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**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL SITTING AT  
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 155 OF 2025**

Rajeev Kumar

...Applicant

-Vs-

State of Jharkhand & Ors.

...Respondents

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BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 155/2025

IN THE MATTER OF:

Rajeev Kumar

...Petitioner

VERSUS

State of Jharkhand & Others

...Respondents

COUNTER AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF RANCHI MUNICIPAL  
CORPORATION Respondent No. 4

IN COMPLIANCE OF THE NOTICES ISSUED BY THIS  
HON'BLE TRIBUNAL



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I, Suraj Prakash Singh Choudhary, S/o Jay Prakash Singh Choudhary, aged about 42 years, R/o Dibdih , Ranchi - 834001, Jharkhand, P.S. & P.O Argora currently working as Assistant Municipal Commissioner in Ranchi Municipal Corporation, Kutchery, Ranchi - 834001, Jharkhand, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under:

1. That I am duly authorized and competent to swear and file this Counter Affidavit on behalf of the Ranchi Municipal Corporation (herein after referred to as "RMC"), Respondent No. 4 herein, in the capacity of a responsible officer conversant with the facts and records of the case.

2. That the contents of the Original Application (OA) filed by the Petitioner, unless specifically admitted hereinafter, are denied as vague, baseless, and not maintainable to the extent they are inconsistent with the facts stated herein. The



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Petitioner has been duly served with a copy of this Counter Affidavit.

3. That the present OA pertains to alleged pollution of Harmu River in Ranchi due to discharge of untreated sewage, solid waste, and encroachments. It is respectfully submitted that the very same issue of pollution and rejuvenation of Harmu River was the subject matter of Original Application No. 92/2015/EZ (hereinafter "OA No. 92/2015") before the Hon'ble Principal Bench, NGT, New Delhi, which was taken up on 01.10.2015 and extensively dealt with on multiple dates. Vide orders dated 23.03.2017 and 22.11.2017 (passed by the Eastern Zone Bench, Kolkata), directions were issued for implementation of remedial measures, including construction of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs). The matter was finally disposed of on 15.10.2020 by the Principal Bench with specific directions to the Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board (JSPCB) and RMC to monitor STP performance, ensure



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compliance with discharge norms (including BOD levels), and remedy any residual issues at the earliest.

A copy of the said disposal order dated 15.10.2020 is annexed hereto as Annexure -'A'.

4. That in compliance with the directions in OA No. 92/2015, RMC filed a detailed Counter Affidavit dated July 2020 (pursuant to order dated 19.03.2020), detailing the progress of the "Rejuvenation and Conservation of Harmu River" project executed by Jharkhand Urban Infrastructure Development Company Limited (JUIDCO) under the Urban Development & Housing Department, Government of Jharkhand. The project, costing approximately ₹101.02 crores (revised to ₹93.75 crores), involved:

- Channelization of the river stretch (10.4 km).
- Construction of 8 Nature-Based/Phytoid Technology STPs with total capacity of ~11 MLD (STP Nos. 1 to 8).



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- Sewer network, storm water drains, inlet improvements (14 major inlets), gabion works, elevated pathways, low-cost sanitation, and mass plantation along banks.

As per the said previously filed Counter Affidavit of case no. OA No. 92/2015.

- The project was completed on 31.10.2018, with 5-year Operation & Maintenance (O&M) commencing from 01.11.2018 by the executing agency, M/s Eagle Infra India Ltd.

- 7 out of 8 STPs (Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8) were 100% completed and operational by March 2018, with effluent quality reports (Annexure B thereto) showing compliance with most parameters except minor deviations in BOD, which were being addressed.

- STP No. 3 (1.5 MLD) was at 70% completion but halted due to a stay order dated 16.05.2017 by the Hon'ble High Court of Jharkhand in W.P.(C) No. 4328/2016 (land dispute on Plot No. 1795-E, Mauza-Siram).



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A copy of the stay order is annexed as  
Annexure 'B',

- Mass plantation was completed along the 10.4 km stretch, and solid waste management infrastructure (community bins, auto tippers, tricycles) was installed.

Post-disposal of OA No. 92/2015, RMC has continued monitoring in coordination with JSPCB and JUIDCO.

5. That the O&M period by the agency ended on 31.10.2023, after which JUIDCO took over direct responsibility for maintenance and operations.

6. Ranchi Municipal Corporation from time to time cleans the Harmu river through sanitation workers and JCB machines. Photograph Annexure 'C'.

7. That RMC denies any willful violation and submits that the matter is substantially res judicata under OA No. 92/2015, with residual monitoring entrusted to RMC/JSPCB. No new cause of action arises post-2020 disposal.



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8. That RMC is committed to environmental protection and prays for:

- Dismissal of the OA as not maintainable.
- In the alternative, liberty to file a fresh compliance report within 4 weeks, including time-bound Action Plan for full STP operability and river restoration.
- Any other relief as deemed fit.

