

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
EASTERN ZONE BENCH: KOLKATA
Original Application No. 205 /2025/EZ**

(Under Section 14 R/W Section 18 (1) & (2) Of The National Green Tribunal
Act, 2010)

In the matter of :

Dillip Kumar Samantaray ...Applicant
-Vrs.-
State of Odisha and Ors. ...Respondents

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CUTTACK

By the Applicant through Counsel

DATE:- 04.11.2025

Akhand

Akhand, Advocate

B.C.E. No.O-269/2023 . Ph:7008816891

Plot No. 6F-1030, CDA, Sector-9,

Cuttack, Odisha – 753014

email : akhand111@gmail.com

SYNOPSIS

That the applicant is filing this O.A. for necessary orders from the Hon'ble Tribunal for demolition of unauthorized and illegal construction of concrete crematorium by Block Development Officer(BDO), Gop and Bantaligarm Panchayt Office after cutting of trees over a forest land on Khata No. 84, Plot No. 10, Kissam- Gramya Jungle (Forest Land), Mouza-Talakapa, Tahasil-Gop, District-Puri, in violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and environmental laws. The said construction was executed by the Bantaligram Gram Panchayat in the year 2022, utilizing Government funds. Though there already exists a land recorded as "Smasan Kissam" (cremation ground) in the same village, i.e., Khata No. 83, Plot No. 152, Area – Ac. 0.20 decimals, which has been traditionally and continuously used by the villagers for cremation purposes since time immemorial, the crematorium was made on forest land. The applicant prays to the Hon'ble tribunal to order for removal of existing crematorium over the land along with imposition of Environment Compensation against the violators, Hence the application.

LIST OF DATES

2022 : Crematorium has been built over the forest land violating Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

08.04.22 : Revenue Inspector after inquiry submitted a report to the Tahasildar, Gop that the said land is of kissam Gramya Jungle and burial house has been constructed over it illegally.

28.10.2025 : Applicant has sent a representation to Public authorities expressing concern on illegal occupation and construction over the said land with prayer to removal of the same.

04.11.2025 : The O.A. is filed.

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

Original Application No. 2025/EZ

(Under Section 14 R/W Section 18 (1) & (2) Of The National Green Tribunal
Act, 2010)

In the matter of :

Dillip Kumar Samantaray	...Applicant
-Vrs.-	
State of Odisha and Ors.	...Respondents

MEMO OF PARTIES

1. Sri Dillip Kumar Samantaray, aged about 36 years, S/o Lingaraj Samantaray, at present residing at C/o Parsuram Maharana, Plot No. 3839/8, Malaya Vihar, G.G.P. Colony, Rasulgarh, Bhubaneswar, Odisha
PIN - 751010, email : dillipsamantary476@gmail.com

... Applicant

-Versus-

1. State of Odisha represented by Chief Secretary, Government of Odisha, Lokseva Bhawan, Bhubaneswar, Odisha PIN- 751001, email:csori@nic.in

2. Principal Secretary, Department of Revenue and Disaster Management, Government of Odisha, Secretariat Building, Bhubaneswar -751001, revsec.od@nic.in

3. Collector & District Magistrate, Collectorate, Puri, PIN -752001, Odisha, email : dm-puri@nic.in

4. Tahasildar, Gop, At/Po- Gop, Dist-Puri, Odisha, PIN -752110
email :tah.gop-od@nic.in

5. Block Development Officer(BDO), Gop, At/Po- Gop, Dist-Puri, Odisha, PIN -752110 email :ori.gop@nic.in

6. Divisonal Forest Officer, Puri Wildlife Division, Puri, Chakratirtha Road, Puri-752002, email :_dfo.puriwl@odisha.gov.in

7. Member Secretary, State Pollution Control Board, A-118, Unit – VII, Nilakantha Nagar, Bhubaneswar, Odisha Pin- 751012, email : member.secy@ospcboard.org

8. Member Secretary, State Environment Impact Assessment Authority(SEIAA), Odisha, At – 5RF-2/1, Acharya Vihar, Unit – 9, PIN – 751002 email : seiaaorissa@gmail.com

9. Bantaligram Gram Panchayat, represented through its Panchayat Executive Officer(PEO), Village/Po. - Bantaligram, P.S. - Gop, Dist – Puri, Odisha- 752002. , email :bantaligramgp@gmail.com

CUTTACK

By the Applicant through Counsel

DATE:- 04.11.2025



Akhand, Advocate

B.C.E. No.O-269/2023 . Ph:7008816891
email : akhand111@gmail.com

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

Original Application No. 2025/EZ

(Under Section 14 R/W Section 18 (1) & (2) Of The National Green Tribunal
Act, 2010)

In the matter of :

Dillip Kumar Samantaray	...Applicant
	-Vrs.-
State of Odisha and Ors.	...Respondents

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHWEATH :

