

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

Original Application no. 222 of 2024

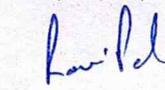
News item titled "Punjab has no tech mechanism to check illegal mining says CAG" appearing in Hindustan Times dated 31.01.2024.

INDEX

S. No.	Particulars	Page No.
1.	Status report of Punjab Pollution Control Board respondent no. 2 in compliance of order dated 12.03.2024	1-4
2.	Annexure A A copy of letter no. 8693 dated 01.04.2024 to the Environmental Engineers of Regional Office, Amritsar, Jalandhar and Faridkot	5-7
3.	Annexure B A copy of letter no. 156 dated 03.04.2024 of Executive Engineer, Amritsar, Drainage-cum-Mining and Geology Division WRD, Punjab.	8
4.	Annexure C A copy of letter no. 779 dated 04.04.2024 of Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Amritsar	9
5.	Annexure D Report of District Mining & Geology Officer, Kapurthala	10
6.	Annexure E A copy of letter no. 552 dated 10.04.2024 of Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Jalandhar	11
7.	Annexure F A copy of email of XEN, Mining Faridkot dated 04.04.2024	12-13
8.	Annexure G A copy of email dated 04.04.2024 of Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Faridkot	14
9.	Annexure F Summarization of Reply given by Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Amritsar, Jalandhar & Faridkot in-consultation with District Mining Officers	15-16

Date: 24/4/24

Place: Patiala



(Ravi Pal)

Environmental Engineer,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Head Office, Patiala

(On behalf of Respondent no.2)

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

Original Application no. 222 of 2024

News item titled "Punjab has no tech mechanism to check illegal mining says CAG" appearing in Hindustan Times dated 31.01.2024.

INDEX

S. No.	Particulars	Page No.
1.	Status report of Punjab Pollution Control Board respondent no. 2 in compliance of order dated 12.03.2024	1-4
2.	Annexure A A copy of letter no. 8693 dated 01.04.2024 to the Environmental Engineers of Regional Office, Amritsar, Jalandhar and Faridkot	5-7
3.	Annexure B A copy of letter no. 156 dated 03.04.2024 of Executive Engineer, Amritsar, Drainage-cum-Mining and Geology Division WRD, Punjab.	8
4.	Annexure C A copy of letter no. 779 dated 04.04.2024 of Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Amritsar	9
5.	Annexure D Report of District Mining & Geology Officer, Kapurthala	10
6.	Annexure E A copy of letter no. 552 dated 10.04.2024 of Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Jalandhar	11
7.	Annexure F A copy of email of XEN, Mining Faridkot dated 04.04.2024	12-13
8.	Annexure G A copy of email dated 04.04.2024 of Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Faridkot	14
9.	Annexure F Summarization of Reply given by Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Amritsar, Jalandhar & Faridkot in-consultation with District Mining Officers	15-16

Date:

Place:

(Ravi Pal)
Environmental Engineer,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Head Office, Patiala
(On behalf of Respondent no.2)

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

Original Application no. 222 of 2024

In the matter of

News item titled "Punjab has no tech mechanism to check illegal mining says CAG" appearing in Hindustan Times dated 31.01.2024.

Status report of Punjab Pollution Control Board (respondent No.2) through Er. Ravi Pal, Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Patiala in compliance to order dated 12.03.2024.

Respectfully Showeth:

1. That the above-mentioned case was registered suo moto by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal on the basis of news item titled "Punjab has no tech mechanism to check illegal mining says CAG" appearing in Hindustan Times dated 31.01.2024. The failure of the Punjab Government and its agencies to use tech mechanism like geo tagging and unmanned aerial vehicle etc. to detect and check illegal mining in the State has been alleged in the application. It is further alleged in the news item that the Punjab State Sand and Gravel Mining Policy, 2018 requires the use of geo tagging, geo fencing and electronic surveillance to check illegal mining but the test check of records of three drainage divisions has shown that the technology was not used by the water resources department to detect and check illegal mining. These test check records were of Amritsar, Phagwara and Golewala divisions which had jurisdiction over sand mining sites.
2. That the Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to pass an order dated 12.03.2024 thereby impleading the State of Punjab through Chief Secretary; Punjab Pollution Control Board through its Member Secretary; Deputy Commissioners of Amritsar, Kapurthala and Faridkot as respondents in the case. Respondents have been asked to file their response in the case.

