

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL**PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI.**Original Application No. 687/2023/PB

In the matter of:- Air Quality Index in Various Cities

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

Original Application No. 687/2023/PB

In the matter of:- Air Quality Index in Various Cities

**AFFIDAVIT FILED BY COLLECTOR & DISTRICT
MAGISTRATE, KHORDHA, RESPONDENT NO 48.**

I, Amrit Raturaj, aged about 33 years, S/O. Raj Kishore Sastri, at present working as Collector & District Magistrate, Khordha, At/PO/Dist. Khordha, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows:-

1. That, I have gone through the Original Application, relevant records and understood the contents thereof. I am well acquainted with the facts of the case and competent to swear this affidavit in my official capacity.
2. That the instant matter has been registered Suo-Moto on the basis of Air Quality Bulletins of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) posted on their website in respect of Air Quality Index (AQI) for different cities from 20.10.2023 to 01.11.2023. The



Amrit Raturaj

Hon'ble Tribunal vide its order dated 06.11.2025 impleaded the Collector & District Magistrate, Khordha of the State of Odisha as respondent No. 48 and further directed to file response before the Hon'ble Tribunal in this matter.

3. That, after receipt of the notice from the Consultant (Judicial), NGT, the Regional Officer, State Pollution Control Board, Bhubaneswar was requested to submit a detailed report on the Air Quality in respect to Bhubaneswar city and to submit action taken report if any so as to submit report on affidavit before the Hon'ble Tribunal vide this office letter No. 20796 dtd. 21.11.2025.

4. That, in response, the Regional Office has submitted a detail report vide his letter No. 3355 dtd. 25.11.2025. It is mentioned therein that the State Pollution Control Board, Odisha, Bhubaneswar has been conducting Ambient Air Quality monthly on manual mode at Six locations of Bhubaneswar city at i.e., (i) Palasuni Water Works, (ii) Khandagiri Police Station, (iii) Capital Police Station, (iv) IRC Village, Nayapalli, (v)



Anmit Rautraj

Central Laboratory, Patia and (vi) Head Office, Nilakantha Nagar. The Ambient Air quality monitoring is carried out for the parameter like SO₂, NO₂, NH₃, O₃, PM₁₀ & PM_{2.5} twice a week for 104 observation per year as per the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) guidelines.

True copy of letter No. 3355 dtd. 25.11.2025 of Regional Officer, State Pollution Control Board, Bhubaneswar is enclosed herewith as **Annexure-A/48**.

5. That, from the monthly air quality status of Bhubaneswar city for the year, 2025, it is observed that AQI falls under Moderate category in the month of January & February and under Satisfactory category from March to October-2025, which indicates that the Air quality status of Bhubaneswar mostly remain in satisfactory category. In the winter season due to temperature inversion and calm conditions, the Air Quality Status shows moderate in the month of January and February-2025 and PM₁₀ is the prominent



Anmit Rautray

Pollutant in all monitored month except in the month of January when it is PM2.5.

6. That, Bhubaneswar is a Non-attainment City identified under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) and various actions are being implemented to reduce air pollution. The State Pollution Control Board (SPCB), Odisha operates two Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) in Bhubaneswar i.e. near (i) Lingaraj Temple Market complex and (ii) LV Prasad Eye Hospital, Patia, to monitor the real-time air quality 2 data which is displayed in the same locations for public information.

7. That, the MoEF&CC, Govt. of India has funded Rs. 31.62 Cr. during the year 2019-20 to 2024-25 to Bhubaneswar City, out of which Rs. 26.24 Cr. has been utilized till October 2025, which is 84%. The air quality improvement jobs are completed so far including road improvements (end-to-end paving and road repair), cleaning of roads using mechanical road sweepers, public awareness campaigns, plantation in open areas and traffic corridors. Further, emission from



Anmit Rautray

the industrial sector is being monitored through the Consent to Operate (CTO) administration of the Board while emissions from other sources like vehicular emissions, construction and demolition dust emissions, and emissions due to municipal solid waste burning are being dealt with as per the city-level action plan prepared under NCAP which are being executed through the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) keeping in coordination with various stakeholders.



8. That I have read over the content of the accompanying Reply, and the same has been drafted as per my instructions. The contents of the said Reply are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Identified by


Advocate



Deponent
Collector & District Magistrate
Khordha

VERIFICATION

Verified at Khordha on the 9th day of January, 2026 that the contents of paragraph 1 to 7 of my above Affidavit are true and correct and no part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

DEPONENT *Amrit Raturaj*
Collector & District Magistrate
Khordha

AFFIDAVIT

AFFIDAVIT NO. 84/ dt. 9.1.26

The above deponent being personally known to me appears before me on 09/01/2026 at 10:35 AM / PM and states on oath that the contents of the affidavit are true to the best of his knowledge based on official records.

