

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

Original Application No. 1076/2024

News Item published in Dainik Bhaskar dated 13.08.2024 titled "सांवेर रोड़ के 53 इलाकों के भूजल में मिले घातक रसायन 400 उद्योगों पर शक, नोटिस 50 को, कार्रवाई सिर्फ 7 पर"

Date of hearing: 20.08.2024

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

ORDER

1. This original application is registered *suo-motu* on the basis of the news item titled "सांवेर रोड़ के 53 इलाकों के भूजल में मिले घातक रसायन 400 उद्योगों पर शक, नोटिस 50 को, कार्रवाई सिर्फ 7 पर" appearing in Dainik Bhaskar dated 13.08.2024.

2. The matter relates to dangerous polluted red colour water coming out from handpumps and borewells of Sanwer Road Industrial area in Indore (M.P). Ground water in this area contained large quantity of sulphate, kjeldahl nitrogen, magnesium. In June 2023 M.P.PCB had carried out sampling at Kumedi, Bardari, Dhankhedi, Shakkarkhedi, Niranjapur along with 53 locations in an area of 20 km for one year and prepared a report of total 636 samples where 3 lakh people are living. As per the report TDS level in water ranged from 2000 to 3600 mg/l whereas water is fit for drinking at 600 mg/l. Due to drinking of this polluted water, the local residents are suffering from allergy, hair fall, bone, teeth and intestinal diseases. It is reported that there are 400 industries mainly electroplating, chemical, confectionary and Pharma units using acid in large quantities responsible for polluted water, out of them action

has been taken only on 7 industries. Several investigation carried out with respect to discharge of waste water in to Narwar and Bhaurasala drains and Kanh river and notices have been served to 50 industries for closure and 7 have been sealed. Maximum sample were collected from public boring, handpumps and wells which indicated high level of pollution of ground water between Ramnagar Sector A, F and Kumedi village.

3. The news item raises substantial issue relating to compliance of the environmental norms and implementation of the provisions of scheduled enactment.

4. Power of the Tribunal to take up the matter *suo-motu* has been recognized by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of "*Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai vs. Ankita Sinha & Ors.*" reported in 2021 SCC Online SC 897.

5. Hence, we implead the following as respondents:

- i. Member Secretary, MPPCB.
- ii. Regional Officer, MoEF & CC Bhopal
- iii. District Magistrate, Indore
- iv. Member Secretary, CPCB.
- v. Member Secretary, Madhya Pradesh State Ground Water Authority.

6. Issue notice to the above respondents for filing their response/reply by way of affidavit before the appropriate Bench of the Tribunal at least one week before the next date of hearing. If any of the respondents directly files the reply without routing it through his advocate then the said respondent will remain virtually present to assist the Tribunal.

7. Since the matter relates to the Central Zonal Bench, Bhopal, therefore, OA is transferred to the Central Zonal Bench. The original record of this OA be transferred to the Central Zonal Bench, Bhopal for further action.

8. List before Central Zonal Bench at Bhopal 30.09.2024.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

August 20, 2024
O.A. No. No. 1076/2024
HB