

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, NEW DELHI
(PRINCIPAL BRANCH)**

Original Application No. 479 of 2023

In the matter of

Ramesh Mahendru

.....Applicant

V/s

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

Short reply of Commissioner, Municipal Corporation Jalandhar i.e. respondent no. 3 in compliance to order dated 20.11.2023.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH

- 1) That briefly submitted one Ramesh Mahendru, President of Alfa Mahendru Foundation has approached the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal by sending a letter via email complaining that huge garbage dump has been built on the PAP flyover near bypass, Jalandhar city, which is emitting foul smell. It was alleged by the applicant that due to the polluted environment, the employees working in the nearby offices and the people travelling through the National Highway are suffering. The applicant has prayed that Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar may be directed to remove the illegally dumped garbage and shown his willingness to cooperate for the same.
- 2) The letter of the applicant was treated as Original Application no. 479 of 2023 "Ramesh Mahendru (Applicant) Vs State of Punjab and considering the grievances, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal was pleased to pass an order dated 4.8.2023 thereby constituting a Joint Committee comprising of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Punjab State Pollution Control Board (PSPCB) and District Magistrate (DM), Jalandhar with a direction to undertake

visits to the site, associate and to look into the grievances of the applicant, verify the factual position and to take appropriate remedial action and to submit report. The State PCB was nominated nodal agency for coordination and compliance. In compliance to order dated 4.8.2023, the Joint Committee Report was filed with the Hon'ble Tribunal vide email dated 02.11.2023.

- 3) That considering the Joint Committee Report and the averments made in the application, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal was pleased to call response of the State of Punjab through Chief Secretary, Punjab; District Magistrate, Jalandhar; Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar and Punjab Pollution Control Board, through its Member Secretary who were impleaded as respondents no. 1 to 4 by passing an order dated 20.11.2023.
- 4) That the undersigned is working as Commissioner, Municipal Corporation Jalandhar and as such is conversant with the case.
- 5) That in compliance to the orders passed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, a meeting was also taken by the Deputy Commssioner, Jalandhar with the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar on 08.01.2024 on this present case. During meeting, the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar had stated that the waste dumped at Choughiti bye pass has been cleared. A tender for the regular lifting of solid waste dumped at site as well as around the Choughiti bye pass will be floated by Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar, which will be matured within a week. Further, to stop the illegal disposal at site, officials of Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar were also deployed. After meeting, the following directions were issued to Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar, which are reproduced as under:
 - I. Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar to remove the entire solid waste from Chogitti Chowk site and carry out remediation action using lime etc.

-3-

- II. Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar to ensure that no waste is dumped at Chogitti chowk site in future and to specifically appoint officials to carry out regular monitoring at site.
- III. Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar to provide CCTV Cameras at site to identify violators dumping waste at the site and to take punitive action which may include challaning, imposing of fine and initiation of action as per by laws.
- IV. Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar to take up matter with NHAJ for fencing/plantation of the site and to explore possibility of development of public parks at the site.
- V. Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar to take all necessary measures for compliance of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 including remediation of legacy waste and adoption of best practices for Solid Waste Management in the City in time bound manner.

6) In light of the observations of the Joint team as well as the directions mentioned in the point no. 5.), MCJ has taken up number of steps to address the various issues:

Sr. No.	NGT Observations	Action/Response
1.	The dumpsite is established in an area of about 16.25 acres. The officials of MC Jalandhar informed us that the site has been in use for about the last 30 years.	Factual statement
2.	The MCJ has provided 30 dump trucks and 43 trollies to carry the solid waste to the dump site.	Factual statement
3.	At the time of the visit, about 3 trollies and 3 dump trucks had reached the site but none of them were covered.	For MCJ owned Tippers and Trollies, tarpaulin was purchased. All waste transportation has been covered. Private tippers and trolleys- Now covered Pictures attached at Appendix A
4.	None of the vehicles are compartmentalized. No segregation of waste is being done before sending it to the dump site and no segregation is done at the dump site.	MCJ has received Rs. 43 Cr from Jalandhar Smart City Ltd. For modernization of the SWM machinery. The reason for lack of segregation is two fold:

		<p>1. Door to Door Collection is done by informal sector (informal waste-pickers), which has poor infrastructure for waste collection and lacks due motivation. This is being addressed by no. of steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a.) City wide survey for details of the waste-pickers (9 wards completed) b.) MCJ has issued work order for purchase of 100 e-carts, with segregated compartments for waste collection c.) MCJ has got a project approved (MRF at Pholriwal) from the department, in which such informal ragpickers will be incentivized financially for source segregation d.) Another proposal is in making for purchase of sufficient no. of DTD collection vehicles for the whole city <p>2. Lack of sufficient processing capacity (for 450-500TPD waste generated daily) has discouraged citizens for undertaking the source segregation. It is being addressed through comprehensive planning, as mentioned in the point no. 5</p>
5.	No treatment of fresh waste or legacy waste is being carried out. The unsegregated waste received is dumped as such at the site.	<p>Legacy waste: Jalandhar Smart City Ltd. has transferred Rs. 37 Cr. Approximately, to MCJ for Bio-mining project to treat the legacy waste. Tender has been floated for that and Bids are being technically evaluated and work order will be given soon.</p> <p>Fresh waste: Following steps are in pipeline for processing the fresh waste, as follows-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wet waste: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a.) Bio-methanation plant from 100 TPD of wet waste is in planning stage. MCJ is in talks with EIL and BPCL to set it up b.) Another plant i.e. for

		<p>Compressed Bio-Gas plant is being set up in Jamsher diary complex which will process 200 TPD of Cow dung and 40 TPD of Municipal Wet waste. Implementation Agreement for this has already been signed.</p> <p>c.) MCJ is also in talks with CBG plant set up at Bhogpur, nearby town, for processing another 100 TPD of Municipal wet waste</p> <p>d.) A project for 10 TPD Mechanical Composting at Pholriwal has been approved</p> <p>e.) Tender has been floated and bids are being technically evaluated for 1.250 TPD mechanical composting machine</p> <p>2. Dry waste :</p> <p>a.) Waste characterization study has been conducted. According to it, MSW contains more than 60% Multi-Layer plastic</p> <p>b.) So MCJ has got a project approved for making construction tiles using MLP (2000 Kg daily)</p> <p>c.) Hopefully, when it succeeds, similar and larger plants could be set up to deal with all of the MLP.</p> <p>d.) The informal waste-pickers recover the items which could be sold or recycled, as of now.</p> <p>e.) MCJ has also got sanctioned Rs. 4.5 Cr for construction of Transfer station, which combined with DTDC vehicles will eliminate all Secondary Collection Points in the city.</p> <p>f.) Currently, there are 184 pits at 4 Composting/MRF units. Recently MCJ has procured Shredders, bailers and fatka</p>
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		<p>machines for processing the dry and wet waste in these units.</p> <p>g.) MCJ has also contacted Phillaur based plastic recycler for processing of plastic waste.</p>
6.	No weighbridge has been provided at the dump site to ascertain the waste being received at the site.	Tender has been floated for setting up weigh-bridge and the bridge will be installed in 1.5 months.
7.	The MCJ officials informed that as per a survey carried out in 2019, 8 lacs MT solid waste was present at the dump site and 400-500 MT waste was being received every day at that time. Considering the increase in daily waste generation and accumulation of waste since 2019, the total legacy waste lying at the dump site could be to the tune of 15 lacs MT.	A separate study is being Commissioned to estimate new requirement for the additional legacy waste accumulated.
8.	No boundary wall or fencing has been provided around the dump site and as such the waste was found spread outside the dump site onto the road leading to the site.	Tender has been floated for construction of boundary wall
9.	The Kala Sanghian drain passes around 400 meters away from the dump site. A lot of waste was found dumped along the bank of Kala Sanghian drain adding to the pollution in the drain.	MCJ has started cleaning it near the waryana site. (pictures attached at Appendix B) Apart from this, JSCL has transferred Rs. 43 Cr to Drainage department, for cleaning this drain. Work has started on this project.
10.	No plantation has been provided around the dump site.	Plantation has been done at the site. Pictures attached at Appendix C
11.	No buffer zone has been left by MC Jalandhar around the dump site.	Planation has been started to create a buffer zone
12.	The piezometers provided earlier for groundwater monitoring were buried under the waste and the sampling of groundwater can't be done plus groundwater is very polluted.	Tender has been floated to install new piezometers
13.	No arrangement for leachate treatment has been provided and the leachate is partially discharged into the sewer and partially stagnated at the site.	Sump has been created with Non permeable layer to prevent ground water pollution. Meanwhile long term solution is being explored
14.	No onsite or offsite emergency plan has been prepared.	MCJ is getting it prepared from NIT, Jalandhar
15.	No permanent arrangement for dousing fires has been provided.	Fire brigade vehicle has been permanently stationed at the dump site and fire plan is under preparation.
16.	There are about 40-50 houses established right	Fire brigade vehicle has been permanently