*Suj Prakash*  
(SUJAY PRAKASH SINGH  
CHOUHARY)



*S Kumar*  
*07-01-26*



**AFFIDAVIT**

I, Suraj Prakash Singh Choudhary, S/o Jay Prakash Singh Choudhary, aged about 42 years, R/o Dibdih, Ranchi - 834001, Jharkhand, P.S. & P.O Argora currently working as Assistant Municipal Commissioner in Ranchi Municipal Corporation, Kutchery, Ranchi - 834001, Jharkhand of the respondent Corporation and as such, I am well acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the instant case, affirm and state as under:

1. That I am the Assistant Commissioner of the Petitioner Corporation in the above-mentioned matter and am well conversant with the facts and circumstances of the case and am competent to swear this affidavit.
2. That I have read and understood the contents of the Counter Affidavit.
3. That the contents of the Counter Affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and based on the official records maintained by the Petitioner Corporation. No part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed there from.
4. That the annexures, if any, are true copies of their respective originals.

*Suj Prakash*  
DEPONENT

**VERIFICATION**

Verified at Ranchi on this day of 2026, that the contents of the above affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

*Suj Prakash*  
DEPONENT

Notarised under Notaries Act and Notaries Rules 1956 by Govt. of India (Jharkhand)

Ref. No. 17 Date 07 JAN 2026

*S. Kanaw*  
07-01-26



**NOTARY PUBLIC RANCHI**

*[Signature]*  
07/01/26  
EX No 1246/58  
Signature attested on Verification of Lawyer

Item No. 02

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI  
(Through Video Conferencing)**

Original Application No. 92/2015(EZ)

Anil Kumar Singh

Applicant

Versus

Chief Secretary, Government of  
Jharkhand & Ors.

Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 15.10.2020

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S. P. WANGDI, JUDICIAL MEMBER  
HON'BLE DR. NAGIN NANDA, EXPERT MEMBER**

For Applicant(s): None

For Respondent(s): Ms. Aishwarya Rajyashree, Adv for  
Respondents No. 1 to 3, & 6  
Mr. Surendra Kumar, Adv for Respondents  
No. 4 & 5.

**ORDER**

1. By order dated 19.03.2020 and 26.08.2020, we had set out the entire records of the proceedings in relation to the case which was essentially mitigation of the pollution of Harmu at Ranchi, Jharkhand due to discharge of untreated sewage and waste water. On 26.08.2020 we had observed in view of the averments contained in paragraphs 4 to 10 of the affidavit filed by the Ranchi Municipal Corporation, all questions pertaining to projects relating to rejuvenation

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and conservation of Harmu river appear to have been addressed. The tabular information *inter alia* revealed that works on as many as 9 STPs for treatment of sewage and waste water had been completed. This being most crucial factor for getting river Harmu made free of pollution and cleaned, we had, by order dated 26.08.2020, directed the State PCB to furnish information as to whether the discharge norms of the STPs were being maintained in accordance with the prescribed standards and also to furnish a report in respect of the quality of water of the river.

2. Affidavit filed by the State PCB in compliance of the above direction indicates that all parameters were being maintained except for BOD which was on the higher side. However, there is no information with regard to the quality of water of Harmu river which presumably may have been due to the report against BOD standards.
3. We, therefore, the State Pollution Control Board to take up this matter with the Ranchi Municipal Corporation monitor the performance of STPs to bring it within the prescribed standards of the parameters including BOD.
4. Since this is a matter that is required to be monitored by the State PCB being the competent regulatory authority, we

do not deem it necessary to keep this matter pending only for such residual work. We expect the State PCB and the Ranchi Municipal Corporation to act in accordance with law and remedy the situation at the earliest.

5. With the above directions, the O.A stands disposed off with no order as to cost.

S.P. Wangdi, JM

Dr. Nagin Nanda, EM

15<sup>th</sup> October, 2020  
Original Application No. 92/2015(EZ)  
pk





being made on sub-plot no. 1795-E under Mauza-Siram, to which also petitioners claim their Ownership.

Matter is adjourned for three weeks. In the meantime further construction of transfer station falling under subplot no. 1795-E, Mauza-Siram shall remain stayed.

Let the case appear on 13.06.2017 under the heading "For Admission" as an unfixed case.

**(Aparesh Kumar Singh, J.)**

Kamlesh/



GPS Map Camera



**Ranchi, Jharkhand, India**   
982f+45v Kpt Park, Diversion Rd, Kadru, Ashok Nagar,  
Ranchi, Jharkhand 834002, India  
Lat 23.349917° Long 85.323448°  
Saturday, 03/01/2026 08:06 AM GMT +05:30

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# Ranchi, Jharkhand, India



Diversion Rd, Near Radisson Blu Hotel, Kadru, Ranchi, Jharkhand 834002, India

Lat 23.350244° Long 85.323078°

Saturday, 03/01/2026 11:40 AM GMT +05:30

Google

GPS Map Camera