3. That in reference to the orders passed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, the Board has written a letter bearing no.8693 dated 01.04.2024 to the Environmental Engineers of Regional Office, Amritsar, Jalandhar and Faridkot thereby seeking the following information:
- a) Name of the mining site(s) with valid consents under Water & Air Acts, but violating conditions of NOC/CTO of the Board under the provisions of Water & Air Acts.
 - b) Compliance of use of technology and electronic surveillance such as geo tagging, fencing and electronic surveillance by Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) for the monitoring of mining sites.
 - c) Name of the mining site(s) operating without consent to operate of the Board under the provisions of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
 - d) Calculate environmental compensation based on the orders dated 26.02.2021 of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in OA No. 360 of 2015, by applying approach No.II and send the same to the concerned branch for taking further necessary action.

A copy of letter no. 8693 dated 01.04.2024 is enclosed herewith as **Annexure-A.**

4. That the Regional Offices of the Board at Amritsar, Jalandhar and Faridkot have inquired into the matter and also gathered information from the respective District Mining Officers about the queries raised by the Board. The information supplied by the Regional Offices of the Board is summarized herein below:

A. District Amritsar

- i. As per Executive Engineer, Drainage-cum-Mining and Geology Division, Amritsar letter no. 156 dated 03.04.2024 till date no site is operational in the District Amritsar because in approved DSR of District Amritsar, the mining sites on River Ravi falls under 05 Kms from International Border with Pakistan and River Beas is declared as protected reserve under Beas conservation reserve.

- ii. As per letter no. 156 dated 03.04.2024, the KML filed for each site is prepared which acts as Geo Fencing and Geo Tagging. Further the Mining Department informed that they have no unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) to check illegal mining.
- iii. A copy of letter no. 156 dated 3.4.2024 of Executive Engineer / Amritsar, Drainage-cum-Mining and Geology Division, WRD (Water Resources Department), Punjab is enclosed as **Annexure-B**
- iv. A copy of letter no. 779 dated 04.04.2024 of Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Amritsar is enclosed as **Annexure-C**.

B. District Kapurthala

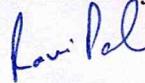
- i. As per District Mining and Geology Officer, Kapurthala letter, it is mentioned that there is no sand mines i.e. PMS (Public Mining Sites) or CMS (Commercial Mining Sites) in District Kapurthala because Beas River is declared as Protected area under Beas Conservation Reserve.
- ii. As per the letter of District Mining and Geology Officer, Kapurthala the KML filing for each site is prepared which acts as Geo Fencing and Geo Tagging. Further the Mining Department informed that they have no Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) to check illegal mining.
- iii. Report of District Mining and Geology Officer, Kapurthala is enclosed as **Annexure-D**
- iv. A copy of letter no. 552 dated 10.04.2024 of Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Jalandhar is enclosed as **Annexure-E**.

C. District Faridkot

- i. As informed by XEN, Mining Faridkot vide mail dated 04.04.2024, there is no approved mining site in district Faridkot. Further, no mining site falls under the district Faridkot, which has valid consent as per record of this office. Therefore, information relates with para no.1 treated as Nil.

