Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Environmental Science: Water Research & Technology. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2024

## /Construction of honey bee hives like CuO/PbO heterojunction photocatalysts with enhanced antibiotic and dye degradation activity under visible light

Karina Bano<sup>a</sup>, Prit Pal Singh<sup>\*a</sup>, Sandeep Kumar<sup>b</sup>, Shakir Mahmood Saeed<sup>c</sup>, Saurabh Aggarwal<sup>d</sup>, Ranvijay Kumar<sup>e</sup>, Sandeep Kaushal<sup>a,f\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University, Fatehgarh Sahib, Punjab, India

<sup>b</sup>Department of Chemistry, Akal University, Talwandi Sabo, Bathinda 151302, Punjab, India

<sup>c</sup> Department of Pharmacy, Al-Noor University College, Nineveh, Iraq

<sup>d</sup> Uttaranchal Institute of Technology, Uttaranchal University, Dehradun, India

<sup>e</sup>University Centre for Research and Development, Chandigarh University, Gharuan,

Mohali, Punjab, India

<sup>f</sup>Regional Institute of Education, National Council of Educational Research and Training, Ajmer, Rajasthan, India

Address for Correspondence: Prof. Prit Pal Singh Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University, Fatehgarh Sahib, Punjab, India E-mail: dhillonps2003@gmail.com

Dr. Sandeep Kaushal Associate Professor Regional Institute of Education, National Council of Educational Research and Training, Ajmer, Rajasthan, India

Email: kaushalsandeep33@gmail.com



Fig. S1. FTIR spectrum of CuO, PbO and CuO/PbO heterojunction photocatalysts



Fig. S2. EDS spectra and mapping of CuO/PbO heterojunction



Fig. S3. XPS spectrum of CuO/PbO heterojunction.



Fig. S4. VB-XPS spectra of PbO and CuO nanoparticles



Fig. S5. Nitrogen adsorption-desorption isotherm (pore size distribution) for CuO/PbO heterojunction photocatalyst



Fig. 6 Depiction of a) UV-Visible spectrum and b) tauc-plot band gap energy values of heterojunction photocatalysts



Fig. S7. PL spectrum of PbO, CuO semiconductors and CuO/PbO heterojunction photocatalyst



Fig. S8 Zeta potential of CuO/PbO heterojunction at different pH values



Fig. S9 UV–visible absorbance spectrum of photocatalytic degradation of a) AMX and b) MG vs irradiation time



Fig. S10 a-b) Degradation kinetics of AMX and MG vs irradiation time



Fig. S11. Effect of pH value of solution on the AMX and MG pollutants photocatalysis



Fig. S12. Effect of scavengers on the change in concentration vs time for AMX and MG



**Fig. S13.** A feasible strategy of the photocatalytic activity for antibiotic mineralization over CuO/PbO heterojunction



Fig. S14. Various intermediates generated during AMX degradation by CuO/PbO heterojunction detected by LC-MS technique





Fig. S15. Intermediates produced during MG dye degradation by CuO/PbO heterojunction detected by LC-MS



Fig. S16. Variation of degradation efficiency of the CuO/PbO heterojunction (CP-III) for AMX and MG dye over successive five cycles



Fig. S17. XRD pattern of CZ III photocatalyst before and after 5 successive photocatalysis cycles