

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, PRINCIPAL  
BENCH, NEW DELHI**

**O.A. NO. 108 of 2024**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**“SAND MINING: 20 ARRESTED, 40 BIG BOATS  
SEIZED IN BIHAR POLICE OPERATION ON SONE  
RIVER”**

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RIVER”**

**FACTUAL AND ACTION TAKEN REPORT ON BEHALF  
OF THE BIHAR STATE POLLUTION CONTROL  
BOARD.**

I, S. Chandrasekar, Male, aged about 46 years, Son of Mr. S. Subramani, residing at No. 03, Aranya Awas, Shaheed Peer Ali Khan Marg, Patna, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows:

1. That I am presently posted as Member Secretary in Bihar State Pollution Control Board, Patna. I am authorized to file the present action taken report on behalf of Respondent no. 01. I am aware of the facts of the present case on the

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basis of the official records maintained at Bihar State Pollution Control Board, Patna (herein after referred to as BSPCB), that I believe to be true. As such, I am competent to depose the present action taken report.

2. That the instant matter has been registered as an original Application based on a news item published in 'Down to Earth' titled "Sand mining: 20 arrested, 40 big boats seized in Bihar police operation on some river". The Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to issue notice to Bihar State Pollution Control Board and the District Magistrate, Patna.
3. That on receipt of Notice of the instant O.A. the answering respondents vide its letter dated 24.01.2024 informed the District Magistrate, Patna; Director, Mines and Geology department, Govt. of Bihar and the District Mining Officer, Patna, about the passing of the order and scheduled a meeting on 29.01.2024 for ascertaining the factual and action taken in the matter.

4. That on 29.01.2024 the meeting was convened and in the said meeting the District Mining Officer, Patna, informed that on 21.12.2023 a team comprising of police staff of P.S. Bihta and Bihar Special Armed Force proceeded towards Amnabad and Pathlautiya village in Bihta Block, Patna District, to check activities of illegal sand mining. At around 11:30 a.m. when the force reached Village-Pathlautiya, Amnabad, Sone diyara, it noticed that approximately 40 to 50 boats with around 100-150 persons accompanied with sand mafias were illegally mining sand from Sone river and were carrying the illegally mined sand on boats.

The information of illegal sand mining was given to the SHO, P.S. Bihta, who then came to the site with more force and thereafter the police force with help of boats surrounded the boats which were carrying illegal sand and accordingly apprehended 20 persons. Further, 40 big boats were also seized in the said operation. The sand mafias torched some of the boats to cause inconvenience to the police force in carrying their operation/raid.

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Arrest memo and seizure list were made and accordingly FIR no. 5117008231272, dated 22.12.2023, came to be registered.

A copy of the FIR no. 5117008231272, dated 22.12.2023 is annexed and marked as Annexure-A.

5. That it is stated that the State Government is regularly carrying search drives in sand ghats where illegal sand mining is done and is taking all the measures to control and prevent illegal sand mining.
6. That in this regard it is further stated that District Mining Office, Patna, has carried 448 raids, registered 236 FIR, seized 921 vehicles and realized Rs. 1118.88 Lacs from the illegal sand mining activity from 1.04.2023 to 31.12.2023. Further in the financial year 2022-23, has carried 587 raids, registered 134 FIR, seized 1377 vehicles and realized Rs. 1643.66 Lacs from illegal sand mining activity.

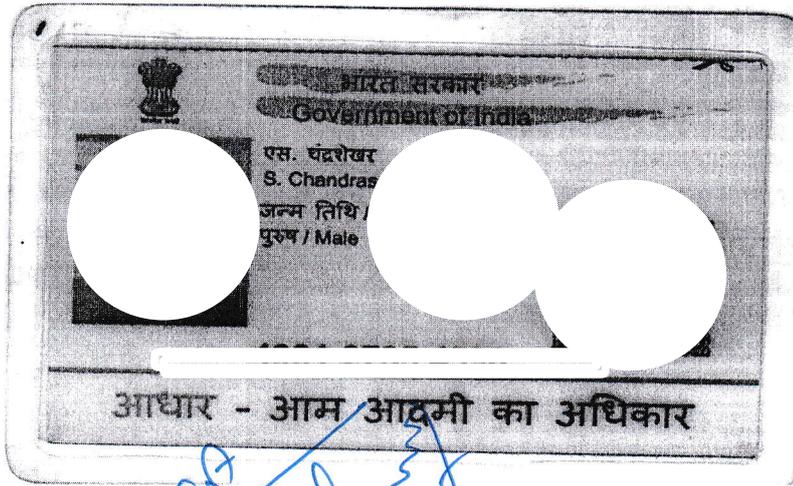
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A copy of the report containing the aforesaid details of action taken is annexed and marked as Annexure-B.

7. That the matter is being investigated further and all possible steps are being taken to ensure that no illegal sand mining takes place in the State of Bihar.
8. That I have read the contents of the report and have understood the same.

  
DEPONENT  
(S. CHANDRASEKAR)

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for CA  
