

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
WESTERN ZONE BENCH, PUNE
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 36 OF 2025 (WZ)

In the matter of:

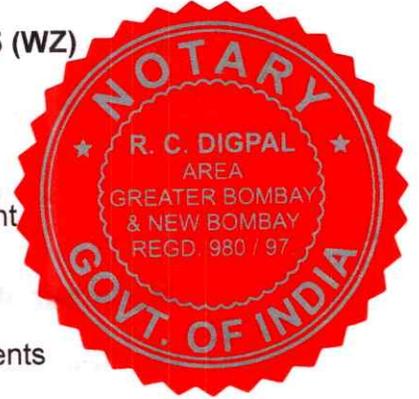
Samita Rajendra Patil

.....Applicant

Versus

Jindal Steel Works Ltd. & Ors.

... Respondents



AFFIDAVIT IN COMPLIANCE WITH ORDER DATED 18.02.2026 PASSED BY

HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

INDEX

Sr No.	Details	Page No.
	Cover page	1
	Affidavit before Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) in Original Application No. 36/2025 (WZ)	2-4
List of Exhibits		
1	Hon'ble NGT order dtd. 18.02.2026	5-7
2	Directions issued to M/s JSW Steel Ltd - Integrated Steel Plant (Capacity 5 to 10 MTPA), Dolvi Village, Geetapuram Dolvi, Tal. Pen, Dist. Raigad dated 13.03.2026	8-10
3	M/s JSW Steel reply dtd. 17.03.2026	11-13
4	Site visit report conducted by Maharashtra Pollution Control Board dtd. 18.03.2026	14-18



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ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 36 OF 2025 (WZ)

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Samita Rajendra Patil

.....Applicant

Versus

Jindal Steel Works Ltd. & Ors.

...Respondents



**AFFIDAVIT IN COMPLIANCE WITH ORDER DATED 18.02.2026 PASSED BY
HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL**

I, Rutuja Bhalerao, aged 39 years, Occupation – Service, presently working as Sub-Regional Officer, Raigad-2, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, having my office at Raigad Bhavan, C.B.D. Belapur, Navi Mumbai, do hereby solemnly affirm and state on behalf of Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, as under:

1. I say and submit that this Hon'ble Tribunal has passed an order dated 18.02.2026 & directed that following two issues shall be urgently acted upon- Rejuvenation / restoration of mangroves, and Removal of slag dumped in the **Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) area**. The Hon'ble Tribunal has further directed that all the respondents to submit their reply affidavits within four weeks through e-filing and also circulate the same to the applicant and also the other Respondents by available e-mail. A copy of said order dated 18.02.2026 is enclosed and marked as an **Exhibit I**.
2. It is submitted that pursuant to the order of this Hon'ble Tribunal, a meeting of the Joint Committee was conducted through video conferencing on 02.03.2026, wherein it was discussed that Maharashtra Pollution Control

Board will issue directions to the **M/s JSW Steel Ltd - Integrated Steel Plant** (Capacity 5 to 10 MTPA), Dolvi Village, Geetapuram Dolvi, Tal. Pen, Dist. Raigad, for non-compliances observed by the Joint Committee regarding slag disposal.



3. I say and submit that as discussed in the Joint Committee Meeting held on 2.3.2026, the Respondent Board has issued directions to **M/s JSW Steel Ltd - Integrated Steel Plant** (Capacity 5 to 10 MTPA), Dolvi Village, Geetapuram Dolvi, Tal. Pen, Dist. Raigad on 13.03.2026, for immediate removal of pyro-metallurgical slag dumped in CRZ Area as follow-

- a. To immediately remove pyro-metallurgical slag quantity as reported by the Joint Committee, dumped in CRZ Area of the listed survey numbers in this matter (survey Nos. 5, 26/1, 26/2, 26/3, 26/4, 26/5, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 36/1, 36/2, 37, 38, 39, 40/1, 40/2, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46/1, 46/2, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 53, 55, 58, 60, 62, 63 and 65 of Village Khar Devli, Taluka Pen, District Raigad).
- b. To submit time-bound action plan for slag removal (within 07 days).
- c. To support the Mangrove Cell for Restoration of the CRZ Area after removal of the slag.
- d. To comply with CPCB Guidelines for management of pyro-metallurgical slag, 2023 and submit Quarterly and Annual Slag Report as per the Guidelines along with supporting documents.