- ii. As informed by XEN, Mining Faridkot vide mail dated 04.04.2024 that the Department has requested for quotations from the different agencies for procurement of the drones for electronic surveillance by Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs). As, no approved mining site falls within the jurisdiction of district Faridkot, so there no requirement of geo tagging and geo fencing.
 - iii. As informed by XEN, Mining Faridkot vide mail 04.04.2024, there is no approved mining site is district Faridkot. As such no mining site is operating without consent to operate of the Board. Therefore, information relates with para no.3 treated as Nil.
 - iv. Email of XEN, Mining Faridkot dated 04.04.2024 is enclosed as **Annexure-F**.
 - v. Email dated 04.04.2024 of Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Faridkot is enclosed as **Annexure-G**.
5. That in reference to the relevant questions put forward by the Board, the reply given by the Regional Offices at Amritsar, Jalandhar and Faridkot in consultation with the District Mining Officers and the basis of the record is summarized in tabulated form and the same is enclosed herewith as **Annexure-H** for kind perusal of this Hon'ble Tribunal.
 6. That in view of the facts recorded herein above, it is concluded that there is no illegal mining in the Districts of Amritsar, Kapurthala and Faridkot of the State of Punjab.
 7. That the status report is hereby submitted by the Punjab Pollution Control Board in compliance to the directions contained in order dated 12.03.2024, for kind perusal and appropriate orders.

Date: 24/4/24
Place: Patiala

Submitted by

(Ravi Pal)
Environmental Engineer,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Head Office, Patiala.



ANNEXURE-A 20

ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਕੰਟਰੋਲ ਬੋਰਡ
PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

No. 8693

Dated. 1/4/24

MOST URGENT/DATE BOUND
NGT MATTER

Through E-mail

To

The Environmental Engineer,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Regional Office, Amritsar/ Jalandhar-II/Faridkot

Subject:

Regarding O.A. No. 222/2024 News item titled "Punjab has no mechanism to check illegal mining, says CAG" appearing in Hindustan Times dated 31.01.2024.

It is intimated that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal has taken suo motu cognizance of item titled "Punjab has no tech mechanism to check illegal mining, says CAG" published in Hindustan Times dated 31.01.2024.

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (Principal Bench), New Delhi was pleased to pass an order dated 12.03.2024, the relevant extract of which is reproduced below:-

"2. The matter relates to the alleged failure of Punjab Government and its agencies to use tech mechanism like geo tagging and unmanned aerial vehicle etc. to detect and check illegal mining in the State. The news item discloses that as per the Punjab State Sand and Gravel Mining Policy, 2018 and NGT orders, the State should use geo tagging, geo fencing and electronic surveillance to check menace of illegal mining but the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has pointed out failure of the Punjab Government to use technology and electronic surveillance to detect and check illegal mining. The news item further reveals that the Punjab State Sand and Gravel Mining Policy, 2018 requires the use of geo tagging, geo fencing and electronic surveillance to check illegal mining but the test check of records of three drainage divisions has shown that the technology was not used by the water resources department to detect and check illegal mining. These test check records were of Amritsar, Phagwara and Golewala divisions which had jurisdiction over sand mining sites.

3. The news item raises substantial issue relating to compliance of the environmental norms.

4. Power of the Tribunal to take up the matter suo-motu has been recognized by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of "Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai vs. Ankita Sinha & Ors." reported in 2021 SCC Online SC 897.

5. Hence, we implead the following as respondents in the matter:

i. State of Punjab through the Chief Secretary.

ਵਾਤਾਵਰਣ ਭਵਨ, ਨਾਭਾ ਰੋਡ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ-147001

Vatavaran Bhawan, Nabha Road, Patiala -147001

Phone : Chairman. : 0175-2215793, Member Secretary : 0175-2215802 (O)

Website : www.ppcb.gov.in | E-Mail : chairmanppcb@yahoo.in | msppcb@gmail.com |

PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

-2-

- 
- ii. Punjab Pollution Control Board through its Member Secretary
 - iii. Deputy Commissioner/District Magistrate, Amritsar.
 - iv. Deputy Commissioner/District Magistrate, Kapurthala
 - v. Deputy Commissioner/District Magistrate, Faridkot.
6. Ms. Richa Kapoor, Advocate is representing the Respondent No. 2.
 7. Respondents No. 4 and 5 have appeared virtually.
 8. A reply on behalf of Respondent No. 4 has been filed confining to the position in respect of sand mining alone. In paragraph 1 of the reply, it is stated that at present no sand mines are in operation in District Kapurthala and it is stated that the regulatory measures are in place but in paragraph 5, it is mentioned that 32 FIRs have been registered against illegal mining in District Kapurthala from the year 2022 to till date. Hence, it is clear that the illegal mining is in progress at Kapurthala.
 9. Learned Counsel for Respondent No. 2 seeks four weeks' time to file the reply.
 10. Let proper response be filed by Respondents No. 4 and 5 within four weeks.
 11. Let notice be issued to Respondents No. 1 and 3 for filing their response at least one week before the next date of hearing.
 12. List on 16.05.2024."

