

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, NEW DELHI

IA no. 256 of 2024

Execution Application No. 33/2023

In

Original Application No. 465 of 2019

Kulwinder Singh Sandhu and Others

..... Applicants

Versus

Ram Murti and Others

..... Respondents

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(Er. Jaspal Singh)

Environmental Engineer,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Regional Office-3, Ludhiana.

(On behalf of Punjab Pollution Control Board)

Date: 9/1/2026

Place: Ludhiana



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Short reply by way of affidavit of Er. Jaspal Singh, Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office-3, Ludhiana to IA no. 256 of 2024 on behalf of Punjab Pollution Control Board (respondent no.10).

I, the above-named deponent, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under:

Respectfully showeth

- 1) That the deponent namely Er. Jaspal Singh is working as Environmental Engineer in Punjab Pollution Control Board and is posted in the Regional Office-3 of the Board at Ludhiana. The deponent is well conversant with the facts of the case and is competent and authorized to swear and file the present short reply by way of affidavit on behalf of the Punjab Pollution Control Board i.e. respondent no.10.
- 2) That the above-mentioned case is pending before this Hon'ble Tribunal and the respondent Punjab Pollution Control Board is filing replies / status reports in compliance to the orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal passed from time to time.

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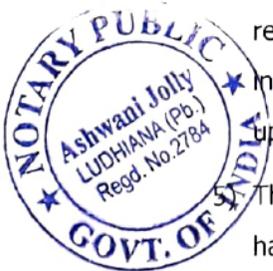


- 3) That the applicant has filed IA no.256 of 2024 in Execution Application no. 33 of 2023 in Original Application no. 465 of 2019. This Hon'ble Tribunal has issued directions vide order dated 27.10.2025 to the State of Punjab, Punjab Pollution Control Board and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to file reply to the said IA no. 256 of 2024.
- 4) That IA no. 256 of 2024 has been examined and it is observed that the applicant has filed the said IA on the basis of apprehension that the operation of the haddarodi site over the last 15 years on 5 acre track of land would have definitely resulted in degradation of soil, groundwater and water quality of River Sutlej and in most likelihood the operation of haddarodis had entailed the utilization of hazardous substance. With this apprehension in mind, the applicant has requested for comprehensive inquiry into the repercussions brought out by the haddarodi operations.

The applicant has also requested for immediate steps to be taken up by District Administration for the rejuvenation of River Sutlej as per the MOEFCC's River Rejuvenation Program which has been prepared by Indian Council for Forest Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun for the rejuvenation of the major Indian Rivers including River Sutlej through forestry interventions with specific immediate focus on the river between 10 km upstream and downstream of the illegal location.

That in reply to the contents of IA no. 256 of 2024, it is submitted that the 05 haddarodi sites which were in operation on the banks of River Sutlej have been closed far back. The brief facts and status report of the old haddaroddi sites which were operational on the banks of River Sutlej in the vicinity of Village Ladhawal, District Ludhiana are summarized herein below for the kind perusal of this Hon'ble Tribunal:

- a) There were 5 illegal 'haddaroddis' sites on the banks of River Sutlej that were alleged to be the reason for pollution in the Sutlej River. In fact, this was also the main issue before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in the Original Application No. 465 of 2019 titled as Kulwinder Singh and others v. Ram Murti & others.



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- b) The detail of the haddaroddis sites with name and address of the owner is given below for kind perusal:

Sr. No	Name of Owner	Address
i.	Sh. Ram Murti S/o Sh. Bhajan Ram	R/o Noor Mahal Road, Mohalla Ravidass Pura, Phillour, Dist. Jalandhar-144410
ii.	Sh Suraj Kumar S/o Late Sh. Kamal Kumar	R/o 6398, Mohalla Jagdishpura, Tajpur Road, Ludhiana-141008
iii.	Sh. Ramesh Kumar S/o Late Sh. Tarsem Lal	Village Majara Khurd, PO Ladhawal, Ludhiana - 141008
iv.	Sh. Munish Kumar S/o Late Charanjit	R/o B-155/1, Shahi Mohala, Ludhiana 141008
v.	Sh. Parshotam Lal S/o Late Dalbir Chand	R/o B-33-752, Sarup Nagar, Salem Tabri, Ludhiana- 141008

- c) The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal was pleased pass an order dated 10.10.2019 in O.A No. 465 of 2019 thereby directing the Punjab Pollution Control Board to take immediate steps to close the illegal activity and recover the Environmental Compensation for damage to environment in accordance with Law. At the same time the monitoring committee headed by Justice Jasbir Singh, former Judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court was requested by the Hon'ble Tribunal for controlling pollution of river Sutlej and to monitor the situation.

