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BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA

MISCELLANEOUS APPLICATION NO. 03/2024/EZ

IN

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 06/2021/EZ

SUBHAS DATTA

.....APPLICANT

VERSUS

STATE OF WEST BENGAL & ORS.

.....RESPONDENTS

STATUS REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FILED BY THE WEST BENGAL
POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

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Filed by

Advocate

SL. NO. 14 Dt.- 26 JUN 2024

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POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

Most Respectfully Sheweth

I, Sri Subrata Ghosh, son of Shri Biswanath Ghosh, aged about 60 years, by
faith-Hindu, Occupation- Service, residing at Narkelbagan, Gorosthan,

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Chinsurah, District – Hooghly, do hereby solemnly declare and say as follows:-



01. That, I am the Officer on Special Duty (OSD), West Bengal Pollution Control Board (hereinafter will be referred to as the 'State Board') and I am well acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case. I have been duly authorized by the State Board, to affirm this Affidavit on its behalf and as such, I am competent to do so.

02. That, this affidavit is being affirmed in pursuance of the solemn Order passed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Eastern Bench dated 24.01.2024 wherein the State Board was directed to file the compliance status report of the Committee constituted by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal.

03. That vide order dated 07.02.2023 passed in Original Application No. 06/2021/EZ, the Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to constitute a nine-member Committee headed by the Chief Secretary, West Bengal with

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Regional officer, MoEF&CC Integrated Regional Office at Kolkata;
Chairman State PCB; Member Secretary, State Coastal Zone
Management Authority and District Magistrates of Purba Medinipur,
North 24 Parganas, South 24 Parganas ; Director, Sundarban Tiger
Reserve and the State Wetland Authority with State Pollution Control
Board as the Nodal agency.



04. In compliance with the aforesaid order, a nine member Committee was notified vide Memo No.372/EN/3C-09/2021 dated 22.02.2023.

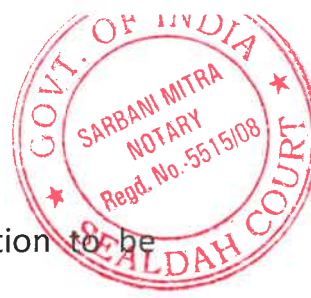
05. The Committee held its first meeting on 24.03.2023 at Nabanna under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Government of West Bengal to review the continuous and irreversible damage caused to environment, wildlife and biodiversity at Sunderbans.

06. That, the following decisions were taken at the said meeting:

(a) CRZ (Coastal Regulation Zone) map of Purba Medinipur has been prepared and approved. Public Hearing conducted for preparation of CRZ Map for North 24 Parganas. CRZ Map for South 24 Parganas is

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under process. Finalization of CRZ map as per notification to be completed in war footing manner. (Action to be taken by West Bengal State Coastal Zone Management Authority).

- (b) With regard to implementation of Solid Waste Management facilities in rural areas, the District Magistrates will take funds from “Swacchha Bhart Mission”. In this regard, directives of Hon’ble National Green Tribunal have to be followed. (Action to be taken by District Magistrates).
- (c) The eco-tourism facility to be developed at Gobordhanpur and other places not only to promote tourism but also to provide livelihood to local people. (Action to be taken by District Magistrates, South 24 Parganas).
- (d) Before giving clearance to any construction, local authority must ensure CRZ clearance. (Action to be taken by West Bengal State Coastal Zone Management Authority, District Magistrates).
- (e) Plantation of Mangrove belt and prevention of the same are to be carefully maintained. (Action to be taken by Forest Department, District Magistrate).
- (f) Steps to be taken against illegal brick field. (Action to be taken by District Magistrate).

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(g) Pontoon bridge may be erected between Godkhali and Gosaba.

(Action to be taken by Transport Department, Sunderban Development Board, District Magistrate).

(h) The comprehensive plan with regard to Irrigation and Waterways, Rainwater Harvesting, Maintenance of bandh, scope of fisheries and tourism, to be made along with Department of Irrigation and Waterways (Action to be taken by PWD, District Magistrate, Departments along with Irrigation and Waterways Department).

(i) No part of District Purba Medinipur falls within Sunderban forest region, the District Magistrate, Purba Medinipur may be exempted from appearing any further.

Copy of the Minutes of the meeting dated 24.03.2023 is annexed and marked as **Annexure R**.

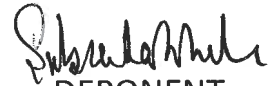
07. That the minutes of the meeting has been uploaded at the website of West Bengal Pollution Control Board.

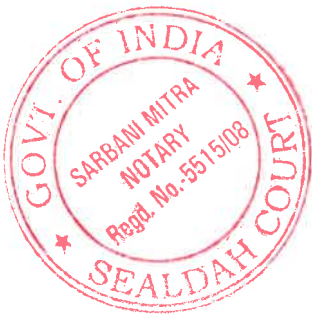
08. Special plantation drives have been undertaken in the District of North and South 24 Parganas and for maintenance of these plantation DPR has been submitted to NMDA of about Rs 49.9 crore which is presently under

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consideration.

