

## BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

(EASTERN ZONE; KOLKATA BENCH)

Original Application No. 235 of 2024

Ankur Sharma

..Applicant

Versus

State of West Bengal &amp; Ors

... Respondents

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Filed by

*Amrita Pandey*

Amrita Pandey Advocate for HMC

Date: 29.4.2025



29 APR 2025

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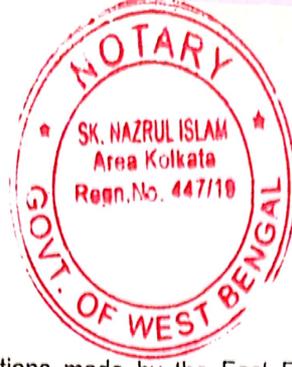
... Respondents

COMPLIANCE AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF HOWRAH MUNICIPAL CORPORATION being Respondent no. 6 herein;

I, Bandana Pokhriyal, daughter of Sri Chandra Shashi Pokhriyal, aged about 35 years, working for gain at Howrah Municipal Corporation, 4, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Howrah – 711 101 and presently holding the position of Commissioner, Howrah Municipal Corporation (HMC), do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows:

1. That I am the Commissioner of the respondent no. 6 being the Howrah Municipal Corporation (HMC). I am duly authorized by the Howrah Municipal Corporation (HMC) to depose this affidavit on its behalf in the matter and am fully conversant with the facts of the case.
2. This affidavit is filed in compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) in OA No. 235/2024/EZ, regarding the

*Bandana Pokhriyal*  
Commissioner  
Howrah Municipal Corporation



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implementation of recommendations made by the Fact Finding Committee appointed by the Hon'ble NGT concerning electric crematoriums and wooden pyres at Shibpur, Salkia, and Banstala Burning Ghats under HMC's jurisdiction.

3. That HMC has submitted a detailed Action Taken Report (ATR) dated April 19, 2025, to the Urban Development & Municipal Affairs Department, Government of West Bengal, in response to the Hon'ble NGT's recommendations. **A copy of the ATR is annexed hereto as Annexure-A.**

4. That the following actions have been initiated/contemplated as per the ATR:

A. Air Pollution Control Systems :

I. Shibpur Burning Ghat: Tendering process is underway for installation of Air Pollution Control (APC) devices (fume hood, scrubber, induced draft fan, and 15-meter stack) as per CPCB guidelines.

II. Salkia Burning Ghat: Procurement process for APC devices is planned for the current financial year, subject to fund allocation.

B. Interim Waste Storage:- Designated areas for interim storage of solid waste at Banstala Burning Ghat are under construction and will be completed shortly within the time period of 60 days.

C. Separate Waste Collection:- The Conservancy Department is examining the feasibility of maintaining separate waste collection facilities for crematoria waste to prevent mixing with municipal waste.

*Bandana Poshriyal*  
Commissioner  
Howrah Municipal Corporation

✓





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5. That two burning ghats (Pathak Ghat and Mora Pora Ghat) previously under HMC now fall under the jurisdiction of the re-formed Bally Municipality post-demerger (Gazette Notification, November 2021). HMC has no jurisdictional authority over these ghats.

6. That HMC undertakes to complete the pending actions (e.g., tender finalization, fund allocation, and construction) within a reasonable timeframe and will submit periodic progress reports to the Hon'ble NGT.

7. That the tentative time line as per the respondent is as follows:

A. Tender : 120 days

B. Allotment of funds for Air Pollution Control devices for Salkia Burning Ghat will be done during the financial year 2025-2026.

8. It is respectfully prayed that this affidavit be taken on record and the compliance actions of HMC be acknowledged by the Hon'ble Tribunal.

9. That the respondent is all along ready and willing to comply with such other directions passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal and seeks liberty to file further affidavit to bring on record the subsequent events before this Hon'ble Court.

10. That the statements made in paragraph nos. 1 to 2 are true to the best of my knowledge and belief, and the statements made in paragraph nos. 3 to 8 are information derived from record and no part of it is false or concealed and the rest thereof are my humble submission before this Hon'ble Tribunal.

Bandana Pathriyal  
DEPONENT

Commissioner  
Howrah Municipal Corporation

PLACE: Howrah

DATE:

Solemnly Affirmed and  
Declared before me U/S 139  
CPC, U/S 297 (C) CRPC

Notary  
SK. Nazrul Islam  
Notary, Govt. of W.B.  
Regn. No. 447/19  
City Civil Court, Kolkata

12 9 APR 2025

Identified by me  
Anurita Pandey  
Asstt



Verification

I, the deponent above-named, do hereby verify that the contents of this affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and no part of it is false or misleading.