A copy of the order dated 12.03.2024 is attached herewith for ready reference.

It is further intimated that the Govt. of Punjab, Deptt. of Science, Technology & Environment, Chandigarh vide Memo No. 03/20/2024-STE(4)/266 dated 28.03.2024 has asked the Board to file the requisite written statement/reply before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi after approval of the Competent Authority. The Govt has also asked the Board to pursue the case before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi and apprise the Govt. about the status of the case from time to time. It has also been asked to make arrangements to provide the requisite documents to the office of Learned Advocate General, Punjab to defend the case in an efficient manner.

The Deputy Commissioners of Amritsar, Kapurthala and Faridkot have been impleaded as respondents in the case

In view of above, it is requested to submit the following information in respect of the said districts **by 04.04.2024 positively:-**

1. Name of the mining site(s) with valid consents under Water & Air Acts, but violating conditions of NOC/CTO of the Board under the provisions of Water & Air Acts.

PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

-3-

2. Compliance of use of technology & electronic surveillance such as geo tagging, geo fencing & electronic surveillance by unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) for the monitoring of mining sites.
3. Name of the mining site(s) operating without consent to operate of the Board under the provisions of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 & Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
4. Calculate environmental compensation based on the orders dated 26.02.2021 of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in OA No. 360 of 2015, by applying approach No. II and send the same to the concerned branch for taking further necessary action.

You are, hereby, directed to send the above mentioned information (1 to 3) by 04.04.2024, positively, so that the information may be compiled and the same may be incorporated in the reply to be filed before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal after getting approved from the Competent Authority.

Please treat it as MOST URGENT being date bound/Hon'ble National Green Tribunal case.

DA/- As above:

Endst. No. 8694-95

Dated 1/4/24

Member Secretary

A copy of the above is forwarded to the following for information & necessary action:-

1. The Chief Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Jalandhar & Bathinda to get the compliance of the above mentioned orders.
2. The Senior Environmental Engineer, PPCB, Zonal Office, Amritsar, Jalandhar & Bathinda to ensure compliance that the desired information should reach Head Office by 04.04.2024, positively.

Member Secretary

O/o EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, DRAINAGE-CUM-MINING AND GEOLOGY
DIVISION, WRD PUNJAB



Email I'd:- xenminingamritsar@gmail.com

No. 156

To,

The Environmental Engineer
Regional office, Amritsar.

FOR

AEE Date 03/04/2024

Subject-

Regarding OA.NO 222/2024 News item titled "Punjab has no mechanism. To check illegal mining, says CAG" appearing in Hindustan times dated-31.01.2024

Ref-

your office letter no 655.dated 02/04/2024

In reference to above cited subject it is intimated that for carrying out mining in any district of Punjab DSR (District Survey Report) of the concerned district is prepared. So in order to this, district survey report for district Amritsar is prepared by this department. For preparing DSR, detailed survey is carried out for each site /sand bar which includes records like KML, Environmental clearance, approved paths, quantity, methods of excavation etc. for each particulars site. Further after approval of DSR, mining plan is prepared for each site and EC was taken from the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority(SEIAA) before making it operational .Till date no site is operational in the district Amritsar "because in approved DSR of district Amritsar, the mining sites on River Ravi falls under 5 kilometers from international border with Pakistan and mining sites on River Beas are in operational as River Beas is declared as Protected Reserve under Beas Conservation Reserve". So there is no any site which violates the conditions of NOC/CTO under provisions of water and Air acts. The KML file for each site is prepared which acts as GEO Fencing and GEO Tagging and this office had no unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVS) to check Illegal Mining.

