmental laws and to submit its report within one month.

4. In compliance thereof, reports dated 24.01.2025 and 15.04.2025 of the Joint Committee were filed by CPCB.

5. In its report dated 15.04.2025, CPCB enlisted the measures taken by the Project Proponent for prevention and control of air pollution and recorded its conclusions and recommendations which are reproduced as under:-

**“3.0. Conclusion and Recommendations:**

- i. *M/s ACC Ltd is complying with the observations of the Joint Committee with regards to various gaps /violations, made in its earlier "Status cum Progress Report" filed on 24/01/2025, as observed during site inspection conducted by the Joint Committee during 24<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> March, 2025.*
- ii. *M/s ACC Ltd was found complying with ambient air quality norms for PM10, SOx and Nox parameters as prescribed in National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) at 06 locations monitored by the Joint Committee during 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2025.*
- iii. *The complainant requested that one sampler be installed at his house for ambient air quality monitoring. On insistence of the complainant, the joint committee selected the best possible location for installing one sampler at the complainant's house, considering the availability of electricity/power point, stability of the ambient air sampler and the safety of the monitoring team, although this sampling location was not meeting the CPCB Guidelines for the measurement of ambient air pollutants, for the following reasons:*
  - i) *The site was adjacent to the road against the 15-meter minimum distance,*
  - ii) *The inlet height was 2 meters, whereas the recommended height is 3-10*

*meters iii) The inlet point was only 1/5th the required height, which as per CPCB Guidelines is 10 mtr in the present case i.e. double the height of nearest 5 mtr high nearby wall and iv) Air flow was obstructed by the adjacent wall, against the guideline for free air movement. The analysis results of monitoring conducted on 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> March, 2025, at this location showed high concentration of Philo indicating impact of road dust due to movement of trucks. ACC Ltd Plant has implemented intermittent sprinkling on the water using tankers on this road. It is therefore recommended to install permanent water sprinklers along the above mentioned 500-meter stretch of road to suppress the dust emissions generated by trucks' movement.*

- iv. MIs ACC Ltd was found complying with the norms prescribed for particulate matter emissions based on the monitoring of the OS stacks attached to Cooler ESP, Coal Mill and Cement Mills.*
- v. The Industry is in the process of installing an automatic clinker loading system with an investment of Rs. 15 Crores, which was observed under progress and is expected to complete by October, 2025. It is recommended that the progress of the same be monitored by Himachal Pradesh State Pollution Control Board regularly, to ensure timely completion.”*

6. The Respondent No. 6- unit was found to be compliant whereas, air quality parameters outside the residence of the applicant were found to be violative of the environmental norms. The matter of air pollution particularly PM 2.5 exceeding the environmental norms is a matter of grave concern due to its adverse health impacts.

7. The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, while empowering the Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Boards and the U.T. Pollution Control Committees constituted thereunder, also imposes obligations on them under Sections 16 and 17. The Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Boards and the U.T. Pollution Control Committees claim to be duly discharging the obligations imposed on them. We also find that the regulatory authorities are generally submitting reports regarding

industrial units and other project proponents and even the vehicles plying in the vicinity being compliant with the prescribed norms as in the present case. A question arises if the regulatory authorities are discharging their obligations as required by the above mentioned Statutes and the industries and other project proponents are compliant with environmental norms, then why, despite such compliance, air quality in almost all major cities and other parts of this country exceeds the environmental parameters. We are not focusing on the causes and also the adverse impact of such air pollution for taking requisite remedial measures. On the other hand, we are increasingly becoming accustomed to ever rising levels of air pollution. The causes of air pollution have to be ascertained and remedial measures have to be taken not for well-being of the present generations but also for ensuring the well-being of future generations.

8. In the facts and circumstances of the present case we direct the CPCB and the HPPCB to constitute a Joint Committee comprising of representatives to be nominated by the Chairman of CPCB and the Chairman of HPPCB and one or more Experts to be co-opted by them to ascertain the causes of air pollution in the area and suggest remedial measures. Report by the Joint Committee may be filed within 2 months. The HPPCB will be the nodal authority for the purpose of coordination and compliance and will bear the expenses of the Joint Committee and its Members as per rules.

9. It may also be observed here that vide order dated 10.12.2015 passed in *O.A. No. 157 of 2014* titled *Sarav Shikshit Evam Vs. State of H.P. & Ors.* Environmental compensation of Rs. 50 lakhs was imposed upon the Project Proponent out of which amount of Rs.20 lakhs each was to be deposited with CPCB and HSPCB amount of Rs. 10 lakhs was to be deposited with government hospital in Bilaspur.

10. In its reply, Respondent No. 6 has submitted that the amount of Rs 50 lakhs was deposited by it in compliance of above said order while learned counsels for CPCB and HPPCB seek time to obtain instructions in this regard.

11. Respondent No. 4- CPCB and Respondent No. 5- HPPCB are directed to file specific response in this regard as to whether the amount was so deposited with them and if so deposited what was the mode of utilization of the same for protection and improvement of environment by them.

12. Additional response in this regard be also filed by Respondent No. 4- CPCB and Respondent No. 5- HPPCB within two months.

13. List on 18.07.2025 for further consideration.

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. Afroz Ahmad, EM

April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
Original Application No. 1332/2024  
AB

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

O.A. No. 1332/2024

In the matter of:

Kashmir Singh

....Applicant

Versus

State of H.P. and others

..... Respondents

**Index**

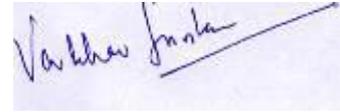
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1	Compliance and Status Report of the Joint Committee in compliance to order dated 17.04.2025.	1-4.
2	<b>Annexure-1.</b> Copy of order dated 17.04.2025 of Hon'ble NGT.	5-9.
3	<b>Annexure-2.</b> Copy of e-mail dated 07.05.2025 of CPCB nominating the representative of the committee by the Chairman of CPCB.	10.
4.	<b>Annexure-3.</b> Copy of letter dated 02.05.2025 of HPSPCB nominating the representative of the committee by the Chairman of HPSPCB.	11-12.
5.	<b>Annexure-4 collectively.</b> Copies of letters/e-mails/reminders dated 25.06.2025, 04.07.2025 & 04.07.2025 to NIT Hamirpur and IIT Ropar.	13-20.
6.	<b>Annexure-5.</b> Copy of e-mail dated 10.07.2025 received from IIT Ropar regarding the nomination of Dr. Indramani Dhada, Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Ropar, Punjab	21

	as expert member.	
	<b>Annexure-6.</b> Copy of the attendance sheet of the joint inspection conducted on 14 <sup>th</sup> July, 2025.	22.
	<b>Annexure-7.</b> Copy of the letter dated 14.07.2025 of the Regional Officer, HPSPCB Bilaspur to the Deputy Commissioner Bilaspur.	23.

Respondent No. 05  
HPSPCB.

Through Counsel

Dated: 17.07.2025.  
Place: Shimla, H.P.



Vaibhav Srivastava  
(Advocate)

**Compliance and Status Report of the Joint Committee in compliance to order dated 17.04.2025 passed by Hon'ble NGT in the matter of OA No. 1332 of 2024; Kashmir Singh v/s. State of Himachal Pradesh.**

**1.0. Background:**

In this matter, the applicant raised the grievances regarding dust pollution in the area attributing the same to operation of cement manufacturing company namely M/s ACC Cements Limited. The matter was listed for consideration on 17.04.2025 wherein, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal after considering the reports of the Joint Committee dated 24.01.2025 and 15.04.2025, vide order dated 17.04.2025 (**Annexure-1**) has directed as follows:

*"...6. The Respondent No. 6- unit was found to be compliant whereas, air quality parameters outside the residence of the applicant were found to be violative of the environmental norms. The matter of air pollution particularly PM 2.5 exceeding the environmental norms is a matter of grave concern due to its adverse health impacts.*

*7. The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, while empowering the Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Boards and the U.T. Pollution Control Committees constituted thereunder, also imposes obligations on them under Sections 16 and 17. The Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Boards and the U.T. Pollution Control Committees claim to be duly discharging the obligations imposed on them. We also find that regulatory authorities are generally submitting reports regarding industrial units and other project proponents and even the vehicles plying in the vicinity being compliant with the prescribed norms as in the present case. A question arises if the regulatory authorities are discharging their obligations as required by the above-mentioned Statutes and the industries and other project proponents are compliant with environmental norms, then why, despite such compliance, air quality in almost all major cities and other parts of this country exceeds the environmental parameters. **We are not focusing on the causes and also the adverse impact of such air pollution for taking requisite remedial measures.** On the other hand, we are increasingly becoming accustomed to ever rising levels of air pollution. **The causes of air pollution have to be ascertained and remedial measures have to be taken not for well-being of the present generations but also for ensuring the well-being of future generations.***

*8. In the facts and circumstances of the present case we direct the CPCB and the HPPCB to constitute a Joint Committee comprising of representatives to be nominated by the Chairman of CPCB and the Chairman of HPPCB and one or more Experts to be co-opted by them to ascertain the causes of air pollution in the area and suggest remedial measures. Report by the Joint Committee may be filed within 2 months. The HPPCB will be the nodal authority for the purpose of coordination and compliance and will bear the expenses of the Joint Committee and its Members as per rules ...”*

## **2.0. Compliance and Status Report:**

In compliance to the above directions of the Hon’ble NGT, representatives of the committee were nominated by the Chairman of CPCB and the Chairman of HPPCB vide letters/email dated 07.05.2025 and 02.05.2025 respectively (**Annexure-2** and **Annexure-3**). HPPCB being nodal agency approached NIT, Hamirpur vide letter & e-mail dated 25.06.2025, reminder letter & e-mail dated 04.07.2025 and IIT Ropar vide letter & e-mail dated 04.07.2025 for seeking nomination of experts in the field for co-opting as member in the Joint Committee. (Copy of letters & e-mails are annexed as **Annexure-4, collectively**). The nomination of Dr. Indramani Dhada, Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Ropar, Punjab was received on July 10, 2025 (**Annexure—5**) and accordingly the joint committee comprising of the following members was constituted on July 10, 2025, in compliance to the orders of Hon’ble NGT.

