

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

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 435 of 2025

IN THE MATTER OF:

News Item titled "Ludhiana: Dairy waster destroying STPs says Seechewal"
appearing in The Hindustan Times dated 14.08.2025.

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Place: Chandigarh

Date: 10.02.2026.

Kalia
Dr. Paramdeep Singh Walia,
Director,
Animal Husbandry,
Punjab.

Udit Malik

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News Item titled "Ludhiana: Dairy waster destroying STPs says Seechewal"
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**SHORT REPLY BY WAY OF AFFIDAVIT OF DR.
PARAMDEEP SINGH WALIA, DIRECTOR,
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY,
PUNJAB, LIVESTOCK COMPLEX, SECTOR-68,
SAS NAGAR ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT
NUMBER 4.**

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

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

1. That the present Reply Affidavit is being filed on behalf of Respondent No. 4, Department of Animal Husbandry, Punjab, in response to the Order dated 01.09.2025 passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal in the captioned Original Application registered *suo moto* based on the news item titled "*Ludhiana: Dairy waste destroying STPs says Seechewal*" appearing in The Hindustan Times dated 14.08.2025.
2. That at the outset, the Respondent No. 4 most respectfully submits that it has the highest respect for the authority and jurisdiction of this



Hon'ble Tribunal and is committed to assisting this Hon'ble Tribunal in ensuring environmental compliance and protection of the environment in public interest.

3. That it is most respectfully submitted that the primary mandate of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Punjab, as per the statutory framework and Government of Punjab allocation of business rules, is limited to:

- a. Prevention, control and eradication of animal diseases;
- b. Provision of veterinary healthcare services to animals;
- c. Animal breeding and genetic improvement programs;
- d. Animal welfare and regulation of dairy farming activities;
- e. Extension services to livestock farmers.

4. That it is submitted that the issues raised in the present Original Application primarily relate to:

- i. Management and treatment of sewage and wastewater;
- ii. Operation and maintenance of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs);
- iii. Enforcement of environmental norms and regulations;
- iv. Prevention of pollution and discharge of untreated waste into drains and water bodies;
- v. Removal of illegal encroachments in dairy complexes;
- vi. Cleanliness and sanitation management in dairy complexes.

It is further submitted that the aforesaid functions fall squarely within the mandate of:

A. Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana (Respondent No. 2) - for management of sewage, operation of STPs, cleanliness of



dairy complexes, removal of illegal encroachments, and proper disposal of animal waste;

B. Punjab Pollution Control Board (Respondent No. 1) - for monitoring and enforcement of environmental compliance, imposing environmental compensation on violators, and ensuring adherence to the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, and Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

5. That notwithstanding the limited statutory mandate of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Punjab, the Respondent No. 4 has, in public interest and with a spirit of cooperation, taken proactive steps to address the environmental concerns raised in the present matter.

6. That pursuant to the orders of this Hon'ble Tribunal, the Department of Animal Husbandry through Senior Veterinary Officers and Veterinary Officers of the concerned areas undertaken to sensitize and alert dairy farmers of Haibowal Dairy Complex and Tajpur Dairy Complex with regard to abstain from discharging animal dung and urine directly into the drains leading to the Sewage Treatment Plants. Further, the dairy farmers have been counseled regarding the environmental and health hazards caused by such practices and have expressed their consent to comply with the directions issued.



That the Department has been in constant coordination with the Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana regarding the infrastructure improvements being undertaken, including:

- i. Connection of all dairies in Haibowal Dairy Complex to the concerned STP;
 - ii. Ongoing efforts to connect remaining dairies in Tajpur Dairy Complex to the STP;
 - iii. Installation and operation of the compressed biogas (CBG) plant at Haibowal with a capacity of 225 tonnes.
8. That further it has been brought to the notice of the concerned authorities that despite the existing biogas plant at Haibowal Dairy Complex running at full capacity (225 tonnes), it is insufficient to process the total dung generated. The Department has recommended that directions be issued to Punjab Energy Development Agency (PEDA) to install another biogas plant of similar capacity at Haibowal Dairy Complex and one at Tajpur Dairy Complex (Presently there is no biogas plant in Tajpur Dairy Complex) to ensure complete processing of animal waste.
9. That it is also apposite to mention that as an interim measure the Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana has awarded a three-year tender to a private company to collect dung from the doorstep of dairy farmers of Haibowal Dairy Complex and Tajpur Dairy Complex, store it at designated locations provided by the Municipal Corporation and to process and sell it as organic manure. This arrangement has commenced operations and is expected to significantly reduce the load of animal dung entering the STPs, thereby improving the Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) of the wastewater being treated.
10. That it is further submitted that as noted in the Order dated 27.11.2025, the Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB) has



acknowledged that despite Environmental Compensation being imposed upon the Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana, no action has been taken against the dairy owners who are discharging waste in violation of environmental norms. The Punjab Pollution Control Board has now committed to taking action for imposition of environmental compensation against such dairy owners and to file an action taken report within six weeks.

11. That the Answering Respondent No. 4 reiterates its unwavering commitment to environmental protection and public welfare. Despite the primary mandate of the Department being animal health and husbandry, the Department has demonstrated its willingness to contribute to the resolution of environmental challenges in the larger public interest.

12. That in light of the above submission, the Hon'ble Tribunal is humbly prayed to take on record the present short reply being filed by the Deponent noting the proactive steps taken by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Punjab in addressing the environmental concerns raised.

It is therefore, respectfully submitted that in view of these facts, the present petition may kindly be disposed of qua the Deponent/ Respondent No. 4 in the interest of justice.

Place: Chandigarh

Date:


Dr. Paramdeep Singh Walia,

Director,

Animal Husbandry,

Punjab.



VERIFICATION:

Verified that the contents of the above written statement from para 1 to 12 are true and correct to my knowledge derived from the official record. No part of it is false and nothing has been kept concealed there from.

Place: Chandigarh

Date:

Valid
Dr. Paramdeep Singh Walia,
Director,
Animal Husbandry,
Punjab

10 FEB 2026

Attested As Identifying
[Signature]
ANUJ KUMAR
Notary, Chandigarh



[Signature]
The contents of this Affidavit
been explained to the deponent/executor
He/She has admitted the same to the court
The deponent/executor has signed Register
of Sr. No. 679 56 P. No. 10/2/26 date.....

[Signature]
I identified the deponent / executant who
sign. / thump marked in my presence