

NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH
NEW DELHI

File No. NGT/PB/RG/2020/6/170
Dated: 28.02.2020

ORDER

(Re: Enabling hearing by NGT Benches via Video Conferencing from all States/UT's in the respective jurisdiction of the Benches)

WHEREAS, in exercise of powers conferred by sub-section (3) of Section 4 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 (19th of 2010), the Central Government has specified, vide Notification No. S.O 1908E dated 17.08.2011 following places of sitting to exercise jurisdiction in the area indicated against each:-

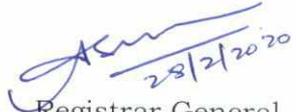
| Serial number | Zone | Place of Sitting | Territorial Jurisdiction |
|---------------|----------|-------------------------|---|
| 1 | Northern | Delhi (Principal Place) | Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, National Capital Territory of Delhi and Union Territory of Chandigarh |
| 2 | Western | Pune | Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa with Union Territories of Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli. |
| 3 | Central | Bhopal | Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh. |
| 4 | Southern | Chennai | Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Union Territories of Pondicherry and Lakshadweep. |
| 5 | Eastern | Kolkata | West Bengal, Orissa, Bihar, Jharkhand, seven sister States of North-Eastern region, Sikkim, Andaman and Nicobar Islands. |

WHEREAS, in exercise of powers conferred under Clause (d) of the sub-section (4) of Section 4 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 read with Rule 3, Rule 4 and Rule 6 of the National Green Tribunal (Practices and Procedure) Rules, 2011, the Chairperson, National Green Tribunal may direct to have sitting of the National Green Tribunal at any place, other than the place at which it ordinarily sits, falling within its jurisdiction, and may prescribe circuit procedure in that regard;

WHEREAS to facilitate access to remedies under the NGT Act, this Tribunal vide circular no. NGT/PB/26/Admin/2018/529 dated 18.09.2019 has permitted online filing from any place without requiring parties or counsel to physically appear before the NGT Bench and the National Legal Services Authority of India has, vide letter no. L/41/2019/NALSA/5058 dated 06.02.2020, advised the State Legal Services Authorities to provide assistance to the needy and eligible persons;

WHEREAS, it is found necessary to permit physical representation by video conferencing from at least one place in every State, preferably the seat of the High Court or State Capital subject to availability of Members and logistics being provided by the High Court/State Government/ State Legal Services Authority;

Now, therefore, pursuant to the above Rules/Orders/provisions and other enabling powers, the competent authority has been pleased to direct that the Tribunal may permit hearing of matters by video conferencing from one or more places in every State, preferably from the place of seat of the High Court/ Bench of High Court/ State Capital in the respective jurisdiction of such Bench of NGT generally and Principal Bench wherever necessary, subject to availability Members and logistics being provided by the High Court/State Government/ State Legal Services Authority;


28/2/2020
Registrar General
National Green Tribunal

Copy to:

1. Hon'ble Chairman, e-Committee, Supreme Court of India
2. Ld. Registrar Generals of all the High Courts
3. Ld. Registrars of Zonal Benches of NGT
4. Chief Secretaries of all the States
5. Member Secretary, National Legal Services Authority and State Legal Services Authorities
6. Bar Associations of all the High Courts
7. Bar Council of India and Bar Councils of States