

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, PRINCIPAL BENCH,
NEW DELHI**

Original Application No.173 of 2026

Sunil Luthra

Applicant

Versus

State of Punjab and Ors.

Respondents

INDEX

Sr. No.	Particulars	Page no.
1	Short Reply by way of affidavit of Er. Sukhdev Singh, Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Amritsar on behalf of respondent no. 4 Punjab Pollution Control Board through its Member Secretary in compliance to order dated 01.04.2026.	1-5
2	Annexure R-4/A A copy of letter no. 4430-31 dated 18.12.2025 vide which show cause notice for violation of the provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 was issued to the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Amritsar.	6-7
3	Annexure R-4/B A copy of letter no. 1872 dated 16.06.2026 vide which show cause notice for violation of the provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and imposition for Environmental Compensation was issued to the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Amritsar.	8-9

4. Proof of Service

10

Date: 30-06-2026

Place: AMRITSAR



Naman Kumar

Advocate (D/6574/2023)

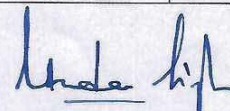
Law Office of Apar Gupta

Advocate for Respondent No. 4

Address: E-215, East of Kailash, New Delhi: 110065

Email: office@aparlaw.in| naman@aparlaw.in

Contact: 8285725693



(Sukhdev Singh)

Environmental Engineer

Punjab Pollution Control Board

Regional Office, Amritsar.

(On behalf of respondent no. 04)

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, PRINCIPAL BENCH,
NEW DELHI**

Original Application No.173 of 2026

Sunil Luthra

Applicant

Versus

State of Punjab and Ors.

Respondents

Short Reply by way of affidavit of Er. Sukhdev Singh, Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Amritsar on behalf of respondent no. 4 Punjab Pollution Control Board through its Member Secretary in compliance to order dated 01.04.2026.

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

Respectfully showeth:

- 1) That the above-mentioned Original Application 173 of 2026 has been registered by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in exercise of its Suo moto powers on the basis of a complaint 28.10.2025 sent by the applicant Mr. Sunil Luthra on the Public Grievances Portal of the National Green Tribunal. The applicant has raised the grievances regarding illegal dumping of garbage on Chabal Road, Near Railway Crossing, Amritsar in violation of the Environmental Norms.

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- 2) That considering the averments made in the application, this Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to pass an order dated 01.04.2026 in the above-mentioned case, thereby impleading (1) State of Punjab through Principal Secretary, Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of Punjab; (2) District Magistrate, Amritsar (3) Municipal Corporation, Amritsar through its Commissioner; and (4) Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB) through Member Secretary as respondents no. 1 to 4 and responses have been sought.
- 3) That vide the said order dated 01.04.2026, the respondents have been directed to look into the grievances made in the O.A. and take appropriate remedial action within one month in accordance with environmental norms by following due course of law and file their replies/responses within two months with all requisite details regarding action taken/proposed to be taken in compliance with the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016/2025 and directions given by this Tribunal in O.A. No.606/2018, Compliance of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 with budgetary allocations, timelines for completion, etc.
- 4) That in compliance to order dated 01.04.2026, it is submitted that in reference to a complaint received in the month of November 2025, the dumping site at Chabal Road, Amritsar was visited by the officers of the Board when it was observed as under:
- i. The representative of MC Amritsar informed that the dump site covers approximately 12 acres, with around 40,000 tonnes of mixed waste accumulated.
 - ii. The representative of MC Amritsar was informed that a drone survey of the dump site had been conducted by the Authority previous week and the report is awaited. It was also stated that the tendering process for bio-remediation will commence upon receipt of the survey report and is expected to begin within two months.
 - iii. The two water tankers have been deployed at the site to control fire incidents occurring due to various reasons.

