

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 175/2023/EZ

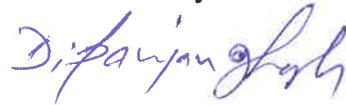
In Re: "Questions arise over limited AQI monitoring machines in Kolkata compared to Delhi, Mumbai" News item published in the Lokmat Times English dated 27.11.2023

REPORT ON AFFIDAVIT FILED BY THE WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD.

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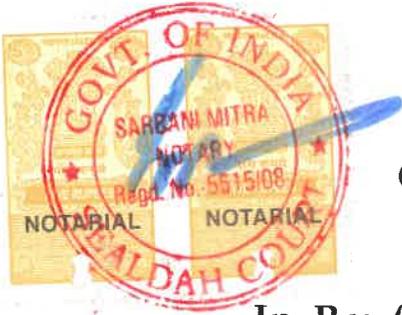
Filed by



DIPANJAN GHOSH  
ADVOCATE  
HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA

SL. NO. 07 Dt.-21 MAR 2024

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA



ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 175/2023/EZ

In Re: "Questions arise over limited AQI monitoring machines in Kolkata compared to Delhi, Mumbai" News item published in the Lokmat Times English dated 27.11.2023

REPORT ON AFFIDAVIT FILED BY THE WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD.

Most Respectfully Sheweth

I, Sri Debashis Chakrabarty, son of Late Amaresh Chandra Chakrabarty, aged about 59 years, by faith - Hindu, by Occupation- Service, working for gain at West Bengal Pollution Control Board, Paribesh Bhawan, 10A, Block LA, Sector III, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700106, do hereby solemnly declare and say as follows:-

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01. That, I am the Senior Scientist, West Bengal Pollution Control Board (hereinafter will be referred to as the 'State Board') and look after this case and as such I am well acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case. I have been duly authorized by the Respondent No. 1 to affirm this Affidavit on its behalf and as such, I am competent to do so.
02. That, this affidavit is being affirmed in pursuant to the solemn order passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal dated 08.02.2024.
03. That, in compliance with the aforesaid order the State Board is humbly making the following submissions:  
The Kolkata Urban Agglomerate (UA), comprising of - Barrackpore, Howrah & Kolkata NACs having population of 1,40,35,959 as per Census 2011 includes 9.64 lakh population of non-municipal areas, is required to have a minimum of total 16

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monitoring stations - 12 Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) and 04 Manual Stations across the Kolkata UA, as per the CPCB Air Quality Monitoring Network Design Criteria which is based on population size (Census 2011).

At present, Kolkata (UA) has the following network of CAAQMS and Manual stations:



1. 11 CAAQMS (7 - Kolkata (including Cantonment Area and Bidhannagar area), 3 - Howrah, 1 - Barrackpore).
2. 38 Manual Stations (14 - Kolkata (including 1 in Kasba operated by CPCB RD Kolkata) ,10 - North 24 Parganas, 07 - Howrah, 05 - Hooghly, 1 - Nadia and 1 - South 24 Parganas).

The Network of Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations in West Bengal established by WBPCB is well-planned and satisfies the network design criteria inclusive of Manual Monitoring Station and CAAQMS prescribed by Central Pollution Control Board, which is based on the census 2011 population. Recognizing the

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growth in population size over time, WBPCB has installed 200 Sensor based stations across the state out of which 67 no. are present within KMA. The Air Quality Index of these stations are indicative and can be used for research purposes. Public can access data of all the stations through the WBPCB Paribesh app and official website.



Additionally, WBPCB has installed 02 nos. of CAAQMS in Howrah. The State Board has also proposed the establishment of additional 90 manual ambient air quality monitoring stations across the state under National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP), out of which 32 Manual Stations will be within Kolkata Metropolitan Area (KMA).

04. That, to sum up, the number of existing ambient air quality monitoring stations of all categories after the installation of the proposed monitoring stations within KMA, will stand at 13 CAAQMS, 70 Manual stations and 67 sensor-based monitoring stations. The State Board is prepared to upgrade the installation

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of monitoring stations once the CPCB revises the Air Quality Monitoring Network Design Criteria to align with the latest census data as and when the latest census data is published by the Government of India.

05. It is therefore respectfully prayed that Hon'ble Tribunal may pass such order/orders as it deems fit and proper in the interest of justice.

*Debaraj Dasgupta*  
*Dipankar Dasgupta*  
*WBPCB*

*Debashis Chakrabarty*

DEPONENT

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## VERIFICATION

I, Sri Debashis Chakrabarty, son of Late Amaresh Chandra Chakrabarty, aged about 59 years, by faith - Hindu, by Occupation- Service, working for gain at West Bengal Pollution Control Board, Paribesh Bhawan, 10A, Block LA, Sector III, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700106, do hereby solemnly declare and say as follows:-

1. That, I am the Senior Scientist, West Bengal Pollution Control Board and I am well acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the instant Original Application.
2. That, the statements made in paragraph 1 of this affidavit is true to my knowledge and belief.
3. That, the statements made in paragraphs 2 to 4 of this affidavit are my information derived from the records available in the office of the State Board which I verily believe to be true and the rest are my respectful submission before this Hon'ble Tribunal.



Identified and corrected by me  
Advocate  
WBPCB

  
DEPONENT

Solemnly Affirmed &  
Declared Before Me  
On Identification By  
  
SARBANI MITRA  
NOTARY  
Regd. No.-5513/08

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