This is for your information please.

Executive Engineer/Amritsar
Drainage-cum-Mining & Geology Division,
WRD Punjab



ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਕੰਟਰੋਲ ਬੋਰਡ

PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

ਖੇਤਰੀ ਦਫਤਰ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ

ਪਤਾ: ਪਲਾਟ ਨੰਬਰ 164, ਫੋਕਲ ਪੁਆਇੰਟ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ।



ANNEXURE

c

ਈ-ਮੇਲ: ppcbroomritsar@gmail.com

ਵੈਬਸਾਈਟ: www.ppcb.punjab.gov.in

ਨੰਬਰ 779

ਮਿਤੀ ... 04/4/2024

To

The Member Secretary,
Punjab Pollution Control Board
Head Office, Patiala

Sub: Regarding O.A. No. 222/2024 News item titled "Punjab has no mechanism to check illegal mining, says CAG" appearing in Hindustan Times dated 31.01.2024.

Ref: Head office letter no. 8693 dated 01.04.2024.

In reference to above, it is intimated that the information sought vide letter under reference pertaining to District Amritsar is as under: -

Sr. No.	Description of Information	Reply
1.	Name of the mining site(s) with valid consents under Water & Air Acts, but violating conditions of NOC/CTO of the Board under the provisions of Water & Air Acts	Nil as per Executive Engineer, Drainage cum Mining and Geology Division, Amritsar letter no. 156 dated 03.04.2024 (copy attached) till date no site is operational in the District Amritsar because in approved DSR of District Amritsar, the mining sites on River Ravi falls under 05 KMs from International Border with Pakistan and River Beas is declared as protected reserve under Beas conservation reserve.
2.	Compliance of use of technology & electronic surveillance such as geo tagging, geo fencing & electronic surveillance by unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVS) for the monitoring of mining sites.	As per letter no. 156 dated 03.04.2024, the KML file for each site is prepared which acts as Geo Fencing & Geo Tagging. Further the Mining Department informed that they have no unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVS) to check illegal mining.
3.	Name of the mining site(s) operating without consent to operate of the Board under the provisions of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981	Same as at Sr. No. 1 above

This is for your information and necessary action, please.

DA/As above

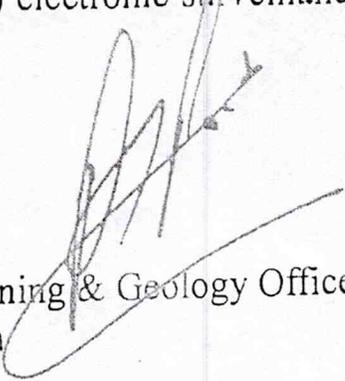
11.11.24

Subject : Notice of hearing in Suo Motu matter in re: News item appearing in Hindustan Times dated: 31.01.2024 entitled " Punjab has no tech mechanism to check illegal mining, says CAG".

For Carrying out mining in any district of Punjab DSR (District Survey Report) of the concerned district is prepared. The mining sites selected in the respective DSR of district are detailed further by the hired consultant of Mining & Geology Department. Then, Hired consultants makes the detailed study in which proper mining plans are prepared. Mining plan includes all the required information i.e kml file of site, Environmental Clearance, Path approved etc. The kml file prepared act as Geo - fencing and Geo - tagging .

There is No Sand Mines i.e PMS (Public Mining Sites) or CMS (Commercial Mining Sites) in District Kapurthala because Beas River is declared as Protected area under Beas Conservation Reserve.

This office has No Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) electronic surveillance to check illegal mining.


District Mining & Geology Officer
Kapurthala



PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

- II - ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪ੍ਰਦੂਸ਼ਣ ਰੋਕਥਾਮ ਬੋਰਡ

Regional Office-II

2nd Floor, Midland Finance Centre, Opp. King's Hotel, Near Bus Stand, Jalandhar
 Visit us at www.ppcb.gov.in Tel No. 0181-2991937 e-mail: - ppcb2jalandhar@gmail.com

No. 552

Dated: - 18/04/24

To

The Member Secretary,
 Punjab Pollution Control Board
 Head Office, Patiala.

