

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
PRINCIPAL BENCH**

(By Video Conferencing)  
Original Application No. 610/2022

Meenu Devi

...Applicant

Versus

State of Haryana & others

...Respondents

Date of hearing: 22.09.2022

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR TYAGI, JUDICIAL MEMBER  
HON'BLE DR. AFROZ AHMAD, EXPERT MEMBER**

**Application is registered based on a Letter Petition received by email.**

**ORDER**

1. The grievance in the present letter petition sent by email, which has been treated and registered as Original Application, is that a river bridge over river **Ghaggar** stretch between Sectors 21 and 23 in Panchkula, Haryana is being used more for immersion of religious offerings, garbage etc. than for transportation to Chandigarh Tricity which is polluting the river and damaging the environment. Despite several complaints to the concerned authorities no action has been taken. The applicant has prayed for urgent remedial action.

2. This Tribunal is empowered to *suo moto* take cognizance of the cases involving questions relating to environment arising out of the implementation of enactments specified in Schedule I of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 as held by Hon'ble Supreme Court in **Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai V/s. Ankita Sinha and others 2021 SSC Online SC 897**. This Tribunal can also take cognizance of such cases on the basis of letter petitions in accordance with settled principles of law governing Public Interest Litigation.

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. In view of the averments made in the application, we consider it appropriate that a Joint Committee be constituted to verify the factual position. Accordingly, we constitute a Joint Committee comprising of **State PCB, Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Panchkula and District Magistrate Panchkula** and direct the same to meet **within two weeks**, undertake visits to the site, look into the grievances of the applicant, associate the applicant, other residents of the locality and representatives of Municipal Corporation, Panchkula, verify the factual position and take appropriate remedial action by following due course of law. The State PCB will be the nodal agency for coordination and compliance.

4. Factual and Action taken Report may be submitted report **within two months** by e-mail at [judicial-ngt@gov.in](mailto:judicial-ngt@gov.in) preferably in the form of searchable PDF/OCR Supported PDF and not in the form of Image PDF.

5. List for further consideration on 19.01.2023.

6. A copy of this order, along with a copy of the application and documents attached with the same, be forwarded to the State PCB, Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Panchkula and District Magistrate Panchkula by e-mail for compliance.

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. Afroz Ahmad, EM

September 22, 2022  
AG