

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA
IN**

**Original Application. No. 133 of 2024 (EZ)
(Earlier OA No. 511 of 2024 (PB))**

IN THE MATTER OF:

News Item titled "No crops, no brides: how rising seas are killing India's coastal villages" appearing in The Guardian dated 11.03.2024

...**APPLICANT(S)**

Vs

National Coastal Management Authority & Others.

...**RESPONDENT(S)**

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Dated: 30/08/2024
Place: Kolkata

Mrinal Kanti Biswas
Mrinal Kanti Biswas
Scientist E & Regional Director
CPCB, Kolkata

Filed Through

Ankur Prasad
Counsel
9883069406

30 AUG 2024

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**REPLY ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENT No. 02 : CENTRAL POLLUTION
CONTROL BOARD (CPCB)**

1. That, Hon'ble NGT vide order 15.07.2024 has sought the reply of CPCB in the instant matter. Thereby, the reply is made in succeeding paragraphs.
2. That, CPCB is a statutory Board constituted under Section 3 of The Water (Prevention and control) Act, 1974. It performs the functions under The Water (Prevention and control) Act, 1974, The Air (Prevention and control) Act, 1981 and The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.



That, in reply to the averment made in this Original Application registered suo-motuo on the basis of news article - "No crops, no brides: how rising seas are killing India's coastal village", dated 11.03.2024 in The Guardian, regarding the rise in soil and water salinity after super-cyclone, the subsequent loss of agricultural land in Udaykani and other nearby villages due to the rise in sea levels, and the risk of cyclones faced by Indian coastlines. It is submitted that the information on the extent of impact of super cyclone on the water and soil in the area mentioned in the news article may be available with the concerned state organizations such as Agriculture Department and Revenue Department and no specific information in this regard is available with this answering respondent. It is further submitted that a specific case of a super cyclone resulting in the sea water affecting the waters and soil of the particular coastal area has been sited in the news item but this phenomenon/problem may be associated with coastal areas in general, and such cases may be increasing due to global warming and climate changes.

30 AUG 2024

4. That, it is respectfully submitted that this Answering respondent i.e. CPCB, shall abide by any order(s) or direction(s) passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal in the instant OA.



Mrinal Kanti Biswas

Scientist E & Regional Director
CPCB, Kolkata



30 AUG 2024

SL. NO. 28.

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BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
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AFFIDAVIT

I, Mrinal Kanti Biswas, son of Shri Saroj Kumar Biswas, aged about 42 years, having office at the Regional Directorate, Central Pollution Control Board, Southend Conclave' Block No.502, 5th & 6th Floor, 1582, Rajdanga Main Road, Kolkata-700107, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows: -

1. That the deponent is authorized representative to represent the Respondent CPCB in the present case, and as such, I am well conversant with the facts and circumstances of the present case on the basis of the information derived from the official records, and hence, I am competent and authorized to verify, sign and swear this affidavit on behalf of the Respondent CPCB.
2. That the accompanying reply may be read part and parcel of the present affidavit as I am competent to swear this affidavit.
3. That the accompanying reply has been drafted and filed under my instructions and authority the contents thereof are true and correct on the basis of the record maintained during ordinary course of business of CPCB and available records and documents and the contents of the same are read over and explained to me and are not repeated herein for the sake of brevity.

Identified by me

Ashok Prasad
Advocate

Ashok Prasad

DEPONENT

VERIFICATION

Verified at Kolkata on this day of 30th August, 2024 that the contents of the above reply are correct and true on the basis of the record of the cases as mentioned in the day to day affairs of the CPCB. Nothing has been concealed therefrom or mis-stated.

Verified at Kolkata on this the 30th Day of August -2024.

Solemnly Affirmed & Declared
Before me on Identification

Ashok Prasad

DEPONENT

Identified by me

Ashok Prasad
Advocate

K. P. Mazumder
K. P. MAZUMDER, NOTARY
City Civil Court, Calcutta
Reg. No. 7911/2010 Govt. of India

30 AUG 2024

