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BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

MISC APPLICATION IN DISPOSED OF CASES NO. 132 OF 2025

IN THE MATTER OF:

Raghubir Singh Garia

...Applicant

Versus

State of Uttarakhand & Ors.

..Respondents

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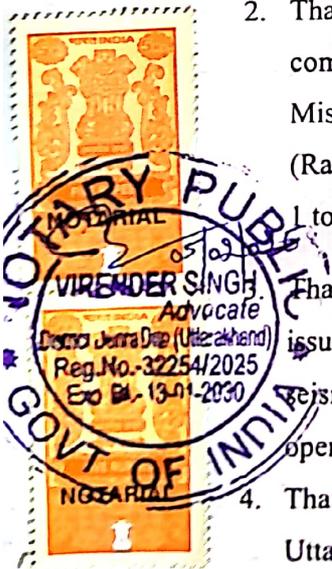
**Additional Status Report by way of Affidavit on behalf of Respondent Number 2 i.e.,
The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Uttarakhand**

I, Anil Kumar, s/o Shri Guljari Lal, aged about 57 Years, presently holding the position of Additional Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Uttarakhand for and on behalf of Respondent Number 2, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows:

1. That I am the Additional Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Uttarakhand, and in this capacity, I am fully conversant with the facts and circumstances of the present matter on the basis of official records maintained in my department and reports received from field offices and district-level authorities, and as such, I am competent to depose this affidavit.
2. That the present Additional Status Report by way of Affidavit is being filed in compliance with the order dated 09.12.2025 passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal in Miscellaneous Application No. 132/2025 in Original Application No. 453/2023 (Raghubir Singh Garia vs. State of Uttarakhand & Others), whereby Respondents No. 1 to 3 and 5 were directed to file their respective compliance reports/responses.

That this Hon'ble Tribunal, vide its interim order dated 08.11.2024 in OA 78/2023, issued directions requiring the State authorities to ensure scientific assessment of seismic stability, environmental sustainability and ecological safety in mining operations, particularly in sensitive geo-tectonic zones [Annexure-A].

4. That pursuant to the aforesaid directions of this Hon'ble Tribunal, the Government of Uttarakhand undertook a review of the regulatory framework governing mining leases



based on in-situ rock deposits and initiated steps to ensure compliance with the judicial mandate.

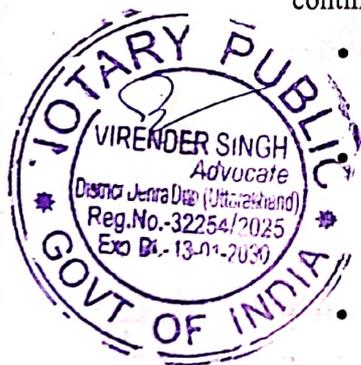
5. That in furtherance thereof, the Government of Uttarakhand, through the Industrial Development (Mining) Section-1, issued Government Letter No. 2119/VII-A-1/2025-09 (104)/2023 dated 27.08.2025, prescribing detailed procedures and guidelines for scientific studies for assessment of seismic stability in mining lease areas situated in various geo-tectonic zones of the State. Currently, the Government of Uttarakhand, Industrial Development (Mining) Section-1, through Government Order No. 3218/VII.I.1/2026-09(104)/2023 dated 03 February, 2026, in reference to Government Letter No. 2119 dated August 27, 2025, partially amended point number 07 of the relevant government letter dated August 27, 2025. The period for the operation of previously approved/operational in-situ rock mining leases has been extended by a further period of 4 months from the date of commencement of operations. [Annexure-B].

6. That the said Government Letter was issued after consideration of the recommendations of an Expert Committee comprising senior scientists and technical experts from institutions including the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun, Indian Institute of Remote Sensing, Dehradun, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, Geological Survey of India, and officers of the Department of Geology and Mining.