1. The address of the Counsel of the applicant is as given above, for the service of notices of this application and the addresses of the respondents are as given above for service of notices of the applicant.
2. That the present application is being filed under section 14 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 ('NGT Act, 2010' for short) by the applicant, being interested in the protection of the environment and ecology.
3. That this Hon'ble Tribunal has the jurisdiction to hear the present original application as the present application and the relief sought herein involves a substantial question relating to environment and that such question arises out of the implementation of the enactments specified in 'Schedule I' of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.
4. That the applicant is a practicing advocate and environment activist presently residing at Bhubaneswar and have filed many cases before this Hon'ble Tribunal for protection of environment and ecology.
5. That a concrete crematory platform/building has been constructed over Government land recorded as "Gramyajungle (village forest)" under Khata No. 84, Plot No. 10, Area Ac. 0.50 decimals, in Mouza – Talakapa, Tahasil – Gop, District – Puri, Odisha. The said construction was executed by the Block Development Officer and Bantaligram Gram Panchayat in the year

2022, utilizing Government funds. Before construction of burial building, they have cleared the land by falling the trees there for their convenience. The burning of firewood during cremation released harmful gases which degraded air quality and creates air pollution. Further, Cremation fires in forest area poses a high risk of accidental forest fires, especially during dry months. Burning embers or residual heat can ignite nearby vegetation, leading to uncontrolled forest damage. The photographs taken by the applicant clearly demonstrate that the burial house is constructed in side the Jungle area.

The Copies of RoR of the Khata No. 84, Plot No. 10, Kissam-Gramya Jungel(Village forest) in Mouza–Talakapa and the Photographs of constructed crematorium are annexed as Annexure – 1 Series

6. That an inquiry was conducted in April 2022 by the Revenue Inspector(R.I) of Mahapur over allegation of some villagers regarding the construction of burial house over the said forest land. The R.I. Mahapur submitted its report to the Tahasildar, Gop stating that the said land stands recorded as kissam Forest Land(Gramya Jungle). R.I. in its report dated 08.04.2022 further reveals that from field verification it found that there is construction of burial house over the said plot without obtaining prior permission from the competent authority.

The copies of the RTI replies obtained from DFO, Khurdha and PIO, Jhadapada GP are annexed as Annexure – 2.

7. That the Kisam of the said land is Gramya Jungel(Village Forest). Since the land schedule is of forest category and any kind of non-forest activities requires prior approval of Central Government under Section 2 of Forest Conservation Act 1980. However in the present instance no such approval has been obtained for the construction of burial building and clearance of land and trees.

That In T.N. GodavarmanThirumulkpad v. Union of India WP(C) 202 of 1995 and order dated 12/12/1996, the Supreme Court examined the National

Forest Policy and issued certain directions in the light of the provisions of the Central Act. Direction 1 is important and reads as under:

“In view of the meaning of the word "forest" in the Act, it is obvious that prior approval of the Central Government is required for any non-forest activity within the area of any "forest". In accordance with Section 2 of the Act, all on-going activity within any forest in any State throughout the country, without the prior approval of the Central Government, must cease forthwith.

8. That the applicant on various occasions discussed with the authorities and they assured to take steps for removal the illegal structure on the said land. But no action was taken. Therefore, the applicant sent a representation to all the Government Respondents on 28.10.2025 expressing concern on illegal occupation and construction over the said land with prayer to initiate action against the violators and removal of the unauthorized structure over the said land. But no action has been taken as on date. The local media also cover the issue highlighting the environmental issue.

Copies of the representation dated 28.10.2025 and News clipping published in Orissa Today, Bhubaneswar 28.10.2025 edition are annexed as Annexure – 3 Series.

9. That there already exists a land recorded as “Smasan Kissam” (cremation ground) in the same village, i.e., Khata No. 83, Plot No. 152, Area – Ac. 0.20 decimals, which has been traditionally and continuously used by the villagers for cremation purposes since time immemorial. However, instead of utilizing and developing the said Smasan land for community benefit, the Panchayat authorities have illegally constructed a concrete funeral platform/building on forest land, which is a clear violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The Copy of RoR of the Khata No. 83, Plot No. 152, Area – Ac. 0.20 decimals, Kissam - Smanan in Mouza–Talakapa. is annexed as Annexure – 4.

10. That this Hon'ble Tribunal in addition to the Hon'ble Apex Court has time and again shown great enthusiasm in preserving the environment and passing judgments that are not only important for the present but also set precedents for the future of our naturally well-endowed nation.

11. It is humbly prayed and of utmost importance that the present matter be treated with same level of urgency by this Hon'ble Tribunal.

GROUND

The Applicant is filing the present Original Application from amongst the following grounds:

1. That Block and Panchayat authorities have illegally constructed a concrete funeral platform/building on forest land, which is a clear violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, as no forest land can be diverted for non-forest purposes without prior approval from the Central Government.

2. The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, mandates that no activity causing significant emission of pollutants should be carried out without consent from the State Pollution Control Board. Cremations in forest zones lack emission control systems like chimneys, gas incinerators, or filters, resulting in unregulated emission of pollutants.

3. That the Article 48 A of the Constitution of India the State shall Endeavor to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forests and wildlife of the country. But in the present case the BDO and Gram Panchayat are involved in deforestation and illegal constructions of pucca burial building over a forest land, which is not acceptable in the eye of law.

