

## BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

## PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

## ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 129 OF 2024

## IN THE MATTER OF: -

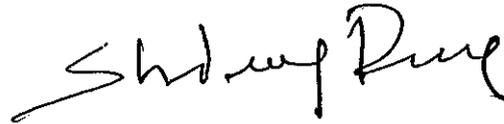
News item titled "Forest land five times Delhi's geographical area Under encroachment govt. data shows" appearing in Deccan Herald dated 05.01.2024

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Filed on 18.04.2024

Filed by,



SHUVODEEP ROY

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

Off. Add: 06, School Lane(GF) , Bengali Market,  
New Delhi – 110001

Code: 1672

Email:- [shuvodeep\\_roy@rediffmail.com](mailto:shuvodeep_roy@rediffmail.com)

Mob. No. 9818182688

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 129 OF 2024**

**IN THE MATTER OF: -**

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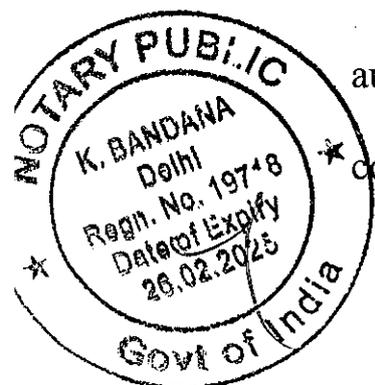
**AFFIDAVIT IN RESPONSE TO ORDER DATED 09.02.2024  
- BY THE RESPONDENT - STATE OF TRIPURA**

I, Manoj Kumar, IAS, aged 59 years, S/o Lakhan Sah, Special Chief Resident Commissioner to the Government of Tripura, Tripura Bhawan, Kautilya Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi, do hereby solemnly state and affirm as under: -

1. That the deponent is the Special Chief Resident Commissioner of the Govt. of Tripura and posted at the Tripura Bhawan, New Delhi and in course of discharge of his official duties, deponent has become conversant with the facts of the instant case and being duly

authorized on this behalf by Respondent-State, the deponent is fully competent to swear the present affidavit

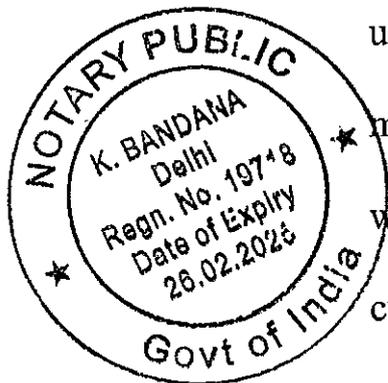
EMPOWERED TO ADMINISTER THE OATH  
SECTION 139 OF CPC 1908  
SECTION 297 OF CRPC 1973  
DELHI HIGH COURT RULES 1967  
PART-6, CHAPTER XVIII-227  
EVIDENCE BY AFFIDAVIT BEFORE NOTAR  
SUPREME COURT RULES, 2013  
ORDER-X-7



2. That this Hon'ble Tribunal, vide Order dated 09.02.2024, directed all impleaded Respondents - States to file their respective responses in the present suo moto proceedings initiated on the basis of a Newspaper Report titled "*Forest land five times Delhi's geographical area Under encroachment govt. data shows*" appearing in Deccan Herald dated 05.01.2024, wherein it is reported that large encroachment of broadly more than 7,500 sq. kms. Of forest land across the Country.

3. That, so far as the Respondent-State of Tripura is concerned, a Status Report on encroachment of forest land has been submitted, and as per the said Status Report, the position in the Respondent-State of Tripura is as under:-

3.1 As on January, 2024 a total of 4227.345 ha of forest land was under encroachment which encompasses 5719 cases and majority of which includes 3796.357 ha of encroachment by way of rubber and rest are in the form of dwelling houses, cultivation of areca nuts etc.



Out of 5719 cases a total of 1102 cases could be freed from the encroachment following due procedure of law.

3.2 Against the rest of encroached forest land, following the procedure laid down under TLR & LR Act, 1960 (Tripura Land Revenue and Land Reforms Act) and other relevant law in force, wherein 3241 nos. of Show Cause Notices have been issued, against 554 cases hearing has been conducted and 42 cases of eviction notices have been issued to the encroachers of forest land. Beside the above cases, court cases has also been lodged.

3.3 The Respondent- State is also taking measures to sensitize the local communities by way of conducting regular awareness raising programs to against the rest of the cases to prevent encroachment by local communities. The digitization of forest boundary has been completed in the State on a priority basis as it helps in monitoring such issues effectively. More emphasis is being laid on conducting regular patrolling in the



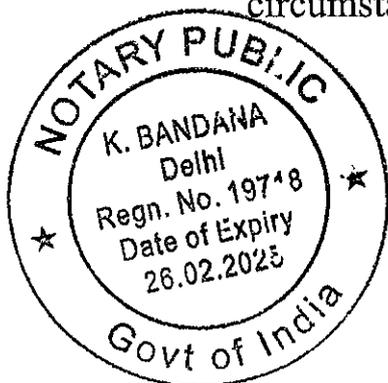
forest areas by deploying Forest Protection Units to check encroachment on forest land.

