

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA**

Original Application No.76/2023/EZ

Wildlife Society of Odisha Applicant
-Versus-
State of Odisha and Others Respondents

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Cuttack
Date: 24/06/2024

By the Respondent No. 6 through

(Shakti Prasad Panda)
ADDL. GOVT. ADVOCATE

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA**

Original Application No.76/2023/EZ

Wildlife Society of Odisha Applicant
-Versus-
State of Odisha and Others Respondents

AFFIDAVIT FILED BY THE RESPONDENT NO.06

I, Dr. Meeta Biswal, aged about 58 years, W/o-Sri Debidutta Biswal, at present working as Chairperson, Odisha Biodiversity Board, Regional Plant Resource Centre Campus, Ekamrakanan, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751015, Dist. Khurda, Odisha, do hereby solemnly affirm & state as follow: -

1. That, I am arrayed as Respondent No.06 in the aforesaid original application and competent to swear this affidavit.
2. That the present Original Application was filed challenging the ongoing construction of the concrete buildings and structures on the top of the Deomali Hills in Koraput District in violation of Policy on Eco-tourism and Forest Conservation Act 1980.
3. That, in reply to the averment made in Para-3 of the Rejoinder, it is submitted that the hilltop of Deomali Hill is devoid of tree growth except few stunted shrubs like phoenix and grasses. The Final Technical Report of Central University of Odisha, Koraput, which forms the basis of the present OA Case No 76/2023/EZ, is a preliminary report and does not spell out the detailed survey and inventory having been conducted over stratified sampling plots randomly spread over the entire terrain of Deomali Hill. This detailed methodology is essential to make the findings and suggestions representative of

Meeta Biswal.
**PCCF-Cum-Chairman
Odisha Biodiversity Board**

Dr. Meeta Biswal
24-06-24
AMBIKA PRASAD RAY
NOTARY, CUTTACK TOWN
REGD. NO-ON-56/2004

the entire Deomali Hill. Further, the proforma for data collection on page 36 of the Report (copy enclosed) clearly requires the location details to be recorded whereas the checklists from page 37 to 44 (copy enclosed) only lists out the species. Hence, the data collected is incomplete. Further currently there is no proposal under consideration for declaring the Deomali hill as the Biodiversity Heritage Site.

4. Para 4 to 9: No comments

5. Para 10: That as detailed in para 3 of this Affidavit, the Report of Central University of Odisha, is incomplete in its presentation of facts and hence cannot form the basis of conclusive decision making on biodiversity and associated traditional practices for making it qualify for being declared as Biodiversity Heritage Site.

6. Para 11 to 12: No comments

7. That, since this matter primarily relates to the Koraput Forest Division, Forest, Environment and Climate Change Department and does not relate to the office of the Respondent No.06, the Odisha Biodiversity Board may be spared (excluded) as a respondent.

8. That the averments which have not been specifically replied shall be deemed to have been denied and the Deponent craves leave of the Hon'ble Tribunal to make further submissions and file further affidavit(s) in support of their contentions in the interest of justice and for effective adjudication by the Hon'ble Tribunal.

9. That, the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief based on the available official records.


AMBIKA PRASAD RAY
NOTARY, CUTTACK TOWN
REGD. NO-ON-56/2004

Neel Prasad
PCCF-Cum-Chairman
Odisha Biodiversity Board

VERIFICATION

I, Dr. Meeta Biswal, aged about 58 years, W/o- Sri Debidutta Biswal, at present working as the Chairperson, Odisha Biodiversity Board, Regional Plant Resource Centre Campus, Ekamrakanan, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751015, Dist. Khurda, Odisha, do hereby verify that the contents of the above affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge as derived from official records and nothing material has been concealed therefrom. Verified at Cuttack on this the 24th Day of June 2024.