- i. Dr. Narender Sharma, Scientist ‘F’, CPCB, Regional Directorate, Chandigarh (Nominated by Chairman CPCB).
- ii. Sh. Lalit Thakur, Environmental Engineer HPSPCB Shimla (Nominated by Chairman HPPCB).
- iii. Dr. Indramani Dhada, Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Ropar, Punjab (Expert Member co-opted by the Joint Committee).

The Joint Committee was directed by Hon’ble National Green Tribunal to ascertain the causes of air pollution in the area and suggest remedial measures. **The status of the activities undertaken by the Joint Committee to ascertain the causes of air pollution in the area and suggest remedial measures is as follows:**

1. The joint committee has inspected the area within and around ACC Ltd. Cement Plant including the area where house of the complainant is located 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2025. The Plant was

found operational on day of site visit. The attendance sheet is annexed as **Annexure-6**.

2. The complainant, Mr. Kashmir Singh, was also present during the site visit to the area where his house is located. He informed the joint committee that although there has been improvement in control of dust pollution from the factory after the intervention of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, ACC Cement continues to release dust from the factory intermittently and he has been sharing videos and photographs of the same with the committee members.
3. It was observed that M/s ACC Ltd Cement Plant is in the process of concreting the exit road, which is approximately 600 meters long and varies in width from 4 to 7.5 meters, to reduce dust emissions. However, the concreting of the road and storm drain near Mr. Kashmir Singh's house has not yet started due to pending land demarcation by the revenue department. To expedite this, the Regional Officer, HPSPCB Bilaspur has sent a letter to the Deputy Commissioner Bilaspur on 14.07.2025 (**Annexure-7**), to direct the concerned authority for the demarcation of the said area / land under question.
4. The Joint Committee discussed and proposed to adopt the following approach/methodology for ascertain the qualitative and quantitative source of air pollution in the area and for suggesting remedial measures:
  - i. Estimation of dust emissions from plying of 400-500 trucks per day through a stretch of around 600 meters under reference by considering the emission factor.
  - ii. Validation of the data estimated through emission factor through ambient air quality monitoring for PM 2.5 and PM 10 emissions during peak loading and unloading period for 2 consecutive days.
  - iii. Real time dust monitoring (Concentration and particle size distribution in difference size ranges) during aforementioned ambient air quality monitoring, using GRIMM Aerosol Spectrophotometer and concerting the collected data to inhalable, thoracic and alveolic fractions.
  - iv. Preparation of remediation plan along with suggestive measures based on the data generated from the above steps with regard to concentration, particle size and source of dust emissions.

### 3.0. Submission of the Joint Committee:

It is humbly submitted that:

- i. The Joint Committee has visited the site and decided the methodology to be adopted for ascertaining the causes of air pollution in the area under reference.
- ii. The cement and clinker dispatch data w.r.t. number of trucks plying through the exit road adjacent to Sh. Kashmir Singh house has been collected from M/s ACC Ltd Cement Plant and estimation of dust emissions based on emission factor will be completed by 30/07/2025.
- iii. It may not be practically feasible to undertake other activities proposed by the Joint Committee in Section 2.0 above, including ambient air quality monitoring and aerosol monitoring, in the ongoing raining season which may lead to error due to wet deposition of dust particles.

In view of the above, it is humbly submitted that the above compliance and status report of the Joint Committee may kindly be considered and taken on record by Hon'ble NGT. It is humbly prayed that a period of three months be granted to the Joint Committee to complete the proposed activities, gather authentic data, identify the sources of air pollution in the area, and prepare appropriate remedial measures for inclusion in the final report. The Joint Committee shall abide by further orders of the Hon'ble NGT, in this matter.

*Indramani Dhada*  
17/7/25  
Dr. Indramani Dhada,  
Assistant Professor, IIT Ropar  
Deptt. of Civil Engineering

*Lu*  
17.07.2025  
Sh. Lalit Thakur,  
Environmental Engineer  
HPSPCB Shimla HP

*Lu*  
17/07/2025  
Dr. Narender Sharma,  
Scientist 'F'  
CPCB, RD, Chandigarh

Date: July 17, 2025.



Assistant Professor  
Department of Civil Engineering  
Indian Institute of Technology Ropar  
Nangal Road, Rupnagar -140001  
Punjab, India

Item No. 05

Court No. 2

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

Original Application No. 1332/2024

Kashmir Singh

Applicant

Versus

State of Himachal Pradesh &amp; Ors.

Respondents

Date of hearing: 17.04.2025

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

Applicant: None for the applicant.

Respondents: Mr. Anil Jaryal, Advocate for respondents no. 1 to 3.  
Mr. Raj Kumar, Advocate for respondent no. 4.  
Mr. Vaibhav Srivastava, AAG, Ms. Sugandha Anand and Mr. Bhargava  
Ravikumar, Advocates for respondent no. 5.  
Mr. Atmaram N S Nadkarni, Senior Advocate with Mr. Uday N Tiwary, Mr.  
Akshat Tiwary and Mr Aswin BP Advocates for respondent no. 6.

**ORDER**

1. The applicant- Kashmir Singh had sent a letter petition dated 25.09.2024 to this Tribunal which has been treated and registered as OA No. 1332 of 2024.

2. The applicant raised the grievances regarding dust pollution in the area attributing the same to operation of cement manufacturing company namely M/s ACC Limited Massage ACC Limited. The applicant alleged that dust emitted during the process of cement production was accumulating on pathways, concrete roads and nearby residential accommodations.

3. Vide order dated 02.12.2024, this Tribunal constituted a Joint Committee comprising HPPCB, CPCB and District Magistrate, Bilaspur with direction to visit the site, collect relevant information and find out whether all the requisite steps for containing environment free from pollution have been taken and observed effectively by the Project Proponent in question or there is violation of environmental laws and to submit its report within one month.

4. In compliance thereof, reports dated 24.01.2025 and 15.04.2025 of the Joint Committee were filed by CPCB.

5. In its report dated 15.04.2025, CPCB enlisted the measures taken by the Project Proponent for prevention and control of air pollution and recorded its conclusions and recommendations which are reproduced as under:-

**“3.0. Conclusion and Recommendations:**

- i. *M/s ACC Ltd is complying with the observations of the Joint Committee with regards to various gaps /violations, made in its earlier "Status cum Progress Report" filed on 24/01/2025, as observed during site inspection conducted by the Joint Committee during 24<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> March, 2025.*
- ii. *M/s ACC Ltd was found complying with ambient air quality norms for PM10, SOx and Nox parameters as prescribed in National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) at 06 locations monitored by the Joint Committee during 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2025.*
- iii. *The complainant requested that one sampler be installed at his house for ambient air quality monitoring. On insistence of the complainant, the joint committee selected the best possible location for installing one sampler at the complainant's house, considering the availability of electricity/power point, stability of the ambient air sampler and the safety of the monitoring team, although this sampling location was not meeting the CPCB Guidelines for the measurement of ambient air pollutants, for the following reasons:*
  - i) *The site was adjacent to the road against the 15-meter minimum distance, ii) The inlet height was 2 meters, whereas the recommended height is 3-10*

*meters iii) The inlet point was only 1/5th the required height, which as per CPCB Guidelines is 10 mtr in the present case i.e. double the height of nearest 5 mtr high nearby wall and iv) Air flow was obstructed by the adjacent wall, against the guideline for free air movement. The analysis results of monitoring conducted on 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> March, 2025, at this location showed high concentration of Philo indicating impact of road dust due to movement of trucks. ACC Ltd Plant has implemented intermittent sprinkling on the water using tankers on this road. It is therefore recommended to install permanent water sprinklers along the above mentioned 500-meter stretch of road to suppress the dust emissions generated by trucks' movement.*

- iv. MIs ACC Ltd was found complying with the norms prescribed for particulate matter emissions based on the monitoring of the OS stacks attached to Cooler ESP, Coal Mill and Cement Mills.*
- v. The Industry is in the process of installing an automatic clinker loading system with an investment of Rs. 15 Crores, which was observed under progress and is expected to complete by October, 2025. It is recommended that the progress of the same be monitored by Himachal Pradesh State Pollution Control Board regularly, to ensure timely completion."*

6. The Respondent No. 6- unit was found to be compliant whereas, air quality parameters outside the residence of the applicant were found to be violative of the environmental norms. The matter of air pollution particularly PM 2.5 exceeding the environmental norms is a matter of grave concern due to its adverse health impacts.

7. The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, while empowering the Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Boards and the U.T. Pollution Control Committees constituted thereunder, also imposes obligations on them under Sections 16 and 17. The Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Boards and the U.T. Pollution Control Committees claim to be duly discharging the obligations imposed on them. We also find that the regulatory authorities are generally submitting reports regarding

industrial units and other project proponents and even the vehicles plying in the vicinity being compliant with the prescribed norms as in the present case. A question arises if the regulatory authorities are discharging their obligations as required by the above mentioned Statutes and the industries and other project proponents are compliant with environmental norms, then why, despite such compliance, air quality in almost all major cities and other parts of this country exceeds the environmental parameters. We are not focusing on the causes and also the adverse impact of such air pollution for taking requisite remedial measures. On the other hand, we are increasingly becoming accustomed to ever rising levels of air pollution. The causes of air pollution have to be ascertained and remedial measures have to be taken not for well-being of the present generations but also for ensuring the well-being of future generations.

8. In the facts and circumstances of the present case we direct the CPCB and the HPPCB to constitute a Joint Committee comprising of representatives to be nominated by the Chairman of CPCB and the Chairman of HPPCB and one or more Experts to be co-opted by them to ascertain the causes of air pollution in the area and suggest remedial measures. Report by the Joint Committee may be filed within 2 months. The HPPCB will be the nodal authority for the purpose of coordination and compliance and will bear the expenses of the Joint Committee and its Members as per rules.

