

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 108 OF 2025**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Gauri Maulekhi & Anr. ... Applicants
Versus
Union of India & Ors ... Respondents

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Filed By:

 

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Date:21.07.2025
Place: New Delhi

ACTION TAKEN REPORT IN COMPLIANCE OF THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL (PRINCIPAL BENCH) ORDER DATED 24.03.2025 IN OA NO. 108 OF 2025 IN THE MATTER OF GAURI MAULEKHI & ANR. VERSUS UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

1.0 BACKGROUND:

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (Principal Bench) (hereinafter referred to as Hon'ble "NGT") in Original Application No. 108 of 2025 vide order dated 24.03.2025, disposed of the matter and directed as below:

"...6 CPCB to duly consider the pending representation dated 01.03.2024, as expeditiously as possible preferably within three months from the date of receipt of a copy of this order. It will be open to the Applicant to submit the other relevant material in support of the plea along with a copy of this order before the Member Secretary. CPCB, The Member Secretary, CPCB will submit the action taken report immediately after three months before the Registrar General of this Tribunal. If deemed necessary, the matter will be listed for consideration before the bench again."

A copy of the Hon'ble NGT (PB) order dated 24.03.2025 is annexed as **Annexure-I.**

2.0 DETAILS OF THE ISSUES RAISED IN OA NO. 108 of 2025:

The issues raised in OA no. 108 of 2025 are regarding the environmental pollution caused due to improper solid and liquid waste disposal from piggery units. In this regard, the applicant vide letter dated 01.03.2024 submitted a representation to CPCB for following considerations:

- i. Issue Guidelines to address the storage, management and disposal of solid, liquid and gaseous waste as well as address siting parameters for piggery units in India.
- ii. Amend the categorization of Piggery Units, shifting the classification of such industrial units from the Green Category to the Orange Category.

**3.0 ACTION TAKEN IN COMPLIANCE TO THE HON'BLE NGT (PB)
ORDER DATED 24.03.2025 IN OA NO. 108 of 2025:**

(i) Environmental Guidelines for Piggery units

In this regard, it is humbly submitted that to address the environmental issues associated with Piggery units, CPCB has already initiated a project for formulation of "Environmental Guidelines for Piggery units". In this regard, the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) have been requested to provide the inventory of piggery units operating in respective state/UT and existing conditions laid down by SPCBs/PCCs in the Consent to Establish (hereinafter referred to as 'CTE') and Consent to Operate (hereinafter referred to as 'CTO'). Based on the inventory received from SPCBs/PCCs, in-depth studies have been carried out in 15 piggery units, Haryana (03), Karnataka (04), Himachal Pradesh (03) and Uttar Pradesh (05). During in-depth studies, CPCB team studied the water, air and waste management aspects along with sampling of Wastewater & Groundwater for analysis. Further, it is to submit that as per the inventory provided by the applicant, 11 piggery units (Delhi-02; Haryana-03; and Uttar Pradesh- 06) were also selected for in-depth studies. Out of 11 piggery units, 05 units were found closed and in-depth study was undertaken in remaining 06 units.

Based on the in-depth studies and Laboratory data analysis, the environmental guidelines will be prepared to address the environmental issues associated with Piggery units. The guidelines will be finalized by following thorough and structured process which includes, literature review, in-depth field studies, consultation with expert members, SPCBs/PCCs, academic institutions and general public.

Further, it is humbly submitted that the issues & suggestions made by the Applicant vide representations dated 01.03.2024 and subsequently vide dated 15.05.2024, 13.12.2024 and 25.02.2025 are being duly examined and considered by the Answering Respondent while preparing the guidelines for piggery units.

(ii) Categorization of Piggery Units:

In this regard, it is to submit that CPCB classifies sectors under different colour coded categories (Red, Orange, Green, White and Blue) using a well- defined methodology which is based on Pollution Index (PI) - a function of potential to generate water pollution, air pollution and waste during operations.