4. That the burning of firewood during cremation released harmful gases which degraded air quality and creates air pollution. Further, Cremation fires in forest area poses a high risk of accidental forest fires, especially during dry months. Burning embers or residual heat can ignite nearby vegetation, leading to uncontrolled forest damage.

5. That as per sub-clause (g) of Art. 51-A of the Constitution of India it shall be the duty of every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife and to have compassion for living creatures. Even Panchayat Office and PRI members has a great roles to protect local environments, but on contrary they are involved in such works that hamper ecological imbalance and huge loss to the forest environment.

6. That the absence of any action by District and State authorities shows the pathetic red tape attitude of the Government Organization towards the Environment and thus the applicant prays urgent intervention of this Hon'ble Green Tribunal and as such seeks the direction of this Hon'ble Court to the respondents to take action in a time bound manner.

7. That the Respondent Government Organizations would fail to uphold the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980; in their true letter and spirit.

LIMITATION

That present application is within limitation as the same is preferred before the stipulated time period U/s 14 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 which is a continuing cause of action.. Thus the cause of action is a continuous one and hence the present application is filed within limitation period.

PRAYER

In the present circumstances and in the interest of justice, it is most respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal be pleased to pass an order thereby:

I. Directing to constitute of a joint committee of District Collector, Puri; Tahasildar, Gop; DFO, Puri Wildlife Division, Puri, Officers of SPCB, Odisha and other officers as Hon'ble Tribunal deems fit to inquiry and submit its reports before the Tribunal.

II. Direct Collector-District Magistrate, Puri to demolish and remove of the illegal structures standing in the said land to protect the original form of the land.

III. Fix the accountability/responsibilities of the concerned Govt. authorities including Bantaligaram Gram Panchayat Office's Executive Officer for their inaction and willful dereliction of duties causing damage to environment.

IV. Impose Fine and Environment Compensation on responsible officials and establishment as there is irreparable loss to the environment and huge pollution due to the illegal activities in the forest land.

V. Pass any other order or directions that this Hon'ble Court may deems fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the present case.

CUTTACK

By the Applicant through Counsel

DATE:- 4.11.2025



Akhand, Advocate

B.C.E. No.O-269/2023 . Ph:7008816891

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

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. /2025/EZ

IN THE MATTER OF: -

Dillip Kumar Samantaray ... Applicant
-VERSUS-
State of Odisha & Ors. Respondents

AFFIDAVIT

I, Sri Dillip Kumar Samantaray, aged about 36 years, S/o Lingaraj Samantaray, at present residing at C/o Parsuram Maharana, Plot No. 3839/8, Malaya Vihar, G.G.P. Colony, Rasulgarh, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows:-

1. That I am the Applicant in the above mentioned application and competent to swear this affidavit.
2. That I have read over the contents of the accompanying affidavit and the same are true to the best of my knowledge and belief and is drafted on my instruction.

Dillip Kumar Samantaray
DEPONENT

VERIFICATION

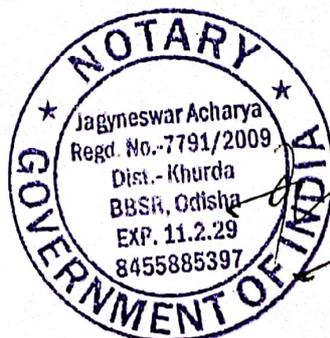
Verified on this the 1st day of November 2025 at BBSR that the contents of the above counter affidavit are true and correct. No part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed there from.

Identified by;

// SWORN BEFORE ME //

Akhanda

Advocate



Dillip Kumar Samantaray
DEPONENT

Jagyeeswar Acharya
Notary, Govt. of India
Odisha, BBSR, Dist.- Khurda
Regd. No.-7791/2009
8455885397

ଖତିୟାନ

Annexure - 1 Series

ପରିଶିଷ୍ଟ - କ

ମୌଜା : ଡାଳକପା

ତହସିଲ : ଗୋପ

ଫର୍ମ ନଂ - 99

ଥାନା : ଗୋପ

ତହସିଲ ନମ୍ବର : 346

ପରିଚ୍ଛେଦ - 402

ଥାନା ନମ୍ବର : 123

ଜିଲ୍ଲା : ପୁରୀ

୧) ଖତିୟାନର କ୍ରମିକ ନମ୍ବର	୨) ଜମିଦାରଙ୍କ ନାମ ଓ ଖେତ୍ରାଂଶ ବା ଖତିୟାନର କ୍ରମିକ ନମ୍ବର				୩) ପ୍ରଜାର ନାମ, ପିତାର ନାମ, ଜାତି ଓ ବାସସ୍ଥାନ
84	ଓଡିଶା ସରକାର ଖେତ୍ରାଂଶ ନଂ 1				ରକ୍ଷିତ
୪) ସ୍ୱତ୍ୱ	୫) ଦେୟ				୬) କ୍ରମବର୍ତ୍ତନଶୀଳ ଖଜଣାର ବିବରଣୀ
	ଜଳକର	ଖଜଣା ସେସ୍	ନିଷ୍କାର ସେସ୍ ଓ ଅନ୍ୟାନ୍ୟ ସେସ୍ ଯଦି କିଛି ଥାଏ	ମୋଟ	
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
୭) ବିଶେଷ ଅନୁସଙ୍ଗ ଯଦି କିଛି ଥାଏ					
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ଅନୁମତ ପ୍ରକାଶନ ତାରିଖ : 20/04/1988 ଖଜଣା ଧାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ତାରିଖ : 01/04/1989					