Place: Howrah

Date: 29.4.2025

*Bandana Poudyal*

✓  
Deponent:  
**Commissioner**  
Howrah Municipal Corporation



*Identified by me  
Anita Rande  
Hate*



# HOWRAH MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

4, MAHATMA GANDHI ROAD, HOWRAH - 711 101  
Tel: (+91-33) 2638-3211-13, 2641-5218; Fax: (+91-33) 2641-5218/2214

Dated : April 19, 2025.

No. 04 /Gen (S.C. Cell)/Commr./2025-26

To,  
The Sr. Special Secretary,  
Urban Development & Municipal Affairs Dept,  
Govt. of West Bengal,  
"NAGARAYAN", DF - 8, Sector - I, Salt Lake City,  
Kolkata - 700064.

**Sub : OA 235/2024/EZ - Ankur Sharma vs State of West Bengal & Ors. - Submission of Action Taken Report - Reg.**

Madam,

This has reference to your letter communicated vide Memo No. 24/UDMA-15011(15)/1/2025-LS MA SEC - Dept. of UDMA, dated 12.03.2025 on the captioned subject.

As desired, enclosed please find herewith the Action Taken Report in connection with the recommendations made in their submitted report by the Fact Finding Committee appointed by the Hon'ble NGT in the instant OA in respect of of Electric Crematoriums and Wooden Pyres installed at 3 (three) nos. Burning Ghats of the HMC, viz, Shibpur, Salkia & Banstala for kind perusal and further required action please. Further, as already pointed out in our earlier reference dated 24.03.2025 that following de-merger of the erstwhile Bally Municipal area from the HMC with subsequent re-formation of the Bally Municipality in November, 2021 by issuance of Gazette Notification by the UD&MA Dept., Govt. of West Bengal, two nos. of Burning Ghats viz, Pathak Ghat located at 1, Pathak Ghat Lane, Bally, Howrah - 711201 and Mora Pora Ghat at 5/31/1, Asutosh Mukherjee Road, Howrah - 711201 now fall beyond the territorial jurisdiction of HMC, though, as per para 5 of the original MOA ibid, they were shown under this Corporation.

Thanking you,



Yours faithfully

  
Commissioner

Howrah Municipal Corporation

Encls : As stated above  
Dated : April 19, 2025.

Endt. No. 04 /1/(7) /Gen (S.C. Cell)/Commr./2025-26

Copy forwarded for information together with a copy of the ATR to:

1. The Member Secretary, WBPCB, Paribesh Bhavan, Building 10A, Block LA, Sector III, Bidhannagar, Kolkata - 700106;
2. The District Magistrate, Howrah;
3. The Director, SUDA;
4. The Secretary, HMC;
5. The OSD & E.O. E.E. (Crematorium), HMC ;
6. The OSD (Law), HMC - with request to keep the Ld Counsel of the HMC apprised for preparation of the Affidavit-in-opposition in the instant OA plz;
7. Dept. Guard File.

Commissioner  
Howrah Municipal Corporation





# HOWRAH MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

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4, MAHATMA GANDHI ROAD, HOWRAH - 711 101  
Tel: (+91-33) 2638-3211-13, 2641-5218; Fax: (+91-33) 2641-5218/2214

Action Taken Report in connection with OA 235/2024/EZ, Ankur Sharma vs. The State of West Bengal & Ors.

Sl. No.	Findings / Recommendations of the Hon'ble NGT appointed Fact Finding Committee	Action initiated / contemplated
01.	Adequate Air Pollution Control Systems like fume collection hood, scrubber, Induced Draft Fan & stack of minimum height of 15 mtr. from the Ground Level may be installed for all the wooden pyres in all crematoria which have not installed any control system to comply with stipulated emission norms	(i) Tendering Process is under-way for installation of APC Devices as per approved CPCB guidelines for Shibpar Burning Ghat (ii) Procurement process is planned during the current financial year for installation of the same at Salkia Burning Ghat, if required fund is allotted.
02.	Concerned Municipal Authority should earmark designated areas for interim storage of solid wastes generated from the activities of the crematorium before final disposal, wherever they are found to be lacking such infrastructure.	Creation of Designated Area for interim storage of municipal solid waste at Banstala Burning Ghat is to be done shortly.
03.	Separate Waste Collection Facilities should be maintained for the solid waste generated from the crematoria to prevent mixing with ordinary municipal waste.	Under examination by the Conservancy Dept for feasibility.

*[Signature]*  
11/4/25  
A. A. (Elec.)  
Howrah Municipal Corporation

*[Signature]*  
11/4/25  
Sub-Assistant Engineer.  
Howrah Municipal Corporation

*[Signature]*  
11.4.2025  
Executive Engineer  
Howrah Municipal Corporation

