

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL**WESTERN ZONE BENCH, PUNE****MEMORANDUM OF APPLICATION**

**(UNDER SECTION 14 OF THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
ACT 2010)**

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 48 OF 2025

Ameet Singh) ...Applicant

Versus

Pune Municipal Corporation & Ors.) ...Respondents

ADDITIONAL AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF THE APPLICANT

I, Ameet Singh, aged 48 years, resident of Sahyashram 54B, Dr. Ambedkar Road, Pune 411 005, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under:

1. I say that I am the Applicant in the present matter. The present Affidavit is being filed for the purpose of clarifying the Applicant's position and addressing the issues raised in the last order dated 2nd May 2025.

2. The Original Application ("OA") seeks to challenge the adoption of untested and unscientific measures for the control and mitigation of air



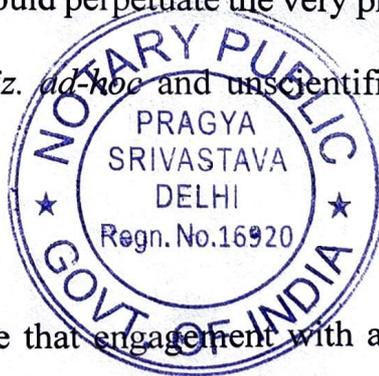
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pollution in the city of Pune. The OA seeks to highlight the fact that although a mechanism has been put in place for extending scientific support and research for activities proposed to be adopted for air pollution mitigation, particularly through engagement with expert institutions, the Respondent No.1 has failed to engage with such institutions choosing instead to adopt ad-hoc, untested technologies such as fog cannons and mist fountains.

3. On the last date, this Hon'ble Tribunal made the following observations-

“We are of the view that it would not be wise at this stage to direct stopping the use of machines, which are already purchased or in the process of being purchased, till we find some other better solution to the problem.”

4. This Ld. Tribunal directed the Applicant to provide suggestions with respect to measures to control air pollution. The Applicant wishes to point out that any suggestion made without adequate data, modelling studies and technical and scientific backing would perpetuate the very problem that the present OA wishes to address, viz. *ad-hoc* and unscientific measures to control air pollution.



5. It is in order to address this issue that engagement with an “Institute of Repute” (“IoRs”) was contemplated by the MoEF-CC as knowledge partners to each city through Memorandums of Understanding. In order to

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ensure scientific, evidence-based planning and execution of activities the IoRs are to extend scientific support for various activities identified in the city action plan. The Respondent No.4 has been appointed as the IoR for the city of Pune. The MoU executed between the Respondent No.1, Respondent No.2 and the Respondent No. 4 stipulates that the IoR may undertake air quality monitoring and modelling work, data analysis, data utilization, compilation, adherence to interpretation protocols, reports preparation etc. the research conducted by the IoR was to focus on efficacy and efficiency of various individual measures by various tools and techniques including cost-benefit analysis. However, the Respondent No.1 has failed to engage with the IoR on any of these issues and has chosen instead to introduce measures which admittedly, have not been done on the basis of any evidence or scientific backing.

6. The failure to introduce evidence-based solution to tackle air pollution has resulted in the city of Pune continuing to remain vulnerable to the serious effects of air pollution which resultantly impacts the health of its residents
7. The OA thus seeks the implementation of a system that has already been put in place to ensure pollution mitigation measures are evidence-based and efficacious.



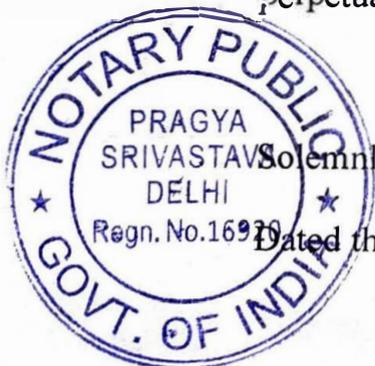
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8. The Applicant wishes to clarify that the OA does not seek a prayer to stop the use of fog cannon machines, as suggested in para 4 of the order dated 2nd May 2025, but that a scientific and technical feasibility study as well as a cost-benefit analysis be conducted prior to the issuance of any *fresh* tender for the purchase of fog cannons.
9. Assuming that the Respondent No.1 does not intend to issue any fresh tenders for solutions that have already been introduced such as fog cannons and others, an evaluation ought to be undertaken to measure how effective these solutions are and if any changes are required to be made to improve their efficacy.
10. In addition to the IoR, in order to monitor the progress of activities under NCAP and to ensure that the interventions under NCAP are in line with the programme document/ operational guidelines, a City Level Air Quality Monitoring Committee has been set up. However, as pointed out in the OA, this Committee has not been constituted in accordance with the GR dated 18th September 2019. The Committee that has been constituted purporting to be the City Level Air Quality Monitoring Committee has not discharged the crucial functions assigned to it under the GR dated 18th September 2019.



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11. There is thus a failure by the Respondent No.1 to implement the systems that have been put in place to ensure the most effective pollution mitigation strategies are adopted and further that there is adequate oversight over the steps taken to tackle air pollution.
12. The emission inventory study conducted by the PMC already clearly identifies the sources that need to be tackled such as biomass burning, fossil fuel and vehicular emissions in addition to road dust, and it should concentrate on reducing these emissions at source, by identifying the most cost-effective and long-lasting solutions by implementing the aforementioned systems.
13. The Applicant does not have the expertise nor access to sufficient data to be able to suggest long-term, sustainable measures as alternatives to fog cannon machines or indeed any of the other steps taken by the Respondent No.1 to control air pollution. As stated above, the OA seeks the implementation of a system that has internal checks and balances. As stated above, substituting this with extempore suggestions will only further perpetuate the problem that the OA seeks to address.



Solemnly affirmed at Delhi)

Dated this ___ day of June 2025)

Amreet Singh

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Identified by me,



Meenaz Kakalia

Advocate for the Applicant

PRAGYA SRIVASTAVA
ADVOCATE / NOTARY
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Before me,



ATTESTED
NOTARY PUBLIC
DELHI (INDIA)

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