

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

Original Application No. 785/2023

News Item titled "Kasauli Distillery dumps effluents into water source supply affected" appearing in Tribune dated 15.12.2023

Date of hearing: 17.02.2025

CORAM: **HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRAKASH SHRIVASTAVA, CHAIRPERSON**
 HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDHIR AGARWAL, JUDICIAL MEMBER
 HON'BLE DR. A. SENTHIL VEL, EXPERT MEMBER

Respondent: Mr. A.D.N. Rao, Senior Advocate with Mr. Vipul Wadhwa, Mr. Amit P. Shahi & Mr. Rahul Mishra, Advs. for R - 5
 Mr. Vikrant Pachnanda & Mr. Mukul Katyal, Advs. for CPCB
 Mr. Naman Garg, Advs. for HP SPCB (Through VC)
 Mr. Anubhav Sharma, Adv. for R - 3 (Through VC)

ORDER

1. Tribunal in this original application, registered *suo-moto*, is examining the issue of dumping of industrial effluents in natural source of water by respondent-project proponent/Mohan Meakin Private Limited, Kasauli.

2. Joint Committee constituted by the Tribunal had filed the report dated 23.08.2024 pointing out the deficiencies/non-compliance by project proponent and had made the recommendations.

3. Respondent no.5-project proponent had filed the response to the report of the joint committee. Submission of Counsel for respondent no.5 is that recommendations made by the joint committee have been complied with and deficiencies pointed out by the joint committee have been cured.

4. Action taken report has also been filed by HP SPCB dated 23.01.2025, disclosing that respondent no.5 is drawing water from two

natural springs located within the unit premises. No permission for withdrawing the water from natural resources has been placed on record.

5. Submission of Learned Senior Counsel appearing for respondent no.5 is that cess was paid, but he could not point out any provision under which cess for withdrawing the water from natural spring was paid or any permission from the competent authority for withdrawing the water from natural resources.

6. In the joint committee report, it has also been disclosed that 12 KLD of treated water is being used for irrigation and gardening purposes and unit has approximately 35 bigha of green area available for irrigation.

7. Learned Counsel for respondent no.5 seeks two weeks to file fresh affidavit. In the affidavit respondent no.5 will disclose the manner of utilization of 12 KLD of water in the available green area and status of meeting the parameters in respect of discharge from Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) set up by respondent no.5. Respondent no.5 will also place on record water balance chart of the unit. Let this affidavit be filed within a period of two weeks.

8. List on 08.04.2025.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Sudhir Agarwal, JM

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

February 17, 2025
Original Application No. 785/2023
JG..