Identified by:


Addl. Govt. Advocate


Verificant *Meeta Biswal.*
PCCF-Cum-Chairman
Odisha Biodiversity Board


AMBIKA PRASAD RAY
NOTARY, CUTTACK TOWN
REGD. NO-ON-56/2004

AFFIDAVIT

I, Dr. Meeta Biswal, aged about 58 years, W/o- Sri Debidutta Biswal, at present working as the Chairperson, Odisha Biodiversity Board, Regional Plant Resource Centre Campus, Ekamrakanan, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751015, Dist. Khurda, Odisha, do hereby solemnly affirm & state as follows: -

1. That I am the Respondent No.06 in the aforesaid Original Application. I am well acquainted with the facts of the case and as such competent to swear this affidavit on my official capacity.
2. That the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge and based on official records.

Identified by:

h

Addl. Govt. Advocate

Meeta Biswal.

Deponent
PCCF-Cum-Chairman
Odisha Biodiversity Board

CERTIFICATE

Certified that due non-availability of cartridge papers, plain legal papers are used.

Cuttack

Date: 24/06/2024

h

ADDL. GOVT. ADVOCATE

The above named deponent being identified by *S.P. Patra* Adv solemnly affirm and states before me that the contents of this *Am* are true to the best of his/her their knowledge and belief.

Dr. M. Biswal
24.06.24
AMBIKA PRASAD RAY
NOTARY, CUTTACK TOWN
Regd. No.-ON-56/2004



PROFORMA FOR DATA COLLECTION

Project Name : Faunal Diversity Assessment of Invertebrates and lower Vertebrates of Deomali Hills of Eastern Ghats, Koraput, Odisha.

Date:	Field No.:
Place: Deomali	Altitude:
Latitude:	Longitude:
Time (start):	Time (end):
Weather Condition:	Temperature:-
Humidity:	pH:
Prevailing conditions in that locality (habitat condition):	
Hill Stream :	
Stream Bed -.	
Water pH-	
Water Temperature-	
Water Flow- Lotic /Lentic	

Species list:

<u>Amphibians</u>		<u>Fishes</u>	
Scientific Name	Common Name	Scientific Name	Common Name
<u>Arthropda</u>			
Scientific Name	Common Name	Scientific Name	Common Name
<u>Insecta</u>		<u>Arachnida</u>	
Annelida			
Mollusca			

Meelā Bhowal

**PCCF-Cum-Chairman
Odisha Biodiversity Board**

Appendix-2 Checklist of Amphibians recorded from Deomali Hills, Koraput, Odisha

Sl. No.	Scientific name	Common name	Elevation of Collection	
Order: Apoda				
Family: Indotyphlidae				
1.	<i>Gegeneophis orientalis</i>		Above 1000m Msl	
Order: Anura				
Family: Dicroglossidae				
2.	<i>Hoplobatrachus tigerinus</i>	Indian Bull Frog		
3.	<i>Euphlictis cyanophlictis</i>	Indian Skipper Frog		
4.	<i>Zakerana syhadrensis</i> (<i>Frejevarya syhadrensis</i>)	Syhadra Cricket Frog		
5.	<i>Zakerana orissaensis</i> (<i>Frejevarya orissaensis</i>)	Dutta's Cricket Frog		
Family: Rhacaphoridae				
6.	<i>Philatus sp.</i>			
Family: Bufonidae				
7.	<i>Duttaphrynus melanostictus</i>	Common Asian Toad	1000m Msl and below	