True copy
attested
Achar, etc

ଖତିୟାନର କ୍ରମିକ ନଂ : 84			ମୌଜା : ତାଳକପା				ଜିଲ୍ଲା : ପୁରୀ	
ଚକର ନମ୍ବର	ଚକ ଭୁକ୍ତ ହୋଇ ଥିବା ପ୍ଲଟ	ଚକ ଭୁକ୍ତ ହୋଇ ନଥିବା ପ୍ଲଟ	କିସମର ବିସ୍ତାରିତ ବିବରଣୀ ଓ ଚୌହଦି	ରକବା			ଚକ ଭୁକ୍ତ ହୋଇ ନଥିବା ଜମିର କିସମ	ମତ୍ତବ୍ୟ
				ଏକର	ଡି.	ହେକ୍ଟର		
8	9	10	11	12		13	14	15
		118		0	1200	0.0486	ଘରବାର୍ଡି	
		101		2	3500	0.9510	ଗୋଚର	
		151		3	0200	1.2222	ଗୋଚର	
		201		0	2100	0.0849	ଗୋଚର	
		203		0	1800	0.0729	ଗୋଚର	
		230		0	3700	0.1497	ଗ୍ରାମ୍ୟ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ	
		271		0	2800	0.1133	ଗ୍ରାମ୍ୟ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ	
		153		0	1300	0.0526	ଗ୍ରାମ୍ୟ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ	
		163		0	0300	0.0121	ଗ୍ରାମ୍ୟ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ	
		10		0	5000	0.2023	ଗ୍ରାମ୍ୟ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ	
		120		0	2000	0.0809	ଜଳସେଚନ ନାଳି	
		137		0	1900	0.0729	ଜଳସେଚନ ନାଳି	
		114		0	6000	0.2428	ଜଳାଶୟ ଦୁଇ (ଗଡିଆ)	
		247		0	1100	0.0445	ଜଳାଶୟ ଦୁଇ (ଗଡିଆ)	
		282		0	2300	0.0930	ଜଳାଶୟ ଦୁଇ (ଗଡିଆ)	
		293		0	1800	0.0729	ଜଳାଶୟ ଦୁଇ (ଗଡିଆ)	
		294		0	5100	0.2063	ଜଳାଶୟ ଦୁଇ (ଗଡିଆ)	
		17 plots		9	2100	3.7229		

