

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 168 OF 2024 / EZ
(Earlier OA No.825/2024/PB)

IN THE MATTER OF :

News item titled "Odisha Erection
Of sand walls in Subarnarekha
Worries villagers in Jaleswar"
Appearing in The New Indian
Express dated 16.05.2024

...Applicant

VERSUS

Central Pollution Control Board
& Others

...Respondents

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2.	Photocopy of the report dated.08.02.2025 (ANNEXURE – R2/1)	

By the Respondent No.2

Through

Kolkata
Date:

Sri Dipanjan Ghosh,
Advocates for the Respondent No.4
(State Pollution Control Board, Odisha)
e-mail: dpnjnghsh0@gmail.com
Phone No.:990308097

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA
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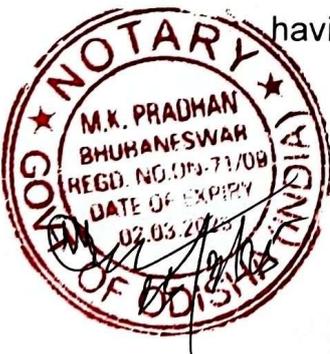
...Respondents

25 MAR 2025



AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF THE STATE
POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, ODISHA, R.NO.2
IN COMPLIANCE TO ORDER DTD.11.02.2025.

I, Dr. Kailasam Murugesan, IFS, son of late
Paramasivam Kailasam aged around 56 years, at present
working as Member Secretary, State Pollution Control Board,
having my office at Paribesh Bhawan, A/118, Nilakantha Nagar,



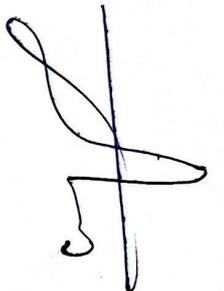
MANJULA KUMAR PRADHAN
NOTARY PUBLIC
BHUBANESWAR
REGD NO ON-71/2009
PH -9437627119 (M)



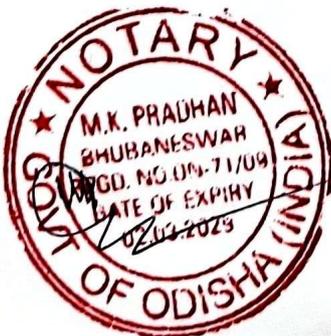
Unit-VIII, P.O. Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar, Dist – Khurda, Odisha-751012, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under:

1. That I am the Member Secretary of the Respondent No.2 Board and, as such, am well-acquainted with the facts and circumstances with the case and competent to swear this affidavit.
2. That this Hon'ble Tribunal in their order dated 11.02.2025 has been pleased to permit the R-2 Board for filing affidavit in this case. The relevant para-4 of the said order is given below:

4. Mr. Dipanjan Ghosh, learned Counsel appearing on behalf of the Respondent No.10, State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), West Bengal, prays for and is granted four weeks time for filing counter-affidavit. Learned Counsel also appearing for the Respondent No.2, Odisha State Pollution Control Board (OSPCB), states that inspection has been carried out and the report is under preparation and will be filed on affidavit within four weeks.



3. That in the meantime, the R-2 Board through Er. Anil Kumar Barik, Dy.Env.Engineer, Regional Office, Balasore has carried out inspection on 08.02.2025 with regard to the issue raised in the news item and report has been submitted. Copy of the report dtd.08.02.2025 is annexed to this affidavit and marked as ANNEXURE – R2/1.
4. That this affidavit is filed in order to bring on record the inspection report of the R-2 Board in compliance to the order dtd.11.02.2025 of the Hon'ble Tribunal.
5. That the Respondent No. 2 Board craves leave of this Hon'ble Tribunal to file further affidavit if required for proper adjudication of this case.
6. That the Annexure annexed to the present affidavit is true and correct copy of its original.
7. That the contents of the above paragraphs are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, as derived from the official records, and that nothing material has been concealed therefrom.




DEPONENT
Member Secretary
State Pollution Control Board
Odisha, Bhubaneswar

MANJULA KUMAR PRADHAN
 NOTARY PUBLIC
 BHUBANESWAR
 REGD NO ON-71/2009
 PH -9437627119 (M)

VERIFICATION:

I, the above named deponent, 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 that nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

Verified at Bhubaneswar on this the 25th day of March,
 2025.



SWORN BEFORE ME

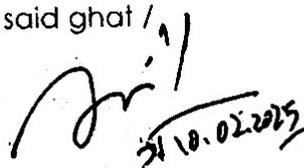
[Signature]
DEPONENT
 Member Secretary
 State Pollution Control Board
 Odisha, Bhubaneswar

MANJULA KUMAR PRADHAN
 NOTARY PUBLIC
 BHUBANESWAR
 REGD NO ON-71/2009
 PH -9437627119 (M)

INVESTIGATION REPORT ON "ODISHA ERECTION OF SAND WALLS IN SUBARNAREKHA WORRIES VILLAGERS IN JALESWAR APPEARING IN THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS DATED 16.05.2024 IN CONNECTION WITH O.A.NO. 825/2024 OF HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

In connection with aforesaid matter of Sand mining over Subarnarekha River located at Sadar Ghat of Olmara village under the Tahsil Jaleswar in the district of Balasore an inspection was conducted by the undersigned on dt.08.02.2025 with regard to aforesaid issues raised in the said News item. This O.A. is registered Suo-motu by the Hon'ble NGT based on the news item. Followings were observed during the inspection.

1. During the inspection it was observed that mechanized method of mining was going on by engaging Excavators, Dumper and Heavy Transport vehicles at Sadar Ghat of Olmara village of Jaleswar Tahasil in the district of Balasore at the West Bengal side.
2. About 300 nos. of sand dunes in the said Ghat in West Bengal side were observed during the inspection. The sand mafias have constructed a check gate to restrict entry of public to the said sand mining area in West Bengal side as reported by the local people of Olmara village who were bathing in the said river and as observed during inspection. The persons (having bath during inspection & reluctant to disclosed their identity) aware of the illegal activities reported that the sand mafias are forcibly entering Odisha sand bed side and illegally lifting sand by constructing sand walls.
3. It was observed that flow path of the said river is obstructed by sand wall constructed in the said sand mining area as well as a Kutcha Road has been constructed from Olmara Sadar Ghat in the side of Odisha to West Bengal side which passes middle of the said river. Heavy and Light vehicles were also found passing through this road from Olmara village, Odisha to opposite site located in West Bengal.
4. It was found that some portion of the embankment of the said river at Sadar Ghat of Olmara village is eroded due to the scouring effect of the said river because of illegal and unscientific sand mining from the said sand bed as reported by the local people of Olmara village bathing in the said river ghat during inspection .
5. About 50 nos. of heavy vehicles were found parked at the sides of the aforementioned gate area at West Bengal side for transportation of sand from aforesaid sand bed being mined out illegally.
6. Further, there was less quantity of water flowing in the said river at that said ghat / sand bed during inspection.


21.02.2025
Er. Anil Ku. Barik
Dy. Env. Engineer