9. It may also be observed here that vide order dated 10.12.2015 passed in *O.A. No. 157 of 2014* titled *Sarav Shikshit Evam Vs. State of H.P. & Ors.* Environmental compensation of Rs. 50 lakhs was imposed upon the Project Proponent out of which amount of Rs.20 lakhs each was to be deposited with CPCB and HSPCB amount of Rs. 10 lakhs was to be deposited with government hospital in Bilaspur.

10. In its reply, Respondent No. 6 has submitted that the amount of Rs 50 lakhs was deposited by it in compliance of above said order while learned counsels for CPCB and HPPCB seek time to obtain instructions in this regard.

11. Respondent No. 4- CPCB and Respondent No. 5- HPPCB are directed to file specific response in this regard as to whether the amount was so deposited with them and if so deposited what was the mode of utilization of the same for protection and improvement of environment by them.

12. Additional response in this regard be also filed by Respondent No. 4- CPCB and Respondent No. 5- HPPCB within two months.

13. List on 18.07.2025 for further consideration.

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. Afroz Ahmad, EM

April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
Original Application No. 1332/2024  
AB



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**Fwd: Regarding: O.A. No. 1332/2024 titled Kashmir Singh v/s State of Himachal Pradesh by Hon'ble NGT**

---

Narender Sharma &lt;narendersharma.cpcb@nic.in&gt;

Wed, May 7, 2025 at 10:33 AM

To: mshppcb &lt;mshppcb@gmail.com&gt;, legalcellhppcb &lt;legalcellhppcb@gmail.com&gt;

Cc: Narender Sharma &lt;rdchandigarh.cpcb@gov.in&gt;, diksharai2018 &lt;diksharai2018@gmail.com&gt;, svijaysaini99 &lt;svijaysaini99@gmail.com&gt;

महोदय,

यह ओए संख्या 1332/2024 में माननीय एनजीटी के दिनांक 17/04/2025 के आदेश के संदर्भ में है, जिसमें माननीय एनजीटी ने निम्नलिखित अवलोकन किया है और निर्देश दिया है कि:

**Para 07:** *The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, while empowering the Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Boards and the U.T. Pollution Control Committees constituted thereunder, also imposes obligations on them under Sections 16 and 17. The Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Boards and the U.T. Pollution Control Committees claim to be duly discharging the obligations imposed on them. We also find that the regulatory authorities are generally submitting reports regarding industrial units and other project proponents and even the vehicles plying in the vicinity being compliant with the prescribed norms as in the present case. A question arises if the regulatory authorities are discharging their obligations as required by the above mentioned Statutes and the industries and other project proponents are compliant with environmental norms, then why, despite such compliance, air quality in almost all major cities and other parts of this country exceeds the environmental parameters. We are not focusing on the causes and also the adverse impact of such air pollution for taking requisite remedial measures. On the other hand, we are increasingly becoming accustomed to ever rising levels of air pollution. The causes of air pollution have to be ascertained and remedial measures have to be taken not for well-being of the present generations but also for ensuring the well-being of future generations.*

**Para 08:** *In the facts and circumstances of the present case we direct the CPCB and the HPPCB to constitute a Joint Committee comprising of representatives to be nominated by the Chairman of CPCB and the Chairman of HPPCB and one or more Experts to be co-opted by them to ascertain the causes of air pollution in the area and suggest remedial measures. Report by the Joint Committee may be filed within 2 months. The HPPCB will be the nodal authority for the purpose of coordination and compliance and will bear the expenses of the Joint Committee and its Members as per rules.*

यह सूचित किया जाता है कि अध्यक्ष, सीपीसीबी ने डॉ. नरेंद्र शर्मा, वैज्ञानिक 'एफ' और क्षेत्रीय निदेशक, सीपीसीबी क्षेत्रीय निदेशालय, चंडीगढ़ (# 9814004377; ईमेल: [narendersharma.cpcb@gov.in](mailto:narendersharma.cpcb@gov.in)) को संयुक्त समिति में सीपीसीबी का प्रतिनिधित्व करने के लिए नामित किया है। एचपीसीबी, नोडल एजेंसी होने के नाते मामले में माननीय एनजीटी के आदेशों के अनुपालन में आवश्यक कार्रवाई शुरू कर सकता है।

मामला 18/07/2025 को सुनवाई के लिए सूचीबद्ध है।

धन्यवाद,

नरेंद्र

---

--- On Tue, 15 Apr 2025 16:56:59 +0530 Narender Sharma <[narendersharma.cpcb@nic.in](mailto:narendersharma.cpcb@nic.in)> wrote ---

महोदय,

संदर्भ के लिए उपरोक्त मामले में हस्ताक्षरित रिपोर्ट संलग्न है।

हस्ताक्षरित रिपोर्ट माननीय एनजीटी के समक्ष दाखिल करने के लिए सीपीसीबी मुख्यालय को भेज दी गई है।

धन्यवाद,

नरेंद्र

**H.P. STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

Him Parivesh, Phase-III, New Shimla (H.P.) 171009

No. HPPCB (LB) OA No. 1332/2024- 1521-24

Dated: 02/05/2025

To

The Regional Officer,  
HPSPCB, Bilaspur,  
District Bilaspur, H.P.

**Subject: Order dated 17.04.2025 passed in O.A. No. 1332/2024 titled Kashmir Singh v/s State of Himachal Pradesh by Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi.**

Memo:

Please find enclosed herewith copy of order dated 17.04.2025 passed by Hon'ble NGT in the above-cited matter wherein following directions have been passed :-

*"...8. In the facts and circumstances of the present case we direct the CPCB and the HPPCB to constitute a Joint Committee comprising of representatives to be nominated by the Chairman of CPCB and the Chairman of HPPCB and one or more Experts to be co-opted by them to ascertain the causes of air pollution in the area and suggest remedial measures. Report by the Joint Committee may be filed within 2 months. The HPPCB will be the nodal authority for the purpose of coordination and compliance and will bear the expenses of the Joint Committee and its Members as per rules."*

*"...9. It may also be observed here that vide order dated 10.12.2015 passed in O.A. No. 157 of 2014 titled Sarav Shikshit Evam Vs. State of H.P. &Ors. Environmental compensation of Rs. 50 lakhs was imposed upon the Project Proponent out of which amount of Rs.20 lakhs each was to be deposited with CPCB and HSPCB amount of Rs. 10 lakhs was to be deposited with government hospital in Bilaspur."*

*"...11. Respondent No. 4- CPCB and Respondent No. 5- HPPCB are directed to file specific response in this regard as to whether the amount was so deposited with them and if so deposited what was the mode of utilization of the same for protection and improvement of environment by them..."*

In this connection, you shall be the nodal officer for coordination and compliance and Sh. Lalit Kumar, Regional Officer, Shimla, HPSPCB (Ph.No. 7018168221, e-mail: pcbroshimla@gmail.com) shall associate as representative of HPSPCB for the joint inspection and

905

1314

submit the report to this office by 10<sup>th</sup> June 2025 positively, so that same could be filed in the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal.

(Enc..as above)

**-Sd-**  
**By Order**  
**The Chairman,**  
**HPSPCB, Shimla, HP**  
(Approved vide NN-12, E-250611)

**Copy to:-**

1. The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032 for information and with request to nominate a representative on behalf of CPCB for the joint inspection and compliance of directions of Hon'ble NGT.
2. The Joint Controller (F&A), HPSPCB, Shimla, HQ to provide the information with respect to environmental compensation amount received from ACC Barmana and its utilisation as per directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in O.A. No.157/2024 as per record available in Accounts Branch, HPSPCB within 15 days.
3. Environmental Engineer -cum- Regional Officer, Shimla, HPSPCB: for information and necessary action as representative of HPSPCB for the joint inspection and submission of report.

Signed by

Anil Joshi

Date: 01-05-2025 07:29:51

o/c

**Anil Joshi, (IFS)**  
**Member Secretary,**  
**HPSPCB, Shimla.**

13<sup>9</sup>5

Annexure-4 copy. 906

**Urgent Court Matter****H.P. STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

Him Parivesh, Phase-III, New Shimla (H.P.) 171009  
Ph. 0177 2673766, E-mail: mshppcb1@gmail.com

No. HPPCB (LB) OA No. 1332/2024-4370-72 Dated: 25/06/2025  
To

The Faculty Incharge  
Central Workshop  
National Institute of Technology (NIT) Hamirpur,  
H.P. -177005.  
Email : pks@nith.ac.in

**Subject: Regarding order dated 17.04.2025 passed in O.A. No. 1332/2024 titled Kashmir Singh v/s State of Himachal Pradesh by Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi.**

Sir,

The Hon'ble NGT has registered a case on the complaint of Sh. Kashmir Singh Village Khetad, Post Office Barmana, District Bilaspur, H.P wherein it has been alleged that during the process of cement production by M/s ACC Cements Ltd, Barmana, District Bilaspur, H.P. dust is being emitted which is accumulating on pathways, concrete roads and nearby residential accommodations.

The matter was listed before Hon'ble NGT on 17.04.2025 wherein following directions have been passed:-

*"...8. In the facts and circumstances of the present case we direct the CPCB and the HPPCB to constitute a Joint Committee comprising of representatives to be nominated by the Chairman of CPCB and the Chairman of HPPCB and one or more Experts to be co-opted by them to ascertain the causes of air pollution in the area and suggest remedial measures. Report by the Joint Committee may be filed within 2 months. The HPPCB will be the nodal authority for the purpose of coordination and compliance and will bear the expenses of the Joint Committee and its Members as per rules." (Copy of order is enclosed)*

In this connection, it is requested that Dr. Amarjit Singh, Technical Officer/Scientific Officer, Central Workshop, National Institute of Technology, H.P. or any other suitable expert in the matter may be deputed to assist the Joint Committee in order to ascertain the cause of air pollution in the area in question and to suggest remedial measures. The expert will be granted remuneration as approved by the Board. The expert so deputed may kindly be requested to contact the

Nodal Officer i.e. Sh. Pawan Sharma, Regional Officer, Bilaspur, HPSPCB (Ph. 9418964049, E-mail: pcbrobilaspur1@gmail.com), so that date of inspection may be fixed and report may be filed before the Hon'ble NGT, expeditiously.