ରାଷ୍ଟ୍ରୀୟ ସୂଚନା ବିଜ୍ଞାନ କେନ୍ଦ୍ର 03/11/2025 10:45:58 IP :49.42.183.243

True copy
attested
Achari, #1

Translation of Land Records**Khatiyani**

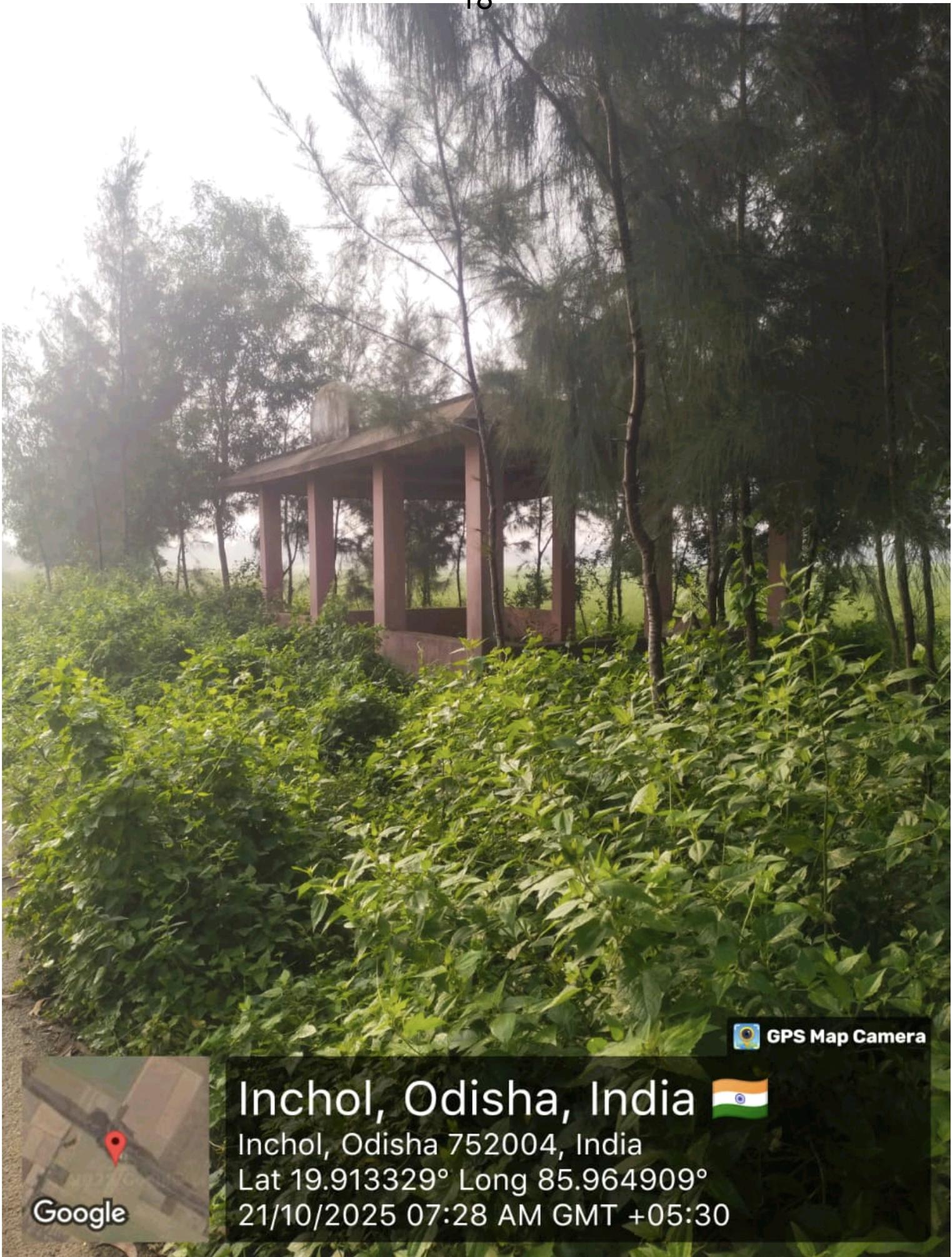
Schedule -I	Revenue Village: Talakapa	Tehsil: Gop
Form No. 99	Thana: Gop	Tehsil No: 346
Parichhed - 402	Thana No.: 123	District: Puri

1)) Serial No of Khatiyani		2)Name of Land Lord & Kheyat No or Records of Rights Serial No:				3)Name of Tenant/ RoR Holder with Father Name, Caste and Residential Address	
84		Odisha Govt Khewat No. 1				Rakshita	
4) Type of Rights		5) Payment				6) Details of Cumulative Rent	
	Water tax	Rent	Cess	Nistar Cess & Other Cess if any	Total		
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
6) Special Description (if Any)							
BLANK SPACE FOR STAMPING							
Date of Final Publication: 20/04/1988							
Scheduled Date of Rent: 01/ 04/ 1989							

SI No of Khatiyani : 84		Revenue Village: Talakapa					District:	
Name of Chak a	Plot those are not under Chaka	Plot No under Chaka	Details of Land Type & Boundary	Area			Land use of Plot not under Chaka	Remarks
				Ac re	Decima l	Hectare		
8	9	10	11	1	2	13	14	15
		10		0	5000	0.2023	Gramya Jungle	



*True copy
attested
Achar, Adv*



 GPS Map Camera



Inchol, Odisha, India 

Inchol, Odisha 752004, India

Lat 19.913329° Long 85.964909°

21/10/2025 07:28 AM GMT +05:30

*True copy
attested
Achar, Adv*

OFFICE OF REVENUE INSPECTOR, MAHARAJGARH
Letter No. 4021-BU/22

Annexure -2

To: The Tahsildar, Gop
Sub: Submission of report regarding construction of burial house (कब्रिस्तान) in MZ-Talaka

Ref: Tahsil memo BU/22 dt 31.3.22
2006 dt 2.4.22

Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above I have conducted an enquiry in to the petition filed by Sri Kailash Chandra Baid of village Talaka & submitting report as follows

From ROR verification of MZ-Talaka it is seen that khata No 84 stands recorded as Raikha containing plot no 10 Kisan village forest (किसान वन).

From field verification it is found that there is construction of Burial house (कब्रिस्तान) has started over the plot no 10 which is Kisan village forest consisting area 0.50 under khata no 84 without obtaining prior permission from the competent authority.

The present petitioner is protesting the project having opinion the project should be implemented in the specified location meant for burial.

From local enquiry it is ascertained that there is apprehension of breach of peace in the locality.

This is for favour of kind information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully

Revenue Inspector
Maharajgarh

True copy
attested
Achar, H.V.

