



NGT Notice to Haryana Pollution Board

Why in News?

The [National Green Tribunal \(NGT\)](#) issued a notice to [the Haryana State Pollution Control Board \(HSPCB\)](#) in response to an appeal filed by **the Freedom Park Society, Gurugram**, challenging the Rs 1.55 crore penalty imposed as **Environmental Compensation (EC)** for faults in its [Sewage Treatment Plant \(STP\)](#).

Key Points

- **Cause of STP Damage:**
 - It was argued that **stormwater flooding in August 2022** caused damage to the STP, as heavy rainfall affected the entire Gurugram area.
- **Remedial Measures Taken:**
 - Following the [natural disaster](#), the Freedom Park Society immediately repaired the STP and restored its compliance with environmental norms.
 - Private lab test reports confirm that the STP resumed functioning properly after repairs.
- **Contention Over the Penalty:**
 - The penalty for 415 days of violation is arbitrary, irrational, and contrary to the "**Polluter Pay**" principle established by [the Supreme Court](#) in cases such as **Indian Council for Enviro vs. Union of India** and [Vellore Citizens Welfare vs. Union of India](#).

Haryana State Pollution Control Board

- It was formed as a **statutory organisation** by Government of Haryana in the year 1974 to preserve the wholesomeness of water and prevent water pollution after Government of India legislation of [Water \(Prevention and Control of Pollution\) Act, 1974](#).