**This may kindly be treated as urgent being time bound court matter.**

(Enclosed: as above)

Sincerely,

Signed by

Anil Joshi

**Anil Joshi, (IFS)**

**Member Secretary,  
HPSPCB, Shimla.**

Date: 24-06-2025 18:40:23

o/c

**Copy to:-**

1. The Director, National Institute of Technology (NIT) Hamirpur H.P. -177005: for information please.
2. The Regional Officer, Bilaspur, HPSPCB: for information and necessary action.

-sd-

**Anil Joshi, (IFS)**  
**Member Secretary,  
HPSPCB, Shimla.**

o/c



---

**Regarding order dated 17.04.2025 passed in O.A. No. 1332/2024 titled Kashmir Singh v/s State of Himachal Pradesh by Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi.**

---

ms pcb <mshppcb1@gmail.com>

Wed, Jun 25, 2025 at 12:19 PM

To: pks@nith.ac.in, director@nith.ac.in, psd@nith.ac.in, pcbrobilaspur2@gmail.com

Bcc: legalcellhppcb@gmail.com

**Urgent**

Sir,

In pursuance of order dated 17.04.2025 of Hon'ble NGT in the above cited matter, it is requested that Dr. Amarjit Singh, Technical Officer/Scientific Officer, Central Workshop, National Institute of Technology, H.P. or any other suitable expert in the matter may be deputed to assist the Joint Committee in order to ascertain the cause of air pollution in the area near M/s ACC Cements Ltd, Barmana, District Bilaspur, H.P. please.

**Kindly treated this as urgent being time bound court matter.**

---

**2 attachments**



**HPPCB letter dated 25.06.2025.pdf**

1672K



**NGT Order dated 17.4.2025.pdf**

110K

909  
o/c

1398

**Urgent Court Matter****H.P. STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

Him Parivesh, Phase-III, New Shimla (H.P.) 171009  
Ph. 0177 2673766, E-mail: mshppcb1@gmail.com

No. HPPCB (LB) OA No. 1332/2024- 4960  
To

Dated: 4/07/25

The Director,  
National Institute of Technology (NIT),  
Hamirpur H.P. -177005.  
(Email: director@nith.ac.in).

**Subject: Regarding order dated 17.04.2025 passed in O.A. No. 1332/2024 titled Kashmir Singh v/s State of Himachal Pradesh by Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi.**

Sir,

This is in continuation of office letter no. HPPCB (LB) OA No. 1332/2024-4370-72 dated 25.06.2025 on the above cited subject matter regarding air pollution due to cement production by M/s ACC Cements Plant at Barmana, District Bilaspur, H.P. (copy of the letter dated 25.06.2025 is enclosed herewith for ready reference).

In this regard, it is requested that a suitable expert in the matter may urgently be deputed to assist the Joint Committee constituted by Hon'ble NGT so, that inspection of the site can be conducted in order to ascertain the cause of air pollution in the area in question and report can be filed in court within time.

**This may kindly be treated as urgent being time bound court matter.**

(Enclosed: as above)

Sincerely,

Signed by

Anil Joshi

Date: 04-07-2025 07:03:16

Anil Joshi, (IFS)

**Member Secretary,  
HPSPCB, Shimla.**



---

**Regarding order dated 17.04.2025 passed in O.A. No. 1332/2024 titled Kashmir Singh v/s State of Himachal Pradesh by Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi.**

---

ms pcb <mshppcb1@gmail.com>  
To: director@nith.ac.in, psd@nith.ac.in  
Bcc: legalcellhppcb@gmail.com

Fri, Jul 4, 2025 at 12:14 PM

**Urgent**

Sir,

This is in continuation of office letter no. HPPCB (LB) OA No. 1332/2024-4370-72 dated 25.06.2025 on the above cited subject matter regarding air pollution due to cement production by M/s ACC Cements Plant at Barmana, District Bilaspur, H.P. (copy of the letter dated 25.06.2025 is enclosed herewith for ready reference).

In this regard, it is requested that a suitable expert in the matter may urgently be deputed to assist the Joint Committee in order to ascertain the cause of air pollution in the area in question and to suggest remedial measures, so that date of inspection may be fixed and report may be filed before the Hon'ble NGT within time.

**This may kindly be treated as urgent being time bound court matter.**

---

 **HPSPCB Letter letter dated 04.07.2025.pdf**  
3746K

**H.P. STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

Him Pariyesh, Phase-III, New Shimla (H.P.) 171009  
Ph. 0177 2673766, E-mail: mshppcb1@gmail.com

No. HPPCB/OA No. 1332/2024- 4966

Dated:- 04.07.2025

To

The Director,  
IIT Ropar,  
Rupnagar, Punjab- 140001  
Email : director@iitrpr.ac.in

**Subject: Regarding order dated 17.04.2025 passed in O.A. No. 1332/2024 titled Kashmir Singh v/s State of Himachal Pradesh by Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi.**

Sir,

The Hon'ble NGT has registered a case on the complaint of Sh. Kashmir Singh Village Khetad, Post Office Barmana, District Bilaspur, H.P wherein it has been alleged that during the process of cement production by M/s ACC Cements Ltd, Barmana, District Bilaspur, H.P. dust is being emitted which is accumulating on pathways, concrete roads and nearby residential accommodations.

The matter was listed before Hon'ble NGT on 17.04.2025 wherein following directions have been passed:-

*"....8. In the facts and circumstances of the present case we direct the CPCB and the HPPCB to constitute a Joint Committee comprising of representatives to be nominated by the Chairman of CPCB and the Chairman of HPPCB and one or more Experts to be co-opted by them to ascertain the causes of air pollution in the area and suggest remedial measures. Report by the Joint Committee may be filed within 2 months. The HPPCB will be the nodal authority for the purpose of coordination and compliance and will bear the expenses of the Joint Committee and its Members as per rules." (Copy of order is enclosed)*

In this connection, it is requested that a suitable expert in the matter may be deputed to assist the Joint Committee in order to ascertain the cause of air pollution in the area in

question and to suggest remedial measures. The expert will be granted remuneration as approved by the Board. The expert so deputed may kindly be requested to contact the Nodal Officer i.e. Sh. Pawan Sharma, Regional Officer, Bilaspur, HPSPCB (Ph. 9418964049, E-mail: [pcbobilaspur1@gmail.com](mailto:pcbobilaspur1@gmail.com)), so that date of inspection may be fixed and report may be filed before the Hon'ble NGT, expeditiously.

**This may kindly be treated as urgent being time bound court matter.**

(Enclosed: as above)

Sincerely,

  
**Anil Joshi, (IFS)**  
**Member Secretary,**  
**HPSPCB, Shimla.**



---

**Order dated 17.04.2025 passed in O.A. No. 1332/2024 titled Kashmir Singh v/s State of Himachal Pradesh by Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi.**

1 message

---

Legal Cell <legalcellhppcb@gmail.com>  
To: director@iitrpr.ac.in

Fri, Jul 4, 2025 at 3:19 PM

**Urgent**

Respected Sir,

In the above cited subject court matter it has been alleged that during the process of cement production by M/s ACC Cements Ltd, Barmana, District Bilaspur, H.P. dust is being emitted which is accumulating on pathways, concrete roads and nearby residential accommodations.

In this regard, as directed by Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 17.04.2025, it is requested that a suitable expert in the matter may urgently be deputed to assist the Joint Committee in order to ascertain the cause of air pollution in the area in question and to suggest remedial measures, so that date of inspection may be fixed and report may be filed before the Hon'ble NGT within time.

**This may kindly be treated as urgent being time bound court matter.**

-  
Regards

**Legal Cell,  
HP State Pollution Control Board,  
Shimla.**

---

**2 attachments**

 **HPPCB letter to IIT Ropar.pdf**  
196K

 **NGT Order dated 17.4.2025.pdf**  
110K

To legalcellnppcb@gmail.com  
1323 [Annexure-5](#) 914  
Cc Director [AT] IIT Ropar · director@iitrpr.ac.in  
Head Department of Civil Engineering ·  
hodce@iitrpr.ac.in  
Indramani Dhada · idhada@iitrpr.ac.in

Date Jul 10, 2025, 12:10 PM

 Standard encryption (TLS).  
[View security details](#)

Dear Sir/Madam,

With reference to the trailing email, kindly note that the Director, IIT Ropar has nominated Dr. Indramani Dhada, Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering as an expert from IIT Ropar. He may be contacted at M: 8005382785.

[Show quoted text](#)

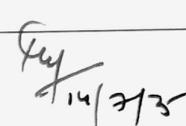
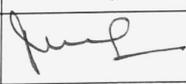
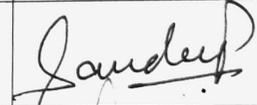
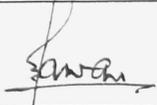
—  
With regards

निदेशक कार्यालय/Director's Office

भा.प्रौ.सं.रोपड/Indian Institute of Technology Ropar

रूपनगर, पंजाब-१४०००१, भारत/Rupnagar, Punjab - 140001,

Attendance Sheet of Joint Inspection Committee in OA#1332/2024 in Kashmir Singh v/s State of Himachal Pradesh on date 14/07/2025

Sr. No	Name	Designation	Signature
1.	Dr. Narendra Sharma	RD, CPCB, Ind	 14/7/25
2.	Dr. Indramani Shukla	Assistant Professor, IIT Ropar	Indramani Shukla 14/7/25
3.	Saif Tr Khan	EE, 49 SPB Shiwa	 14/7/25
4.	Mullesh Sharma	CMO, ACC Cement (Adani Cement)	
5.	Dr. Premod Ranjish	Corporate Head Environment - Adani Cement	
6.	Mahaveer S. Bolia	CPM, ACC Cement Bagel. (Adani Cement)	
7.	Sandeep Sharma	DGM - Env.	
8.	Raman Sharma	RO, PCB, Bilaspur	
9.	Kashmir Singh	Compliment.	
	<p>Note: The compliment was not associated inside the premises, however, the compliment was present at his house situated adjacent to ACC premises. The complaint was informed about the inspection at the spot and prior information was given.</p>		
		Kashmir Singh	

**Urgent**  
**Hon'ble NGT Matter**



## H.P. STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

Regional Office Bilaspur, Near HPPWD Rest House Dholra,  
Tehsil Sadar, District Bilaspur Himachal Pradesh  
Telefax- 01978-223550, E-mail: pcbrobilaspur2@gmail.com



No. PCB/RO/BLP/(167) OA No. 1332/2024-708

Dated- 14/07/25

To

**The Deputy Commissioner,**  
Bilaspur, Distt. Bilaspur (HP)

**Subject: OA No. 1332/2024 titled as Kashmir Singh V/s State of H.P. & Ors. pending before NGT, New Delhi.**

Sir,

This is in reference to a complaint filed by Sh. Kashmir Singh S/o Sh. Sant Ram, Village Khater, Post Office Barmana, Tehsil Sadar, District Bilaspur, HP in Hon'ble NGT regarding air pollution caused by M/s ACC Cement Plant.