During 2025, CPCB has revised the classification methodology and published a report- "Classification of Sectors into Red, Orange, Green, White and Blue Categories (A tool for progressive environmental management)" (hereinafter referred as Classification-2025) and vide letter dated 12.02.2025 issued directions under section 18(1)(b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 to all SPCBs/PCCs for its adoption and implementation. The CPCB direction dated 12.02.2025 is available at Web-link:

<https://cpcb.nic.in/openpdfdirection.php?id=UHVibGljYXRpb25GaWxlLzQ3NTBfMTczOTM2MzlwOV9tZWRRpYXBob3RvODQ1OC5wZGY=>

The Classification-2025 was finalized by following a structured process which included, review of literature, data collection and consultation. The methodology was finalized after critical examination of inputs received through 170 representations (700+ comments) from different stakeholders such as industrial associations, SPCBs/PCCs, academic institutions, individual industries and general public.

In classification-2025, sectors are classified into different categories based on Cumulative Pollution Index or PI, which is calculated by evaluation of three critical environmental pollutants i.e. water, air, and waste-each scored on a scale of 100, having potential to get generated during the operations. The category of the sector is decided based on the pollution index range, if $PI \geq 80$, the category of sector is Red, if PI ranges between $55 \leq PI < 80$, the category of sector is orange, similarly for the range of PI between $25 \leq PI < 55$, the category is Green and for $PI < 25$, the category of the sector is white.

The Piggery sector along with Hatchery and Poultry is classified under 'Green' category having PI score of 50 as per classification-2025. The classification of the mentioned sector i.e. "Poultry, Hatchery and Piggery" was under 'Green' category as per 2016 classification as well. Green category of sectors are required to obtain CTE and CTO from the concerned SPCB/PCC and comply with the conditions laid down in CTE and CTO.

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, in the matter of Original Application No.184 of 2023 (SZ), titled Dr. P. Nagarajan v/s Union of India & Ors. also acknowledges the CPCB classification in its judgement dated 16.04.2025 stating that "The Tribunal also acknowledges that the revised framework represents a more granular approach to classification, recognizing the varying degrees of pollution potential within the coir industry rather than treating all units uniformly".

It is humbly submitted that, the representation of the applicant regarding amending the categorization of Piggery Units was discussed on 08.07.2025 before the Committee constituted for classification of sectors by CPCB. The matter was deliberated in depth and after detailed discussion the Committee concluded that the matter of revisiting classification for piggery units including representation received from the applicant may further be deliberated upon completion of the on-going in-depth study and taking into account the environmental data gathered during the study.

In view of the above, it is humbly submitted that preparation of environmental guidelines for piggery units is under progress and applicant's representations dated 01.03.2024 and further representations dated 15.5.2024, 13.12.2024 and 25.02.2025 are under consideration during the process of preparing the said guidelines. Representations on revisiting categorization of Piggery Units shall further be deliberated upon completion of the on-going in-depth study and taking into account the environmental data gathered during these study.

(Bharat Kumar Sharma)
Member Secretary
Central Pollution Control Board
21.07.2025

Item No. 03

Court No. 1

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

Original Application No. 108/2025

Gauri Maulekhi & Anr.

Applicant(s)

Versus

Union of India & Ors.

Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 24.03.2025

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRAKASH SHRIVASTAVA, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE DR. A. SENTHIL VEL, EXPERT MEMBER**Applicant: Mr. Raj Panjwani, Senior Advocate with Ms. Esha Dutta, Ms. Shaalini
Agrawal & Mr. Siddharth Pandey, Advs. for Applicant**ORDER**

1. In this original application, the prayers of the Applicant are as under:

- "A. Direct the Respondents to frame and issue appropriate Guidelines, directions and regulations which address the storage, handling, treatment and management of solid, liquid, gaseous and hazardous waste arising from piggery units as also the siting requirements and scientific methodology for pig carcass disposal, in accordance with the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, the Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016:*
- B. Direct the Respondents to undertake re-assessment of the Pollution Index for piggeries, in terms of Paragraphs 82, 87, 88, 91 and 92 of this Petition, as well as the categorization of the piggery industrial sector;*
- C. Direct the Respondents to ensure that the piggery units in India comply in accordance with the existing statutory mandates under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and the Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016;*
- D. Pass any other or further Order as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit in the facts and circumstances of the present case."*

