

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 633 OF 2024

IN THE MATTER OF:

NEWS ITEM TITLED "THE CURIOUS CASE OF DELHI'S DISAPPEARING
WATER BODIES" APPEARING IN THE HINDU DATED 25.04.2024

AFFIDAVIT

AFFIDAVIT IN COMPLIANCE OF ORDER DATED 29.05.2024 ON BEHALF OF
RESPONDENT NO. 2 i.e. MoWR, RD&GR

INDEX

<u>Sr. No.</u>	<u>Particulars</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
1.	Affidavit in compliance of order dated 01.07.2024 on Behalf of Respondent No. 2- (Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation)	
2.	Annexure – A ; Copy Notification dated 23.04.2019 of Department of Environment, Forests and Wildlife, Government of NCT of Delhi.	

Date: 25.02.2025

Place: New Delhi

ADVOCATE FOR THE RESPONDENT:

Gigi.C.George, Advocate
Standing Counsel (UOI)
Ch No. 457, Lawyers Block-1
Delhi High Court, New Delhi
Email- gigicgoerge.adv42@yahoo.in
Mob-9810625315

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 633 OF 2024**

IN THE MATTER OF:

**NEWS ITEM TITLED "THE CURIOUS CASE OF DELHI'S DISAPPEARING
WATER BODIES" APPEARING IN THE HINDU DATED 25.04.2024**

AFFIDAVIT

**AFFIDAVIT IN COMPLIANCE OF ORDER DATED 29.05.2024 ON BEHALF OF
RESPONDENT NO. 2 i.e. MoWR, RD&GR**

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:

I, Anup Kumar Sirvastava, aged about 57 years, presently working as Executive Director (Technical) in the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India, New Delhi do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under:

1. That I am working as Executive Director (Technical) in the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India, New Delhi. I am duly authorized for and on behalf of the Respondent No. 2 to swear to the present affidavit. I am fully conversant with the facts and circumstances of the present case from the records.
2. That at the outset it is submitted that NMCG is one of the authorities constituted in accordance with the provisions of sub-section 3 of Section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 vide notification no. S.O. No. 3187(E) dated 07.10.2016, published in the gazette of India. NMCG has been mandated with for the implementation of programs for protection, prevention and rejuvenation of river Ganga and its tributaries christened as the Namami Gange Programme (NGP) of the Central



Government. The NGP focuses on effective abatement of pollution and rejuvenation, protection and management of the river Ganga and its tributaries through interventions like taking up sewerage infrastructure projects for interception, diversion and treatment of waste water discharge from open drains into the river through construction of new STPs and/or rehabilitation and augmentation of existing STPs, laying of sewage pipelines etc.

3. That this Hon' ble Tribunal initiated the above-mentioned matter suo motu based on a news article published in The Hindu on April 25, 2024, titled "The curious case of Delhi's disappearing water bodies. " The article highlighted concerns over the deteriorating condition of water bodies in Delhi and raised questions about their management and protection.
4. That, Wetland Authority of Delhi has been constituted under Rule (5) and Rule (7) of the Wetland (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 notified by MoEF&CC, Govt. of India vide GSR 1203(E) dated 26th September, 2017, vide Notification dated 23.04.2019 of Department of environment, Forest and wildlife, Government of NCT of Delhi for the purpose of the conservation and management of wetland for the Union Territory of Delhi. Copy of the Notification dated 23.04.2019 of Department of Environment, Forests and Wildlife, Government of NCT of Delhi is enclosed herewith as **Annexure – 1**.
5. That It is necessary to expedite the protection and restoration of water bodies in Delhi in a time-bound manner to safeguard ecological balance and ensure sustainable water resource management. Strengthening efforts for efficient conservation and management of wetlands, in alignment with the *Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules, 2017*, is crucial to preserving biodiversity, maintaining groundwater recharge, and mitigating urban flooding for which powers and functions



of State Wetlands Authority or Union Territory Wetlands Authority have been enumerated at Section 5 (4) of *Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules, 2017*.