A copy of said directions issued to **M/s JSW Steel Ltd - Integrated Steel Plant** (Capacity 5 to 10 MTPA), Dolvi Village, Geetapuram

Dolvi, Tal. Pen, Dist. Raigad dated 13.03.2026 is enclosed and marked as an **Exhibit II**.

4. It is submitted that M/s JSW Steel has submitted reply dtd. 17.03.2026 to the aforesaid directions. Copy of reply is enclosed herewith and marked as **Exhibit III**.
5. I say and submit that, as per site visit conducted by Maharashtra Pollution Control Board on 18.03.2026, M/s JSW Steel has not started the removal of the slag from the area specified in this matter. Copy of the visit report, along with photographs, is enclosed herewith and marked as **Exhibit IV**.

Solemnly affirmed at [Navi Mumbai] on this 18th day of March 2026.

For and on behalf of
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board



(Rutuja Bhalerao)
Sub-Regional Officer, Raigad-2
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board



Before Me


R. C. DIGPAL
ADV. & NOTARY
19-A, Prabhat Centre,
CBD-Belapur, Navi Mumbai

REGISTERED VIDE	
SL NO.:	266
DT:	18 MAR 2026

Item No.1

(Pune Bench)

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
WESTERN ZONE BENCH, PUNE**

[THROUGH PHYSICAL HEARING (WITH HYBRID OPTION)]

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO.36 OF 2025 (WZ)

Samita Rajendra Patil

.....Applicant

Versus

Jindal Steel Works Ltd. & Ors.

.....Respondents

Date of hearing: 18.02.2026

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DINESH KUMAR SINGH, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. SUJIT KUMAR BAJPAYEE, EXPERT MEMBER**

Applicant : Mr. Shriram S. Kulkarni, Advocate along-with
Mr. Sujay S. Palshikar, Advocate

Respondents : Ms. Manasi Joshi, Advocate along-with
Ms. Pooja Natu, Advocate for R-12/MCZMA

ORDER

1. In compliance with our previous order dated 04.12.2025, learned counsel for the applicant has filed objection dated 16.02.2026 against the Joint Committee Report, wherein our attention is drawn to para no.(g), which contains that the Committee has found in para 6 (xv) onwards that Respondent No.3- H & R Johnson Plant is permitted to cut mangroves in 5 Hectares from 13 survey numbers. But it has not been mentioned by the Joint Committee in its report as to whether the corrective measures of rejuvenation of mangroves have taken place or not. The Committee has also found destruction of the mangroves beyond 5 hectares, but details and particulars of the same are not given nor has it been clarified as to how much mangroves are required to be rejuvenated at the site in question and whether it is feasible or not.

2. Learned counsel for the applicant has also read out contents of para no.(h) of the above affidavit, which contains nothing but the CPCB guidelines, in accordance with which the disposal of slag is to be done.
3. Learned counsel for the applicant wants that the Joint Committee may be directed to remove the deficiency in the report, which he has pointed out above. But, at this stage, we deem it appropriate to admit this application, in view of the Joint Committee Report having found around 10,500 metric tonnes of non-hazardous industrial pyro-metallurgical slag, having been purchased by Respondent No.3 from Respondent Nos.1 & 2 during the period of April- May 2023 for road accessibility, and also having observed that steel slag and murum were illegally dumped within the protected CRZ area.
4. Learned counsel for the applicant has raised two issues to be taken care of through the present Original Application, i.e. rejuvenation of the mangroves and removal of the slag which is found at the site in question.
5. We admit this application.
6. Registry is directed to issue Notice to the Respondents, returnable within 04(four) weeks.
7. Since learned counsel Ms. Manasi Joshi accepts notice on behalf of Respondent No.12- MCZMA, notice is waived against Respondent No.12. She has submitted that there is no requirement to file reply affidavit from their side in the case in hand.
8. Applicant is directed to take necessary steps for service to the Respondents by both ways (Dasti as well as by Registered Post) and also on available e-mail/WhatsApp., and submit service affidavit within one week.

