

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL SITTING AT
PUNE**

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 117 OF 2024

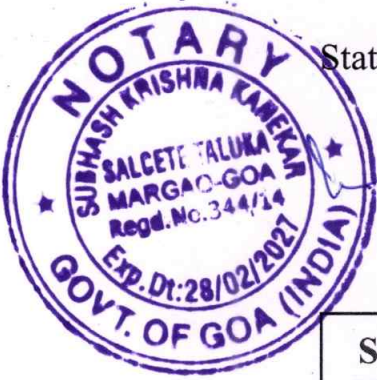
(Under Section 18(1) read with Sections 14 and 20 of the National
Green Tribunal Act, 2010)

Tulshidas Sridhar Naik and Ors) ...Applicants

Versus

State of Goa and Ors) ...Respondents

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Tulshidas S. Naik

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL SITTING AT
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(Under Section 18(1) read with Sections 14 and 20 of the National
Green Tribunal Act, 2010)

IN THE MATTER BETWEEN :

Tulshidas Sridhar Naik and Ors) ...Applicants

Versus

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**ADDITIONAL AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF THE
APPLICANTS**

I, Tulshidas Sridhar Naik, residing at House No 192, Murmo, Tamshirem, Borim , Ponda, Goa, the Applicant No 1 herein, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under:

1. I say that I have read the contents of the Application and have understood its contents and am therefore competent to file an affidavit in support of the said Application.

Tulshidas S Naik

2. I say that I am filing the present affidavit for the limited purpose of bringing on record additional information that a colleague of mine has received through RTI that confirms and supports the averments made in the present Original Application by the Applicants.
3. I say that one of the averments raised in the present Original Application pertains to the requirement of a Forest Clearance required for the Borim Bridge Project. It is submitted that the EIA/EMP report prepared by private consultants for the proposed project records that approximately 4875 trees will be required to be cut for the Project. It is the position of the Applicants that this is a conservative estimate, and in reality the number of trees will exceed this number. The Borim Bridge project entails large-scale destruction of forest land, as evidenced by photographic records and site inspections. The lands proposed to be acquired include wetlands, agricultural fields, forest patches and khazan lands, which are ecologically fragile and home to unique biodiversity. These include bison corridors, which were acknowledged by the Respondent authorities themselves in prior communications and photographs. The Applicants also submitted that the report of the



Tyshidas S. Kanekar

Thomas Committee appointed by the Forest Department identified Sy No 28 of Queula village as private forest, and therefore a Forest Clearance is indeed mandatory for this project, since Sy No 28 of Queula village and adjoining dense forests are under acquisition for the Borim Bridge Project.

4. The Applicants have also have submitted that the Respondent No. 3 had written to the Deputy Conservator of Forests (an officer under the Respondent No. 8) on 15.03.2024 stating that the proposed alignment of the project would pass through Quela, Bandora and Borim villages of Ponda Taluka and Loutolim of Salcette Taluka, and in particular through Survey No 357/part 1 of village Borim, which is partially demarcated a private forest. In its letter, the Respondent No.3 asked the Deputy Conservator of Forests to issue an NoC (“No Objection Certificate”) for the project to pass through this private forest land. However, the Respondent No. 8 has not issued any such NoC to this date.



5. I say that an RTI reply dated 8th May 2026, issued by the office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, North Goa Division, received by the Applicant on 20th May 2026, has inarguably confirmed that the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 would be

Tulshidas S. Waik

applicable to Sy No 28 of Queula village, and has also further confirmed that no tree felling permission has been granted by the office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, North Goa Division for the felling of trees for the Borim Bridge project. A copy of the RTI reply dated 8th May 2026 issued by the office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, North Goa Division along with the envelope stamped as delivered on or after 20th May 2026, has been annexed hereto and marked as **Annexure A-1**. I therefore say that the said RTI reply confirms the averments of the Applicants that a Forest Clearance is required for the Borim Bridge project and in the absence of the clearances including the Forest Clearance, the CRZ Clearances and an EIA Clearance, the Borim Bridge Project should be stayed and should not be permitted to be executed.



6. I state that the documents annexed herein are true copies and have been collected by our colleague through an RTI application.
7. I say that the Applicants have filed the present affidavit to bring the said RTI reply. I say and submit that the aforesaid affidavit is necessary for the Application No. 117 of 2024 may be adjudicated upon by the Hon'ble Tribunal on merits.

Tushidas S. Daik

8. I therefore humbly pray that the prayers sought by the Applicants in the Original Application 117/2024 be granted and made absolute.

Tulshidas S. Naik

DEPONENT



BEFORE ME

R.

Ronita Bhattacharya

Advocate for the Applicants

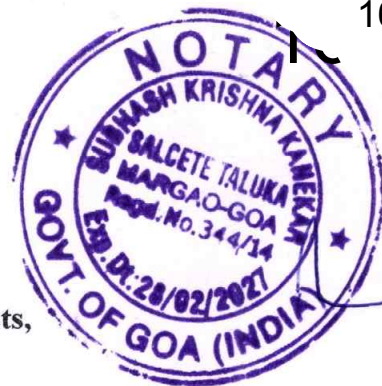


Solemnly affirmed before me by
Shri/Smt. Tulshidas Sridhar Naik
Who is identified to me by
Shri/Smt. Rahul Naik
Who is personally known to me
this 28th day of May 2026
Reg. No. 746/2026

Naik
28/05/2026
SUBHASH KRISHNA KAMEKAR
NOTARY
SALCETE TALUKA
STATE OF GOA (INDIA)

Registered A.D.