- 6. That, the answering respondent herein craves leave of the Hon'ble Tribunal to file additional reply, in future, if required.
- 7. In light of the above submission, it is respectfully submitted that this Answering Respondent no. 2 i.e. MoJS, shall abide by any order(s) or direction(s) passed by this Hon'ble tribunal in the instant Application.



DEPONENT

Identified
who signed before me

VERIFICATION

I, the deponent above named do hereby verify that the contents of the aforesaid affidavit are true and correct to my knowledge and belief and nothing material has been concealed therefrom. Verified at New Delhi on this 25 FEB day of 2025 2025.




DEPONENT

Date: 25.02.2025

Place: New Delhi



ATTESTED

NOTARY PUBLIC

25 FEB 2025

रजिस्ट्री सं. डो.एल.-33002/99

भारत सरकार

REGISTERED No. D.L.-33002/99

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

दिल्ली राजपत्र
Delhi Gazette



सत्यमेव जयते

असाधारण

EXTRAORDINARY

प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं. 77] दिल्ली, बृहस्पतिवार, अप्रैल 25, 2019/वैशाख 5, 1941 [रा.रा.क्षे.दि. सं. 25
No. 77] DELHI, THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2019/VAISAKHA 5, 1941 [N.C.T.D. No. 25

भाग—IV

PART—IV

राष्ट्रीय राजधानी राज्य क्षेत्र, दिल्ली सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI

पर्यावरण विभाग

अधिसूचना

दिल्ली, 23 अप्रैल, 2019

सं.फा.1(07)/डी.पी.जी.एस./सी.के.स/2017-18/9397.9429.—पर्यावरण वन, वन्यजीव एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार, जी.एस.आर. 1203(ई) दिनांकित 26 सितंबर, 2017 द्वारा अधिसूचित आर्द्रभूमि (संरक्षण एवं प्रबंधन) नियम 2017 के नियम (5) व नियम (7) द्वारा प्रदत्त शक्तियों का प्रयोग करते हुए, दिल्ली के उपराज्यपाल केंद्र शासित प्रदेश दिल्ली में आर्द्रभूमि (संरक्षण एवं प्रबंधन) के उद्देश्य से निम्नलिखित सदस्यों को निहित करते हुए, आर्द्रभूमि प्राधिकरण का गठन करते हैं:—

i.	मुख्य सचिव	अध्यक्ष
ii.	उपाध्यक्ष, दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण	सदस्य पदेन
iii.	सचिव, प्रभारी—पर्यावरण विभाग	उपाध्यक्ष
iv.	प्रधान सचिव, प्रभारी—लोक निर्माण विभाग	सदस्य पदेन
v.	सचिव, प्रभारी—शहरी विकास विभाग	सदस्य पदेन
vi.	आयुक्त—सह—सचिव, प्रभारी—विकास विभाग	सदस्य पदेन
vii.	मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी, दिल्ली जल बोर्ड	सदस्य पदेन
viii.	सचिव, प्रभारी—मतस्य पालन विभाग	सदस्य पदेन

ix.	सचिव, प्रभारी-सिचाई एवं बाढ़ नियंत्रण विभाग	सदस्य पदेन
x.	सचिव, प्रभारी-पर्यटन विभाग	सदस्य पदेन
xi.	सचिव, प्रभारी-राजस्व विभाग	सदस्य पदेन
xii.	प्रधान मुख्य वन संरक्षक, वन एवं वन्यजीव विभाग, दिल्ली	सदस्य पदेन
xiii.	प्रबंध निदेशक, भू-स्थानिक तथ्य समिति (जी.एस.डी.एल.)	सदस्य पदेन
xiv.	सदस्य सचिव, दिल्ली प्रदूषण नियंत्रण समिति	सदस्य पदेन
xv.	सदस्य सचिव, जैव विविधता बोर्ड	सदस्य पदेन
xvi.	आयुक्त, दिल्ली नगर निगम (उत्तर, दक्षिण एवं पूर्व)	सदस्य पदेन
xvii.	प्रमुख, दिल्ली ईकाइ, केंद्रीय भू-जल बोर्ड	सदस्य पदेन
xviii.	सचिव, दिल्ली छावनी बोर्ड	सदस्य पदेन
xix.	अतिरिक्त प्रधान मुख्य वन संरक्षक, क्षेत्रिय कार्यालय पर्यावरण वन, वन्यजीव एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार, लखनऊ, उत्तर प्रदेश	सदस्य पदेन
xx.	निदेशक, दिल्ली विडियाघर	सदस्य पदेन
xxi.	अधीक्षक, पुरातत्वविद, भारतीय पुरातत्व सर्वेक्षण	सदस्य पदेन
xxii.	निदेशक, पर्यावरण विभाग	सदस्य पदेन
xxiii.	वन संरक्षक/ मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी, डी.पी.जी.एस.	सदस्य पदेन

