Item No. 09 Court No. 1

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

Original Application No. 819/2024

News Item titled "जबलपुरः कठौंदा प्लांट में कचरा जलने के बाद दूर–दूर तक फैल रहे धूल के कण " appearing in Bhaskarhindi.com dated 01.07.2024

Date of hearing: 12.07.2024

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 "जबलपुरः कठौंदा प्लांट में कचरा जलने के बाद दूर–दूर तक फैल रहे धूल के कण " appearing in Bhaskarhindi.com dated 01.07.2024.

2. The news item relates to the shortcoming in the energy and waste disposal plant in Kathonda at Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh. As per the article, the dust, particles or soil that is left after burning the waste is not being disposed of properly. Also the soil and dust of the waste is piling up, against the norms. The news item states that it is difficult to maintain the buffer zone around the garbage plant because of very close settlement and it can also affect the health of the people. The article also alleges that earlier garbage plant, energy plant, sewerage treatment plant, dog house, pig house and arrangement for disposal of dead animals were maintained properly but for last few years, the filth and stench has started causing problems to the people in the nearby residential areas. Furthermore, pollution is spreading all around which has an adverse effect on the health of thousands of people. The situation has worsened due to the non-disposal of garbage as per the prescribed norms. The

news item states that stray dogs enter the colonies from the corporation's dog house, resulting in chaos. It is highlighted that there is a buffer zone within a radius of 500 meters around Kathunda and entry is prohibited in it.

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 in the matter:

(1). Central Pollution Control Board, through its Member Secretary, Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032

(2). Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board, through its Member Secretary, E-5, Main Rd No. 3, Ekant Park, Arera Colony, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh – 462016.

(3). Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Through its Regional Officer Integrated Regional Office, E-5, KendriyaParyavaran Bhawan, E-5 Arera Colony, Link Road-3, Ravishankar Nagar, Bhopal – 462016.

(4). District Magistrate, Jabalpur, Room No.4, Collectorate Campus Rd, South Civil Lines, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh 482001

6. Issue notice to the above respondents for filing their response at least one week before the next date of hearing.

7. The similar issue is involved in respect of some area more specifically relating to the sewage treatment in OA No. 625/2024.

8. List alongwith OA No. 625/2024 on 19.09.2024.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

July 12, 2024
Original Application No. 819/2024
DV