

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**

I N D E X

IN

RESPONSE AFFIDAVIT

(On behalf of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/HoFF, Uttarakhand,
Dehradun)

(In Compliance to the Hon'ble Tribunal's Order dated 24.09.2025)

IN

O.A. No. 686 OF 2024

Pt. Girdhari Lal

.....Applicant

Versus

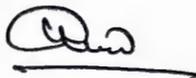
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change & Ors.

.....Respondents

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Dated:10/11/2025


Anjali Rajput
Panel Counsel
Government of Uttarakhand



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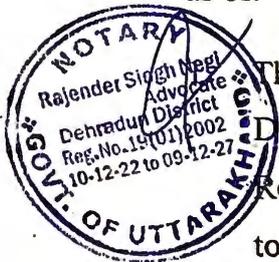


Affidavit of Neeraj Kumar (Male),
aged about 57 years, S/o Sh. M. N.
Sharma, presently posted as
Divisional Forest Officer,
Dehradun Forest Division,
Dehradun.

(Deponent)

I, the above-named deponent, do hereby solemnly affirm and state on

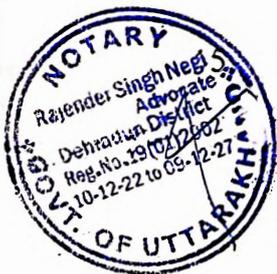
as of:



That the deponent is presently posted as Divisional Forest Officer,
Dehradun Forest Division, Dehradun and has been arrayed as a
Respondent No.12 and also authorized on behalf of Respondent No.11
to file the present affidavit as such he is fully conversant with the facts
of the case and competent to swear the present Affidavit.

2. That the applicant one Mr. Pt. Girdhari Lal has approached to this Hon'ble Tribunal alleging that on Delhi-Saharanpur Dehradun Expressway starting from Akshardham Temple, large number of big trees have been cut indiscriminately, in an illegal manner, causing damage to environment and cleanliness to air.
3. That as per the directions passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal from time to time, the deponent had filed three response affidavits before this Hon'ble Tribunal in the present matter.
4. That on the last date of hearing i.e 24.09.2025, after the course of hearing in the present matter, this Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to pass certain directions and direct the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Uttarakhand, dehradun to file a response affidavit. The relevant para of the said Order dated 24.09.2025 is being quoted here for kind perusal of this Hon'ble Tribunal:

"7. Respondent no. 1-MoEF&CC, respondent no. 5-PCCF, Uttar Pradesh and respondent no. 11-PCCF, Uttarakhand are directed to file additional responses with respect to all relevant aspects including the aspects highlighted hereinabove within four weeks".



That in the present matter, initially, the Government of India (Ministry of Environment and Climate Change) Integrated Regional Office Dehradun, vide its letter number-4B/UCP/06/110/2020/FC/129 dated 27.04.2024 had duly approved the reversion of 9.6224 Ha. of forest land to NHAI-PIU for non-forestry work for the construction of strengthening, widening of 4 lane configurations of National Highway 72A Ganeshpur to Dehradun Road sections located in District-Uttar Pradesh (design km 0.00 to km 16.115) and Uttarakhand (design km 16.115 to km 19.746) (Online Proposal no. FP/UK/Road/45283/2020).

7. That as per the Plan for compensatory afforestation in compartment No. 10 of 10 Ha. under Thano Range, Dehradun Forest Division, total 11000 plants of different species such as Anwla, Kachnar, Baheda, Sain etc. have been planted. Further under Malhan Range, Dehradun Forest Division, total 5500 plants of different species such as Sheesham, Anwla, Baans, Baheda, etc. have been planted, In the same range in compartment No. 1C of 6 Ha. total 6600 plants of different species such as Sheesham, Jamun, Baans, Dhaudi, etc. have been planted. Further, in compartment No. 1A of 9 Ha. of the same Range, total 9900 plants of different species such as Sheesham, Jamun, Anwla, Amrood, etc. have been planted. The details thereof, relevant work orders, execution of work, payment orders and photographs have also been placed on record. And the same are not being again annexed for the sake of brevity.
8. That the deponent undertakes to comply the further directions, to be passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal in the present matter.

I, the above named deponent, do hereby verify that the contents of Para nos. _____ of this affidavit are true to my personal knowledge, those of Para nos. _____ of this affidavit are based on records, those of Para nos. _____ of this affidavit are as per the legal advice received and those of Para nos. _____ of this affidavit are as per the information received which all I believe to be true. That no part of this affidavit is false and nothing material has been concealed.

So help me God




DEPONENT

I, Avnish Gupta, Legal Assistant, Forest Department, Uttarakhand, Dehradun, do hereby identify the deponent who has produced the records of the case before me and I am satisfied that she is the same person as alleged.

Avnish

IDENTIFIER

Solemnly affirmed before me today, the 10 day of November, 2025 at 9.00 am/pm by the deponent who has been identified by the aforesaid person.

I have satisfied myself by examining the deponent that he has understood the contents of this affidavit, which have been read over and explained to him.



OATH COMMISSIONER/NOTARY

60/93/25
This affidavit is sworn before me by
Shri. Sheela Kumari
who is identified by Shri. Ramesh Chandra Singh
at Dehradun on 10/11/25

(Signature)
(Rajender Singh Negi)
Advocate & Notary Dehradun