

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

Original Application No. 478 of 2025

In the matter of

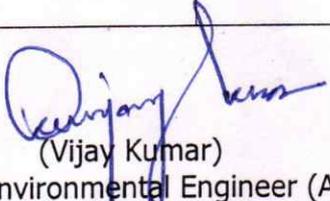
News item titled "DG sets contributing significantly to Punjab's Pollution" appearing in the Time of India dated 26.08.2025.

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Date: 03.11.2025

Place: JALANDHAR.


(Vijay Kumar)
Senior Environmental Engineer (Air),
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Zonal Office, Jalandhar
(On behalf of respondent no.2)

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

Original Application No. 478 of 2025

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News item titled "DG sets contributing significantly to Punjab's Pollution" appearing in the Time of India dated 26.08.2025.

Short reply by way of Affidavit of Er. Vijay Kumar, Senior Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Zonal Office, Jalandhar on behalf of Punjab Pollution Control Board i.e. respondent no.2 and in compliance to order dated 16.09.2025.

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

Respectfully Showeth:

- 1) That the above-mentioned Original Application has been registered by this Hon'ble Tribunal in exercise of its suo moto powers on the basis of News item titled "DG sets contributing significantly to Punjab's Pollution" appearing in the Time of India dated 26.08.2025. It is mentioned in the news item that Punjab's reliance on diesel generator sets for power backup has become a growing contribution to air pollution, with new estimates indicating that the state's DG sets emitted approximately 0.6 gigagrams (Gg) of PM2.5 in 2022. These findings were stated to be based on the recent "Switch on, smoke off" study by the Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP), which highlights the emission load of DG sets across India. It is further mentioned in the news item that according to researchers, within the state, Bathinda, Barnala and Patiala districts emerged as the top three contributors to PM2.5 emissions from the DG sets, the industrial and urban hub of Amritsar ranked 13th among Punjab's districts on the emission scale.

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- 2) That after consideration of the matter this Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to pass an order dated 16.09.2025 thereby impleading the Central Pollution Control Board; the Punjab Pollution Control Board and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Regional Office, Chandigarh as respondents in the case with direction to file reply in the case by way of affidavit. The present reply by way of affidavit of the deponent is being filed on behalf of respondent no.2 Punjab Pollution Control Board in compliance to order dated 16.09.2025.
- 3) That the deponent namely Er. Vijay Kumar is presently working as Senior Environmental Engineer (Air) in the service of the Punjab Pollution Control Board and is posted in the Zonal Office of the Board at Jalandhar. 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 respondent no.2 Punjab Pollution Control Board.
- 4) That in compliance to order dated 16.09.2025, it is submitted that the Punjab Pollution Control Board being the prescribed authority to implement the provisions of the environmental laws in the State of Punjab is granting consent to operate for the operation of the DG sets u/s 21 of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 with the following relevant conditions:
- a) The applicant shall comply with the noise limits prescribed by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi vide notification no. GSR 371 (E) dated 17.05.2002 as amended from time to time.
 - b) The applicant shall comply with stack emission standard prescribed by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change vide notification no.GSR-520 (E) dated 01.07.2003 as amended from time to time or GSR -489 (E) dated 07.09.2002 as amended time to time whichever is applicable to applicant.
 - c) The applicant shall comply with stack height criteria laid down by the Board vide notification no. Admn/A-4/F.No. 160/87/14744 dated 14.09.1987.

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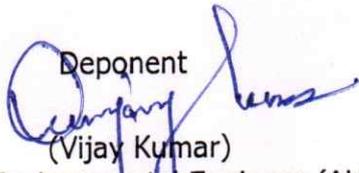
- d) The applicant shall comply with any other condition(s) laid down or direction(s) issued by the Board from time to time under the provisions of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
- e) Any amendments / revisions made by the Board / MoEF in the emission /stack height standards shall be applicable to the applicant from the date of such amendments / revisions.
- f) The applicant shall ensure that no air pollution or public nuisance due to noise is created in the area due to discharge of air / noise emissions from the establishment.
- g) The applicant shall obtain permission from any other department / competent authority wherever required for operating the DG Set(s)
- h) The Board reserves the right to cancel this consent granted to the applicant a anytime, in case the applicant is found violating any of the conditions of this consent granted under the provisions of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and /or any other pollution control law(s) applicable to the applicant.
- 5) That in compliance to order dated 16.09.2025, the Board has gathered the district wise information with regard to the operation of the DG sets in the State of Punjab through its Regional Offices. The information shows that about 12530 DG sets are operating in the State with the valid consent to operate of the Board under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. The emission certificate is issued by the NABL laboratories. The Regional Office, Hoshiarpur of the Board has sealed 08 DG sets for not meeting with the norms. Regional Office, Jalandhar has also taken action against one DG set being non-compliant. The remaining DG sets are reported to be complying with the conditions of the consent to operate. The district wise information in this regard is enclosed as **Annexure R-2/A**.