9. Applicant is also directed to supply copy of the application and relevant documents to the Respondents within a week.

10. Respondents are directed to submit their reply affidavits within four weeks through e-filing and also circulate the same to the applicant and also the other Respondents by available e-mail.

11. Rejoinder, if any, is directed to be submitted within one week thereafter.

12. Put up this matter for further consideration on 20.03.2026.

Dinesh Kumar Singh, JM

Dr. Sujit Kumar Bajpayee, EM

February 18, 2026

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO.36 OF 2025 (WZ)

P.Kr.

MAHARASHTRA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

REGIONAL OFFICE, RAIGAD

Tel. No. 2757 2620
 Fax No. 2756 2132
 Email: rorraigad@mpcb.gov.in
 Visit us at: <http://mpcb.gov.in>



Raigad Bhavan, 6th Floor,
 Sec-11, C.B.D. Belapur,
 Navi Mumbai 400 614.

"Your Service is our Duty"

No. MPCB/ROR/TB/2026/260312-FTS-0134

Date: 13.03.2026

To,
JSW Steel Ltd - Integrated Steel Plant
 Capacity 5 to 10 MTPA,
 42,43,50,44,45,54,55,56,33,32,38,49,75,77, 139,142, etc
 Dolvi Village, Geetapuram Dolvi, Tal. Pen, Dist. Raigad

Subject: Direction for Immediate Removal of Pyro-metallurgical Slag Dumped in CRZ Area – In Compliance with Hon'ble NGT Order dated 18.02.2026, EC Conditions (2020), CPCB Guidelines (Dec 2023) and MPCB Consent Conditions.

- Ref.:
1. Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), (Western Zone Bench), Pune- Order dated 18.02.2026 in O.A. No. 36/2025 (WZ).
 2. Report of the Joint Committee constituted as per NGT Orders dated 20.06.2025 & 29.07.2025.
 3. Environmental Clearance issued by MoEF&CC vide F.No. J-11011/76/2013-IA-II(I) dated 16.06.2020.
 4. CPCB "Guidelines on Management of Pyro-metallurgical Slags (Iron & Steel Slags)", Version 1.0, December 2023.
 5. MPCB Consent to Operate issued to JSW Steel Ltd. vide No. MPCBCONSENT-0000204020 dated 08.03.2025, valid till 30.04.2028.
 6. Annual Slag Utilization Report submitted by JSW Steel Ltd. for 2024-25.
 7. Joint Committee Findings – Site Visit dated 25.07.2025.

WHEREAS the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) has granted Consent to Operate (renewal) under Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 to R-1/ R-2 i.e M/s. JSW Steel Ltd., Vill. Dolvi, Tal. Pen, Dist. Raigad plant for the manufacturing of various iron and steel products from iron ores on 08/03/2025, which is valid till 30/04/2028,.

AND WHEREAS, an Original Application No. 36/2025 (WZ) has been filed by Samita Rajendra Patil Vs Jindal Steel Works Ltd. & Ors before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) alleging dumping of steel slag and other materials in CRZ areas at the survey Nos. 5, 26/1, 26/2, 26/3, 26/4, 26/5, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 36/1, 36/2, 37, 38, 39, 40/1, 40/2, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46/1, 46/2, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 53, 55, 58, 60, 62, 63 and 65 of Village Khar Devli, Taluka Pen, District Raigad, affecting mangroves and coastal ecology.

AND WHEREAS, the Joint Committee constituted by the Hon'ble NGT has submitted its report Report (dtd. 03.12.2025) that:

- About 10,500 MT of non-hazardous pyro-metallurgical slag supplied by JSW Steel to M/s Prism Johnson Ltd. in Apr–May 2023 was found deposited on multiple survey numbers falling in CRZ.
- Dumping of slag and murum in CRZ area is a prohibited activity under CRZ Notification, 2019 and violates coastal protection norms.
- The Committee recommended immediate removal of all dumped material from CRZ land.
- Slag dumped is within survey numbers affected by creek lets originating from Amba Creek and hence largely within CRZ ecologically sensitive area.

