

Item No. 06

Court No. 2

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

Original Application No. 459/2023

Charan Singh

Applicant

Versus

State of Punjab

Respondent

Date of hearing: 02.08.2023

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR TYAGI, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. A. SENTHIL VEL, EXPERT MEMBER**

Application is registered based on a letter petition received by E-mail

ORDER

1. The applicant-Charan Singh has sent the present letter petition by email with the prayer to save the villagers from the clutches of polluted atmosphere so that they may live health and dignified life.
2. The applicant has submitted that village Alamgir in District Ludhiana is a historic village as Tenth Guru of the Sikhs Shri Guru Gobind Sahibji visited the same. There are five ponds in the village which has the population of more than 5000. All the ponds are situated in thickly populated areas. The ponds are causing unhygienic conditions for the residents living around the same. One pond is situated near Baba Dera where 400 years old Shiv Temple is situated and Bhai Naghaya Singh Hall is constructed. The pond which is having area of 4 acres has been encroached by the villagers and is filled with black dirty water, dump of garbage and American grass. The pond situated near Government Senior Secondary School receives overflow from nearby drain and more than 500 students studying in the school are not able to do physical activities in the

ground and stadium due to foul smell and unhygienic conditions. The pond belonging to the Scheduled Castes villagers is also filled with black water and American grass. The ponds disturb daily life of villagers particularly during rainy season.

3. *Prima facie*, the averments made in the application raise questions relating to environment arising out of the implementation of the enactments specified in Schedule I to the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

4. In view of the averments made in the application, we consider it appropriate that a Joint Committee be constituted to verify the factual position and take appropriate remedial action. Accordingly, we constitute a Joint Committee comprising of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Integrated Regional Office at Chandigarh, Punjab State Pollution Control Board (PSPCB) and District Magistrate (DM), Ludhiana and direct the same to meet within one week, undertake visits to the site, look into the grievances of the applicant, associate the applicant, verify the factual position and take appropriate remedial action including identification of the encroachers, removal of encroachments and rejuvenation of the ponds by following due course of law. The Committee shall also look into the aspects of compliance with order dated 18.11.2020 passed by this Tribunal in OA No. 325/2015, *Lt. Col. Sarvadaman Singh Oberoi vs. Union of India & Ors.*, regarding rejuvenation of ponds and also implementation of 'The Mission Amrit Sarovar', launched by Government of India. The PSPCB will be the nodal agency for coordination and compliance.

5. Factual and Action taken Report may be submitted within two months by e-mail at judicial-ngt@gov.in preferably in the form of searchable PDF/OCR Supported PDF and not in the form of Image PDF.

6. List for further consideration on 06.11.2023.

7. A copy of this order, along with a copy of the application and documents attached with the same, be forwarded to MoEF&CC, PSPCB and DM, Ludhiana by e-mail for requisite compliance.

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

August 02, 2023
Original Application No. 459/2023
DV