	next to the dump site which are prone to damage in case of large-scale fires.	stationed at the dump site and fire plan is under preparation.
17.	No arrangement is provided for the detection of methane gas formation at the site.	Tender has been floated
18.	NO CCTV Cameras have been provided at Wariana Dump.	CCTVs have been installed
19.	The team thereafter visited the affected site at Chogitti Chowk, Jalandhar. During the visit, it was found that the waste was being removed from the site. Police officials were deployed at the site.	At Chougitti location, nearly 250 meters stretch was filled with the waste. As joint team noted, more than 1500 ton waste has been removed from there. (Before and after Pictures are as shown in Appendix D Chogitti Dump has been closed and the place has been with planted with trees.
20.	About 150 trucks i.e., nearly 1500 tons of Solid Waste removed from Chogitti Chowk.	Factual statement

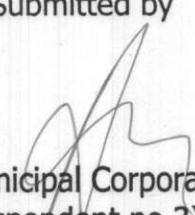
MCJ is committed to adopt best practices in the area of Solid Waste Management, in the light of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and the the various directions issued by Hon'ble NGT.

- 7) That the short reply on behalf of respondent no.3 is hereby submitted in compliance to order dated 20.11.2023 for kind perusal and consideration.

Date:

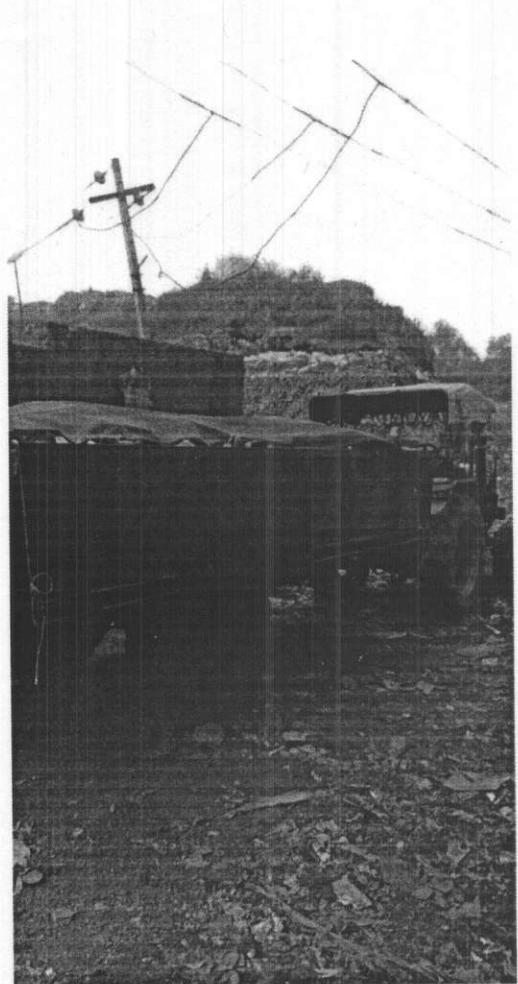
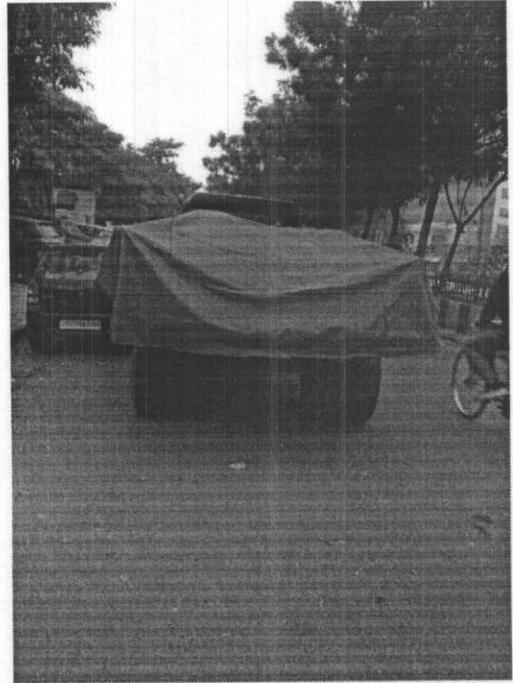
Place:

Submitted by


Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar
(Respondent no.3)

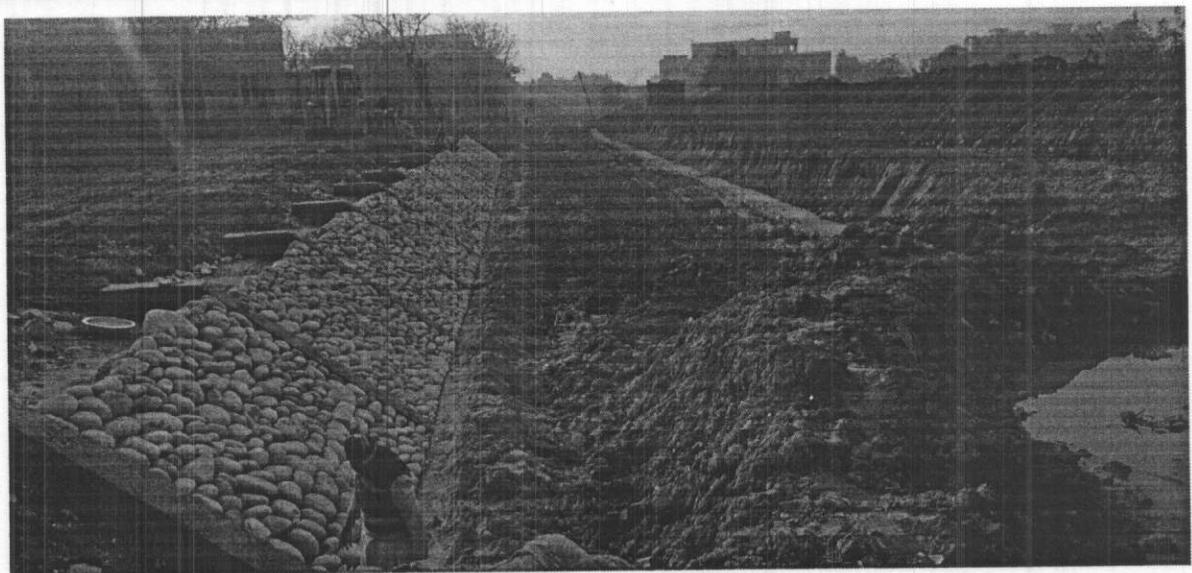
Appendix A

The vehicles for Solid waste management are now Covered, as shown in the pictures below:



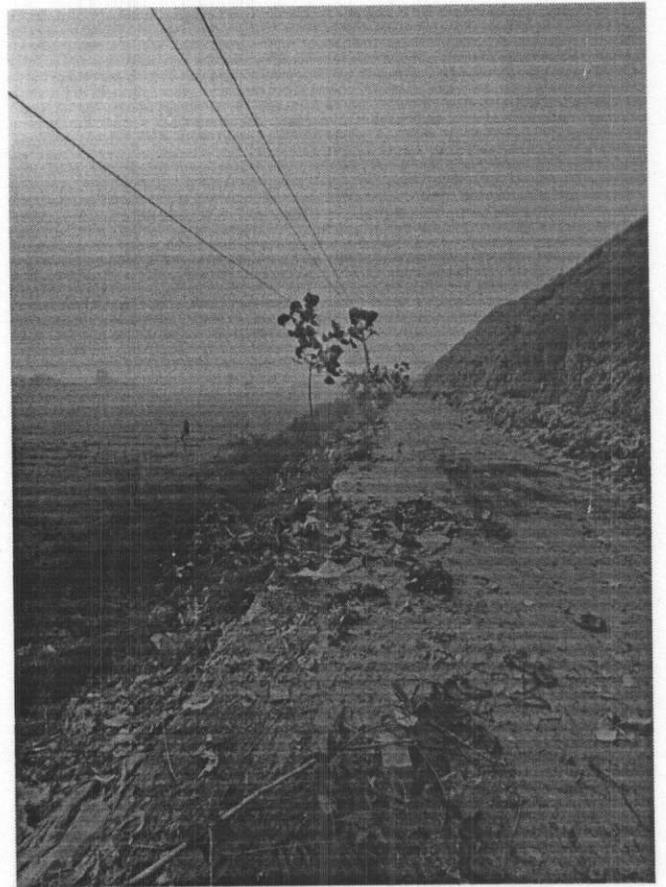
Appendix B

Work at Kala Sanghian drain

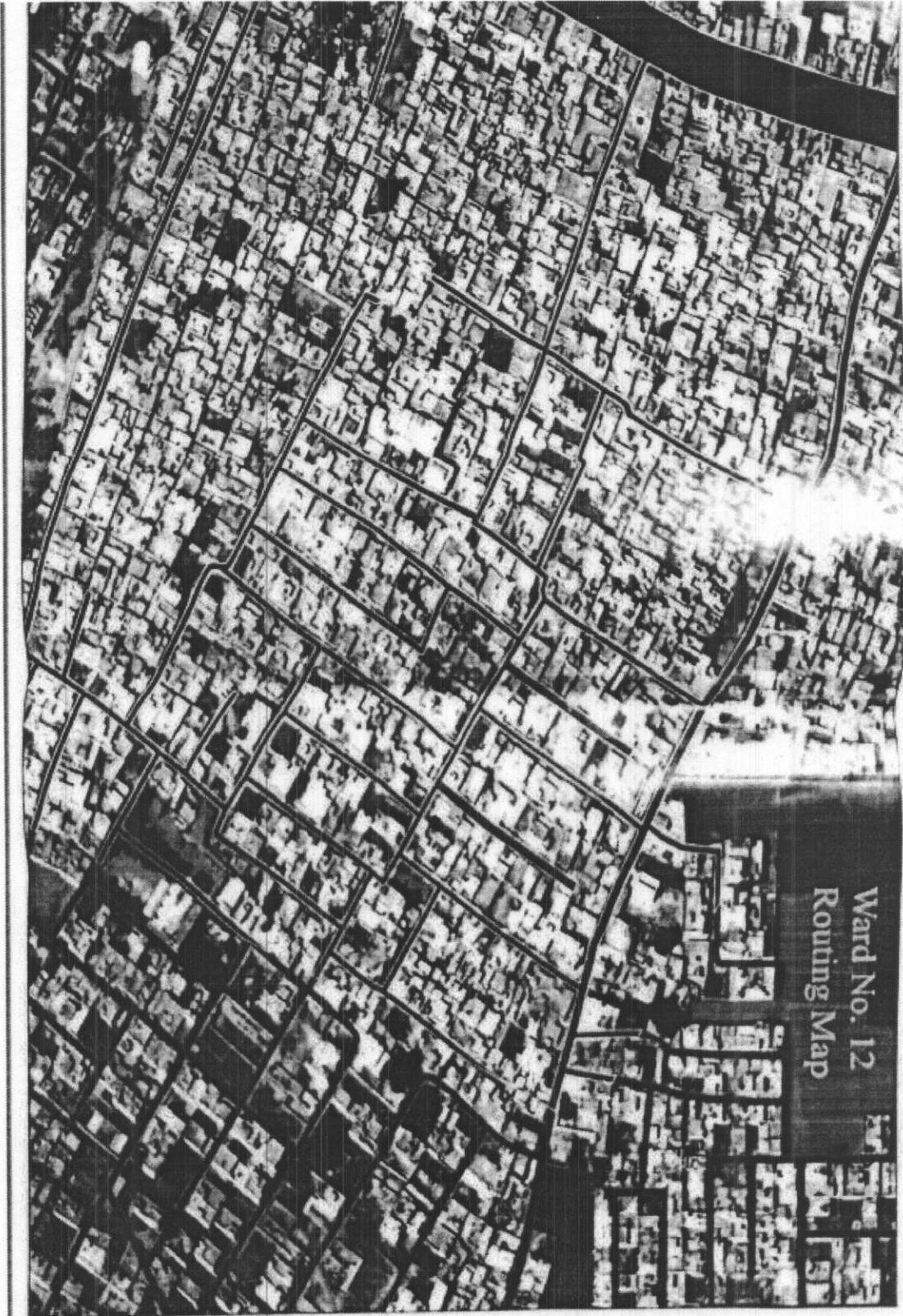


Appendix C

Plantation around waryana site:



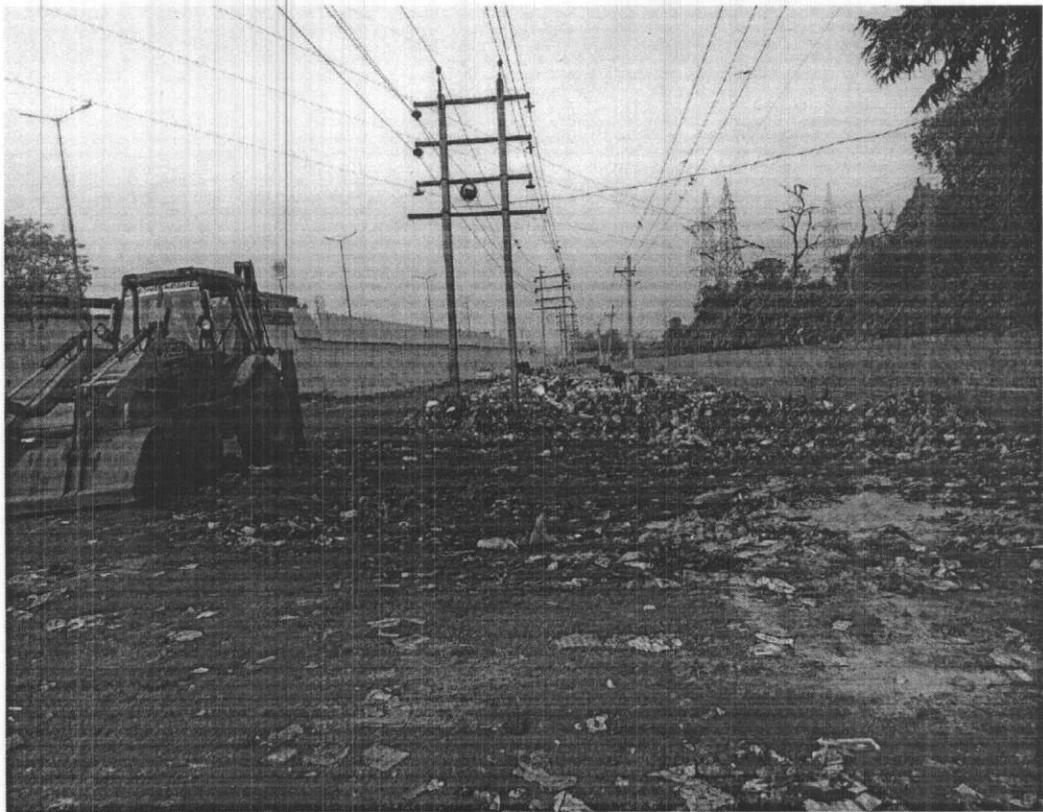
Appendix D



Mapping routes of informal waste pickers



Earlier Condition of Chougitti Bye-pass



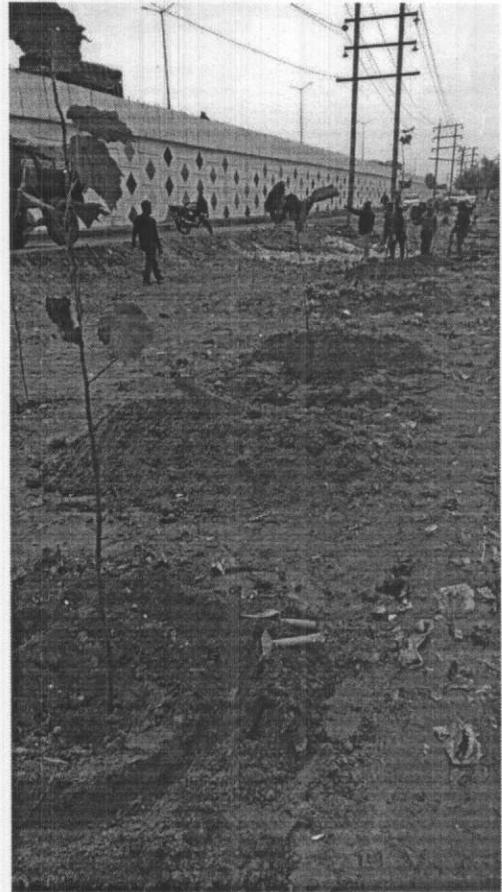
Clearing all the Municipal Solid Waste



Cleaner Place



Plantation at chaugitti site



Plantation at chaugitti site



Board displaying prohibition of littering and Fine of Rs. 10,000 for violation