20

Bhubaneswar G.P.O. 751001 India Post
EO835526862IN, IVR No: 18002666868
28/10/2025 14:19:49, Counter No. 3,
To: THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY
REVENUE AND DISASTE, KHORDHA, 751001
From: DILLIP KU SAMANTARAY
PLOT NO.-3839/8, KHORDHA, 751010
Base Amt: 19.00

To, Wt:14(Actual)
P Mode: Cash

Bhubaneswar G.P.O. 751001 India Post
EO835526638IN, IVR No: 18002666868
28/10/2025 14:19:15, Counter No. 3,
To: THE COLLECTOR AND DISTRICT
PURI, PURI, 752001
From: DILLIP KU SAMANTARAY
PLOT NO.-3839/8, KHORDHA, 751010
Base Amt: 47.00

To, Wt:18(Actual)
P Mode: Cash

Annexure - 3 Series

1. Principal Secretary, Department of Revenue and Disaster Management, Government of Odisha, Secretariat Building, Bhubaneswar -751001, revsec.od@nic.in
2. Collector & District Magistrate, Collectorate, Puri, PIN -752001, Odisha, email : dm-puri@nic.in
3. Tahasildar, Gop, At/Po- Gop, Dist-Puri, Odisha, PIN -752110
4. Block Development Officer(BDO), Gop, At/Po- Gop, Dist-Puri, Odisha, PIN -752110
5. Divisonal Forest Officer, Puri Wildlife Division, Puri, Chakratirtha Road, Puri-752002, email : dfo.puriwl@odisha.gov.in
6. Member Secretary, State Pollution Control Board, A-118, Unit - VII, Nilakantha Nagar, Bhubaneswar, Odisha Pin- 751012, email : member.secy@ospcboard.org
7. Member Secretary, State Environment Impact Assessment Authority(SEIAA), Odisha, At - 5RF-2/1, Acharya Vihar, Unit - 9, PIN - 751002 email : seiaaorissa@gmail.com



Bantaligram Gram Panchayat, represented through its Panchayat Executive Officer(PEO), Village/Po. - Bantaligram, P.S. - Gop, Dist - Puri, Odisha-752002.

Subject: Representation regarding illegal construction of crematory platform over village forest land (Gramyajungle) under Khata No. 84, Plot No. 10, Mouza-Talakapa, Tahasil-Gop, District-Puri, in violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and environmental laws.

Respected Sir,

I, Sri Dillip Kumar Samantaray, Advocate and Environmental Protection Activist, S/o Lingaraj Samantaray, at present residing at C/o Parsuram Maharana, Plot No. 3839/8, Malaya Vihar, G.G.P. Colony, Rasulgarh, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, beg to submit this representation seeking immediate intervention of your good office regarding illegal and unauthorized construction over forest land in Talakapa village under Gop Tahasil, Puri district.

True copy
attested
Aachand, Adv



Bhubaneswar G.P.O. 751001 India Post
EO835526757IN, IVR No: 18002666868
28/10/2025 14:17:51, Counter No. 3,
To: THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER
PURI WILDLIFE, PURI, 752002
From: DILLIP KU SAMANTARAY
PLOT NO.-3839/8, KHORDHA, 751010
Base Amt: 47.00
Wt:16(Actual).
P.Mode: Cash



Bhubaneswar G.P.O. 751001 India Post
EO835526641IN, IVR No: 18002666868
28/10/2025 14:17:11, Counter No. 3,
To: THE BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
GOP, PURI, 752110
From: DILLIP KU SAMANTARAY
PLOT NO.-3839/8, KHORDHA, 751010
Base Amt: 47.00
Wt:14(Actual)
P.Mode: Cash



Bhubaneswar G.P.O. 751001 India Post
EO835526859IN, IVR No: 18002666868
28/10/2025 14:16:38, Counter No. 3,
To: THE TAHASILDAR
GOP, PURI, 752110
From: DILLIP KU SAMANTARAY
PLOT NO.-3839/8, KHORDHA, 751010
Base Amt: 47.00
Wt:18(Actual)
P.Mode: Cash



That, a concrete crematory platform/building has been constructed over Government land recorded as "Gramyajungle (village forest)" under Khata No. 84, Plot No. 10, Area Ac. 0.50 decimals, in Mouza - Talakapa, Tahasil - Gop, District - Puri. The said construction was reportedly executed by the Bantaligram Gram Panchayat in the year 2022, utilizing Government funds.

It is pertinent to mention that there already exists a land recorded as "Smasan Kissam" (cremation ground) in the same village, i.e., Khata No. 83, Plot No. 152, Area - Ac. 0.20 decimals, which has been traditionally and continuously used by the villagers for cremation purposes since time immemorial.

However, instead of utilizing and developing the said Smasan land for community benefit, the Panchayat authorities have illegally constructed a concrete funeral platform/building on forest land, which is a clear violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, as no forest land can be diverted for non-forest purposes without prior approval from the Central Government.

Further, during the construction, several trees were reportedly felled without obtaining any permission from the competent forest authority, which amounts to a breach of environmental and forest protection laws, and constitutes an encroachment on forest land.

Such unauthorized construction not only violates statutory provisions but also sets a dangerous precedent for misuse of forest lands meant for ecological balance and community benefit.

In view of the above, I most respectfully pray that your good office may kindly—

1. Conduct a field inquiry to verify the facts stated herein and take necessary actions.
2. Direct the concerned authorities to demolish the illegal crematory structure erected over the Gramyajungle land (Khata No. 84, Plot No. 10) and restore the original nature of the land.
3. Take appropriate legal action against the erring Panchayat officials responsible for the violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and allied environmental regulations.

