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

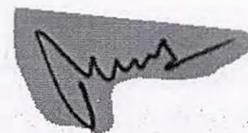
Original Application No . 693 of 2023

In re: News Item appearing in Deccan Herland dated 24.10.2023  
titled "pollution Control Boards are the weak link"

I N D E X

S.No.	Particulars	Pages
1.	Affidavit on behalf of the Maharashtra Pollution Control board	

Filed by



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New Delhi  
Dated: 10.03.2025



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

**Original Application No.693/2023**

In re : News item appearing in Deccan Herald dated 24.10.2023  
titled "Pollution Control Boards are the weak link"

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**Affidavit on behalf of the Maharashtra Pollution Control  
Board**

I, Pramod Nandgaonkar, Aged : Adult, the Administrative Officer of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, having my office at Kalpataru Point, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Sion-Matunga Scheme Road No.8, Sion (East), Mumbai-400 022, do hereby state on solemn affirmation as under :-

- 1) I am filing this Affidavit in compliance of the Order dated 28/1/2025 passed by this Hon'ble NGT incorporating the status of vacancies of Maharashtra Pollution Control Board and upgradation of Laboratory infrastructure on the basis of available office record and information received from the Scientific Division of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board.

- 2) In pursuance to the directions issued by this Hon'ble NGT, the Central Pollution Control Board has conducted Review Meeting with the State Pollution Control Board and Pollution Control Committees on 14/6/2023. As per the Minutes of the said Review Meeting, the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) has submitted the Affidavit to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) vide e-mail dated 24/6/2024.
- 3) It is submitted that Hon. High Court at Bombay on its own Motion has registered the Suo Moto PIL No. 3/2023 regarding deteriorating air quality in the city of Mumbai, wherein, the Hon'ble High Court at Bombay vide Orders dtd.20/12/2024 and 9/1/2025 taking review of the problems of paucity of staff being faced by the MPCB and directed the State Government to take decision on the revised staffing pattern of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board.
- 4) It is submitted that the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board has submitted revised Staffing pattern with 1310 posts to the Government of Maharashtra. The High Powered Committee constituted by the Government of Maharashtra in its Meeting held on 8/10/2024 has sanctioned 1310 posts on the establishment of Maharashtra Pollution Control Board and accordingly, the Environment and Climate Change Department, Government of Maharashtra has issued Government Resolution dated 29/1/2025 and sanctioned



Revised Staffing Pattern of total 1310 posts on the establishment of MPCB. Out of these posts, process of direct recruitment of 64 posts in 11 different cadres is in a final stage. The Board is endeavoring to complete the process to fill up the posts of promotion and direct recruitment quota within a reasonable time by following due procedure of relevant law including the duly approved Recruitment Rules.

- 5) It is submitted that the details of the Laboratories of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board is as under :

**I. Details of Laboratories w.r.t. Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 :**

- a) Total number of all types of laboratory setup by MPCB :-  
Total 08 Nos. (01 Central laboratory and 07 – Regional laboratories)
- b) Out of (a) above, how many laboratories are established as State Water Laboratory :- All are established as State Water Laboratories.
- c) Have all laboratories, as at (b) above, has been notified in the official Gazette: Yes.
- d) Whether any State (or) Institute Laboratories, other than those set up by SPCB/PCC have been specified as State Water Laboratory. If yes, please provide the following:
  - i. Number of such laboratory specified: Nil
  - ii. Number of such laboratory notified in the official Gazette: Nil



- e) (i) Number of Laboratory planned for notification as State Water Laboratory: 04 nos (at Amravati, Solapur, Kolhapur and Nanded)
- (ii) Time required for notification under Section 52 of Water Act (in months): Estimated time of 3 months from commissioning of new laboratories.

**II. Details of Laboratories w.r.t. Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 :**

- a. Out of B(a) above laboratory, how many laboratories are established as State Air Laboratory: 08 nos.
- b. Have all laboratories, as at (a) above, has been notified in the official Gazette: Yes.
- c. Whether any State (or) Institute Laboratories, other than those set up by SPCB/PCC have been specified as State Air Laboratory. If yes, please provide the following:
- i. Number of such laboratory specified: Nil
  - ii. Number of such laboratory notified in the official Gazette: Nil
- d. (i) Number of Laboratory planned for notification as State Air Laboratory: 04 nos. (at Amravati, Solapur, Kolhapur and Nanded)



(ii) Time required for notification under Section 28 of Air Act (in months): Estimated time of 3 months from commissioning of new laboratories.

**III. Information of Laboratory recognized as "Environment Laboratory" under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (EPA 1986) :**

- a. Out of B(a) above laboratory, how many of them recognized as "Environment Laboratory" under EPA 1986 :- 06 nos.
- b. Number of laboratories planned for recognition under EPA 1986: - 06 nos.
- c. Time required for recognition under EPA 1986 (in months): - Estimated time of 3 months from commissioning of new laboratories.

6. Hence this Affidavit.

Solemnly affirmed on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2025 at Mumbai.

6 MAR 2025

For and on behalf of the Government of Maharashtra,

*Pramod Nandgankar*  
 ( Pramad Nandgankar )  
 Administrative Officer

**Administrative Officer**  
 Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,  
 Mumbai.

**BEFORE ME**

*Vasant B. More*  
 6/3/2025  
**VASANT B. MORE**  
 Notary Gr. Mumbai  
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 Above Axis Bank,  
 Sion West, Mumbai-400022

REGISTER Sr. No 150/2025