Whereas, a joint committee has been constituted by Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 18.04.2025 which is comprising of representatives to be nominated by the Chairman of CPCB and the Chairman of HPPCB and one or more Experts to ascertain the causes of air pollution in the area and suggest remedial measures.

In this regard, M/s ACC Cement Plant and adjacent areas was inspected by the joint committee on 14.07.2025 comprised of Regional Director, CPCB Chandigarh, Environmental Engineer HPSPCB Shimla, Assistant Professor IIT Ropar and Regional Officer HPSPCB Bilaspur in the presence of applicant Sh. Kashmir Singh.

During the inspection, Sh. Kashmir Singh has raised concern regarding the accumulation of water during rain on his land adjacent to cement exit gate of ACC Ltd after the partial construction of storm water drain by ACC Ltd and he also intimated that the said storm water drain should be constructed on land other than his land as there is dispute on the said land.

Keeping above facts into consideration, the joint committee is of the view that necessary storm water drain should be constructed by ACC Ltd. along with concreting of the said road in order to have proper storm water drainage system adjacent to Sh. Kashmir Singh structure.

Therefore, it is requested to kindly direct the concern Tehsildar (Sadar) to carry out demarcation of the said area/land required for the construction of drain & footpath in presence of sh. Kashmir Singh, Representatives of ACC Cement Plant, Officials of Pollution Control Board along with Police Personnel so that the Hon'ble NGT could apprised accordingly.

This is submitted for kind information and further necessary action, please.

Yours faithfully,

**Regional Officer**

HPSPCB Regional Office Bilaspur  
Telefax- 01978-223550

o/c



**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ROPAR**  
**भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, रोपड़**  
**DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING**  
**जानपद अभियांत्रिकी विभाग**

नंगल मार्ग, रुपनगर, पंजाब, भारत – 140001 Nangal Road, Rupnagar, Punjab, India -140001

Ph.: +91-1881-232114, Email: [indhada@iitrpr.ac.in](mailto:indhada@iitrpr.ac.in)

Date: 13. 12. 2025

**Completed task:**

The road dust from a patch measuring 1 m x 3 m has been collected through a vacuum cleaner and sealed in a Ziplock bag. The patch was selected by excluding approximately 1 meter from the side of the road towards the centre, as shown in the picture (Fig-1).





Figure 1: The road dust collection for the baseline data in ideal conditions



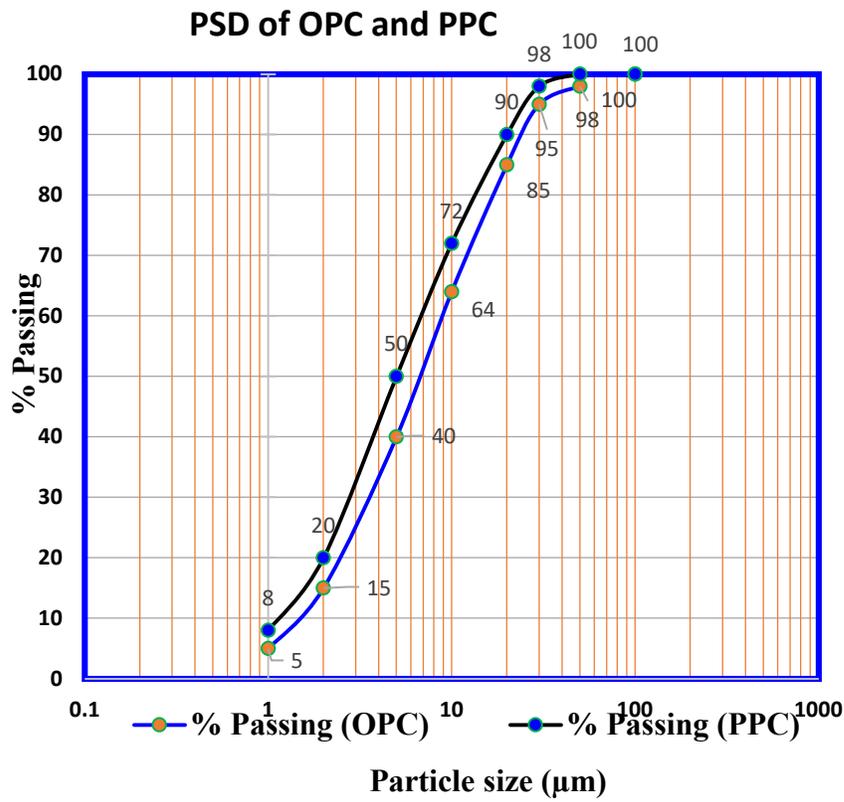
Figure 2: Laboratory analysis of collected road dust : Sieve analysis, distribution in GRIMM

The road in front of Mr Kasmir Singh's house, which connected to the boundary of the cement plant, was closed a few days before our visit, and there were no transport vehicles on the road. Therefore, the committee felt it necessary to collect road dust to determine the background concentration of road dust over the road under ideal conditions, when the road is closed. The road dust collected was 0.364 kg over a 3 m<sup>2</sup> area. The total surface area of the road was 3370 m<sup>2</sup>. The average loading on the road can be assumed as 0.121 Kg per square meter. The road dust was sieved through 600 $\mu$ , 300 $\mu$ , 150 $\mu$ , 90 $\mu$ , and 75 $\mu$  sieves, as per the IS code for particle size distribution, to correlate with the analogous particle size of cement particles. Further, the GRIMM 1.109 model (aerosol spectrometer) was used to analyse the fine dust collected on the pan of the sieve shaker.

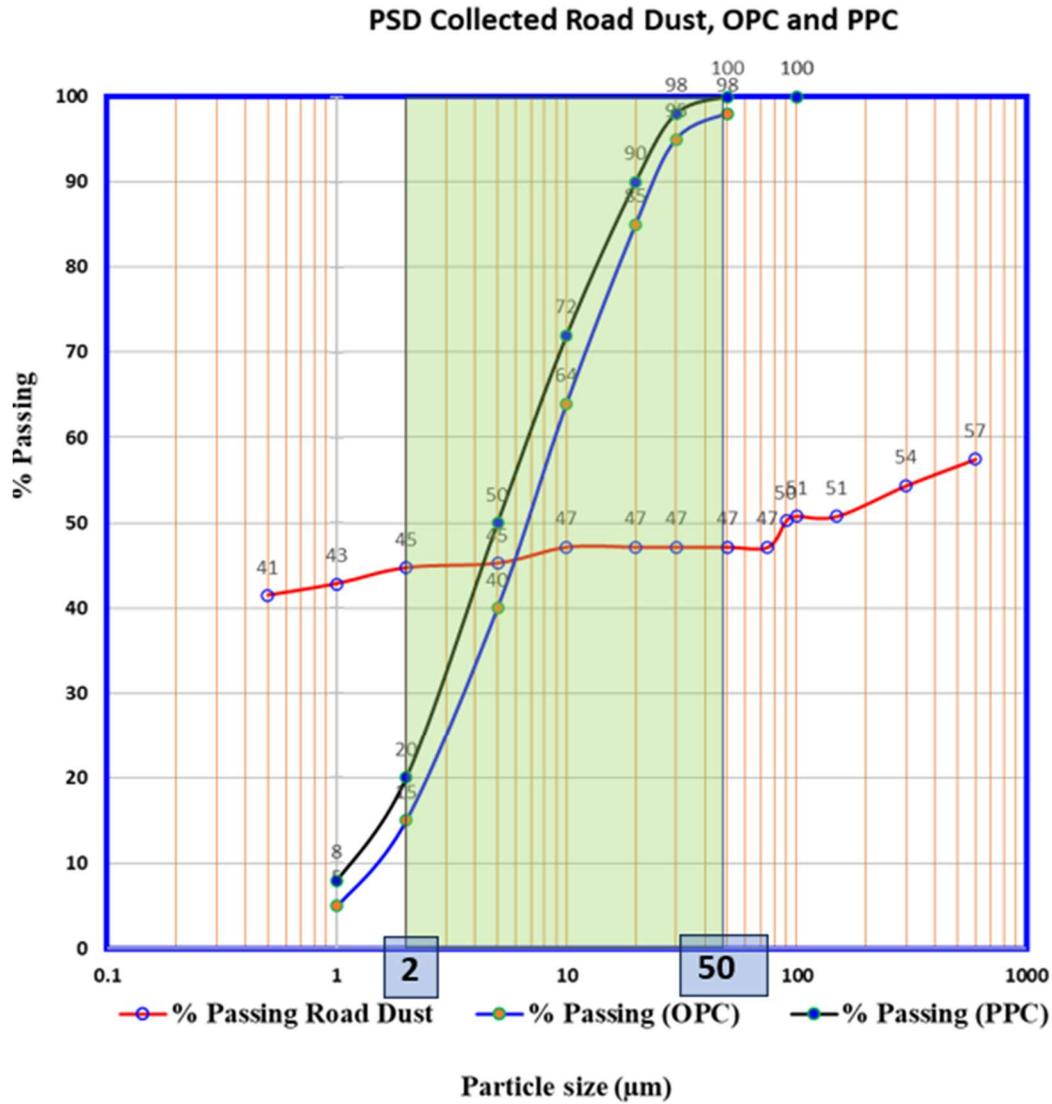
Table 1: PSD of road dust and OPC and PPC cement

