

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

M.A. No. 86/2023
IN
Execution Application No. 01/2023
IN
Original Application No. 673/2018

News item published in “The Hindu” authored by Shri Jacob Koshy
Titled
“More river stretches are now critically polluted: CPCB”

Sunaina Applicant

Date of hearing: 21.09.2023

**CORAM: HON’BLE MR. JUSTICE PRAKASH SHRIVASTAVA, CHAIRPERSON
HON’BLE DR. A. SENTHIL VEL, EXPERT MEMBER
HON’BLE DR. AFROZ AHMAD, EXPERT MEMBER**

ORDER

1. Present MA is registered for execution of order of this Tribunal dated 22.02.2021 passed in OA No. 593/2017, *Paryavaran Suraksha Samiti & Anr. vs. Union of India & Ors.* The allegation in the said OA was in respect of water pollution in River Sutlej near Gurudwara Patalpuri Sahib at Kiratpur Sahib, Punjab.
2. The Tribunal, by order dated 22.02.2021 while disposing of OA No. 593/2017, had issued certain directions relating to abatement of pollution and action taken plan. By the earlier order dated 02.02.2023 in Execution Application No. 01/2023, the Tribunal had directed the Chief Secretary, State of Punjab, Punjab State PCB and District Magistrate, Rupnagar to look into the issue raised and take remedial action in accordance with law and the submit a report.
3. The matter is listed today for consideration of the report dated 02.06.2023 submitted by the Chief Secretary, State of Punjab. The report reflects that the Punjab Water Supply and Sewerage Board (PWSSB) has

constructed Main Pumping Station (MPS) but Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) is yet to be constructed and that domestic effluent is still being discharged into River Sutlej. The report further reflects that repeated unsuccessful tenders were issued for the project of construction of STP (not giving type and units) and that the last tender was to open on 13.06.2023 but the outcome of the said tender is not before the Tribunal. Further, as per the reports, the designed capacity of STP is 2.0 MLD and construction of such capacity can also be done departmentally.

4. Hence, we direct the Chief Secretary, State of Punjab to file a further action taken report disclosing the details of finalization of tender process for construction of STP and also disclosing the measures which have been taken to ensure stoppage of discharge of untreated waste water in River Sutlej till the construction of STP. Let this report be submitted within eight weeks before the Registrar General of this Tribunal by e-mail at judicial-ngt@gov.in preferably in the form of searchable PDF/OCR Support PDF and not in the form of Image PDF. If found necessary, the Registrar General may place the matter before the Bench for consideration.

5. Subject to above, the application is disposed of.

6. A copy of this order be forwarded to the Chief Secretary, Punjab by e-mail for compliance.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

Dr. Afroz Ahmad, EM

September 21, 2023
M.A. No. 86/2023 in EA No. 01/2023
IN OA No. 673/2018
DV