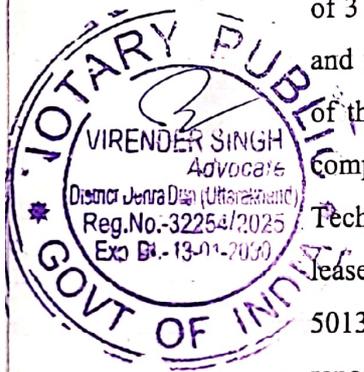
7. That the prescribed guidelines mandate that, in respect of mining leases based on in-situ rock deposits, the following scientific studies shall be undertaken prior to grant or continuation of mining operations:

- Micro-earthquake monitoring through a local seismic network via the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology Dehradun;
- Monitoring of ground deformation caused by mining activities or slope subsidence through SAR-based satellite techniques by the Indian Institute of Remote Sensing, Dehradun; and
- Slope Stability Analysis in accordance with the standards and parameters prescribed by the Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee.

8. That it has further been provided that the Slope Stability Analysis study reports shall be reviewed and vetted by IIT Roorkee, and only upon submission and acceptance of such vetted reports shall proceedings for approval or continuation of mining leases be undertaken by the Department of Geology and Mining.



9. That the Government of Uttarakhand Industrial Development (Mining) Section-1, through Government Order No. 3218/VII.I.1/2026-09(104)/2023 dated 03 February, 2026, in reference to Government Letter No. 2119 dated August 27, 2025, has, in light of the technical reasons mentioned in the letter dated December 4, 2025, from the empanelled firm/company (Safe Mine Tech Solution Pvt. Ltd.) for the study of Micro-earthquake monitoring, monitoring of ground deformation caused by mining activities or slope subsidence, and slope stability analysis, partially amended point number 07 of the relevant government letter dated August 27, 2025. The period for the operation of previously approved/operational in-situ rock mining leases has been extended by a further period of 4 months from the date of commencement of operations.
10. That the Directorate of Geology and Mining has issued necessary directions to all subordinate offices to ensure strict and uniform implementation of the directions issued by this Hon'ble Tribunal and the procedural framework prescribed by the State Government.
11. In compliance with the instructions given in the government letter dated August 27, 2025, private firms/companies/entities undertaking Slope Stability Analysis work on in-situ rock-based approved mining lease areas within the state were invited to submit Expressions of Interest through national newspapers, in accordance with the said standards/parameters. Subsequently, through Directorate office order number 4498/Mines/VIII(i)/244/Geology/2025-26 dated October 31, 2025, and office order number 4949/Mines/VIII(i)/244/Geology/2025-26 dated November 22, 2025, a total of 3 companies have been selected/empanelled for the Slope Stability Analysis work, and the process of empanelling 8 other companies is underway. After the completion of the Slope Stability Analysis work of the mining lease areas through the selected companies, the study report will be reviewed/vetted by the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee, and all soapstone/magnesite/limestone/silica sand leaseholders have been instructed through Directorate letter number 5013/Mines/VIII(i)/244/Geology/2025-26 dated November 27, 2025, to submit the report to the Directorate within the stipulated time. Currently, the mining area's slope stability analysis is being carried out through companies selected by the leaseholders within the state.
12. In continuation of the Government's letter number 2119/VII.A.1/2025-09(104)/2023 dated August 27, 2025, regarding the work of establishing a local seismic network for micro-earthquake monitoring in mining lease areas, the information regarding the



[Handwritten Signature]

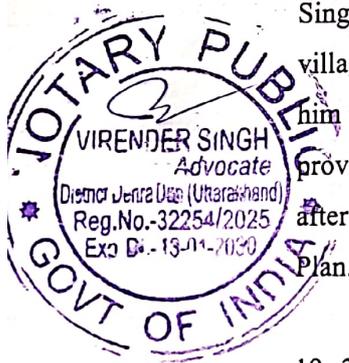
expenditure details provided by the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun, vide their letter number 2001 dated October 21, 2025, was forwarded to the Government. In this regard, the Government, through letter number 2853/VII.A.1/2025-09(104)2023 dated November 24, 2025, has granted permission to utilize the funds of the Uttarakhand State Mineral Exploration Trust Rules, 2025 (SMET) for departmental work. Further action in this regard is underway.