Total Weight of road dust collected (Kg)		0.364	Dust collected Area of road patch(m <sup>2</sup> )=(1x3)=3					
			Particle size Distribution of OPC and PPC					
Sieve Size	Sieve Size (in $\mu\text{m}$ )	Mass Retained (Kg)	Cumulative retained (Kg)	Cumulative % Retained	% Passing Road Dust	Density of dust (Kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	% Passing (OPC)	% Passing (PPC)
<b>600 Micron</b>	600	0.164	0.164	45.07	55	0.055		
<b>300 Micron</b>	300	0.012	0.176	48.37	52	0.004		
<b>150 Micron</b>	150	0.014	0.190	52.22	48	0.005		
	<i>100</i>	0	0.190	52.22	48	0.000	100	100
<b>90 Micron</b>	90	0.002	0.192	52.77	47	0.001		
<b>75 Micron</b>	75	0.012	0.204	56.07	44	0.004		
	<i>50</i>	0	0.204	56.07	44	0.000	98	100
	<i>30</i>	1E-08	0.204	56.07	44	0.000	95	98
	<i>20</i>	1E-08	0.204	56.07	44	0.000	85	90
	<i>10</i>	2E-07	0.204	56.07	44	0.000	64	72
	<i>5</i>	7E-03	0.211	58.05	42	0.002	40	50
	<i>2</i>	2E-03	0.213	58.62	41	0.001	15	20
	<i>1</i>	7E-03	0.221	60.61	39	0.002	5	8
	<i>0.5</i>	5E-03	0.226	62.07	38	0.002		
<b>Pan</b>		0.138	0.364	100	0.00	0.0460		
<b>Total</b>		0.364						

\*\* Italic figures are particle size, not sieve size



**Fig 3:** Particle Size Distribution of Ordinary Portland Cement and Portland Pozzolana Cement as per the data given by the plant on that particular day



**Fig 4:** Particle Size Distribution of Collected Road Dust, Ordinary Portland Cement and Portland Pozzolana Cement

Below is the data on the load of materials transported from the plant, which is being collected for further calculation of the road dust suspension factor.

**Table 2:** Month-wise abstract of vehicle trips

<b>Count of Ship to party Name</b>			
	<b>Cement</b>	<b>Clinker</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
<b>Feb</b>	<b>10465</b>	<b>999</b>	<b>11464</b>
<b>Mar</b>	<b>11422</b>	<b>1472</b>	<b>12894</b>
<b>Apr</b>	<b>11688</b>	<b>2140</b>	<b>13828</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>12554</b>	<b>2514</b>	<b>15068</b>
<b>Jun</b>	<b>11922</b>	<b>958</b>	<b>12880</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>58051</b>	<b>8083</b>	<b>66134</b>

The photo provided by Mr. Kashmir Singh and his clarification by the cement plant are to be attached as annexure.

#### **Inference of the analysis data**

From the above analysis (Table 1, Fig. 3 and 4), it can be seen that around 78% of particles of OPC and PPC are in the range of 2-50  $\mu\text{m}$ ; however, around 2% of road dust are in the same range as cement. Around 43% of particles of road dust are more than 600 $\mu$ (granules), and around 41% of particles are less than 0.5 $\mu$ (very fine dust). XRF and XRD analysis of those particles can confirm their constituents. The IIT Ropar team is always ready to incorporate concerns based on specific observations, as required by the CPCB and the Honourable NGT.



**Signature of the Expert**

Dr. Indramani Dhada

Assistant Professor

IIT Ropar

1332  
Re: Report regarding OA No. 1332/2024 as the matter to be listed on 17.12.2025 for final hearing.

**Narender Sharma** <narendersharma.cpcb@nic.in >

Tue, 16 Dec 2025 6:46:39 AM +0530

To "HPSPCB RO Bilaspur"<pcbrobilaspur2@gmail.com>

Cc "Consent Division HPSPCB"<consenthpspcb03@gmail.com>,"idhada"<idhada@iitrpr.ac.in>

Sir,

I may not be able to sign this report as a member representing CPCB, in the present form, as the content of the report is not in line with the facts, directions of Hon'ble NGT and the findings of the Joint Committee.

I need time to review it and incorporate my comments. As informed yesterday, I am in Srinagar from 15th to 19th Dec, 2025 in connection with 02 other NGT matters, to comply with the directions of Hon'ble NGT.

As the matter is listed for 17th Dec, 2025 and if the two members are in agreement with the conclusions drawn in the report, it may be signed by 02 members and filed. However, it may be clearly mentioned in the report that Draft report was circulated to review by the members, on 15th Dec, 2025 and CPCB member could not review it due to reasons mentioned above.

It is OK with me if this email of mine is attached with the report signed by the two members, if required.

Regards,

Narender

----- On Mon, 15 Dec 2025 17:14:07 +0530 **HPSPCB RO Bilaspur** <[pcbrobilaspur2@gmail.com](mailto:pcbrobilaspur2@gmail.com)> wrote ---

 [Annexure 1- 6.pdf](#)

--

Respected Sir/Madam,

1333

Please find the report attached herewith for the favor of your kind perusal and further necessary signature please on as the Hon'ble NGT matter in this regard is listed on 17.12.2025 for final hearing, please.(Annexure - D2/emission reason - for coloured photographs reference)

With Regard,

Regional Officer



**H.P. STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

Regional Office Bilaspur, Near HPPWD Rest House Dholra,  
Tehsil & Distt: Bilaspur (H.P.)-174001  
Tel:- 01978-223550



**e-mail: [pcbobilaspur2@gmail.com](mailto:pcbobilaspur2@gmail.com)**

  @Official\_HPSPCB  @AwarenessHPPCB/  [hppcb.nic.in](http://hppcb.nic.in)



निवेदन: कागज़ बचाएँ, पेड़ बचाएँ. जब तक आवश्यक न हो इस दस्तावेज़ का प्रिंट न लें।

Please don't print this e-mail unless you really need to. Save Paper, Save Ink and Save environment too.

Item No. 06

Court No. 2

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

Original Application No. 1332/2024

Kashmir Singh

Applicant

Versus

State of Himachal Pradesh,  
Environment Department & Ors.

Respondents

Date of hearing: 17.12.2025

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR TYAGI, JUDICIAL MEMBER  
HON'BLE DR. AFROZ AHMAD, EXPERT MEMBER**Applicant: Mr. Aditya Mishra, Advocate for the Applicant through V.C.  
Applicant in person through V.C.Respondents: Mr. Anil Jaryal, Advocate for respondents no. 1 to 3  
Ms. Soni Singh, Advocate for respondent no. 4.  
Mr. Vaibhav Srivastava, AAG for respondent no. 5.  
Mr. Uday N Tiwary, Advocate for respondent no. 6.**ORDER**

1. Additional response dated 16.12.2025 has been filed by respondent no. 5 inter alia mentioning that the Joint Committee could not submit its report as there was delay in submission of technical expert report dated 13.12.2025 signed copy of which was received on 16.12.2025 and that email dated 16.12.2025 was received from another member of the Joint Committee namely Dr. Narender Sharma, Scientist 'F', CPCB.
2. The report signed by two members of the Joint Committee may be filed within four weeks.

3. Report/comments by Dr. Narender Sharma, Scientist 'F', CPCB, another member of the Joint Committee may also be filed within four weeks.

4. List on 12.02.2026 for further hearing.

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. Afroz Ahmad, EM

December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
Original Application No. 1332/2024  
AB

## **Final Report of the Joint Committee in the matter of OA No. 1332 of 2024 titled Kashmir Singh versus State of Himachal Pradesh.**

### **Executive Summary:**

Pursuant to the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) in O.A. No. 1332 of 2024, a Joint Committee comprising representatives of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Himachal Pradesh State Pollution Control Board (HPSPCB), and an independent technical expert from IIT Ropar was constituted to assess allegations of air pollution in the vicinity of M/s ACC Ltd., Barmana, District Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh.

The Committee conducted a joint inspection on 02.12.2025, interacted with the complainant, verified operational and traffic conditions, and carried out scientific sampling and analysis of road dust to determine its characteristics and potential source. Particle size distribution (PSD) analysis of collected road dust was compared with the PSD of Ordinary Portland Cement (OPC) and Portland Pozzolana Cement (PPC) produced by the unit.

Based on field observations, analytical results, and prevailing site conditions, the Committee concludes that the contribution of cement-related particulates to the road dust at the complainant's location is marginal (approximately 2%) under baseline conditions prevailing during the inspection. The report also provides precautionary recommendations to further strengthen dust mitigation measures.

### **1.0. Background:**

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, vide order dated 06.10.2025 (**Annexure-I**), listed the matter for final hearing on 17.12.2025 and directed that the applicant be informed of the hearing date. In compliance, the

complainant, Sh. Kashmir Singh, was duly intimated (**Annexure-II**).

Further, in compliance with the Hon'ble Tribunal's order dated 17.04.2025, an amount of ₹20,00,000/- was deposited, of which ₹15,00,000/- was transferred to the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Bilaspur, and ₹5,00,000/- to the Block Development Officer, Sadar. Documentary proof of compliance is enclosed as **Annexure-III**.

In compliance with the aforesaid directions, the Joint Committee constituted, conducted a site inspection of M/s ACC Ltd. Cement Plant located at Village Barmana, Tehsil Sadar, District Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh, on 02.12.2025. The attendance sheet of the Joint inspection is enclosed as **Annexure-IV**.

