

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 623 of 2025

News Item titled "Govt. efforts to tap KSPCB funds set to hit legal hurdle" appearing in "The Deccan Herald" dated 23/11/2025.

## I N D E X

S.No.	Particulars	Pages
1.	Affidavit in reply on behalf of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (Respondent No.15) In compliance of order dated 03.12.2025 Passed by this Hon'ble NGT	

Filed by



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New Delhi  
Dated: 06.05.2026

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,  
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI.  
Original Application No.623/2025



**In the matter of :-**

News Item titled "Govt. efforts to tap KSPCB funds set to hit legal hurdle" appearing in "The Deccan Herald" dated 23/11/2025.

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**Affidavit in Reply on behalf of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (Respondent No.15) in compliance of the Order dated 3/12/2025 passed by the Hon'ble NGT.**

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I, Jagannath Salunkhe, Aged – Adult, Occupation-Service, the Joint Director(Water) of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, having my office at 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Kalpataru Point, Near Sion Circle, Sion (East), Mumbai-400 022, do hereby state on solemn affirmation as under:-

- 1) It is submitted that in compliance of the Order dated 3/12/2025 passed by this Hon'ble NGT, the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board is filing the said Affidavit.
- 2) It is submitted that this Hon'ble NGT has registered the Original Application bearing No.623/2025 as suo-motu on the basis of News Item titled "Govt. efforts to tap KSPCB funds set to hit legal hurdle" appearing in "The Deccan Herald" dated 23/11/2025 and issued Notice to the Respondents for filing their response / reply .
- 3) It is submitted that this Hon'ble Tribunal was further implead all State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees

as Respondents in the present matter and the Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board is Respondent No.15.

- 4) It is most respectfully submitted that the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board is a statutory body constituted under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. It is further submitted that Section 37 of the Water Act, 1974 and Section 33 of the Air Act, 1981 provides that the funds of the Board shall be expend for performing its functions under these Acts.
- 5) It is submitted that the funds of the answering Respondent Board are utilised strictly in accordance with the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and for purposes connected with pollution control and environmental protection.
- 6) It is submitted that the Board has not received any order, direction or communication from the Government of Maharashtra seeking diversion, transfer, loan or grant of the Board's fund for any purpose outside its statutory mandate.
- 7) It is submitted that the Environment Compensation funds shall be used only for remediation, restoration, monitoring, enforcement and strengthening of pollution control mechanism. Further, the funds of SPCB can be used for strengthening of Laboratories, monitoring, infrastructure, pollution abatement projects,



environmental restoration, capacity building of SPCB and awareness programmes linked to pollution control.

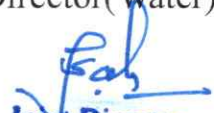
8) It is submitted that filling of vacancies in Maharashtra Pollution Control Board is in process and the Board has submitted its report in Original Application No.693/2023 – PCBs are the weak link.

9) Hence this Affidavit.

Solemnly affirmed on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2026 at..Mumbai

For and on behalf of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,

( Jagannath Salunkhe )  
Joint Director (Water)



Joint Director  
(Water Pollution Control)  
M.P.C. Board, Mumbai

**BEFORE ME**

**VASANT B. MORE**  
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Above Axis Bank,  
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REGISTER Sr. No. .... / 20