AND WHEREAS, Hon'ble NGT has admitted matter vide order (copy attached) dated 18.02.2026 and specifically directed that following two issues be urgently acted upon on or before 20.3.2026.

1. Rejuvenation / restoration of mangroves, and
2. Removal of slag dumped in the CRZ area.

AND WHEREAS, as per Guidelines regarding pyrometallurgical slag management issued by Central Pollution Control Board in December 2023, at point no. 6.8, it has been expressed that –'Iron and steel slags from pyro-metallurgical route may be used in following areas subject to meeting the quality requirement/standard for the material / application:

- i) Cement production
- ii) Aggregate in cement-concrete
- iii) Cement-concrete blocks / bricks /tiles
- iv) Aggregate in construction of roads/ railways.'

AND WHEREAS, the Hon'ble Tribunal has observed following regulatory non-compliances :-

- a) Violation of CRZ Notification, 2019 due to dumping of slag in CRZ area.
- b) Violation of CPCB Slag Management Guidelines (Dec 2023):
 - Para 6.10 directs steel plants to *maximise external utilisation only in permissible areas* and strictly monitor storage, transport and end-use.
 - Dumping in CRZ area violates guidelines on unlined storage, disposal, and environmental safeguards.
- c) Violation of MPCB Consent Conditions:
 - Under "Non-hazardous waste", slag disposal is permitted only for land development, road making, marine structures & sand, but not allowed disposal in CRZ zones.

AND WHEREAS, a meeting of the Joint Committee has been conducted through video conferencing on 02.03.2026, wherein it was decided that Maharashtra Pollution Control Board will issue directions to the industry for above non-compliances regarding slag disposal.

AND NOW THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred upon me u/s 33A of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and u/s 31A of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, as well as in compliance of Hon'ble NGT order dated 18.2.2026, you are hereby directed to:

1. Immediately remove slag dumped in aforementioned CRZ Area.

- Remove the pyro-metallurgical slag quantity reported by the Joint Committee and any associated material dumped in CRZ areas of the listed survey numbers in this matter.
- Comply with the CPCB guidelines regarding pyrometallurgical slag management for management of the slag removed from the CRZ area.
- Removal shall be completed on priority without disturbing natural soil strata, creeklets, mangrove roots, or hydrology.
- Ensure traceability of external slag utilisation, including end-use locations, mode of treatment, quantities and compliance status.

2. Submit a time-bound action plan (within 07 days)-

The plan must include:

- Total estimated quantity of dumped material.
- Method and timeline for safe removal.
- Approved end-use / disposal pathways.
- Environmental safeguards during removal.
- Details of agency executing the work.
- Compliance with CPCB Guidelines and MPCB Consent.

3. Support the Mangrove Cell for Restoration of the CRZ Area-

After removal of the slag, you shall support the Mangrove Cell for restoration as per Hon'ble NGT directions and as per applicable procedure of the Mangrove Cell.

You shall submit your reply to this office within 7 days, for compliance with Hon'ble NGT directions and onward submission to Hon'ble NGT.

This is issued with the approval of Competent Authority of the Board

**For and on behalf of
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board**


**(Sanjay R. Bhosale)
Regional Officer, Raigad**

Copy submitted to:

- 1) Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Mangrove Cell, Mumbai.
- 2) The Director, Environment and Climate Change Department, Government of Maharashtra.
- 3) The Member Secretary, MPCB, Sion, Mumbai.
- 4) Joint Director (WPC), MPCB, Sion, Mumbai.

Copy to: Sub-Regional Officer (Raigad-2)- She is directed to take follow up and verification of the Hon'ble NGT directions.