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- iv. The smoke was observed emitting from the waste heaps, and no water tanker was present at the site at that time.
 - v. No leachate management system, piezometer, or pollution control measures were found in place at the legacy waste dump.
 - vi. The above conditions indicate serious violations of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, including failure to ensure scientific handling, fire control, leachate management, and proper monitoring mechanisms.
- 5) That considering the observations of visiting officer, a show cause notice for violation of the provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 was issued to the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation Amritsar vide letter no. 4430-31 dated 18.12.2025 with an opportunity to file objections in writing within 15 days failing which it will be presumed that Municipal Corporation has nothing to say in the matter and further action will be taken accordingly. A copy of letter no. 4430-31 dated 18.12.2025 vide which show cause notice was issued, is enclosed as **Annexure-R4/A**. However, no reply was received from the Municipal Corporation, Amritsar.
- 6) That the dumpsite at Chabal Road, Amritsar was again visited by the officer of the Board on 13.05.2026 and the observations of the visiting officer are mentioned below:
- i. The site is old abended dumpsite of mixed solid waste.
 - ii. M/s 3R Management Ltd. was found installing 02 Trommel Machines and deploying 03 Poclain machines for bio-remediation of legacy waste.
 - iii. At present, no bio-remediation process was found in operation.
 - iv. At the adjoining site, an MRF shed along with composting pits has been developed, wherein biodegradable household waste was found dumped.
 - v. Mixed solid waste is being received at the adjoining MRF shed and further segregated manually by the workers of Municipal Corporation.
 - vi. No drainage system or leachate treatment arrangement was found provided for treatment of leachate generated from the composting pits.

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- vii. No leachate management system, piezometer, or pollution control measures were found in place at the legacy waste dump.
- viii. During the inspection, foul odour and large number of flies were observed around the MRF shed area.
- 7) That keeping in view the violations being committed and considering the fact that Municipal Corporation, Amritsar has not taken adequate measures to treat and dispose of the legacy waste already generated and accumulated at the site, the Board has issued a show cause notice for violation of the provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 with notice for imposition of Environmental Compensation for the old dumpsite at Chabal Road, Amritsar to the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Amritsar vide letter no. 1872 dated 16.06.2026 with an opportunity of hearing before the Member Secretary of the Board on 03.07.2026. A copy of letter no. 1872 dated 16.06.2026 vide which show cause notice for violation of the provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and imposition for Environmental Compensation was issued, is enclosed as **Annexure – R4/B**.
- 8) That further action in the case will be taken after hearing and considering version of the Municipal Corporation, Amritsar.
- 9) That the deponent may kindly be allowed to place on record the present short reply by way of affidavit on behalf of respondent no. 04 for kind consideration.



Date: 30-06-2026

Place: AMRITSAR

Sukhdev Singh
Deponent

(Sukhdev Singh)
Environmental Engineer
Punjab Pollution Control Board
Regional Office, Amritsar.
(On behalf of respondent no. 04)

VERIFICATION:

I, the deponent above named, do hereby verify and state that the contents of the above affidavit are true and correct to my knowledge as derived from the official record. No part of the above affidavit is false and nothing material has been concealed there from.

[Handwritten Signature]
Deponent

(Sukhdev Singh)
Environmental Engineer
Punjab Pollution Control Board
Regional Office, Amritsar.
(On behalf of respondent no. 04)

Date: 30-06-2026

Place: AMRITSAR

Certified that the document presented before me on dated... 30.6.26... and same is entered at Sr. No. ...1287... of my register
Name of executant/deponent: Sukhdev Singh Environment
who is identified by Sh./Smt. Mansimranpreet Singh F.E.A.
and the document is duly attested by

[Handwritten Signature]
PARVESH KUMAR Advocate
Notary Public, Amritsar (Pb.) India

30 JUN 2026



I personally know and identify the Executant Deponent He/She has Signed/Thumb marked in my presence.

[Handwritten Signature]



No. 4430

Regd.

Date: 18/12/25

To

The Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation,
Amritsar.

Subject: Show cause notice for violations of the provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016. (346503)

Whereas, the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, New Delhi, in exercise of the powers conferred under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and in supersession of the Municipal Solid Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000 has notified the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

And whereas, under these Rules, the Municipal Authority is responsible for implementation of the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, including infrastructure development for collection, storage, segregation, transportation, processing & disposal of municipal solid waste.

And whereas, a complaint has been received regarding respiratory problems arising due to the burning of legacy waste dumped at Chabhal Road, Amritsar, vide letter no. 2802 dated 17.11.2025.