13. In response to the request made by the Indian Institute of Remote Sensing, Dehradun, regarding the monitoring of mining areas through satellite technology for ground deformation caused by mining activities or slope subsidence, a letter has been sent to the Chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation, vide Government Letter No. 2577/VII.A.1/2025-09(104)/2023 dated November 17, 2025. Further action will be taken in this regard after receiving guidelines from the Indian Space Research Organisation.
14. That it is respectfully submitted that in the Public Interest Litigation No. Suo Moto 174/2024 filed in the Hon'ble High Court of Uttarakhand, Nainital, the Hon'ble High Court, through its orders dated 06.01.2025 and 10.01.2025, has imposed a ban on all mining operations in Bageshwar district.

In continuation of the proposal sent by the District Magistrate, Bageshwar, vide letter number 571/Thirty-25/Mining/2025-26 dated July 14, 2025, and in accordance with the Directorate's letter number 2818/Mines/65/Bageshwar/Mining/Geology/2010-11(2025) dated August 14, 2025, a letter has been sent to the Secretary, Mining, Government of Uttarakhand, regarding the cancellation of the soapstone mining lease granted to Shri Anand Singh Kalakoti, son of Shri Diwan Singh Kalakoti, resident of village and post Dofad, district and tehsil Bageshwar, in village Papo, district and tehsil Bageshwar. This action is being taken after providing him with a reasonable opportunity for a hearing at the government level, as per the provisions of Rule 60 of the Uttarakhand Minor Mineral Concession Rules-2023, and after directing him to scientifically close the mine pit according to the Mine Closure Plan.

Mr. Bhupal Singh Kalakoti has informed through his letter dated November 19, 2025, that his younger brother, the late Anand Singh Kalakoti, passed away on September 19, 2025, and a copy of the death certificate is attached.

15. That it is respectfully submitted that no mining activity shall be permitted or allowed to continue in violation of the directions of this Hon'ble Tribunal, and the Department



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remains committed to safeguarding environmental integrity, seismic safety and sustainable development in the State of Uttarakhand.

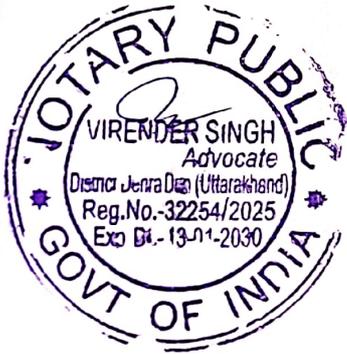
16. That the present Additional Status Report by way of Affidavit is being filed to place on record the steps undertaken and the regulatory mechanism put in place by the State authorities in compliance with the directions issued by this Hon'ble Tribunal in the matter of Raghbir Singh Garia v. State of Uttarakhand & Ors.

17. That the present Additional Status Report by way of Affidavit is being filed to place on record the current status of compliance by the Directorate of Geology and Mining pursuant to the orders dated 22.04.2025 and 09.12.2025 passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal.

18. That the contents of the present affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, based on official records maintained by the Directorate of Geology and Mining and information received from subordinate offices. Nothing material has been concealed therefrom and nothing stated herein is false.

VERIFICATION

Verified at on this 5th day of February, 2026, that the contents of the above affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, based on official records maintained by the State and Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Uttarakhand.



Identified by
A. Singh
[Signature]
[Signature]

[Signature]
Additional Director

Department of Geology and Mining
Government of Uttarakhand

SR. No. 98

Date. 05-02-2026

This affidavit is sworn before me by
Sri. Anil Kumar
who is identified by Sri. Harshpal Singh Bisht
at Dehradun on

[Signature]
05/02/2026
Virender Singh
Advocate & Notary Dehradun