



**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 555/2024

(In respect of the State of Arunachal Pradesh)

IN THE MATTER OF :

News Item titled: "India lost 2.33 million hectares of tree cover since 2000 Global Forest Watch" appearing in the Indian Express dated 13.04.2024

With

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 20/2025

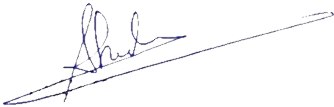
(In respect of the State of Arunachal Pradesh)

News Item titled: "Assam's forests shrink by 83.92 sq. km in just two years Report" appearing in the Assamtribune.com dated 22.12.2024"

**AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS &
HEAD OF THE FOREST FORCE, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST &
CLIMATE CHANGE, ARUNACHAL PRADESH.**

PAPER BOOK

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SHUBHAM BHALLA
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State of Arunachal Pradesh
(Shubham Bhalla)

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AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS & HEAD OF THE FOREST FORCE, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE, ARUNACHAL PRADESH.

I, **P. Subramanyam** S/o **Late. P. Narasimhaiyya**, Aged about **58 years**, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of the Forest Force, Department of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Arunachal Pradesh do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under:

1. That, I am the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of the Forest Force, Department of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Arunachal Pradesh and I am conversant with the facts and circumstances of the instant case in my official capacity. Hence, I am to swear this Affidavit.
2. That, I have read contents and I submit that facts stated in this Affidavit are true to the best of my knowledge and are derived from the office records made available by the concerned Department. I believe them to be true and that no part of the same is false or any material has been concealed there from.
3. That, Arunachal Pradesh is a mountainous state with indigenous population having a strong cultural and socio-economic association with forest. Roughly 10% of the state's geographical area is snowbound and only about 25% of the land is below 1000 meters altitude and 15 degree slope.
4. That, as per India state of Forest Report (ISFR) 2021, the total forest cover in the state of Arunachal Pradesh was 65,972.74 Sq. km


PCSF & HoFF
Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh
Itanagar


25/12/25
Executive Magistrate
Capital, Itanagar
Arunachal Pradesh

5. That, as per India state of Forest Report (ISFR) 2023, the total forest cover in the state of Arunachal Pradesh is 65,881.57 Sq. km, which is the second highest in the country, corresponding to 78.67% of the total Geographical area of the state. Further, the state has 20,985.32 sq. km of Very Dense Forest (VDF) which is the highest in the country and 29,615.09 sq. km of Medium Dense Forest (MDF) as per ISFR 2023. Arunachal Pradesh also has a growing stock of 529.45 million cubic meter which has increased by 36.98 million cubic meter between ISFR 2021 and 2023. The State also has a Carbon stock 1021.16 mega tonnes representing 14.01% of the country's Carbon stock.
6. That, ISFR 2023 indicated a loss of 91.17 sq.km of forest cover as compared to ISFR 2021 whereas the tree cover has increased by 38.68 sq. km
7. That, ISFR 2023 places the decadal fall in Forest Cover in the state at only 1.62% with respect to 2013.
8. That, Diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes due to developmental activities in the state of Arunachal Pradesh between 2021-2023 is 29.718274 Sq. km.

It is prayed that this Affidavit by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of the Forest Force, Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may kindly be considered and taken on record. This respondent also craves the permission of the Hon'ble Tribunal to file additional reports, as and when required.


DEPONENT
Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh
Itanagar


VERIFICATION

I, the above-named deponent, do hereby verify that the facts stated in the above affidavit are true to my knowledge and belief. No part of the same is false and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

Verified at Court of Executive Magistrate on this the 25th day of February,

2025


DEPONENT
Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh
Itanagar


25 / 02 / 25
Executive Magistrate
Capital, Itanagar
Arunachal Pradesh

Service : OA/555/2024 - Affidavit on behalf of Deptt of Envv., Forest and climate change, Government of Arunachal Pradesh

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Date: Wed, 26 Feb 2025, 1:56 PM

affidavit Arunachal Pradesh.pdf 1.3 MB

Sir/Ma'am,

Please find attached with this email affidavit on behalf of Arunachal Pradesh in OA/555/2024.

Please acknowledge receipt. Thank you.

Regards

SHUBHAM BHALLA
Advocate-on-Record
Supreme Court of India

Office: D-52, Basement, Panchsheel Enclave, New Delhi 110017.

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