

Before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi**O.A. No. 362 of 2022**

Aravalli Bachao Citizens Movement

... Applicant

Vs.

Union of India and Ors

... Respondents

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Place: Chandigarh
Dated: 12 April 2023


District Attorney
O/o Chief Secretary to Govt. Haryana

Before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi**O.A. No. 362 of 2022**

Aravalli Bachao Citizens Movement

...Applicant

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... Respondents

**Affidavit of Mr. Sanjeev Kaushal, Chief Secretary to
Government Haryana in compliance of directions of
this Tribunal issued on 10 October 2022.**

I, the above named deponent do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under:-

1. That the above mentioned O.A. is pending adjudication before this Hon'ble Tribunal and is fixed for hearing on 13 March 2023. The matter relates to illegal mining in Aravalli Hills of Gurugram, Mewat and Faridabad districts. This Tribunal vide order dated 10 October 2022 issued various directions, inter-alia, directions in para No. 21 relates to the deponent. The para 21 of the said order reads as under:-

"21. We also find from the reports received that there is lack of proper communication and effective coordination between the Administrative agencies- the Police, the Mining Department, the Forest Department and the Revenue Department, which are



required to deal with the complaints of illegal mining, and also with the Statutory Authorities-CPCB and HSPCB. Lack of such communication and coordination by implication benefits/facilitates the persons indulging in illegal mining who in consequence thereof escape payment of royalty/penalty and environmental compensation as well as prosecution for illegal mining in substantial number of cases. In the prevailing scenario, there appears to be an urgent need for constitution of Special Cell having Officers from the Police, Forest, Revenue and Mining besides Industries, Panchayati Raj/Rural Development, Water Resources, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Departments as may be considered appropriate for ensuring coordination, evolving policy, planning and implementation of programmes for the protection and management of Aravalli Hills. The Government of Haryana may also consider the desirability of setting up an autonomous statutory authority "Aravallis Environment Management & Sustainable Development" for integrated environment management and sustainable development of the Aravalli range in the State of Haryana. The Chief Secretary, Government of Haryana may accordingly take requisite steps for consideration of the matter by Government of Haryana and file an affidavit in

this regard within four weeks by e-mail at judicial-ngt@gov.in preferably in the form of searchable PDF/OCR supported PDF and not in the form of Image PDF.”

2. That after receipt of the above said order deponent has convened the meetings of all departments concerned on 15 February 2023 and on 06 April 2023 wherein the aforesaid directions issued by this Hon'ble Tribunal were considered and it was decided to constitute a statutory authority for integrated environment management and sustainable development of the Aravalli range in the State of Haryana namely '**Aravalli Rejuvenation Board**'. Accordingly, a proposal has been submitted to the competent authority in the State Government for the constitution of the said Board. After approval of the competent authority, the notification with regard to the constitution and mandate of the Board is likely to be notified shortly.

3. That further during the course of the meetings it was decided to constitute a specific cell at district level for the periodic monitoring of the Aravalli area in Nuh, Faridabad & Gurugram for Monitoring, Management and Sustainable Development of Aravalli area. Necessary instructions for the creation of this special cell in compliance of the orders of this Hon'ble Tribunal are being issued by the State Government shortly.

Keeping in view the above explained position, the above affidavit may kindly be taken on record in compliance of the order dated 10 October 2022 passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal.

Place: Chandigarh
Dated: 12 April 2023


DEPONENT

Verification

Verified that the contents of para No. 1 to 5 of the above affidavit of mine are true and correct to my knowledge based on the information derived from the official. No part of it is false nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

Place: Chandigarh
Dated: 12 April 2023


DEPONENT




(Sandeep Sharma) 12/4/2023
Special Executive Magistrate
Haryana, Chandigarh.