09.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.


DEPONENT



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VERIFICATION

I, Sri Subrata Ghosh, son of Shri Biswanath Ghosh, aged about 60 years, by Religion - Hindu, by Occupation- Service, residing at Narkelbagan, Gorosthan, Chinsurah, District-Hooghly, do hereby solemnly declare and say as follows:-

1. That, I am the Officer on Special Duty (OSD), 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.



Dipankar Ghosh
Identified and corrected by me
Advocate
WBPCB

Shorendra Kumar
DEPONENT

Solemnly Affirmed &
Declared Before Me
On Identification By
[Signature]
SARBANI MITRA
NOTARY
Regd. No. 5515/08

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Minutes of meeting on the issues relating to directions of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal dated 07.02.2023 passed in connection with O.A.NO. 06/2021/EZ held on 24.03.2023 at 4.00 p.m. in the Chief Secretary's Conference Hall on 13th Floor of "Nabanna", 325, Sarat Chatterjee Road, Howrah.

The meeting was attended by,

- 1) Shri Harikrishna Dwivedi, IAS, Chief Secretary, Govt. of West Bengal
- 2) Smt. Roshni Sen, IAS, Principal Secretary, Environment Department
- 3) Dr. Kalyan Rudra, Chairman, West Bengal Pollution Control Board
- 4) Smt Neelam Meena, IAS, WBSCZMA
- 5) Shri Sumit Gupta, IAS District Magistrate, South 24 Parganas
- 6) Smt Antara Acharya, IAS, Secretary, PWD
- 7) Shri Shara Kr Dwivedi, IAS District Magistrate, North 24 Parganas
- 8) Smt Tripti Shah, IFS, Member Secretary, WBSCZMA
- 9) Dr SHK Murti, IFS, IRO, MOEF & CC, Kolkata
- 10) Ahri Ajoy Kumar Das, IFS, Field Director, Sundarban Tiger Reserve
- 11) Samir Kr Jana, Chairman Sundarban Development Board
- 12) Srimanta Kumar Mali, Chairman, Ganga Sagar- Bakkhali Development Authority
- 13) Shri Purnendu Kumar Maji, WBCS(Exe.) District Magistrate, Purba Medinipore (virtually attended).



The meeting was chaired by the Hon'ble Chief Secretary, Govt. of West Bengal.

At the outset Dr. Kalyan Rudra, Chairman, WBPCB and the Convener of the Committee briefed the members about the directions of the National Green Tribunal passed in connection with O.A. NO. 06/2021/EZ and also in other Original Applications. Thereafter he presented all a compilation of directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal passed in different cases and also appraised the Committee regarding the present compliance status of the directions. He summarised the basic issues of the directions of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal which are as follows:-

- i) Illegal constructions,
- ii) Unscientific waste management,
- iii) Delay in finalizing Coastal Zone Management Plan ('CZMP' for short) and
- iv) Operation of sea vessels.



After thorough discussions and hearing the submissions from the Chairman, Sundarban Development Board as well as Chairman of Gangasagar Bakkhali Development Authority, it has been decided that,

- 1) CRZ map of Purba Medinipur has been prepared and approved. Public Hearing conducted for preparation of CRZ Map for North 24 Parganas. CRZ Map for South 24 Parganas is under process. Finalization of CRZ map as per notification to be completed in war footing manner (Action - WBSCZMA).
- 2) With regard to implementation of Solid Waste Management facilities in rural areas, the DMs will take funds from "Sacchha Bharat Mission". In this regard, directives of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal have to be followed. (Action - District Magistrates).
- 3) The eco-tourism facility to be developed at Gobordhanpur and other places not only to promote tourism but also to provide livelihood to the local people. Action - District Magistrates, South 24 Parganas).
- 4) Before giving clearance to any construction local authority must ensure CRZ clearance. (Action - WBSCZMA, District Magistrate).
- 5) Plantation of Mangrove belt and prevention of the same are to be carefully maintained. (Action - Forest Department, District Magistrate),
- 6) Steps to be taken against illegal brick field. (Action - District Magistrate).
- 7) Pontoon bridge may be erected between Godkhali and Gosaba. (Action - Transport Department, Sundarban Development Board, District Magistrate)
- 8) The comprehensive plan with regard to Irrigation and Waterways, Rainwater Harvesting, Maintenance of bandh, scope of fisheries and tourism, to be made along with Department of Irrigation and Waterways (Action :- PWD, District Magistrate, Departments along with Irrigation and Waterways Department).
- 9) No part of District Purba Medinipur falls within Sundarban forest region, the District Magistrate, Purba Medinipur may be exempted from appearing any further.

There being no other issues to discuss, the meeting ended with vote of thanks to and from the Chair.


Chief Secretary,

Government of West Bengal



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