GOVERNMENT OF GOA
Office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests,
North Goa Division,
Ponda – Goa, 403 401



Phone:- 0832- 2312856 Fax. 0832-2312095 email:dcfnorth-forest.goa@nic.in

No.7/DCFN/RTIA-07/2026-27/ 23 / 296

Dated: -08/05/2026
Vaishakaha, 18, Saka, 1948

MOST URGENT

To,

Abhijit Prabhudesai
Flat C-1, Shamiana Cop. Hosg Scty.,
Comba, Margao - Goa
Mob. No. 8408960070

Subject: Information under Right to Information Act, 2005.


Sir,

With reference to your application dtd. 10.04.26, received in this office on 10.04.26 from Dy. Collector, Ponda – Goa under Right to Information Act 2005, this is to inform you that the information sought by you is as under:-

Sr. No.	Information asked	Information provided
1	Whether lands identified provisionally as Private forests (eighter partly or wholly) by Thomas Committee, which are not excluded as yet by the Review Committee, are protected under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980?	Sy.No. 28 (entire) of Queula village of Ponda Taluka was provisionally identified as Private Forest by SLEC headed by V.T. Thomas
2.	Has the Review Committee reviewed the private forests provisionally identified by Thomas Committee in Sy. No. 28 of Queula village, Ponda Taluka? If so, kindly provide certified copies of all your records of the review and decision-making process for Sy. No. 28 of Queula village.	Review work of area identified as Pvt. Forest of this Sy. No. 28 is in progress.
3.	What is the status of the private forests provisionally identified by Thomas Committee in Sy. No. 28 of Quela village Ponda Taluka i.e. the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 applicable to land bearing Sy. No. 28 of Queula village	FCA 1980 is applicable. Since it is a provisionally identified private forest, as on date.
4.	Certified copies of all contents of all files and records, including file notings, correspondence, inspection reports, minutes of meetings, list of trees drawings, etc related to the application received from the Executive Engineer WD XV, PWD by letter No. 7057/PWD/WDXV(NH)/ASW/2023-24/493 dated 15.03.2024 for grant of permissions for tree felling in lands which include parts of the forests at Sy. 26 and 28 Queula village and Sy. 8, 352, 353 & 355-7 of Borim village in Ponda Taluka.	No Felling Permission issued by this office.

Incase aggrieved with information provided as above, you may approach the First Appellate Authority & Conservator of Forests,(Conservation) "Goa Van Bhawan" Forest Department, Altinho, Panaji-Goa.

Yours faithfully,


 Public Information Officer &
 Dy. Conservator of Forests,
 North Goa Division,
 Ponda – Goa.

Tulshidas S. Wair

No. F/DCEN/RTIA-07/2026-27/23/296

REGISTERED AIR

To,
Abhisit Prabhudesar
Flat C-1, Sharniana Top Hony Sdy.
Lomba Margao - Goa
Mhino: 8409960070
PIN 403 601



Dr. Conservator of Forests,
North Goa Division,
Ponda-Goa.

(11)



Tushidas S. Nair



Department of Posts
Government of India
 Ministry of Communications

Generated through Indiapost website on: 26/5/2026, 11:17:54 pm

Consignment/MO Tracking Report

Consignment/MO Number: EM510410692IN

Article Number:

EM510410692IN

Article Type:

SP_INLAND_DOC



Booked At:

Ponda S.O

Booked On:

19/05/2026, 13:25:04

Destination:

Margao H.O

Origin Pincode:

403401

Delivered On:

20/05/2026, 14:00:43

Destination Pincode:

403601

Event	Date	Time	Office	Remarks
Item Booked	19/05/2026	13:25:04	Ponda S.O	-
Item bagged	19/05/2026	16:24:12	Ponda S.O	-
Item Dispatched	19/05/2026	16:25:31	Ponda S.O	-
Item Received	19/05/2026	20:59:48	Panaji ICH	-
Item bagged	20/05/2026	03:49:14	Panaji NSH	-
Item Dispatched	20/05/2026	04:21:05	Panaji NSH	-
Item received at Destination	20/05/2026	08:35:31	Margao H.O	-
Taken out for delivery	20/05/2026	09:02:44	Margao H.O	-
Item Delivered(Addressee)	20/05/2026	14:00:43	Margao H.O	Delivered

Tylishidas S. Wale

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AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF THE

APPLICANTS

Dated this 28th of May 2026

Tulshidas S Naik

RONITA BHATTACHARYA

Advocate for the Applicants
17,1st Floor,
Rohit Chambers
Janmabhoomi Marg
Fort, Mumbai -400001
Email: ronita.b6@gmail.com
Mobile No. 9920097464
Enrolment No. MAH/2973/2017

Tulshidas S. Naik