

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

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 04 OF 2026/EZ

IN THE MATTER OF:

Pramod Kumar Swain

... Applicant

-Versus-

The State Level Environment Impact
Assessment Authority (SEIAA),
Odisha & Ors.

... Respondents

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THROUGH

Advocate Shagun Chugh,
C-53, Jangpura Extension,
New Delhi, 110014

Date: 26.05.2026

Place: Cuttack, Odisha

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

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 04 OF 2026/EZ

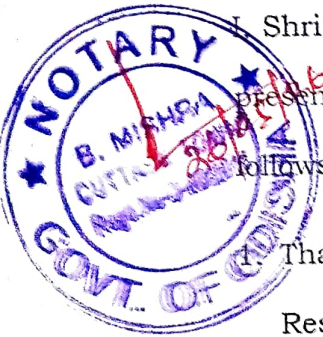
IN THE MATTER OF:

Pramod Kumar Swain ... Applicant

-Versus-

The State Level Environment Impact ... Respondents
Assessment Authority (SEIAA),
Odisha & Ors.

REPLY AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT NO. 4 (TAHSILDAR,
CUTTACK)



I, Shri Devdutt Pradhan, aged about 31 years, S/o. Susanta Kumar Pradhan, at present working as Tehsildar, Cuttack, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows:

That I am at present serving as the Tehsildar, Cuttack. I have been arrayed as Respondent No. 4 in the instant Original Application (OA). Furthermore, I have been duly authorized by Respondent No.5, the Collector and District Magistrate, Cuttack to file this compliance affidavit on behalf of the revenue administration to defend the interest of the state.

2. That I have gone through the contents of the OA filed by the Applicant, the connected case records, and have understood the contents made thereof. I am otherwise well conversant with the facts of the present case and therefore, I am competent to affirm this affidavit.

3. That in reference to the present instant OA, I am inclined to state that the management, conservation and protection of minor minerals/sand sairat

Devdutt Pradhan


sources situated under the jurisdiction of Sadar Tahasil, Cuttack have been handed over to Steel and Mines Department, Odisha vide Letter No. 3181/SM, Bhubaneswar, dated 27.03.2023, Steel and Mines Department, Odisha in accordance with framework set under Odisha Minor Minerals Concession Rules, 2016. A Copy of Letter No. 3181/SM, Bhubaneswar dated 27.03.2023, Steel and Mines Department, Odisha is annexed as **Annexure R4/1**.

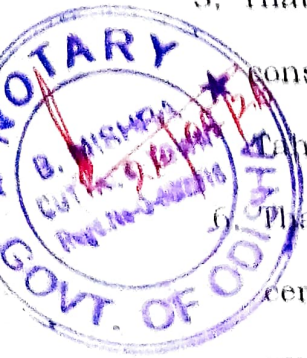
4. That it is imperative to state that the alleged illegal sand mining activity at the Pratapnagari on Kuakhai river bed is to be checked by the Steel and Mines department, Odisha.

5. That, this office is not responsible anymore for maintenance, protection and conservation of sand sairat resources situated under the jurisdiction of Sadar Tahasil, Cuttack.

6. That as per the joint verification report, I am to state that the suit land is certified as non-forest land through inspection of ground realities and authentication of relevant records.

7. That therefore, it is humbly submitted that as the core operational and maintenance responsibilities for Sairat resources are vested in the Steel and Mines Department Odisha under the OMMC Regulations and hence, this office is not anymore involved and does not have the authority to assist this Hon'ble Tribunal with respect to the concerned matter.

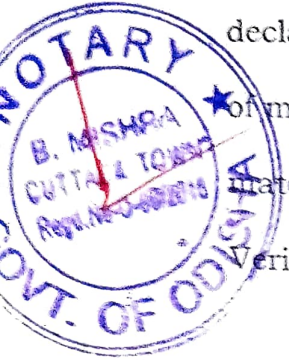

DEPONENT
Tahasildar, Sadar,
Cuttack



VERIFICATION

I, Sri Devdutt Pradhan, the deponent above named, do hereby verify and declare that the contents of the above affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge derived from official records. No part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

Verified at Cuttack on this the 26th day of May, 2026.



Devdutt Pradhan

DEPONENT

Tahasildar, Sadar,
Cuttack

solemnly Sworn before me by Devdutt Pradhan
being identified by Selt Advocate
at Cuttack dated 26/05/2026

B. Mishra
26/05/26
B. MISHRA
NOTARY, CUTTACK
ODISHA



Government of Odisha
Steel & Mines Department

No. 3181 /SM, Bhubaneswar Date: 27.03.2023

SM-MC3-MISC-0011-2022

From

Sri S.K. Swain,
Special Secretary to Government.

To

All Collectors
All A.D.Ms

Sub: Regarding modalities for transfer of minor minerals sources to Steel & Mines Department within stipulated time limit period.

Ref: Revenue & DM Department Ltr.No.3902 dtd.02.02.2023.

Sir,

In inviting a reference to the time bound subject cited above, I am directed to say that a tentative programme was chalked out for transfer of the operational minor mineral sources from the respective Tahasildars to the Mining Officers in a phase manner starting from 2nd fortnight of February, 2023 to be completed in 1st fortnight of April, 2023.

2. During 1st phase of handing over and taking over of sources in Bolangir, Sonepur, Nuapada districts, it was noticed that some of the operational sources have been DGPS surveyed. It has been decided to take over DGPS surveyed sources at the 1st instance after due authentication by joint teams of ORSAC, CSM Technology, Tahsil and Mining Officials. Besides, ORSAC has been instructed to take up DGPS survey of all the operational sources on a war footing basis for ease process of smooth take over.

3. It is also to inform that e-auction process for grant of quarry leases and the online i4MS (Integrated Mines and Minor Mineral Management System) for regulating transaction of minor minerals are to be put in place soon to curb illegal mining and unauthorized procurement/transportation of minor minerals menace.

4. In this regard, necessary training of authorized officers, prospective bidders and existing quarry lease holders would be conducted preferably at District level by CSM Technology the software developer in a time bound manner. All logistic assistance is to be ensured at the District Level for successful completion of this sensitization programme.



SM-MC3-MISC-0011-2022/13/2023

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Tahasildar, Sadar,
Cuttack

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