Meeta Bhowal,

M. Bhowal

PCCF-Cum-Chairman
Odisha Biodiversity Board

Appendix-4 Checklist of Odonates recorded from Deomali Hills, Koraput

Sl. No.	Scientific Name	Common Name	IUCN Status
Suborder: Anisoptera			
Family: Aeshnidae			
1	<i>Anax immaculifrons</i> (Rambur, 1842)	Blue Darner	LC
2	<i>Anax guttatus</i> (Burmister, 1839)	Blue tailed Green Darner	LC
3	<i>Gynacantha bayadera</i> (Selys, 1891)	Parakeet Darner	LC
Family: Libellulidae			
4	<i>Camacinia gigantea</i> (Brauer, 1867)	Giant Forest Skimmer	LC
5	<i>Crocothemis servilia</i> (Drury, 1770)	Ruddy Marsh Skimmer	LC
6	<i>Diplocodes trivialis</i> (Rambur, 1842)	Ground Skimmer	LC
7	<i>Lathrecista asiatica</i> (Fabricius, 1798)	Asiatic Bloodtail	LC
8	<i>Neurothemis fulvia</i> (Drury, 1773)	Fulvous Forest Skimmer	LC
9	<i>Neurothemis intermedia</i> (Rambur, 1842)	Ruddy Meadow Skimmer	LC
10	<i>Orthetrum glaucum</i> (Brauer, 1865)	Blue Marsh Hawk	LC
11	<i>Orthetrum pruinosum</i> (Burmeister, 1839)	Crimson Tailed Marsh hawk	LC
12	<i>Orthetrum taeniolatum</i> (Schneider, 1845)	Taeniolate Marsh Hawk	LC
13	<i>Pantala flavescens</i> (Fabricius, 1798)	Wandering Glider	LC
14	<i>Potamarcha congener</i> (Rambur, 1842)	Yellow Tailed Ashy Skimmer	LC
15	<i>Trithemis festiva</i> (Rambur, 1842)	Black Stream Glider	LC
16	<i>Zygonyx iris</i> (Selys, 1869)	Iridescent Stream Glider	LC
17	<i>Zygonyx torrida</i> (Kirby, 1889)	Torrent Glider	LC
Suborder: Zygoptera			
Family: Calopterygidae			
18	<i>Vestalis gracilis</i> (Rambur, 1842)	Clear Winged Forest Glory	LC
19	<i>Vestalis apicalis</i> (Selys, 1842)	Black tipped Forest Glory	LC
20	<i>Neurobasis chinensis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Stream Glory	LC
Family: Chlorocyphidae			
21	<i>Libellago lineate</i> (Burmeister, 1839)	River Heliodor	NA
22	<i>Rhinocypha bisignata</i> Selys, 1853	Stream Ruby	LC
Family: Coenagrionidae			
23	<i>Aciagrion pallidum</i> Selys, 1891	Pale Slender Dartlet	LC
24	<i>Ischmura aurora</i> Brauer, 1865	Golden Dartlet	LC
Family: Protoneuridae			
25	<i>Caconeura rambury</i> (Fraser, 1922)	Coorg Bambao Tail	NA

39	<i>Melanitis leda</i> (Linnaeus)	Common Evening Brown	
40	<i>Ypthima huebneri</i> Kirby	Common Fourring	
41	<i>Symbrenthia hippoclus</i> (Cramer)	Common Jester	
42	<i>Neptis ananta</i> Moore, 1858	Common Lascar	
43	<i>Phalanta phalantha</i> (Drury)	Common Leopard	
44	<i>Cyrestis thyodamas</i> Boisduval	Common Map	
45	<i>Neptis hylas</i> (Linnaeus)	Common Sailer	
46	<i>Athyma perius</i>	Common Sergeant	
47	<i>Hypolimnys misippus</i> (Linnaeus)	Danid Eggfly	Schedule II
48	<i>Parantica aglea</i> (Stoll)	Glassy Tiger	Schedule II
49	<i>Hypolimnys bolina</i> (Linnaeus)	Great Eggfly	
50	<i>Junonia atlites</i> (Linnaeus)	Grey Pansy	
51	<i>Junonia lemonias</i> Linnaeus	Lemon Pansy	
52	<i>Vanessa cardui</i> (Linnaeus,1758)	Painted Lady	
53	<i>Junonia almana</i> (Linnaeus)	Peacock Pansy	
54	<i>Danaus chrysippus</i> (Linnaeus)	Plain Tiger	
55	<i>Athyma selenophora</i> (Kollar)	Staff Sergeant	
56	<i>Euploea mulciber</i> (Cramer)	Striped Blue Crow	Schedule IV
57	<i>Acraea violae</i> (Fabricius)	Tawny Coster	
58	<i>Junonia hierta</i> (Fabricius)	Yellow Pansy	
Family: Papilionidae			
59	<i>Papilio polymnestor</i> (Cramer,1775)	Blue Mormon	
60	<i>Papilio crino</i> Fabricius	Common Banded Peacock	
61	<i>Trodes helna</i> (Linnaeus)	Common Birdwing	
62	<i>Chilasa clytia</i> (Linnaeus)	Common Mime	Schedule I
63	<i>Papilio polytes</i>	Common Mormon	
64	<i>Atrophaneura aristolochiae</i> (Fabricius)	Common Rose	
65	<i>Papilio demoleus</i> Linnaeus	Lime Butterfly	
66	<i>Graphium agamemnon</i> (Linnaeus)	Tailed Jay	
Family: Pieridae			
67	<i>Eurema sari</i> (Horsfield)	Chocolate Grass Yellow	
68	<i>Catopsilia Pomona</i> (Fabricius, 1775)	Common Emigrant	
69	<i>Eurema hecabe</i> Linnaeus	Common Grass Yellow	
70	<i>Catopsilia pyranthe</i> (Fabricius, 1775)	Mottled Emigrant	
71	<i>Delias hyparete</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Painted Jazebel	
72	<i>Eurema brigitta</i> (Cramer)	Small Grass Yellow	
73	<i>Eurema blanda</i> Boisduval, 1836	Three Spot Grass Yellow	
74	<i>Ixias pyrene</i> (Linnaeus)	Yellow Orange Tip	

