

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
WESTERN ZONE BENCH AT PUNE

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 106 OF 2022 (WZ)
WITH
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 09 OF 2023(WZ)
WITH
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 10 OF 2023(WZ)

AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF GUJARAT COASTAL ZONE
MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Dipali Tank, adult, having my office at Forests & Environment
Department, Block No. 14, 8th Floor, Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar-382 010,
Gandhinagar, Gujarat do hereby solemnly affirm and state on oath as
under:

1. I am presently serving as Member Secretary of Gujarat Coastal Zone Management Authority in the State of Gujarat. I am conversant with the facts of the case and the status of preparation of management plans. I am authorised to file the present affidavit on behalf of the Coastal Zone Management Authority and am otherwise competent to make the present affidavit.
2. The present affidavit is filed to bring on record the status as regards revision and upgradation of Coastal Zone Management Plans for the State of Gujarat as per the Notification dated 18.01.2019 [G.S.R. 37(E)] issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India.

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DATE. 04/11/2025

NILESH R. PANDYA
NOTARY
GOVT. OF INDIA

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3. The notification dated 18.01.2019 provides for revision and upgradation of Coastal Zone Management Plan by the respective State Governments. Clause 6 of the notification dated 18.01.2019 reads as under:

"6. Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP)

(i) All coastal States and Union territory administrations shall revise or update their respective coastal zone management plan (CZMP) framed under CRZ Notification, 2011 number S.O. 19(E), dated 6th January, 2011, as per provisions of this notification and submit to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change for approval at the earliest and all the project activities attracting the provisions of this notification shall be required to be appraised as per the updated CZMP under this notification and until and unless the CZMPs is so revised or updated, provisions of this notification shall not apply and the CZMP as per provisions of CRZ Notification, 2011 shall continue to be followed for appraisal and CRZ clearance to such projects.

(ii) The CZMP may be prepared or updated by the coastal State Government or Union territory by engaging reputed and experienced scientific institution(s) or the agencies including the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (hereinafter referred to as the NCSCM) of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and in consultation with the concerned stakeholders.

(iii) The coastal States and Union territories shall prepare draft CZMP in 1:25,000 scale map identifying and classifying the CRZ areas within the respective territories in accordance with the guidelines given in Annexure-IV to this notification, which involve public consultation. All developmental activities listed in this notification shall be regulated by the State Government, Union territory administration, the local authority or the concerned Coastal Zone Management Authority within the framework of such approved CZMP, as the case may be, in accordance with provisions of this notification.

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(iv) The draft CZMP shall be submitted by the State Government or Union territory to the concerned Coastal Zone Management Authority for appraisal, including appropriate consultations, and recommendations in accordance with the procedure(s) laid down in the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986).

(v) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change shall thereafter consider and approve the respective CZMP of concerned State Governments or Union territory administrations.

(vi) The CZMP shall not normally be revised before a period of five years after which, the concerned State Government or the Union territory may consider undertaking a revision."

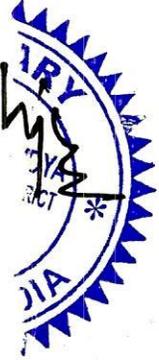
4. There are 16 coastal districts in the State of Gujarat and management plans were required to be revised and upgraded for each of these districts. The State Government appointed Gujarat Ecology Commission (now merged with Gujarat Ecological Education and Research Foundation) as the nodal agency for the work of preparation of revised Coastal Zone Management Plan for every district. The State Government on 08.08.2019 selected National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Chennai as the agency for the purpose of preparation of revised maps. Gujarat Ecology Commission (now merged with Gujarat Ecological Education and Research Foundation) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Chennai for execution of the work. The draft Coastal Zone Management Plan for all the 16 districts were received from National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Chennai around December 2023.