Reply Letter against Direction issued to JSW

From Anand Kumar Rai <anand.raijsw.in>

Date Wed 2026-03-18 11:43 AM

To JD Water Division <jdwaterdivision@mpcb.gov.in>

Cc SRO Raigad 2 <sroraigad2@mpcb.gov.in>; RO Raigad <rorraigad@mpcb.gov.in>; Member Secretary MPCB Mumbai <ms@mpcb.gov.in>

 1 attachment (168 KB)

Letter to MPCB against direction.pdf;

R/Sir

This is in reference to the Direction issued to JSW regarding NGT case , we are hereby submitting the reply against the Direction issued by your good office for kind consideration.

Thanks & Regards,

Dr. Anand Rai

Vice President & Head Environment (Steel & coated)

JSW Steel Limited, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai - 400051

Mobile No: +91 9607971413 | Ext: *18-5038

Mail to: anand.raijsw.in



Dolvi Works:
 Geetapuram,
 Dolvi, Taluka - Pen,
 Dist. Raigad - 402 107. Maharashtra, India.
 CIN : L27102MH1994PLC152925
 Phone : +91 2143 663000/3100/3200
 Fax : +91 2143 277533/42
 Website : www.jsw.in

Date: 17th March 2026

To,
 Sanjay R. Bhosale,
 Regional Officer, Raigad,
 Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,
 Raigad Bhavan, 6th Floor,
 Sec-11, C.B.D. Belapur,
 Navi Mumbai 400 614.

Sub.: Response to letter dated 13.03.2026 bearing reference no. MPCB/ROR/TB/
 2026/260312-FTS-0134

Ref.: Order dated 18.02.2026 passed by the National Green Tribunal (NGT), Western
 Zone Bench, Pune in OA No. 36/2025.

Sir,

1. We are in receipt of your letter dated 13.03.2026 bearing reference no. MPCB/ROR/TB/2026/260312-FTS-0134, wherein you have directed us to:
 - a. Remove the pyro-metallurgical slag allegedly dumped in CRZ areas;
 - b. Submit a time-bound action plan; and
 - c. Support the Mangrove Cell for restoration after the removal of the slag.
2. In the said letter, you have stated that the said letter has been issued since the Ld. NGT, by its order dated 18.02.2026 passed in OA No. 36 of 2025, has specifically "**directed that following two issues be urgently acted upon on or before 20.03.2026...**".
3. At the outset, entire proceedings before NGT including these orders of the NGT are without notice to us and without affording us an opportunity of hearing. Furthermore, we have yet not been served with the papers and proceedings in OA No. 36 of 2025 pending before the Ld. NGT or the Joint Committee report referred to therein. We are responding to the captioned letter dated 13.03.2026 based on publicly available orders in the said proceedings and reserve our right to file a further response to the said letter, as well as, without prejudice to our right to contest the pending proceedings before the NGT in respect of OA No. 36 of 2025 until final adjudication.
4. Regrettably, it appears that the said letter dated 13.03.2026 is clearly an attempt to supplant the directions issued by the Ld. NGT because while your letter states that the Ld. NGT has directed your office to act, no such direction is discernable from the said order dated 18.02.2026.
- 5.
6. A plain reading of the order dated 18.02.2026 would show that the Ld. NGT has merely recorded the submissions of the Applicant on a report filed by the Joint Committee. In fact, a reading of paragraphs 3 and 4 of the said order demonstrates that while the Applicant therein had sought

Regd. Office: JSW Centre,
 Bandra Kurla Complex,
 Bandra (East), Mumbai - 400 051.
 Phone : +91 22 4286 1000





issuance of directions to the Joint Committee on certain issues, Ld. NGT refrained from doing so, and has merely admitted the application.

