

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
WESTERN ZONE BENCH, PUNE  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION No.54/2025 (WZ)  
[Earlier Original Application No.188/2025(PB)]**

News Item titled "Illegal waste dumping is killing Balkum Mangroves :  
Ecowarrior's complaints" appearing in Mid-day dated 06/04/2025  
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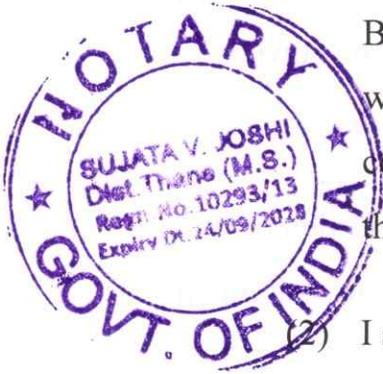
**AFFIDAVIT IN REPLY ON BEHALF OF MAHARASHTRA  
POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD i.e. RESPONDENT NO.2.**

I, Anand Katole, Aged-Adult, Occupation-Service, the Sub-Regional Officer of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board at Thane-II, having office at Plot No.P-30, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Office Complex Building, Wagle Industrial Estate, Mulund Checknaka, Thane (West)-400 604, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under:-

(1) I say and submit that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi has taken cognizance of the News titled "Illegal waste dumping is killing Balkum Mangroves : Ecowarrior's complaints" appearing in Mid-day dated 06/04/2025 and registered the same Original Application No.188/025(PB).

(2) I say and submit that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi vide Order dated 28/4/2025 has transferred the said O.A. to the Western Zone of the Hon'ble NGT, which is registered as O.A. No.54/2025(WZ) and impleaded the MPCB as a Respondent No.2.

(3) I say and submit that in compliance of the Order dated 3/07/2025 passed by this Hon'ble NGT, I am filing the said Affidavit in Reply



on behalf of Respondent No.2-Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB).

- (4) I say and submit that Respondent NO.2-MPCB has received a complaint regarding illegal dumping activities in Balkum area from Vanshakti, which was forwarded to the Thane Municipal Corporation (TMC) vide e-mail dated 17/4/2025 for necessary action.
- (5) I say and submit that in response to the e-mail dated 17/4/2025, the Thane Municipal Corporation vide letter dated 25/4/2025 informed that they have filed FIR in Kapurbavdi Police Station on 4/3/2025 against the unknown person, who is responsible for dumping at mangroves and buffer area site of Balum.
- (6) I say and submit that in order to investigate the complaint, the Officials of the Respondent NO.2-MPCB along with representative of TMC have visited the site of Balkum mangroves dumping site at S.No.145, 151, 155, Dadlani Park, Near Ashok Nagar Township, Tal. & Dist: Thane on 6/8/2025 and observed as follows:
- (i) During inspection, dumping of construction and demolition waste, debris and other municipal solid waste is found dumped at the said location.
  - (ii) The dumping site at Balkum has paved approach road and site is easily accessible for the vehicles.
  - (iii) There is electric high-tension line passing through dumping site.
  - (iv) TMC has constructed two trench near dumping site to create obstacles for the movement of heavy vehicles.



(v) No industrial activity and hazardous waste is observed at the dumping site. A copy of the visit report dated 6/8/2025 is enclosed herewith and marked as an **Annexure-‘I’**.

(7) I say and submit that in view of the above, the Respondent No.2-MPCB has issued a letter dated 11.08.2025 to TMC to remove the material dumping on the site in question. A copy of the letter dated 11.08.2025 is enclosed herewith and marked as an **Annexure-‘II’**.

Solemnly affirmed on this 11th day of August 2025 at Mumbai.

For and behalf of the Maharashtra  
Pollution Control Board,

(Anand Katole)

Sub-Regional Officer, Thane-II



BEFORE ME  
NOTARY

SUJATA V. JOSHI  
ADVOCATE & NOTARY

101/102, Vishal Bldg., Station Road,  
Kalwa (W), Thane-400 605.

NOTED & REGISTERED

Sr. No.