- 6) That the Board is in the process of issuing direction to all the industries, institutions or other bodies where the DG sets have been installed to submit fresh certification of emission standards from the NABL laboratories / Central Pollution Control Board certified laboratories within 03 months. Action against the owners of the defaulting DG sets will be taken accordingly on the basis of the emission standard reports in accordance with the provisions of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 as well as Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- 7) That the deponent may kindly be allowed to place on record the present short reply by way of affidavit on behalf of Punjab Pollution Control Board in compliance to order dated 16.09.2025.

Date: 03.11.2025

Place: JALANDHAR .

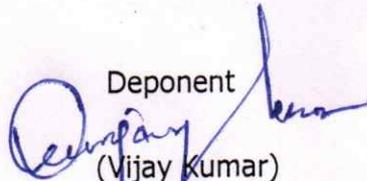
Deponent

 (Vijay Kumar)
 Senior Environmental Engineer (Air),
 Punjab Pollution Control Board,
 Zonal Office, Jalandhar
 (On behalf of respondent no.2)

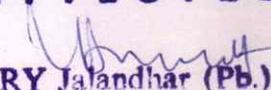
Verification:

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

Date: 03.11.2025

Place: JALANDHAR .

Deponent

 (Vijay Kumar)
 Senior Environmental Engineer (Air),
 Punjab Pollution Control Board,
 Zonal Office, Jalandhar
 (On behalf of respondent no.2)

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District Wise Information with Regard to the Operation of DG sets in the State of Punjab

Name of Regional Office	Number of DG Set with capacity installed in the industries/ Institutions with make and Fuel use	Certificate of emission issued by the Board/ other agency	Whether Consent has been obtained under Air Act, 1981 (Number)	Compliance of Consent conditions (Number)	Action Taken Against the Non Complaint DG Sets (Number)	EC/Bank grantee Imposed/Encashed
Amritar	600	NA	600	Complying	Nil	Nil
Batala	284	Being done by the NABL Labs	284	284	Nil	Nil
Tarn Taran	127	NA	127	Complying	Nil	Nil
Jalandhar-1	785	NA	785	784	1	-
Kapurthala	716	Being done by NABL Labs	716	716	Nil	Nil
Hoshiarpur	582	NA	Yes	Complying	8 DG Sets sealed	-
Ludhiana-1	130 no. DG sets of capacities 8271.5 KVA using HSD as fuel; however, no information regarding make is available	NA	Yes	Complying	Nil	NA
Ludhiana-2	724	NA	YES	Complying	Nil	Nil
Ludhiana-3	1435	NA	1435	1435	NA	NA
Ludhiana-4	501 no. DG sets installed by 325 no. industries of total capacity of 97955.5 KVA and	NA	325	325	Nil	Nil



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	HSD fuel is being used; however, no information regarding make is available					
Ropar	185	NA	Yes	Complying	Nil	Nil
SAS Nagar	2693	Being done by NABL labs	Yes	Complying (2693)	Nil	Nil
Patiala	1358	NA	1358	Complying (1358)	Nil	Nil
Sangrur	705	NA	Yes	Complying	Nil	Nil
Barnala	506	NA	Yes	Complying	Nil	Nil
Bathinda	678	NA	Yes	Complying	Nil	Nil
Faridkot	78	NA	78	Complying	Nil	Nil
Sri Mukatsar Sahib	165	NA	165	Complying	Nil	Nil
Sri Fatehgarh Sahib	675 no. DG sets of capacities 1,57,711 KVA using HSD as fuel; however, no information regarding make is available	No such data is available	181	181	Nil	Nil



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