Date: 28/10/2025

Place: Bhubaneswar



Yours faithfully,
Dillip Kumar Samantaray
 Dillip Kumar Samantaray
 Advocate & Environment Protection Activist



Bhubaneswar G.P.O. 751001 India Post
 E0835526765IN, IVR No: 18002666868
 28/10/2025 14:18:37, Counter No. 3,
 To: THE PANCHAYAT EXECUTIVE OFFICER
 O/O THE BANTALIGRAM, PURI, 752002
 From: DILLIP KU SAMANTARAY
 PLOT NO.-3839/8, KHORDHA, 751010
 Base Amt: 47.00
 Wt:18 (Actual)
 P.Mode: Cash

*True copy
 attested
 Archand, Adv*

Environment Activist Flags Illegal Crematorium Built On Forest Land in Puri; Seeks Action from Govt

Bhubaneswar,(TNB): Environment protection activist and advocate Sri Dillip Kumar Samantaray has submitted a detailed representation to multiple authorities, alleging the illegal construction of a crematory platform on forest land in Talakapa village under Gop Tahasil of Puri district. The representation has been submitted to the Principal Secretary, Department of Revenue and Disaster Management, Government of Odisha, the Collector and District Magistrate, Puri, the Tahasildar, Gop, the Divisional Forest Officer, Puri Wildlife Division,

the Member Secretary, Odisha State Pollution Control Board, and the Member Secretary, State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Odisha. According to Mr. Samantaray, the Bantaligram Gram Panchayat has constructed a concrete crematory platform on Khata No. 84, Plot No. 10, classified as Gramyajungle (village forest) land, measuring Ac. 0.50 decimals, in the year 2022, using Government funds. Before the construction, several trees were allegedly cut down without permission from the competent

forest authorities.

He pointed out that the village already has a designated cremation ground recorded as Smasan Kissam under Khata No. 83, Plot No. 152, with an area of Ac. 0.20 decimals, which villagers have been using for generations. Despite this, the Panchayat diverted forest land for non-forest use, in violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, and environmental protection laws. Mr. Samantaray has urged the authorities to conduct a joint field inquiry, demolish the illegal structure, and restore the original nature of the forest land.

He has also demanded disciplinary and legal action against those responsible for violating statutory environmental norms and misuse of public funds.

“The construction over forest land without approval from the Central Government is illegal and unsustainable. The administration must act immediately to protect the village forest and uphold the law,” he stated. Environmentalists in the region have supported the move, saying such encroachments pose a serious threat to forest conservation and ecological balance in coastal Odisha.

*True copy
attached
Richard, HV*

ପରିଶିଷ୍ଟ - କ

ଫର୍ମ ନଂ - 99

ପରିଚ୍ଛେଦ - 402

ମୌଜା : ଡାଳକପା

ଥାନା : ଗୋପ

ଥାନା ନମ୍ବର : 123

ତହସିଲ : ଗୋପ

ତହସିଲ ନମ୍ବର : 346

ଜିଲ୍ଲା : ପୁରୀ

୧) ଖତିୟାନର କ୍ରମିକ ନମ୍ବର	୨) ଜମିଦାରଙ୍କ ନାମ ଓ ଖେତାବତୀ ବା ଖତିୟାନର କ୍ରମିକ ନମ୍ବର				୩) ପ୍ରକାର ନାମ, ପିତାର ନାମ, ଜାତି ଓ ବାସସ୍ଥାନ
83	ଓଡିଶା ସରକାର ଖେତାବତୀ ନଂ 1				ସର୍ବ ସାଧାରଣ
୪) ସ୍ୱତ୍ୱ	୫) ଦେୟ				୬) କ୍ରମବର୍ତ୍ତନଶୀଳ ଖଜଣାର ବିବରଣୀ
	ଜଳକର	ଖଜଣା ସେସ୍	ନିଷ୍କାର ସେସ୍ ଓ ଅନ୍ୟାନ୍ୟ ସେସ୍ ଯଦି କିଛି ଥାଏ	ମୋଟ	
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
୭) ବିଶେଷ ଅନୁସଙ୍ଗ ଯଦି କିଛି ଥାଏ					
BLANK SPACE FOR STAMPING					
ଅନୁମତ ପ୍ରକାଶନ ତାରିଖ : 20/04/1988 ଖଜଣା ଧାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ତାରିଖ : 01/04/1989					

*True copy
attested
Aschard, Adv*

ଖତିୟାନର କ୍ରମିକ ନଂ : 83			ମୌଜା : ତାଳକପା				ଜିଲ୍ଲା : ପୁରୀ	
ଚକର ନମ୍ବର	ଚକ ଭୁକ୍ତ ହୋଇ ଥିବା ପ୍ଲଟ	ଚକ ଭୁକ୍ତ ହୋଇ ନଥିବା ପ୍ଲଟ	କିସମର ବିସ୍ତୀରିତ ବିବରଣୀ ଓ ଚୌହଦି	ରକବା			ଚକ ଭୁକ୍ତ ହୋଇ ନଥିବା କ୍ରମିକ କିସମ	ମତ୍ତବ୍ୟ
				ଏକର	ଡି.	ହେକ୍ଟର		
8	9	10	11	12		13	14	15
		152		0	2000	0.0809	ଶୁଶାନ	
		202		0	1000	0.0405	ରାସ୍ତା	
		204		0	9300	0.3763	ରାସ୍ତା	
		3 plots		1	2300	0.4977		