Amrit Raturaj
Deponent
Collector & District Magistrate
Khordha

DR. Hemant 09/01/2026
Executive Magistrate, Khordha.
Executive Magistrate
Khurda





OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL OFFICER, BHUBANESWAR
STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, ODISHA
 [FOREST, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA]
 Plot No. B-59/2 & B-59/3, Chandaka Industrial Estate, Patia, Po- KIIT, Bhubaneswar - 751024
 Khordha, Odisha

No. 3355Date 25/11/2025**By Regd. Post / By Email**

To,

**The Additional District Magistrate
 District Collectorate
 At/Po/Dist: Khordha**

Sub: Air Quality Index (AQI) of Bhubaneswar City

Ref: Your letter No. 20796, dt: 21.11.2025

Sir,

In inviting a reference to above cited letter and subject please find enclosed herewith the Ambient air quality index report for the year 2024 and 2025 (January- October) for your kind reference. Further it is to be mentioned that SPCB, Odisha has submitted AQI status on monthly basis to CPCB for submission before Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi on original application No. 44 of 2018 in the matter of Vardhaman Kaushik Vs. Union of India of Hon'ble NGT Divisional bench, New Delhi.

This is for your kind information.

Encl: As above

Yours faithfully

REGIONAL OFFICERMemo No: 3356 /Dtd. 25/11/2025

Copy forwarded to the Chief Environmental Engineer, NCAP cell, State Pollution Control Board, Odisha, Bhubaneswar for kind information

True copy attested.

REGIONAL OFFICER

Collector & District Magistrate
 Khordha

**Report on Ambient Air Quality Index (AQI) Status of
Bhubaneswar City**

State Pollution Control Board, Odisha has been conducting Ambient Air Quality monthly on manual mode at Six locations of Bhubaneswar city at i.e., (i) Palasuni Water Works, (ii) Khandagiri Police Station, (iii) Capital Police Station, (iv) IRC Village, Nayapalli, (v) Central Laboratory, Patia and (vi) Head Office, Nilakantha Nagar. The Ambient Air quality monitoring is carried out for the parameter like SO₂, NO₂, NH₃, O₃, PM₁₀ & PM_{2.5} on twice a week not on conjugative day for 104 observation per year as per the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) guideline. Ambient Air Quality report with respect to Air Quality Index (AQI) for the year-2025 (January-October) along with AQI Health Impact Standard (*Copy Enclosed as Annexure-I*).

From the monthly air quality status, of Bhubaneswar city for the year-2025, it is observed that AQI falls under **Moderate category** in the month of January & February and under **Satisfactory category** from March to October-2025, which indicates that the Air quality status of Bhubaneswar mostly remain in satisfactory category, however in the winter season due to temperature inversion and calm conditions, the Air Quality Status shows moderate in the month of January and February-2025 and PM₁₀ is the prominent Pollutant in all monitored month except in the month of January it is PM_{2.5}.

Every month the air quality status report are being submitting to CPCB for submission before the Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, New Delhi in the matter of OA No. 44 of 2018. Further Board has submitted the yearly report-2024 (January- December) of Bhubaneswar city to the Executive officer, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC), Additional Chief Secretary Forest Environment and Climate Change Department, Commission-Cum-Chairman, State Transport Authority (STA), Principal Secretary, Housing and Urban Development (H&UD), Government of Odisha and to your Esteemed Office to take remedial measures to curb the air pollution problem mostly for Dust Particle (PM₁₀ & PM_{2.5}) in the city.

Bhubaneswar is a Non-attainment City identified under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) and various actions are being implemented to reduce air pollution. The State Pollution Control Board (SPCB), Odisha operates two Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) in Bhubaneswar i.e. near (i) Lingaraj Temple Market complex and (ii) LV Prasad Eye Hospital, Patia, to monitor the real-time air quality

Tone copy attached.