- d) The Punjab Pollution Control Board in compliance of order dated 10.10.2019 of the Hon'ble Tribunal after affording an opportunity of hearing to the above-named persons had imposed Environmental Compensation amounting to Rs. 2,28,12,000/- on each of the five haddaroddi sites of Sh. Ram Murti, Sh. Suraj Kumar, Sh. Ramesh Kumar, Munish Kumar and Sh. Parshotam Lal and also asked the owners of haddaroddi sites to immediately stop discharging its effluent into river Sutlej and make immediate arrangement for proper treatment and disposal of effluent vide separate letters dated 27.02.2020 so as to ensure that there is no further pollution in river Sutlej.



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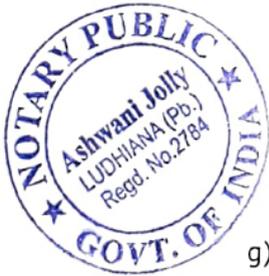
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- e) The relevant recommendations of the Monitoring Committee as mentioned in order dated 13.05.2020 of the Hon'ble Tribunal are reproduced below:

"4 Punjab Pollution Control Board shall take immediate steps to get close these illegal activities from the present location with the help of District Administration, Ludhiana. Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana shall ensure the immediate closure of the unscientific carcass disposal plants after the commissioning of the modern and scientific carcass plant.

5 Punjab Pollution Control Board shall recover the environmental compensation imposed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal for the damage caused to the environment due to operation of these illegal carcass disposal activities from the concerned persons through the Department of revenue."

- f) in order to make compliance of the orders dated 13.05.2020, the Punjab Pollution Control Board has taken up the matter with the District Administration Ludhiana by writing various letters bearing no. 7945 dated 24.09.2020, letter no. 1772 dated 27.1.2022 and letter no. 7986 dated 24.11.2023 for recovery of Environmental Compensation from five haddaroddi sites as explained above through the Department of Revenue.



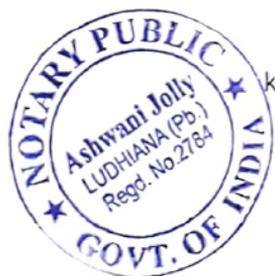
- g) That on the directions of the District Administration, notices for the recovery of Environmental Compensation as arrears of land revenue have been issued to owners of 04 haddaroddi sites at Ludhiana by the revenue department vide letter no. 3075 dated 07.02.2024. One owner of haddaroddi site was residing in District Jalandhar, hence the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana has written a letter to the Deputy Commissioner, Jalandhar for recovery of the amount of environmental Compensation as arrears of land revenue.

- h) That vide Orders dated 5522-24/M.A. dated 13.03.2024 issued by the office of Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, the illegal 'haddaroddis' have

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been ordered to stop their illegal operation and disposal of carcasses into the river Sutlej. In compliance of the orders of the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, the SDM Ludhiana West vide letter no. 1352 dated 22.03.2024 has reported that the 'haddaroddis' on the banks of river Sutlej have stopped the operation and there is no disposal of dead animals and effluent in the river Sutlej. DDR entry to this effect has also been submitted by the Commissioner Police Ludhiana vide letter no. 11548 dated 19.03.2024 to the office of Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana.

- i) The office of Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana has directed the Punjab Pollution Control Board, Commissioner of Police and SDM Ludhiana West to ensure regular checking so that no illegal operation of haddaroddis takes place in violation of the orders issued by the District Magistrate.
- j) The PPCB has conducted regular checks and vide report dated 18.03.2024 has informed the office of Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana that the site was checked on 10.03.2024 and was found closed and not operational, no new carcasses were found and there were no carcasses in the bed of the river Satluj. Thus, there is no source of pollution into the river.
- k) The Commissioner Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana vide report dated 15.03.2024, has also affirmed to the office of Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana that carcasses from dairies or otherwise collected from the city are being disposed of at land owned by Corporation at Jamalpur by the method of deep burial.
- l) The PPCB was directed by the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana to check whether the deep burial done by Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana is as per Central Pollution Control Board guidelines for carcass disposal. The PPCB vide letter No. 597 dated 21.03.2024 has informed the office of Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana that the practice of deep burial of dead animals is as per CPCB guidelines.