And whereas, the site was inspected on 19.11.2025 and the following observations were made:

1. The representative of MC Amritsar informed that the dump site covers approximately 12 acres, with around 40,000 tonnes of mixed waste accumulated.
2. The representative of MC Amritsar was informed that a drone survey of the dump site had been conducted by the Authority previous week and the report is awaited. It was also stated that the tendering process for bio-remediation will commence upon receipt of the survey report and is expected to begin within two months.
3. The two water tankers have been deployed at the site to control fire incidents occurring due to various reasons.
4. The smoke was observed emitting from the waste heaps, and no water tanker was present at the site at that time.
5. No leachate management system, piezometer, or pollution control measures were found in place at the legacy waste dump.
6. The above conditions indicate serious violations of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, including failure to ensure scientific handling, fire control, leachate management, and proper monitoring mechanisms.

And whereas, Municipal Corporation is not complying with the provisions of Solid Waste Rules, 2016 and violating various provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

And whereas, it has now been proposed to initiate action against the Municipal Corporation as per provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

However, before the above actions are taken, the Municipal Corporation is hereby issued Show Cause Notice for violation of the provisions under Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 as to why action proposed may not be taken against the Municipal Corporation, you are hereby given an opportunity to file objections, in writing, **within 15-days** from the issuance of this Show cause Notice, if any, failing which it will be presumed that the M.C has nothing to say and action as proposed

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above will be taken against the Municipal Corporation for willful violations of the authorization under Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 without giving any further opportunity.

Sw
Environmental Engineer
For Senior Environmental Engineer
Dated. 18/12/25

Endst. No. 4431

A copy of the above is forwarded to the Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board Regional Office, Amritsar for information and necessary action and it is intimated that the Competent Authority of the Board has decided to issue show cause notice for violations of above said Act to the Municipal Corporation.

Keeping in view of above, you are requested to ensure that the M.C has the knowledge about the show cause notice issued. Environmental Engineer Regional Office to check whether the Municipal Corporation has filed any written reply to the above said show cause notice and if so he should take the same on record and check the compliance and submit his complete report along with recommendations to Zonal Office immediately after the expiry of the 15-days time period.

Sw
Environmental Engineer
For Senior Environmental Engineer

True Copy

huda tip

	PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD Zonal Office, Plot No. 164, Focal Point, Mehta Road, Amritsar Website: www.ppcb.gov.in email: seezoar@yahoo.com	
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No. 1872
To

Regd.

Date: 16/06/26

The Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation,
Amritsar.

Subject: Show cause notice for violations of the provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 along with notice for imposition of Environmental Compensation. Chabhal Road, old Dump Site. (346503)

Ref:- Board's letter no. 4430-31 dated 18.12.2025.

Whereas, the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, New Delhi, in exercise of the powers conferred under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and in supersession of the Municipal Solid Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000 has notified the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

And whereas, under these Rules, the Municipal Authority is responsible for implementation of the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, including infrastructure development for collection, storage, segregation, transportation, processing & disposal of municipal solid waste.

And whereas, a complaint has been received regarding respiratory problems arising due to the burning of legacy waste dumped at Chabhal Road, Amritsar, vide letter no. 2802 dated 17.11.2025.

And whereas, earlier the site was inspected on 19.11.2025 and the following observations were made:

1. The representative of MC Amritsar informed that the dump site covers approximately 12 acres, with around 40,000 tonnes of mixed waste accumulated.
2. The representative of MC Amritsar was informed that a drone survey of the dump site had been conducted by the Authority previous week and the report is awaited. It was also stated that the tendering process for bio-remediation will commence upon receipt of the survey report and is expected to begin within two months.
3. The two water tankers have been deployed at the site to control fire incidents occurring due to various reasons.
4. The smoke was observed emitting from the waste heaps, and no water tanker was present at the site at that time.
5. No leachate management system, piezometer, or pollution control measures were found in place at the legacy waste dump.
6. The above conditions indicate serious violations of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, including failure to ensure scientific handling, fire control, leachate management, and proper monitoring mechanisms.

And whereas, the M.C was issued show cause notice for violations of the provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 vide this office letter no. 4430-31 dated 18.12.2025 to file the reply within 10-days, but no reply received from the M.C.