Sub: Regarding O.A. No. 222/2024 News item titled "Punjab has no mechanism to check illegal mining, says CAG" appearing in Hindustan Times dated 31.01.2024.

Ref: Head office letter no. 8693 dated 01.04.2024.

In reference to above, it is intimated that the information sought vide letter under reference pertaining to District Kapurthala is as under:

Sr. No.	Description of information	Reply
1.	Name of the mining sites (s) with valid consents under Water & Air Acts, but violating conditions of NOC/CTO of the Board under the provisions of Water & Air Acts.	Nil as per District Mining & Geology Officer, Kapurthala letter (copy attached). It is mentioned that there is no sand mines i.e. PMS (public mining sites) or CMS (commercial mining sites) in District Kapurthala because Beas River is declared as protected area under Beas Conservation Reserve.
2.	Compliance of use of technology & electronic surveillance such as geo tagging, geo fencing & electronic surveillance by unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) for the monitoring of mining sites.	As per the letter of District Mining & Geology Officer, Kapurthala the KML file for each site is prepared which acts as Geo Fencing & Geo Tagging. Further the Mining Department informed that they have no unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVS) to check illegal mining.
3.	Name of the mining site (s) operating without consent to operate of the Board under the provisions of Water Act, 1974 and Air Act, 1981.	Same as at Sr. No. 1 above

[Signature]
 Environmental Engineer,
 Regional Office-2, Jalandhar

ANNEXURE

E

-1227

ANNEXURE-F

ANNEXURE-F

Subject Re: Regarding OA no. 222/2024
News item titled "Punjab has no
mechanism to check illegal mining,
says CAG" appearing in Hindustan
Times dated 31.01.2024.

From Xen Dcdfdk <xendcdfdk@yahoo.in>

To: PPCB RO Faridkot
<ppcbfdk@yahoo.com>

Date 4 Apr at 1:34 PM

In reference to this mail, it is submitted that there is
no approved sand mine in the district Faridkot.

For electronic surveillance by Unmanned Aerial Vehicles
(UAV) this office has requested quotations from the
different agencies for procurement of the drones.

and geo-tagging and geo-fencing is done for the
approved mining sites only, as mentioned above there is
sand mine in district Faridkot therefore geo-tagging and
geo-fencing is not required.

this is for your information and necessary action please.

On Thursday, 4 April, 2024 at 01:25:17 pm IST, PPCB RO
Faridkot <ppcbfdk@yahoo.com> wrote:

Sir,

In regard to above, subject cited matter kindly provide
information as below:

1. Name and number of mining site(s), which is/are
operating in district Faridkot.
2. Any fine / compensation imposed on the mining sites.
3. Compliance to use technology and electronic
surveillance such as geo tagging, geo fencing and
electronic surveillance by Unmanned Aerial Vehicles
(UAV) for the monitoring mining site.

Kindly provide the information through revert mail by

3:00 PM today positively, so that same may be sent to
Higher Authority for incorporating the reply to be filed

before Hon'ble NGT.

Regards
Punjab Pollution Control Board
Regional Office, Faridkot

[View less](#)

Regarding O.A. No. 222/2024 News titled "Punjab has no mechanism to check illegal mining, says CAG" appearing in Hindustan Times dated 31.01.2024.

2 messages

eehq2.1 <eehq2.2@gmail.com>

Mon, Apr 1, 2024 at 5:19 PM

To: "Regional Office, Amritsar" <ppcbroamritsar@gmail.com>, EERO2 Jalandhar <ppcbro2jalandhar@gmail.com>, Mail Account <ppcbfdk@yahoo.com>

Cc: ceejalandhar@yahoo.com, ceejalandhar@gmail.com, ceebtippcb@gmail.com, See Bathinda <seezobti@gmail.com>, seeopcbal@gmail.com, seezoasr@yahoo.com

Respected sir

Please download the attachment on the subject cited above for taking further action in the matter.