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Status of Modern Carcass Utilization Plant

- 6) That and Modern and Scientific Carcass Utilization Plant has been installed at Village Noorpur Bet, District Ludhiana by Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana. The plant was commissioned on 13.07.2021. The Modern and Scientific Carcass Plant has obtained 'Consents to operate' of the Punjab Pollution Control Board under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 vide no. CTOW/Fresh/LDH3/2022/19276595 and CTOA/Fresh/LDH3/2022/19276599 dated 21.07.2022 respectively and the consents were valid upto 30.06.2023.
- 7) That the Modern and Scientific Carcass Plant has again obtained the 'Consents to Operate' under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 of the Board on 27.3.2024 valid upto 30.06.2024.

Operational Status of the Plant: Efforts made by the State

- 8) That however, the plant was not allowed to operate by the local residents who have started a continuous protest at the site. Several meetings were held with the protestors by District Administration and Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana from time to time and they were informed about the benefits of Modern & Scientific Carcass Plant and requested them to allow the concessionaire to operate the plant. However, the plant was not allowed to operate by the protestors.
- 9) That as far as the imposition and recovery of Environmental Compensation from the haddarodi owners is concerned, in addition to the factual position mentioned and described in paragraph 5 of the reply above, the following facts are submitted

- a) The owners of the haddarodi sites had filed Civil Writ Petition no. 10927 of 2024 before the Hon'ble Punjab and Haryana High Court for setting aside the recovery notices dated 28.02.2024 and 27.02.2024 of Rs. 2,28,12,500/-. However, the Civil Writ Petition no. 10927 of 2024 was



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dismissed by the Hon'ble Punjab and Haryana High Court vide order dated 23.07.2024 giving liberty to the petitioners (owners of haddarodi sites) to avail remedy as per Law.

- b) Thereafter, the owners of haddarodi sites had filed Review Application no. 12 of 2025 before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal against the order dated 10.10.2019 and 21.04.2019 passed in Original Application no. 465 of 2019. However, Review Application no.12 of 2025 was dismissed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal vide order date 27.03.2025.
- c) The owners of haddarodi sites have filed the Civil Appeal Diary no.36867 of 2025 before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India under section 22 of the National Green Tribunal Act, against the impugned ex-parte final order dated 15.04.2021 passed by the National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi in Original Application bearing O.A No. 465 of 2019 and final order dated 27.03.2025 passed by the National Green Tribunal in Review Application no. 12 of 2025 filed in Original Application no. 465 of 2019.
- d) The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India was pleased to pass an order dated 25.08.2025 in Civil Appeal Diary no. 36867 of 2025 thereby staying the recovery of Environmental Compensation in the meantime.
- e) The Civil Appeal Diary no. 36867 of 2025 is pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and is listed for hearing on 21.01.2026.



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- 10) That in view of the facts stated and described in paragraph 5 above, it is submitted that the haddarodi sites on the banks of river Sutlej near Village

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Ladhowal, District Ludhiana have been closed and the sites are lying vacant and at present there is no discharge of effluent or disposal of dead animals into river Sutlej by the haddarodi sites and the disposal of dead animals is carried out through deep burial (approved practice as per CPCB guidelines) by Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana on its land at Village Jamalpur, Ludhiana.

- 11) That the deponent may kindly be allowed to place on record the present short reply in IA no. 256 of 2024 in compliance to order dated 27.10.2025 for kind consideration of this Hon'ble Tribunal.



(Er. Jaspal Singh)
Environmental Engineer,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Regional Office-3, Ludhiana.

Date: 9/01/2026

Place: Ludhiana

(On behalf of Punjab Pollution Control Board

Verification:

certified that the affidavit/S.P.A./GPA has been readover & explained to the deponent executant who seemed correctly to understand the same at the time making thereof

Verified that the contents of para no. 1 to 10 of the above short reply are true and correct as derived from the official record. Para no. 11 is prayer. No part of above short reply is false and nothing material has been kept concealed therein.

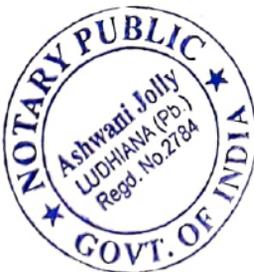
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(Er. Jaspal Singh)
Environmental Engineer,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Regional Office-3, Ludhiana.
(On behalf of Punjab Pollution Control Board

Date: 9/01/2026

Place: Ludhiana



Attested As Identified

Notary Public, LDH

09 JAN 2026