2. The Applicant has prayed for the above reliefs in the background of the facts that gross pollution is caused and waste is generated by proliferating number of piggery units across India for which there is no regulating guidelines. The Applicant has raised the concern relating to the grave environmental pollution caused by the rapidly growing piggery industries in the absence of environmental guidelines regulating it. The further grievance of the Applicant is that piggeries have been allotted a Pollution Index (PI) Score of 50 and placed in the "Green" Category by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), without considering the quantum of wastewater and other wastes generated by the piggery Industry. The Applicant stated to have visited 167 piggeries in nine States across India and alleges that presently on daily basis more than 580 lakh kgs of dung and 2,266 lakh liters of wastewater is collectively discharged from piggery units across our country which is highly toxic and is causing pollution. The Applicant has raised the issue of management of solid and liquid waste generated from piggery units, soil and water pollution caused by it, heavy metal pollution, air pollution, biomedical waste generated and untreated carcass disposal, inappropriate siting measures and adverse impact of improper management on human habitation and health.

3. Learned Senior Counsel appearing for the Applicant during the hearing has referred to the representation dated 01.03.2024, Annexure-18 sent to the Member Secretary, CPCB with the following request:

- "I) Issue Guidelines to address the storage, management and disposal of solid, liquid and gaseous waste as well as address siting parameters for piggery units in India. Proposed Guidelines for your consideration have been enclosed at Annexure-1.*
- II) Amend the categorisation of Piggery Units, shifting the classification of such industrial units from the Green Category to the Orange Category."*

4. We find that the representation sent by the Applicant to the Member Secretary, CPCB is s comprehensive covering almost all the issues raised in the present OA.

5. It cannot be disputed that it is the CPCB which is the competent authority to consider the issue of framing appropriate guidelines regulating the piggery units and its categorization in “green”, “orange” or any other category. The representation of the Applicant dated 01.03.2024 in this regard is already pending before the CPCB.

6. Hence, we dispose of this OA directing the CPCB to duly consider the pending representation dated 01.03.2024, as expeditiously as possible preferably within three months from the date of receipt of a copy of this order. It will be open to the Applicant to submit the other relevant material in support of the plea alongwith a copy of this order before the Member Secretary, CPCB. The Member Secretary, CPCB will submit the action taken report immediately after three months before the Registrar General of this Tribunal via email at judicial-ngt@gov.in, preferably in the form of a searchable PDF/OCR-supported PDF and not in the form of an Image PDF. If deemed necessary, the matter will be listed for consideration before the bench again.

7. OA is accordingly disposed of.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

March 24, 2025
Original Application No. 108/2025
dv..

VAKALATNAMA
BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
Original Application No 108/2025

Gauri Maulekhi & Anr.

Applicants

Vs.

Union of India & Ors.

Respondents

KNOW ALL to whom these present shall come that I, **Prasoon Gargava , Scientist 'F' & Divisional Head (Law)**, do hereby appoint **Advocate Vikrant Pachnanda** herein after called Advocate to be my Advocate in the above noted case and authorize him:

To act appear and plead in the above noted case in this Court or in any other Court in which the same be tried or heard and also in the appellate Court including High Court subject to payment of fees separately for each court by me.

To sign file, verify and present pleadings, appeals, cross-objections or petitions for executions, review, revision, withdrawal, compromise or other petitions or affidavits or other documents as may be deemed necessary or proper for the prosecution of said case in all its stages subject to payment of fees for each stage.

To file and take back documents, to admit and/or deny the documents of opposite party.

To withdraw, or compromise the said case or submit to arbitration any differences or disputes that may arise touching or in any manner relating to the said case.

To take execution proceedings on paying separate fee.

To deposit, draw and receive money, cheques, cash and grant receipts hereof and to do all other act and things which may be necessary to be done for the progress and in the course of the prosecution of the said case.

And I the undersigned do hereby agree not to hold the Advocate responsible for the result of the said case. The adjournment costs whenever ordered by the Court shall be of the Advocate which he shall receive and retain for himself.

And I the undersigned do hereby agree that in the event of the whole or any part to the fee agreed by me to be paid to the Advocate remaining unpaid he shall be entitled to withdraw from the prosecution of the said case until the said is paid up. The fee settled is only for the above case and above Court. I hereby agree that once the fee is paid, I will not be entitled for the refund of the same in any case whatsoever.

IN WITNESS WHERE OF I do hereunto set my hand to these presents the contents of which have been understood by me this 15th day of April, 2025.

Accepted subject to the terms of the fees.

Accepted



Vikrant Pachnanda



Mukul Katyal

Advocate



Client

प्रसून गार्गवा / Prasoon Gargava
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