



**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,  
WESTERN ZONE BENCH, PUNE  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 14/2023**

Vanashakti & Anr.

... Applicant

V/s

Chief Conservator of Forests & Ors.

... Respondents

**AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF MEMBER SECRETARY, SEIAA**

I, Pravin Darade, working as Principal Secretary, Environment and Climate Change Department, Government of Maharashtra and even working as Member Secretary, State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, do hereby state on solemn affirmation as under –

*Pravin Darade*

1. At the outset I tender unconditional apology on behalf of Member, SEIAA for not being able to participate in the joint committee appointed by the Hon'ble Tribunal in the present matter for submitting the report. There was no intention to dishonour the notice of the Hon'ble Tribunal.
2. SEIAA is not party respondent to the present case. Vide order dated 13-02-2023, Hon'ble Tribunal had constituted a joint committee of Chief Conservator of Forests, Thane, SEIAA and District Magistrate, Thane.
3. Member, SEIAA was not able to participate in the joint committee exercise and attend the site visit due to clash of date of the SEIAA meeting, which could not be rescheduled. His inability to participate in the committee should have been included in the committee report, which inadvertently forgot to be mentioned. The error is deeply regretted and it is undertaken, that such error won't happen in future.
4. Current SEIAA has been notified on 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2021 and according to the framework of Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006, SEIAA is composed of three people, Chairman, Member Secretary, and one Member. There are many court appointed committees in which Member, SEIAA is nominated to participate in the committee exercise and we have only one person for the State of Maharashtra who can be nominated for the said exercises.
5. This is the first instance, where Member, SEIAA couldn't participate in the joint committee work, due to the above mentioned reason. He is punctual and participates in all joint committee exercises wherein he has



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been included by the Hon'ble Court's directions for submission of committee reports. I sincerely regret for inadvertent error caused in the present matter and I undertake that such incidence won't happen again.

6. Member, SEIAA has participated in the second joint committee exercise and revised report is being filed separately which may kindly be considered.
7. It is humbly submitted that this Affidavit may kindly be considered as compliance towards Hon'ble Tribunal's order dated 05-07-2023, and no coercive measures may kindly be not taken.



Mumbai:

Date: 22/11/2023

**Pravin Darade**  
Principal Secretary &  
Member Secretary, SEIAA  
Environment & CC Department,  
Government of Maharashtra

VERIFICATION

I, Pravin Darade, working as Principal Secretary & Member Secretary, SEIAA Environment & CC Department having my office address at 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Mantralaya, Mumbai – 400 032 do hereby verify and declare that the statements made in the aforesaid paras are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and information and I believe the same to be true and that no material is has been concealed therefrom. Solemnly affirmed on this 22 day of Nov, 2023 at Mumbai.



*Pravin Darade*

**Pravin Darade**  
Principal Secretary &  
Member Secretary, SEIAA  
Environment & CC Department,  
Government of Maharashtra



**BEFORE ME**

*Shivaji N. Dhanage*

Adv. Shivaji N. Dhanage  
Notary Govt Of India  
Regd. No. 15376 MUMBAI (MS)  
404-405, 4th Floor, Davar House,  
197/199, Near Central Camera Bldg  
D.N. Road, Fort, Mumbai - 400001.  
Mob.: 8788385738

**NOTED & REGISTERED**

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