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5. The draft plans received from the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Chennai were circulated amongst all the stakeholders and also forwarded to the Gujarat Pollution Control Board for conducting public hearing in each district. The public hearings were held on different dates in each district between the period December, 2023 and September, 2024. Proceedings of these hearings, including the public suggestions, were forwarded to National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Chennai between April, 2024 to October, 2024 for necessary incorporation and revision of draft plans. The revised draft Coastal Zone Management Plans were returned by National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Chennai between the period September 2024 and March 2025 for all districts.
6. The State Coastal Zone Management Authority approved the draft plans for all 16 districts between the period ranging from 26.09.2024, 10.10.2024 and 07.04.2025, and submitted them to the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Chennai for discussion and deliberation by the Technical Scrutiny Committee.
7. The draft plans for 14 districts (except Surat and Kutch) were discussed in the meeting held on 17.12.2024 and 28.02.2025 by the Technical Scrutiny Committee of National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Chennai.
8. A request was made by the State Coastal Zone Management Authority to the National Coastal Zone Management Authority to expedite the process of approval of plans where there were no objections by communication dated 19.08.2025. Accordingly, plans

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for 08 districts - Vadodara, Anand, Ahmedabad, Porbandar, Junagadh, Dev Bhumi Dwarka, Jamnagar and Gir Somnath were cleared by the Technical Scrutiny Committee and forwarded to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India on 22.09.2025 for final approval. The final maps for these 08 districts were discussed in 48th meeting of National Coastal Zone Management Authority (NCZMA) held on 26.09.2025 under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, Government of India. Based on recommendation and decision of National Coastal Zone Management Authority taken in its meeting dated 26.09.2025, Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, Government of India *vide* its letter dated 23.10.2025 has conveyed its approval for Coastal Zone Management Maps of eight districts in the State of Gujarat i.e. Vadodara, Anand, Ahmedabad, Porbandar, Junagadh, Dev Bhumi Dwarka, Jamnagar and Gir Somnath in accordance with the CRZ Notification 2019.



9. As regards the remaining 08 districts - Kutch, Morbi, Amreli, Bhavnagar, Bharuch, Surat, Navsari, and Valsad, during the public consultation process, Gujarat Maritime Board has represented that there exists some error in classification of certain port area as CRZ1A and submitted scientific report prepared by Gujarat Institute of Desert Ecology (GUIDE) to Gujarat Coastal Zone Management Authority. Technical Scrutiny Committee of National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Chennai, after due deliberation, has instructed that the report of GUIDE be vetted by Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) or Botanical Survey of India (BSI).

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The report was sent to Zoological Survey of India for vetting, and ZSI has submitted the report after vetting on 01.08.2025. Basis the observations contained in the report vetted by ZSI, the Gujarat Maritime Board has been asked to submit updated report with revised maps. On receipt of the same from the Gujarat Maritime Board, the same shall be considered by the State Coastal Zone Management Authority and forwarded to the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Chennai for being placed before the Technical Scrutiny Committee for further consideration. The process upto the stage of submission of report along with its recommendation by the State Coastal Zone Management Authority to the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Chennai is expected to be completed within a period of 02 months.



10. The State Coastal Zone Management Authority remains committed to speedy revision and upgradation of Coastal Zone Management Plans for all the 16 districts within the State of Gujarat. The Authority has been working diligently towards revision and upgradation of the management maps. The State Coastal Zone Management Authority shall abide by any and all reasonable directions or orders that may be issued in this behalf by the Hon'ble Tribunal.

Dipali Tamh
DEPONENT

VERIFICATION

Verified at Gandhinagar on this 4th day of November, 2025 that the contents of the above affidavit are true and correct, nothing stated therein is false and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

Dipali Tank

Director (Environment) & DEPONENT
Member Secretary, GCZMA
Forests & Environment Department
Government of Gujarat
Gandhinagar



IDENTIFIED BY ME

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ADVOCATE/PERSON

NAME : *Palak Mehta*

ADD : *G. NAGAR*

DATE : *04/11/25*

SOLEMNLY AFFIRMED
BEFORE ME

[Signature]

NILESH R. PANDYA

NOTARY
GOVT. OF INDIA

04/11