

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

Original Application No. 563/2023

In re: News item titled **“MLA apprised of losses due to illegal mining in Doon Assembly segment” appearing in Dainik Tribune dated 08.09.2023.”**

Date of hearing: 25.09.2023

**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. A. SENTHIL VEL, EXPERT MEMBER**

ORDER

1. This application is registered in suo-moto exercise of power on the basis of the news item published in Dainik Tribune relating to illegal mining in Doon Assembly Segment.

2. It is alleged that on account of illegal mining, road and infrastructure of electricity has been badly damaged at Handakundi Village in Suner Panchayat of the Doon Assembly Segment. The village is located along Sirsa River and has allegedly become hot bed for illegal mining affecting the villagers. Water pipes and electricity poles are also damaged and damage has been caused to the link roads. The said activity is in violation of the Doon Valley Notification issued on 01.02.1989 under Environment Protection Act, 1986 and the notification restricts location of industries, mining operations and other developmental activities in the Doon Valley. As per the said notification, approval of MoEF is required before starting of any mining activity.

3. The issues noted above involve substantial question relating to the environment and violation of environmental laws specially the Doon Valley Notification dated 01.02.1989.

4. The power of the Tribunal to register suo moto original application has been recognized in the matter of "*Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai vs. Ankita Sinha & Ors.*" reported in 2021 SCC Online SC 897.
5. Hence, at this stage, we deem it proper to constitute a joint committee comprising of the Member Secretary, Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board; Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board; and District Magistrate, Dehradun.
6. The District Magistrate, District Dehradun will act as a nodal agency.
7. The Committee will visit the site and submit an action take report relating to violation of environmental laws as also the remedial measures.
8. The Committee is directed to submit the action taken report within a period of 8 weeks 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.
9. A copy of this order be forwarded to the Members of the Committee by e-mail for compliance.
10. List the matter on 14.12.2023.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Sudhir Agarwal, JM

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

September 25, 2023
Original Application No. 563/2023
JG