ରାଷ୍ଟ୍ରୀୟ ସୂଚନା ବିଜ୍ଞାନ କେନ୍ଦ୍ର 03/11/2025 10:48:53 IP :49.42.183.243

*True copy
attested
Richard, Adv*

Translation of Land Records**Khatiyani**

Schedule -I

Revenue Village:
Talakapa

Tehsil: Gop

Form No. 99

Thana: Gop

Tehsil No: 346

Parichhed - 402

Thana No.: 123

District: Puri

1)) Serial No of Khatiyani		2)Name of Land Lord & Kheyat No or Records of Rights Serial No:				3)Name of Tenant/ RoR Holder with Father Name, Caste and Residential Address	
83		Odisha Govt Khewat No. 1				Sarbasadharan(Public)	
4) Type of Rights		5) Payment				6) Details of Cumulative Rent	
	Water tax	Rent	Cess	Nistar Cess & Other Cess if any	Total		
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
6) Special Description (if Any)							
BLANK SPACE FOR STAMPING							
Date of Final Publication: 20/04/1988							
Scheduled Date of Rent: 01/ 04/ 1989							

SI No of Khatiyani : 84		Revenue Village: Talakapa					District:	
Name of Chak a	Plot those are not under Chaka	Plot No under Chaka	Details of Land Type & Boundary	Area			Land use of Plot not under Chaka	Remarks
				Ac re	Decima l	Hectare		
8	9	10	11	1	2	13	14	15
		152		0	2000	0.0809	Smasan(gra veyard)	

VAKALATNAMA

IN THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, KOLKATA

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. _____/2025/EZ

BETWEEN

Dillip Kumar Samantaray Applicant

-VERSUS-

State of Odisha & Ors. Respondents

Know all men by these presents, that by this Vakalatnama

I/We **Sri Dillip Kumar Samantaray**, aged about 36 years, S/o Lingaraj Samantaray, at present residing at C/o Parsuram Maharana, Plot No. 3839/8, Malaya Vihar, G.G.P. Colony, Rasulgarh, Bhubaneswar, Odisha Appellant(s)/Petitioner(s)/ Respondent(s)/Opposite Party(ies) in the aforesaid Application/Revision/ petition/ Appeal/Case/ Suit do hereby appoint and retain

Mr. AKHAND, Adv, Plot No. 6F-1030, Sector-9, CDA, Cuttack - 753014

(herein after called the advocate/s) to be my/our Advocate in the above noted case authorise him:-

1. To act, appear and plead in the above-noted case in this Court or in any other Court in which the same may be tried or heard and also in the appellate Court including High Court subject to payment of fees separately for each Court by me/us.
2. To sign, file, verify and present pleadings, appeals, cross-objections or petitions for executions review revision, withdrawal, compromise or other petitions or affidavits or other documents as may be deemed necessary or proper for the prosecution of the said case in all its stages subject to payment of fees for each stage.
3. To file and take back documents, to admit and/or deny the documents of opposite party.
4. To withdraw or compromise the said case or submit to arbitration any differences or disputes that may arise touching or in any manner relating to the said case.
5. To take execution proceedings.
6. To deposit, draw and receive monthly cheques, cash and grant receipts thereof and to do all other acts and things which may be necessary to be done for the progress and in the course of the prosecution of the said case.
7. To appoint and instruct any other Legal Practitioner authorising him to exercise the power and authority hereby conferred upon the Advocate whenever he may think fit to do so and to sign the power of attorney on our behalf.
8. And I/We the undersigned do hereby agree to rectify and confirm all acts done by the Advocate or his substitute in the matter as my/our own acts, as if done by me/us to all intents and proposes.
9. And I/We undertake that I/We or my/our duly authorised agent would appear in Court on all hearings and will inform the Advocate for appearance when the case is called.
10. And I/We the undersigned do hereby agree not to hold the advocate or his substitute responsible for the result of the said case.
11. The adjournment costs whenever ordered by the Court shall be of the Advocate which he shall receive and retain for himself.
12. And I/We the undersigned to hereby agree that in the event of the whole or part of the fee agreed by me/us to be paid to the advocate remaining unpaid he shall be entitled to withdraw from the prosecution of the said case until the same is paid up. The fee settled is only for the above case and above Court. I/we hereby agree that once fee is paid, I/We will not be entitled for the refund of the same in any case whatsoever and if the case prolongs for more than 3 years the original fee shall be paid again by me/us.

DATED THE 20th Oct2025

Received from the executants(s)
satisfied and accepted

Akhand

Dillip Kumar Samantaray

SIGNATURE OF EXECUTANTS

Akhand, Adv.

Enrollment No. O-269/2023

M - 7008816891, Email : akhand111@gmail.com