Appendix-7 Checklist of Crickets collected from Deomali Hills.

SI No	Scientific Name	Common Name
Family: Gryllidae		
Sub-family: Gryllinae		
1	<i>Gryllus bimaculatus</i> De Geer, 1773	Two-spotted Cricket
2	<i>Grylodes sigillatus</i> (Walker, F., 1869)	Decorated cricket
3	<i>Teleogryllus occipitalis</i> (Serville, 1838)	Ground Cricket

Appendix-8 Checklist of Mantid fauna collected from Deomali Hills.

SI No	Scientific Name	Common Name
Order: Mantodea		
Family: Liturgusidae		
1	<i>Humbertiella ceylonica</i> Saussure , 1869	
2	<i>Humbertiella similis</i> Giglio-Tos, 1917	
Family: Mantidae		
3	Tenodera Genus	Preying Mantis

Appendix-9 Checklist of Aquatic insects collected from Deomali Hills.

SI No	Scientific Name	Common Name
Order: Coleoptera		
Family: Gyrinidae		
1	<i>Dineutus</i> sp.	Whirligig Beetles
Family: Dysticidae		
2	<i>Sandracottus dejeani</i>	
Family: Bellastomidae		
3	<i>Diplonychus</i> species	

Appendix-10 Checklist of Spiders collected from Deomali Hills.

Sl No	Scientific Name	Common Name
Family: Araneidae		
1	<i>Argiope anasuja</i> Thorell, 1887	Giant Cross Spider
2	<i>Cyclosa bifida</i> (Doleschall) 1859	Long-bellied cyclosa spider
Family: Amaurobidae		
3	<i>Amaurobius</i> sp	Hackled mesh web weavers
Family: Corinnidae		
4	<i>Castianeira</i> sp.	Ant-mimicking sac spider
Family: Ctenidae		
5	<i>Ctenus cochinesis</i> Gravely, 1931	
6	<i>Ctenus</i> sp.	
Family: Eresidae		
7	<i>Stegidyphus sarasinorum</i> Karsch, 1892	Indian Cooperative Spider
Family: Lycosidae		
8	<i>Geolycos</i> sp.	
9	<i>Hippasa greenalliae</i> (Blackwall, 1867)	Grass Funnel web spider
10	<i>Hogna lenta</i> (Hentz, 1844)	Wolf Spider
11	<i>Pardosa biramnica</i> Simon 1884	Dark wolf spider
12	<i>Pardosa pseudoanulata</i> (Bösenberg & Strand, 1906)	Wolf Spider
Family: Nephilidae		
13	<i>Nephila pilipes</i> (Fabricious, 1793)	Giant wood spider
Family: Pisauridae		
14	<i>Dolomedes</i> species1	Fishing Spider
15	<i>Dolomedes</i> species2	Fishing Spider
Family: Heteropodidae		
16	<i>Heteropoda venatoria</i> (Linneaus, 1767)	Giant Huntsman Spider
17	<i>Heteropoda</i> species	Giant Huntsman Spider
Family: Tetragnathidae		
18	<i>Tetragnatha mandibulata</i> Walckenaer, 1842	Dark Tetragnathid spider