## **2.0 Scope and Objective of the Committee:**

The scope of the Joint Committee was as follows:

- To verify allegations of fugitive particulate emissions affecting the complainant's premises
- To assess prevailing site and traffic conditions
- To scientifically evaluate road dust characteristics near the complainant's residence
- To compare particle size distribution of road dust with cement produced by the unit

To recommend remedial or precautionary measures

## **3.0 Site Conditions and Compliance Status:**

On the date of inspection (02.12.2025), the cement plant was found operational. However, it was informed that movement of trucks transporting cement/clinker on the cement exit road passing adjacent to the complainant's

building/structure had been discontinued pursuant to a stay order issued by the Sessions Court, District Bilaspur. A copy of the said order is enclosed as **Annexure-V**.

During interaction with the complainant, it was conveyed that intermittent fugitive emissions from the plant raised earlier had been conveyed to the committee from time to time. The Committee was informed that the State Pollution Control Board had already issued directions to the unit for mitigation of fugitive emissions, and compliance reports had been submitted by the unit. Copies of the directions and compliance reports are enclosed as **Annexure-VI**.

#### **4.0 Methodology Adopted**

##### **4.1 Road Dust Sampling:**

To generate objective and verifiable data, road dust sampling was carried out near the complainant's premises. A surface patch measuring **1 m × 3 m** was demarcated and sampled using a vacuum-based dust collection method. To avoid edge effects and lateral deposition bias, approximately one meter from the road edges was excluded, and sampling was carried out from the central portion of the road.

The collected dust sample was sealed in a zip-lock bag and transported for analysis.

Photographic documentation of the sampling process and laboratory analysis is provided as **Figure 1** and **Figure 2**, respectively.



Figure 1: Shows the road dust collection for the baseline data in ideal conditions



Figure 2: Shows the Laboratory analysis of collected road dust

## 4.2 Rationale for Baseline Sampling

It is pertinent to note that the subject road had been closed several days prior to the inspection, and no vehicular movement was observed on the day of inspection. Accordingly, the Committee considered it appropriate to assess **baseline/background road dust conditions** under ideal circumstances, i.e., in the absence of traffic-induced resuspension.

## 4.3 Quantification of Road Dust Loading

- Total dust collected from 3 m<sup>2</sup> area: **0.364 kg**
- Average surface dust loading: **0.121 kg/m<sup>2</sup>**
- Total road surface area assessed: **3370 m<sup>2</sup>**

This loading represents accumulated background dust under non-traffic conditions.

## 4.4 Particle Size Distribution (PSD) Analysis

The collected road dust was subjected to particle size distribution analysis using standard sieve analysis with sieve sizes of **600 µm, 300 µm, 150 µm, 90 µm, and 75 µm**, in accordance with applicable Indian Standards. Fine fractions collected in the pan were further analysed using a **GRIMM Aerosol Spectrometer (Model 1.109)** to characterize sub-micron particles.

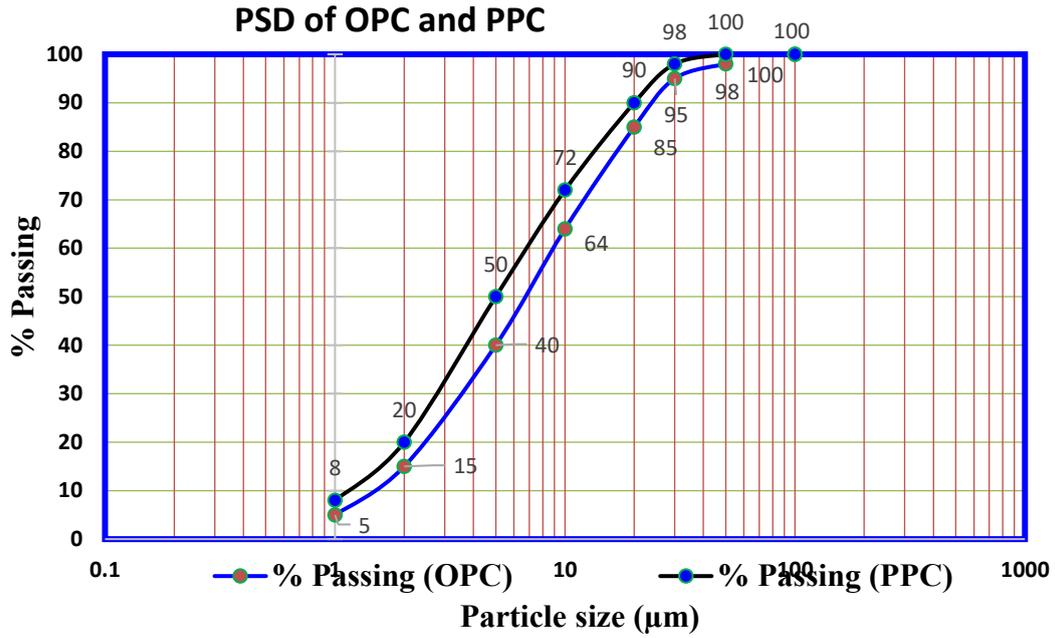
For comparative assessment, PSD data of **Ordinary Portland Cement (OPC)** and **Portland Pozzolana Cement (PPC)** produced by the unit on the relevant date were obtained and analysed.

- **Table 1:** PSD of road dust vis-à-vis OPC and PPC
- **Figure 3:** PSD of OPC and PPC
- **Figure 4:** Comparative PSD of road dust, OPC, and PPC

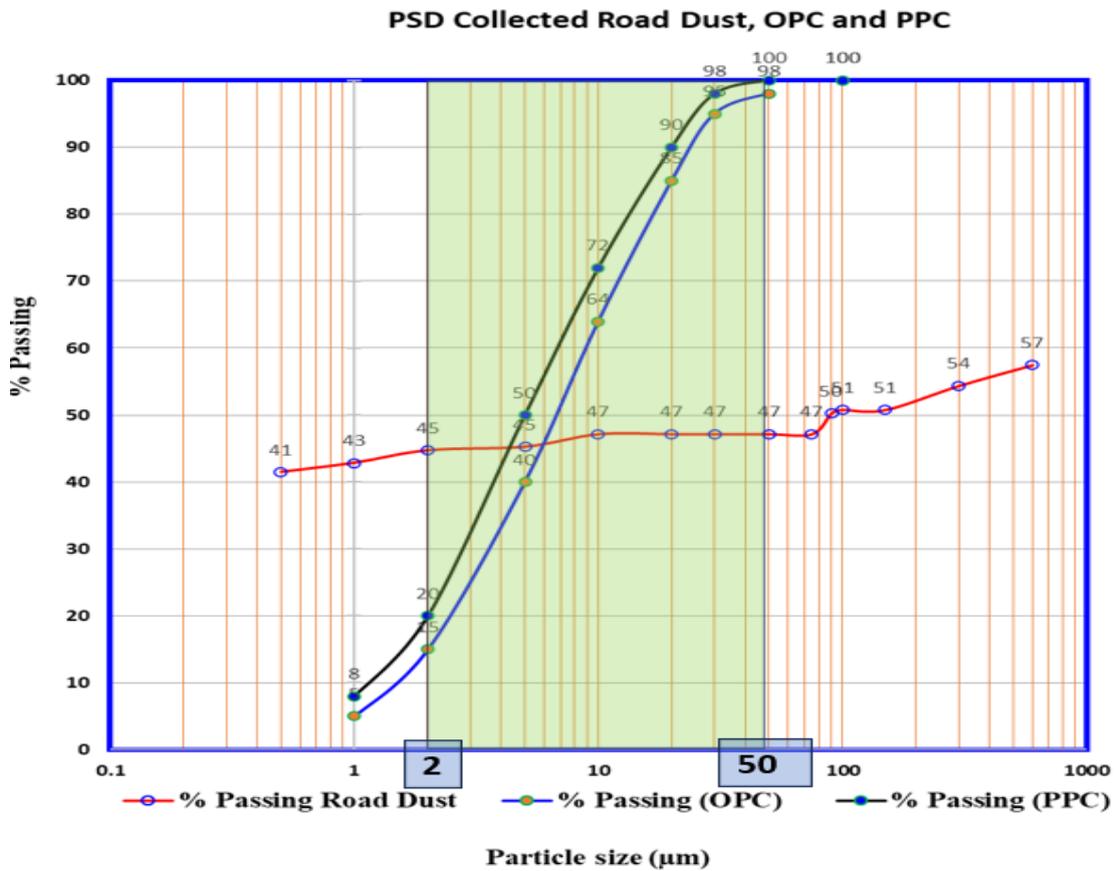
**Table 1:** PSD of road dust and OPC and PPC cement

Total Weight of road dust collected (Kg)		0.364	Dust collected Area of road patch(m <sub>2</sub> )=(1x3)=3					
			Particle size Distribution of OPC and PPC					
Sieve Size	Sieve Size (in $\mu\text{m}$ )	Mass Retained (Kg)	Cumulative retained (Kg)	Cumulative % Retained	% Passing Road Dust	Density of dust (Kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	% Passing (OPC)	% Passing (PPC)
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	<i>100</i>	0	0.190	52.22	48	0.000	100	100
90 Micron	90	0.002	0.192	52.77	47	0.001		
75 Micron	75	0.012	0.204	56.07	44	0.004		
	<i>50</i>	0	0.204	56.07	44	0.000	98	100
	<i>30</i>	1E-08	0.204	56.07	44	0.000	95	98

\*\* Italic figures are particle size, not sieve size



**Fig 3:** Particle Size Distribution of Ordinary Portland Cement and Portland Pozzolana Cement as per the data given by the plant on that particular day.



**Fig 4:** Particle Size Distribution of Collected Road Dust, Ordinary Portland Cement and Portland Pozzolana Cement

## 5.0 Results and Discussion

Analysis of the PSD data reveals that:

- Approximately **78% of OPC and PPC particles** lie within the **2–50 µm** size range
- Only about **2% of road dust particles** fall within the same size range
- Approximately **43% of road dust particles** are larger than **600 µm**, indicating coarse granular material
- Around **41% of particles** are finer than **0.5 µm**, likely attributable to background atmospheric dust

The significant disparity between the particle size distribution of cement and the collected road dust indicates that cement-related particulates are **not the dominant contributor** to the road dust observed at the complainant's location under prevailing conditions.

