

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

Original Application No. 785/2023

In re : News item appearing in Tribune dated 15.12.2023 titled “**Kasauli Distillery dumps effluent into water source, supply affected**”

Date of hearing: 09.01.2024

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

Respondent: Ms. Shreya S. Singh, Adv. for HP SPCB (Through VC)

ORDER

1. This Original Application is registered in *suo-moto* exercise of powers on the basis of the news item titled “Kasauli Distillery dumps effluent into water source, supply affected” appearing in Tribune dated 15.12.2023.

2. As per the news item, Mohan Meakin Private Limited, Kasauli based plant has dumped effluents into a natural source of water in the Kasauli Kund as a result of which the water has got polluted and considering the possibility of causing disease by drinking effluent polluted water, the water supply from that source has been stopped. The report further states that in the sample analysis the water was not found to be fit for human and cattle consumption.

3. The news item raises substantial issue relating to compliance of the environment norms as prescribed in the Scheduled Enactments, hence we deem it proper to implead following as respondents in the matter: -

- i. Himachal Pradesh Pollution Control Board through its Member Secretary

- ii. Central Pollution Control Board through its Member Secretary
- iii. Deputy Commissioner/District Magistrate Solan
- iv. Regional Officer, MoEF&CC, Himachal Pradesh
- v. Mohan Meakin Private Limited at Kasauli through its unit

4. Ms. Shreya S. Singh, Advocate for HPPCB, respondent no. 1 has entered appearance. Let Notice be served upon the other respondents.

5. Considering the nature of the allegation and the issue involved, we deem it proper to form a joint Committee comprising of the representative of the Member Secretary, CPCB, RO, MoEF&CC Himachal Pradesh, the Member Secretary, HPPCB and District Magistrate, Solan. The District Magistrate will act as nodal agency. The Committee will carry out the spot inspection, ascertain the factual position of the spot, the extent of water pollution in the Kund/water source caused by the project proponent and the remedial measures. Let the report be submitted by the Committee at least one week before the next date of hearing 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.

6. List this matter on 07.03.2024.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

January 09, 2024
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SN.