80/7/2025  
11.1 AUG 2025

# 7 MAHARASHTRA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

## Sub-Regional Office, Thane-I

Tel : 25802272

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5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Office Complex Bldg.,  
Near Mulund Check Naka,  
Wagale Estate,  
Thane-400 604

Date: 06 / 08 /2025

### INSPECTION REPORT

- |    |                                |    |   |
|----|--------------------------------|----|---|
| 1. | Name & Address of the location | :- | Balkum Mangroves Dumping site at S. No. 145, 151, 155, Dadlani Park, near Ashok Nagar Township, Tal & Dist Thane. |
| 2. | Person Contacted               | :- | Shri Hinge, Representative of Thane Municipal Corporation.  |
| 3. | Contact Details                | :- | Ph. – 9967836395  |

### OBSERVATIONS:

1. Complaint site is inspected on 06.08.2025 along with representative of Thane Municipal Corporation Mr. Hinge, Lab Attendant. The latitude and longitude of the site is 19.219719, 72.995339.
2. During the inspection dumping of construction and demolition waste, debris and other municipal solid waste is found dumped at the said location.
3. The dumping site at Balkum has paved approach road and site is easily accessible for the vehicles.
4. There is electric high-tension line passing through dumping site.
5. TMC has constructed two trench near dumping site to create obstacles for the movement of heavy vehicles.
6. No industrial activity and hazardous waste is observed at the dumping site.
7. TMC vide letter dated 24.04.2025 has replied to MPCB that FIR has been filed on 04.03.2025 by Mandal officer Collector office Thane against the suspect who is responsible for dumping at Mangroves and buffer area site and TMC has preparing the budgetary estimate for removal of debris.

  
Mr. Hinge

Lab Attendant

Thane Municipal Corporation

  
Suvarna Gaikwad

Field Officer

MPC Board, Thane-I

# 8 MAHARASHTRA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

Tel : 25802272		Regional Office, Thane
Fax : 25805398		5 <sup>th</sup> Floor, Office Complex Bldg.,
Website: <a href="http://mpcb.gov.in">http://mpcb.gov.in</a>		Near Mulund Check Naka,
E-mail Id: rothane@mpcb.gov.in		Wagle Estate, Thane-400 604.
<b>"Your Service is our Duty"</b>		

No. MPCB/SROT-II/WN-R/ 1004

Date:- 11/08/2025

To,

✓ The Commissioner,  
Thane Municipal Corporation,  
Mahapalika Bhavan, Almeda road,  
Panchpakhadi,  
Thane (W)-400604

**Sub.-Non-Compliances of Solid Waste Management Rules 2016, Construction & Demolition Waste Management Rules,2016.**

**Ref.:- 1.Hon'ble National Green Tribunal's Order dated 03.07.2025**

**2.Present Status Site Report submitted by SRO Thane-I, dated 06.08.2025**

**Respected Sir,**

With reference to the above-mentioned Hon'ble NGT's direction in O.A.No.:54 of 2025 (WZ) [Earlier Original Application No. 188/2025 )PB]] in the matter of ILLEGAL WASTE DUMPING IS KILLING BALKUM MANGROVES ECOWARRIOR S COMPLAINTS APPEARING IN MID-DAY DATED 06.04.2025 VS CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (CPCB) THROUGH ITS MEMBER SECRETARY P. Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) being one of the respondent (No.2). MPCB has visited the Balkum Mangroves site on the 6<sup>th</sup> August 2025 with TMC representative the observations were made during the site visit are mentioned as follows:

- During the inspection dumping of construction and demolition waste, debris and other municipal solid waste is found dumped at the location.
- The dumping site at Balkum has paved approach road and site is easily accessible for the vehicles
- There is electric high-extension line passing through dumping site.
- No industrial activity and hazardous waste is observed at the dumping site

Above mentioned non-compliances were observed which is violation of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, Construction & Demolition Waste Management Rules, 2016.

In view of above, you are kindly requested to remove the of above mentioned waste. The action taken report shall be submitted within 07 (seven) days, failing which further action under above mentioned Rules may be initiated, Which Please be noted.

Your's faithfully



(Kiran Hasbnis),

Regional Officer, Thane

DA:As above

Copy for information to:

1. Member Secretary, MPC. Board, Sion, Mumbai-400022
2. Assistant Secretary (Technical), MPC. Board, Sion, Mumbai-400022
3. Law Officer (P&L) Division, MPC. Board, Sion, Mumbai-400022