And whereas, the dumpsite was visited on 13.05.2026 and observed as under:

1. The site is old abended dumpsite of mixed solid waste.
2. M/s 3R Management Ltd. was found installing 02 Trommel Machines and deploying 03 Poclain machines for bio-remediation of legacy waste.
3. At present, no bio-remediation process was found in operation.
4. At the adjoining site, an MRF shed along with composting pits has been developed, wherein biodegradable household waste was found dumped.
5. Mixed solid waste is being received at the adjoining MRF shed and further segregated manually by the workers of Municipal Corporation.
6. No drainage system or leachate treatment arrangement was found provided for treatment of leachate generated from the composting pits.

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- 104
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7. No leachate management system, piezometer, or pollution control measures were found in place at the legacy waste dump.
 8. During the inspection, foul odour and large number of flies were observed around the MRF shed area.

And whereas, in another complaint was also received from Ward No. 19, Verka, Amritsar regarding huge quantities of waste are being dumped at the site and burnt continuously, thereby causing severe air pollution and inconvenience to the nearby residents.

In this regard, the site under complaint was visited by officer of the Board on dated 18.05.2026, and observed as under:

1. A large quantity of solid waste was found dumped at various places, and burning of waste was also observed at the site.
2. It was observed that 2-3 nearby houses had stored textile waste in the form of clothes/fabric material and were carrying out processing/recycling activities without generation of any wastewater.
3. The dumped waste mainly comprised textile waste in the form of small cloth pieces/rags.
4. The nearby residents informed that the waste had been continuously burning for the last approximately 15 days, causing severe inconvenience and air pollution in the area.
5. The site falls within the jurisdiction of Municipal Corporation, Amritsar.

And whereas, the Municipal Corporation is not taking up the matter regarding management of municipal solid waste in a holistic manner. The Municipal Corporation has not taken adequate measures to treat and dispose of legacy waste already generated & accumulated, nor handling, managing, treating & disposing the Municipal Solid Waste from the Amritsar City. The Municipal Corporation, Amritsar has not obtained valid authorization under Solid Waste Management Rules 2016. Hence, the Municipal Corporation is in total violation of the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

And whereas, the matter was considered by the Competent Authority and it was decided to take action against the Municipal Corporation for violation of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and to impose Environmental Compensation after affording opportunity of personal hearing before Member Secretary of the Board to the Municipal Corporation for above mentioned violations under the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

As such, you are, hereby given an opportunity of personal hearing, to file objections, if any, on the proposed action before the Member Secretary of the Board at Vatavaran Bhawan, Nabha Road, Patiala on 03.07.2026 at 11:00 AM failing which it will be presumed that the Municipal Corporation has nothing to say and the Board shall go ahead to take action as proposed under the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 without giving any further notice /opportunity.

Endst. No. 1873

A copy of the above is forwarded to the Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Amritsar for information with request to get the copy of the notice delivered to the Municipal Corporation through special messenger/ e-mail/ WhatsApp and send the receipt of the same to this office and also ensure its presence on the said date and time of hearing.

The copy
has been
sent

Environmental Engineer
For and on behalf of Board

Dated. 16/06/26

Environmental Engineer
For and on behalf of Board



102

10

Rahul Clerk <courtclerk@aparlaw.in>

Advance Service – Short Reply in O.A. No. 173/2026 | Sunil Luthara vs. State of Punjab & Ors. | NGT

1 message

Rahul Clerk <courtclerk@aparlaw.in>

Wed, Jul 1, 2026 at 1:56 PM

To: "sanchar_anand@yahoo.co.in" <sanchar_anand@yahoo.co.in>

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find attached copy of the Short Reply filed on behalf of Respondent No. 4, Punjab Pollution Control Board, in O.A. No. 173/2026 titled *Sunil Luthara vs. State of Punjab & Ors.*, pending before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of the same.

Thank you.

--

Kind regards

Rahul

Court Clerk

Law Office of Apar Gupta

@ courtclerk@aparlaw.in**A** E-215, 3rd Floor, East of Kailash, New Delhi, India 110065**T** +91-9873-02-0252**SHORT REPLY BY PPCB OA 173 of 2026.pdf**

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