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Collector & District Magistrate
Khordha

data which is displayed in the same locations for public information. Month wise continuous monitoring results are enclosed as **Annexure-II**. The Air Quality index value with categorisation and Health Impacts is attached as **Annexure-III**

MoEF&CC, Govt. of India has funded Rs. 31.62 Cr. during the year 2019-20 to 2024-25 to Bhubaneswar City, out of which Rs. 26.24 Cr. has been utilised till October 2025, which is 84%. The air quality improvement jobs completed so far includes road improvements (end-to-end paving and road repair), cleaning of roads using mechanical road sweepers, public awareness campaigns, plantation in open areas and traffic corridors. Emission from the industrial sector is monitored through the Consent to Operate (CTO) administration of the Board while emissions from other sources like vehicular emissions, construction and demolition dust emissions, and emissions due to municipal solid waste burning are dealt with as per the city-level action plan prepared under NCAP and such actions are executed through Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) in association with various stakeholders.

True copy attached.

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Collector & District Magistrate
Khordha

Annexure-I

**AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STATUS ON MANUAL MODE WITH AIR QUALITY INDEX
OF BHUBANESWAR CITY
FOR THE YEAR 2025 (JANUARY TO OCTOBER)**

| Month | No of Monitoring Station | Average values expressed in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ | | | | | | AQI w.r.t Prominent Pollutant | Categorisation |
|-----------|--------------------------|--|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| | | SO ₂ | NO ₂ | NH ₃ | O ₃ | PM ₁₀ | PM _{2.5} | | |
| Jan | 06 | BDL | 16.5 | 39.7 | 26.5 | 196 | 81 | 170(PM _{2.5}) | Moderate |
| Feb | 06 | BDL | 17.7 | 38.1 | 27.6 | 124 | 56 | 116 (PM ₁₀) | Moderate |
| March | 06 | BDL | 17.5 | 35.5 | 27.9 | 96 | 43 | 96 (PM ₁₀) | Satisfactory |
| April | 06 | BDL | 17.3 | 35.2 | 27.9 | 78 | 34 | 78 (PM ₁₀) | Satisfactory |
| May | 06 | BDL | 17.1 | 35.6 | 27.6 | 66 | 29 | 66 (PM ₁₀) | Satisfactory |
| June | 06 | BDL | 16.3 | 37.1 | 29.5 | 60 | 28 | 60 (PM ₁₀) | Satisfactory |
| July | 06 | BDL | 16.3 | 36.5 | 27.6 | 55 | 24 | 55(PM ₁₀) | Satisfactory |
| August | 06 | BDL | 15.4 | 34.3 | 26.7 | 51 | 23 | 51(PM ₁₀) | Satisfactory |
| September | 06 | BDL | 16.3 | 33.3 | 29.1 | 61 | 25 | 61 (PM ₁₀) | Satisfactory |
| October | 06 | BDL | 19.6 | 36.4 | 24.2 | 99 | 46 | 99 (PM ₁₀) | Satisfactory |

True copy attested

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Collector & District Magistrate
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Annexure-II

CONTINUOUS AMBIENT AIR QUALITY INDEX STATUS OF BHUBANESWAR CITY FOR THE YEAR 2024 and 2025 (JANUARY TO OCTOBER)

| Month | Avg. AQI Value | Categorisation |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| January-2024 | 283 | Poor |
| February-2024 | 115 | Moderate |
| March-2024 | 94 | Satisfactory |
| April-2024 | 108 | Moderate |
| May-2024 | 50 | Satisfactory |
| June-2024 | 72 | Satisfactory |
| July-2024 | 52 | Satisfactory |
| August-2024 | 42 | Good |
| September-2024 | 45 | Good |
| October-2024 | 63 | Satisfactory |
| November-2024 | 150 | Moderate |
| December-2024 | 170 | Moderate |
| January-2025 | 170 | Moderate |
| February-2025 | 106 | Moderate |
| March-2025 | 87 | Satisfactory |
| April-2025 | 61 | Satisfactory |
| May-2025 | 47 | Good |
| June-2025 | 55 | Satisfactory |
| July-2025 | 53 | Satisfactory |
| August-2025 | 39 | Good |
| September-2025 | 38 | Good |
| October-2025 | 73 | Satisfactory |

True copy attested.

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Collector & District Magistrate
Khordha

Annexure-III

AQI with categorization and Health impact

| AQI VALUE | CATEGORY | IMPACT ON HUMAN HEALTH |
|-----------|--------------|--|
| 0-50 | GOOD | Minimal Impact |
| 51-100 | SATISFACTORY | Minor breathing discomfort to sensitive people |
| 101-200 | MODERATE | Breathing discomfort to the people with lung, heart disease, children and adults |
| 201-300 | POOR | Breathing discomfort to people on prolonged exposure |
| 301-400 | VERY POOR | Respiratory illness to the people on prolonged exposure |
| >401 | SEVERE | Respiratory effects even on healthy people |

Tone copy attached.

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Collector & District Magistrate
Khordha