While compositional confirmation through XRF/XRD analysis would further strengthen source apportionment, particle size analysis alone provides a robust preliminary indicator of limited cement contribution.

## 6.0 Vehicle Movement Data

Month-wise data on cement and clinker dispatch provided by the unit is presented in **Table 2**. While the historical data indicates substantial vehicle movement during earlier periods, it is relevant to note that **no vehicular movement was occurring on the subject road during the inspection period**, thereby eliminating contemporaneous transport-related dust resuspension as a contributing factor at the time of assessment.

**Table 2:** Month-wise abstract of vehicle trips

<b>Count of Ship to party Name</b>			
	<b>Cement</b>	<b>Clinker</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
<b>Feb</b>	<b>10465</b>	<b>999</b>	<b>11464</b>
<b>Mar</b>	<b>11422</b>	<b>1472</b>	<b>12894</b>
<b>Apr</b>	<b>11688</b>	<b>2140</b>	<b>13828</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>12554</b>	<b>2514</b>	<b>15068</b>
<b>Jun</b>	<b>11922</b>	<b>958</b>	<b>12880</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>58051</b>	<b>8083</b>	<b>66134</b>

## 7.0 Conclusions

Based on site inspection, interaction with the complainant, review of compliance records, and scientific analysis of road dust under prevailing baseline conditions, the Joint Committee arrives at the following conclusions:

1. On the date of inspection, **no vehicular movement was observed** on the cement exit road passing adjacent to the complainant's premises, owing to judicial restraint orders, and therefore the assessment represents **baseline/background environmental conditions**.
2. Particle size distribution analysis indicates that cement-related particles constitute only about **2% of the total road dust**, whereas the majority of particles are either coarse granular material or fine background atmospheric dust.
3. Under the conditions prevailing at the time of inspection, there is **no evidence of significant adverse air quality impact** attributable to the operations of M/s ACC Ltd. at the complainant's location.

4. The Committee notes that **vehicular movement is a critical factor influencing road dust resuspension**. Since traffic on the subject road was not operational during the inspection period, the present assessment does not capture dust dynamics under active transport conditions.
5. **Accordingly, the Joint Committee submits that, if and when vehicular movement resumes on the said road, a fresh round of scientific sampling and analysis of road dust and/or ambient particulate matter may be undertaken**, as deemed appropriate by the competent authority, to objectively ascertain the contribution, if any, of vehicular movement and cement transportation to ambient dust levels.
6. Such future assessment would enable a more comprehensive evaluation under actual operating conditions and facilitate evidence-based regulatory decision-making, consistent with the principles laid down by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal.

## 8.0 Recommendations

In view of the findings recorded under baseline conditions, the Joint Committee makes the following recommendations:

1. As a preventive environmental management measure, the unit may continue and, wherever feasible, enhance dust suppression practices, including water sprinkling in and around the plant premises and adjoining approach roads.
2. The unit may deploy a high-efficiency mechanized road sweeping system to minimize potential resuspension of settled dust, particularly during dry weather conditions.

3. **In the event of resumption of vehicular movement on the cement exit road, a fresh round of scientific monitoring may be undertaken by the competent authority**, including road dust and/or ambient particulate matter sampling, to objectively assess dust generation and resuspension under actual traffic conditions.
4. Such monitoring, if carried out, may include comparative particle size distribution and other relevant analytical parameters, so as to ascertain the contribution, if any, of cement transportation and vehicular activity to ambient dust levels in the vicinity of the complainant's premises.

Dr. Indramani Dhada,  
Assistant Professor, IIT Ropar  
Deptt. of Civil Engineering

Sh. Lalit Thakur,  
Environmental Engineer  
HPSPCB Shimla HP

Dr.NarenderSharma,  
Scientist 'F'  
CPCBRD,Chandigarh

**Dated:**



**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ROPAR**  
**भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, रोपड़**  
**DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING**  
**जानपद अभियांत्रिकी विभाग**

नंगल मार्ग, रुपनगर, पंजाब, भारत – 140001 Nangal Road, Rupnagar, Punjab, India -140001

Ph.: +91-1881-232114, Email: [indhada@iitrpr.ac.in](mailto:indhada@iitrpr.ac.in)

## Task Completed

Date 21.01.2026

The road dust has been sieved (Fig 1) and the fraction collected  $<75\mu\text{m}$ ,  $75-150\mu\text{m}$ ,  $150-300\mu\text{m}$ ,  $300-600\mu\text{m}$  sieve and over  $600\mu\text{m}$  sieves has been collected and crushed into smaller fractions for further XRF analysis.



Fig 1: Sieve analysis of samples

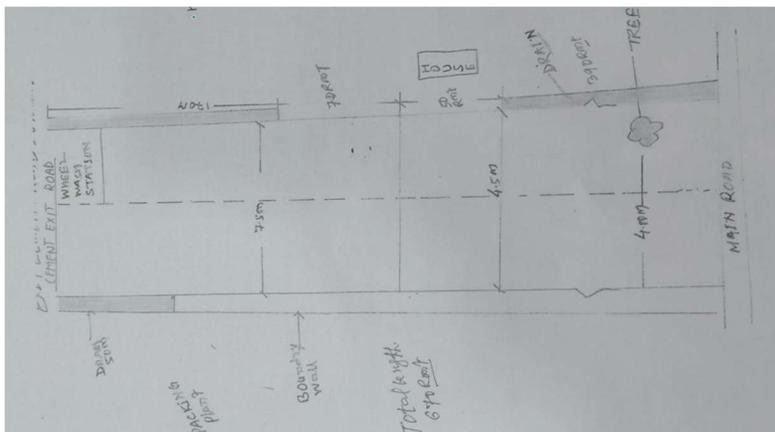


Fig 2: Road width and length as supplied by the ACC plant

**Total road length = 680m, Sample collected from 1mx3m patch.**

The samples are analyzed in an XRF analyzer. The results are given below in Fig 3.

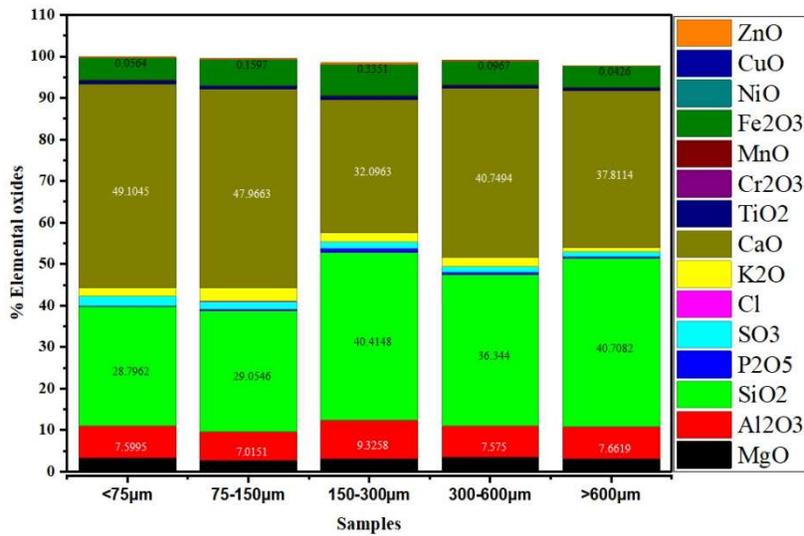
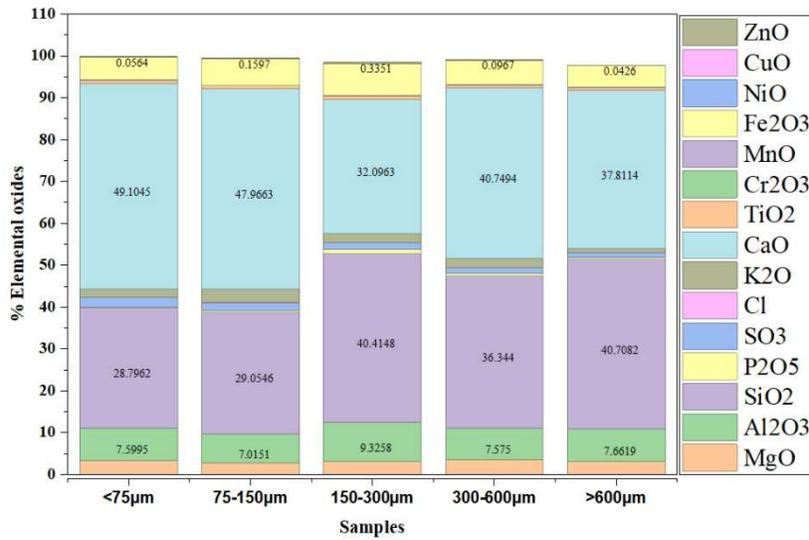


Fig 3: XRF analysis of road dust samples

- The composition indicates a heterogeneous material. On average, 40% is CaO and 35% Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> shows a mix of limestone-based dust along with cementitious product.

*Indramani Dhada*

Experts Signature  
 Dr. Indramani Dhada  
 IIT Ropar

## Annexure-8

16.01.2026

Present: Sh. Pawan Chandel, Advocate for the appellants.  
Sh.V.K. Handa, Advocate for the respondent.

Reply not filed.

Heard. Record perused.

After going through the averments made in the application which are duly supported by an affidavit coupled with the pleadings of the parties before the Id. Trial Court placed on record, it prima facie shows that the respondent is plying heavy trucks and transporting cement and clinker and interfering with the right of passage of the applicants and obstructing the applicants from using the same in the land comprised in khasra No. 88, khata/khatoni No. 218min/240 min land measuring 4-2 bighas situated in village Khater, Pargna and Tehsil Sadar, District Bilaspur, H.P. There exists a legal right in favour of the applicants. As such, the respondent/defendant is restrained from plying the heavy trucks and transporting the cement and clinker through the suit land till the next date of hearing i.e. 03.03.2026. Reply be also filed by that date.

( Jyotsna Sumant Dadhwal)  
District Judge, Bilaspur,H.P.