



**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA  
MISCELLANEOUS APPLICATION NO. 03 OF 2024/ EZ  
IN  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 06 OF 2021/EZ**

In The Matter of:

Subhas Datta

... Applicant

Versus

The State of West Bengal &  
Ors.

... Respondent(s)

**COUNTER AFFIDAVIT ON BEHLAF OF THE MEMBER SECRETARY,  
WEST BENGAL COSTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY.**

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Filed by

*Sibojyoti Chakrabarti*

SIBOJYOTI CHAKRABARTI

Advocate

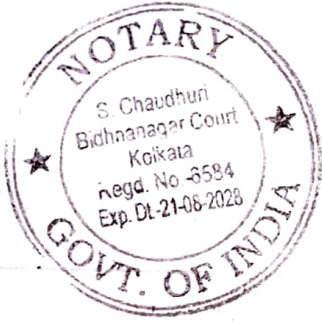
For The State of West Bengal

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SL. NO. 781 2025

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BEFORE THE HONBLE NATINAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

EASTERN ZONE BENCH

MISCELLANEOUS APPLICATION No.03/2024/EZ

IN

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In The Matter of:

Subhas Datta

...Applicant

Versus

State of West Bengal &amp; Ors.

BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC  
AT BIDHANNAGAR  
DIST. NORTH 24 PARGANAS

...Respondents

COUNTER-AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF MEMBER SECRETARY, WEST  
BENGAL COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

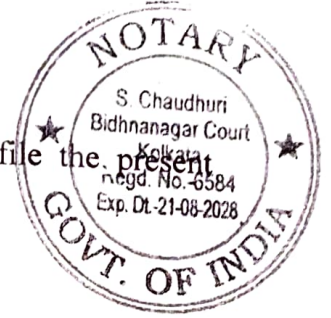
I, Sri Abhinav Chandra, S/o Late Dr. Pramod Chandra, aged about 48 years, by faith- Hindu, and holding the post of Director, Institute of Environmental Studies and Wetland Management, having Office at DD-24, Sector -III, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700106, do hereby solemnly affirm and submit as follows:-

1. That, I am also holding the post of Member Secretary of the West Bengal State Coastal Zone Management Authority (WBSCZMA) and I have made myself acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the instant Original Application. I have gone through the documents and reports pertaining to the subject matter

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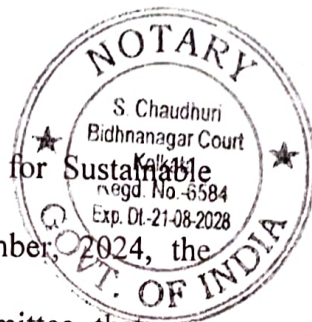
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of the instant Original Application and I am competent to file the present affidavit before this Hon'ble Tribunal.



2. That, this affidavit is being affirmed in pursuant to the solemn Order passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal, Principal Bench dated 12.12.2024 and 17.02.2025, wherein it has been stated that the draft updated Coastal Zone Management Plan 2019 has been submitted to Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) for approval.
3. That it is humbly submitted before this Hon'ble Tribunal that the CRZ Notification, 2019 was brought out by the MoEF&CC on 18.01.2019 and the same was shared with the coastal states for updation of their Coastal Zone Management Plan, a process that involves updation of Geo spatial map laying with satellite imageries, ground truthing by going to the said coastal areas, reconciling with land records and local administrative documents, field realities, feedback from local administration & lastly conducting public hearings. It is thereafter followed by amendments and approval of the Steering Committee and State Government.
4. The draft "updated Coastal Zone Management Plan, 2019" of West Bengal was sent to the MoEF&CC, Government of India for approval on 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2024. The said draft CZMP, 2019 was taken up for scrutiny by the Technical

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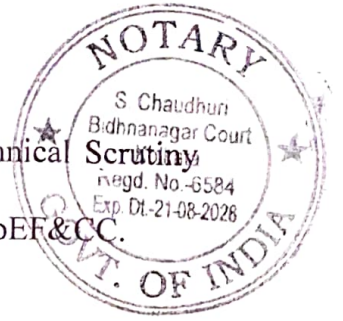
Scrutiny Committee of MoEF & CC at the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management . In the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024, the WBSCZMA presented before the Technical Scrutiny Committee that as opposed to the coastline of other States, the coastline of West Bengal being in alluvial delta is unique in nature and is witness to significant coastline changes being a “retrograding coastline”. The WBSCZMA had shown with ample scientific evidences that there has been change in the coastline due to Geogenic, Climatogenic & Anthropogenic reasons which can be seen from satellite data and ground truthing. The WBSCZMA had also stated to the Technical Scrutiny Committee, that the High Tide Line (HTL) of 2011 no longer exists due to erosion of the soft unconsolidated alluvial coast and ingress of sea.

5. The Technical Scrutiny Committee returned the draft CZMP to WBSCZMA through the MoEFCC vide their correspondence dated 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 2025 giving ten recommendations and suggestions. Seven out of ten suggestions have been accepted but three of them are being sent back with our reservations. One of the three said recommendations of Technical Scrutiny Committee is to follow HTL of approved CZMP 2011, and keep the same HTL as of 2011 while preparing CZMP-2019, while the other two recommendations of the Technical Scrutiny Committee, MOEF&CC pertains to the Ecologically Sensitive Areas (ESA) being kept as per approved ESA of 2011 and sand dunes which have been eroded to be retained as per approved ESA/CRZ-1A of 2011.

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The State's reservations on the three recommendations of Technical Scrutiny Committee out of ten are being shortly sent by WBSCZMA to MoEF&CC.



6. It is therefore respectfully prayed that Hon'ble Tribunal may pass such order/orders as it deems fit and proper in the interest of justice.

Identified by me  
Sibojyoti Chakrabarti  
Advocate  
for State of WB  
20/03/2025

Abhinav  
Abhinav Chandra  
20/03/25  
DEPONENT

#### VERIFICATION

I, Sri Abhinav Chandra, S/o Late Dr. Pramod Chandra, holding the post of Member Secretary of the West Bengal State Coastal Zone Management Authority, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that the contents of the report in the form of affidavit are true to the best part of my knowledge and belief. No part of the report is false and nothing has been concealed.

Verified at Kolkata this 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2025.

S. CHAUDHURI  
\* NOTARY \*  
GOVT. OF INDIA  
Regd. No.-6584/08  
Bidhanagar Court  
Dist.-North 24 Pgs.  
21 MAR 2025

Identified by me  
Sibojyoti Chakrabarti  
Advocate  
for State of WB.  
20/03/2025

Abhinav  
Abhinav Chandra  
20/03/25  
DEPONENT

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COSTAL ZONE MANAGEMNT  
AUTHORITY.**

SIBOJYOTI CHAKRABARTI  
Advocate  
For The State of West Bengal

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(M): 9007035534.