The Respondent- State is conducting boundary pillaring in the vulnerable forest areas on a regular basis.

The Respondent- State has also giving due impetus to have interdepartmental coordination especially with the District Administration in order to tackle such encroachment issues in the state.

True copy of Status Report on encroachment of forest land in Respondent-State of Tripura as on January, 2024, is annexed herewith as **ANNEXURE - I** [Page 6 to -].

4. The Respondent – State of Tripura craves leave of this Hon’ble Court to file further detailed affidavit, if required in the facts and circumstances of the present case.



*Manoj Kumar*

**DEPONENT**

**MANOJ KUMAR, IAS**  
Spl. Chief Resident Commissioner  
Government of Tripura  
Tripura Bhawan, New Delhi

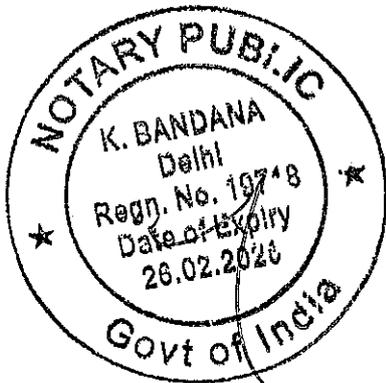
**VERIFICATION:-**

I, the above named deponent, verify that the contents in the above affidavit are true and correct to my knowledge and belief. No part is false and nothing material has been concealed there from.

18 APR 2024

verified at New Delhi on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2024

**IDENTIFIED**



18 APR 2024

*Manoj Kumar*

**DEPONENT**

**MANOJ KUMAR, IAS**  
Spl. Chief Resident Commissioner  
Government of Tripura  
Tripura Bhawan, New Delhi

EMPOWERED TO ADMINISTER THE OATH  
SECTION 139 OF CPC 1908  
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PART-6, CHAPTER XVIII-227  
EVIDENCE BY AFFIDAVIT BEFORE NOTAR  
SUPREME COURT RULES, 2013  
ORDER-X-7

**ATTESTED**  
**NOTARY PUBLIC DELHI**  
Govt. of India  
Mob.: 9654768498

## Annexure - I

STATUS REPORT ON ENCROACHMENT FOR THE STATE OF TRIPURA

As on January, 2024 a total of 4227.345 ha of forest land was under encroachment which encompasses 5719 cases and majority of which includes 3796.357 ha of encroachment by way of rubber and rest are in the form of dwelling houses, cultivation of areca nuts etc.

Out of 5719 cases a total of 1102 cases could be freed from the encroachment following due procedure of law.

Against the rest of encroached forest land, action is being taken following the procedure laid down under TLR & LR Act, 1960 (Tripura Land Revenue and Land Reform Act and other relevant law in force, wherein 3241 nos of Show Cause notices have been issued , against 554 cases hearing has been conducted and 42 cases of eviction notices have been issued to the encroachers of forest land. Beside the above, court case has also been lodged.

Beside the above, the state is also taking measures to sensitize the local communities by way of conducting regular awareness raising programmes to prevent encroachment by local communities. The digitization of forest boundary has been completed in the state on a priority basis as it helps in monitoring such issues effectively. More emphasis is also being laid on conducting regular patrolling in the forest areas by deploying Forest Protection Units to check encroachment on forest land. In the vulnerable forest areas boundary pillaring is also being conducted on a regular basis. Due impetus is also being given to have interdepartmental coordination especially with the District Administration in order to tackle such encroachment issues in the state.

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**Service (2) - (1) Compliance Affidavit and (2) Application ---IN -- ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 129 OF 2024, News item titled "Forest land five times Delhi's geographical area Under encroachment govt. data shows" appearing in Deccan Herald dated 05.01.2024**

1 message

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standingcounsel office <standingcounseloffice@gmail.com>  
To: judicial-ngt@gov.in, ravinder\_adv@yahoo.com

Thu, Apr 18, 2024 at 12:06 PM

SIR

Please find attached herewith -(1) Compliance Affidavit and (2) Application --IN -- ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 129 OF 2024, News item titled "Forest land five times Delhi's geographical area Under encroachment govt. data shows" appearing in Deccan Herald dated 05.01.2024, in subject matter.

FROM  
OFFICE  
SHUVODEEP ROY  
STANDING COUNSEL FOR STATE OF TRIPURA

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**2 attachments**

 **18042024063116.pdf**  
166K

 **18042024063140.pdf**  
113K