With regards

EE (HQ-2/1)

2 attachments

Order dated 12-03-2024 -222 of 2024.pdf
116K

letter to ROs CEEs ZOs 222 of 2024.pdf
1296K

PPCB RO Faridkot <ppcbfdk@yahoo.com>

Thu, Apr 4, 2024 at 2:14 PM

Reply-To: PPCB RO Faridkot <ppcbfdk@yahoo.com>

To: SEE ZO BATHINDA <seezobti@gmail.com>

Cc: "eehq2.2@gmail.com" <eehq2.2@gmail.com>

Respected Sir,

Information related to point no. 1 to 3 regarding subject cited matter for district Faridkot is as under:

1. As informed by XEN, Mining Faridkot vide mail dated 04.04.2024, there is no approved mining site in district Faridkot. Further, no mining site falls under the district Faridkot, which has valid consent as per record of this office. Therefore, information relates with para no. 1, treated as NIL.
2. As informed by XEN, Mining Faridkot vide mail dated 04.04.2024, that the Department has requested for quotations from the different agencies for procurement of the drones for electronic surveillance by Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV). As, no approved mining site falls within the jurisdiction of district Faridkot, so there no requirement of geo tagging and geo fencing.
3. As informed by XEN, Mining Faridkot vide mail dated 04.04.2024, there is no approved mining site in district Faridkot. As such, no mining site is operating without consent to operate of the Board. Therefore, information relates with para no. 3, treated as NIL.

Submitted please.

Regards
Punjab Pollution Control Board
Regional Office, Faridkot

On Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at 10:45:21 AM GMT+5:30, SEE ZO BATHINDA <seezobti@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Officer,

The trailing mail is forwarded for further necessary action in the matter please.

For Senior Environmental Engineer
PPCB, Zonal Office, Bathinda

[Quoted text hidden]

2 attachments

Order dated 12-03-2024 -222 of 2024.pdf
116K

letter to ROs CEEs ZOs 222 of 2024.pdf
1296K

INFORMATION RELATING TO MINING SITES IN THE DISTRICTS OF AMRITSAR, KAPURTHALA AND FARIDKOT

(O.A No. 222 of 2024: Compliance of order dated 12.03.2024 passed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal)

In Re: News item titled "Punjab has no tech mechanism to check illegal mining says CAG" appearing in Hindustan Times dated 31.01.2024

S.No.	Information Sought by the Board	Amritsar	Kapurthala	Faridkot
		Reply of Regional Offices of the Board in consultation with District Mining Officers		
1	Name of the mining site(s) with valid consents under Water & Air Acts, but violating conditions of NOC/CTO of the Board under the provisions of Water & Air Acts.	No site is operational in the District Amritsar because in approved DSR of District Amritsar, the mining sites on River Ravi falls under 05 Kms from International Border with Pakistan and River Beas is declared as protected reserve under Beas conservation reserve.	There is no sand mines i.e. PMS (public mining sites) as CMS (commercial mining sites) in District Kapurthala because Beas River is declared as protected area under Beas Conservation Reserve.	There is no approved mining site in district Faridkot. Further, no mining site falls under the district Faridkot, which has valid consent as per record of this office.
2	Compliance of use of technology and electronic surveillance such as geo tagging fencing and electronic surveillance by Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) for the monitoring of mining sites.	The KML filed for each site is prepared which acts as Geo Fencing and Geo Tagging. Further the Mining Department informed that they have no unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) to check illegal mining.	The KML filing for each site is prepared which acts as Geo Fencing and Geo Tagging. Further the Mining Department informed that they have no Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) to check illegal mining.	The Department has requested for quotations from the different agencies for procurement of the drones for electronic surveillance by Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs). As, no approved mining site falls within the jurisdiction of district Faridkot, so there no requirement of geo tagging and geo fencing.

3	Name of the mining site(s) operating without consent to operate of the Board under the provisions of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.	Nil	Nil	Nil
4	Calculate environmental compensation based on the orders dated 26.02.2021 of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in OA No. 360 of 2015, by applying approach No.II and send the same to the concerned branch for taking further necessary action.	Nil	Nil	Nil