निम्नलिखित सदस्यों को विशेषज्ञ के रूप में नामित किया जाता है:-

- I. श्री आई. एच. खॉन, प्रधान मुख्य वन संरक्षक, सेवानिवृत्त
- II. श्री मनु भटनागर, इनटेक
- III. निदेशक, डी.टी.यू./प्रतिनिधि, डी.टी.यू.
- IV. निदेशक, आई. ए. आर. आई./प्रतिनिधि, आई. ए. आर. आई.

राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली
के उपराज्यपाल के नाम व आदेश से,

मधुप व्यास, सचिव (पर्यावरण एवं वन)

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND WILDLIFE

NOTIFICATION

Delhi, 23rd, April, 2019

No. E.1(07)/DPGS/C.Case/2017-18/9397-9429.— In exercise of the powers conferred by Rule (5) and Rule(7) of the Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 notified by MoEF&CC, Govt. of India vide GSR 1203(E) dated 26th September, 2017, the Lt. Governor of Delhi is pleased to constitute Wetlands Authority for the purpose of the conservation and management of wetland for the Union Territory of Delhi consisting of the following members:-

i.	Chief Secretary, Delhi	Chairperson
ii.	Vice Chairman, DDA	Member, Ex-officio
iii.	The Secretary-in-Charge of the Department of Environment	Vice-Chairman
iv.	Pr. Secretary-in-Charge PWD	Member, Ex-officio
v.	The Secretary-in-Charge of the Department of Urban Development	Member, Ex-officio

vi.	The Commissioner-cum-Secretary-in-Charge of the Department of Development	Member, Ex-officio
vii.	CEO, Delhi Jal Board	Member, Ex-officio
viii.	The Secretary-in-Charge of the Department of Fisheries	Member, Ex-officio
ix.	The Secretary-in-Charge of the Department of Irrigation & Flood Control	Member, Ex-officio
x.	The Secretary-in-Charge of the Department of Tourism	Member, Ex-officio
xi.	The Secretary-in-Charge of the Departments of Revenue	Member, Ex-officio
xii.	Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, Delhi	Member, Ex-officio
xiii.	Managing Director, Geo Spatial Data Limited (GSDL)	Member, Ex-officio
xiv.	Member Secretary, Delhi Pollution Control Committee	Member, Ex-officio
xv.	Member Secretary, Biodiversity Board of UT	Member, Ex-officio
xvi.	Commissioner of MCD(North, South and East)	Member, Ex-officio
xvii.	Head of Delhi unit of CGWB	Member, Ex-officio
xviii.	Secretary, Delhi Cantonment Board	Member, Ex-officio
xix.	Addl. PCCF of the regional office of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Lucknow	Member, Ex-officio
xx.	Director, Delhi Zoo	Member, Ex-officio
xxi.	Superintendent, Archaeologist, Archaeological Survey of India	Member, Ex-officio
xxii.	Director, Environment	Member, Ex-officio
xxiii.	Conservator of Forest/CEO(DPGS)	Member Secretary

The following members are nominated as experts :-

- (i) Sh. I.H. Khan, PCCF (Retd.)
- (ii) Sh. Manu Bhatnagar, INTACH
- (iii) Director, DTU/Representative of DTU
- (iv) Director, IARI/Representative of IARI

By Order and in the Name of
Lt. Governor of the National Capital Territory of Delhi,
MADHUP VYAS, Secy. (Env. & Forest)