7. The Ld. NGT, after taking into consideration the findings of the report of the Joint Committee, has deemed it fit to admit OA No. 36 of 2025, issued notice to all the Respondents and directed the Respondents to file their replies within four (4) weeks. The matter has been put for further consideration on 20.03.2026. This approach is in consonance with the judgment of the Supreme Court in *Singrauli Super Thermal Power Station v. Ashwani Kumar Dubey, (2023) 8 SCC 35 (para 23)*.
8. It is also evident from the above that the issue is pending for reply of the Respondents including Respondent Nos. 1 and 2 and for consideration / adjudication before the NGT in OA No. 36 of 2025, and consequently, there is no basis for initiation of any action against us at this time.
9. Furthermore, since the matter is still pending before the Ld. NGT, which your office is well aware of, the initiation of these parallel proceedings is a clear attempt to pre-judge the issue and amounts to an overreach of the order dated 18.02.2026 passed by the Ld. NGT.
10. It also appears from the letter dated 13.03.2026 that the decision to issue the same was taken in a meeting dated 02.03.2026 by the Joint Committee constituted by the Ld. NGT. From the perusal of orders of Ld. NGT, it appears that the said Joint Committee was constituted to conduct an inspection into specific queries as per Ld. NGT's order dated 20.06.2025. Pursuant to which the Joint Committee appears to have submitted a fact-finding report on 04.12.2025. The said Joint Committee, having already filed its report, was therefore in no manner empowered to take decision to issue the captioned letter dated 13.03.2026 as it would amount to outsourcing of adjudicatory function to the joint committee which is in the teeth of the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Kantha Vibhag Yuva Koli Samaj Parivartan Trust and Others v. State of Gujarat and Ors., (2023) 13 SCC 525 (para 16-22)*.
11. Consequently, these parallel proceedings, are without jurisdiction, and we request you to kindly withdraw the same, and await the decision of the Ld. NGT. Kindly take note that in case of failure to do so, we will be constrained to initiate appropriate proceedings with respect to the same.
12. In light of the above, it is reiterated that the initiation of action against us by your office in the captioned letter dated 13.03.2026 at the instance of decision of the joint committee dated 02.03.2026 may kindly be withdrawn and in any event be made subject to the outcome of the OA No. 36 of 2025 pending before the Ld. NGT.
13. This reply is without prejudice to our rights and contentions on the merits of the matter that we are entitled to raise before the Ld. NGT and will so raise.

Yours sincerely,

Dr .Anand Rai

Vice President - Environment, Health & Safety



MAHARASHTRA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

Sub Regional Office, Raigad - 2,
Raigad Bhavan 6th floor,
CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai



E-mail ID :-
sroraigad2@mpcb.gov.in

Visit Report

Date - 18/03/2026

Name & Address - MIS JSW Steel Ltd.,
Integrated Steel Plant,
42, 43, 44, 50 etc. Vill. Dolvi,
Greetapuram, Tal. Pen, Dist. Raigad.

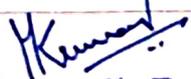
observations during visit -

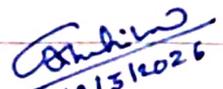
Board official and industry representatives carried out joint inspection as per directions of Hon'ble NGT (WZ) and as per directions of SRO, MPCB, Raigad-2. During visit following observations are noted -

- Visited to Ghat No. 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 etc. at Vill. Khar Devli, Tal. Pen.
- During visit, it is observed that slag removal work yet not started. Steel pipes and precast blocks were lying in area.
- Representative of JSW Steel (Mr Kumar Vijay Thatte) informed that the industry will comply orders/directions issued by Hon'ble NGT (WZ) and MPCB. Till also not started abstraction/removal of slag.

Remarks - Industry authority shall strictly comply the orders issued by Hon'ble NGT (WZ) from time to time and submit status report on monthly basis to Board office.


(Tanmay R. Surokar)
Pravin Johnson Limited


(Kumar V. Thatte)
JSW Steel Ltd.
(9607971414)


(Dr G.D. Khadkikar)
Field officer
8082550294

Photographs of JSW Steel Ltd., dtd. 18.03.2026





GPS Map Camera



Khar Devali, Maharashtra, India

M3m3+4rv H & R Johnson India Limited, Nr 17, Khar

Devali, Maharashtra 402107, India

Lat 18.68343° Long 73.052441°

Wednesday, 18/03/2026 12:07 PM GMT +05:30





GPS Map Camera



Khar Devali, Maharashtra, India 🇮🇳

M3m3+4rv H & R Jhonson India Limited, Nh 17, Khar Devali, Maharashtra 402107, India

Lat 18.681912° Long 73.053315°

Wednesday, 18/03/2026 12:03 PM GMT +05:30

