

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

Original Application No. 624/2023

News Item published in The Tribune dated 28.09.2023 titled as "Hills 'vanish' as illegal mining rampant in Beet area"

Date of hearing: 04.04.2025

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRAKASH SHRIVASTAVA, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDHIR AGARWAL, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR TYAGI, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. AFROZ AHMAD, EXPERT MEMBER**

Respondent Ms. Soni Singh, Adv. for CPCB
Mr. Shalabh Gupta, Adv. for MoEF & CC (Through VC)

ORDER

1. The Tribunal by order dated 11.03.2024 had accepted the prayer of Counsel for Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB) to place on record the report disclosing the action for imposition of environmental compensation against the persons responsible for illegal mining.

2. The Tribunal on the previous dated on 10.12.2024 had again accepted the prayer for adjournment made by Counsel for the PPCB to examine the issue and address the Tribunal.

3. Today, neither the Counsel appointed by the PPCB nor Respondent No. 3, Member Secretary, PPCB is present. A proxy Counsel appearing for the PPCB has tried to dispute the proceedings of the Tribunal dated 10.12.2024.

4. Mr. Birdevinder Singh, Environmental Engineer, PPCB appearing virtually has submitted that the details of action taken by the PPCB have

been sent to the Advocate appointed by the PPCB. He is not in a position to disclose the details of such an action. Its unfortunate that advocate appointed by the PPCB is not present and authorized officer is not in a position to disclose the relevant facts. Since no proper assistance is being rendered to the Tribunal, therefore, we direct the Member Secretary, PPCB to appear virtually on the next date of hearing and assist the Tribunal.

5. List on 07.08.2025.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Sudhir Agarwal, JM

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. Afroz Ahmad, EM

April 04, 2025
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