

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
WESTERN ZONE BENCH, PUNE
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO.69 OF 2025(WZ)

C.A.Saiprasad Mangesh Kalyankar ... Applicant
The Sarpanch Grampanchayay Banda & others ... Respondents

INDEX

S.No.	Exhibit	Particulars	Page Nos.
1)	-	Affidavit in Reply of R.No.3	408-415

Pune

Date: 26/12/2025



Advocate for Respondent No.3

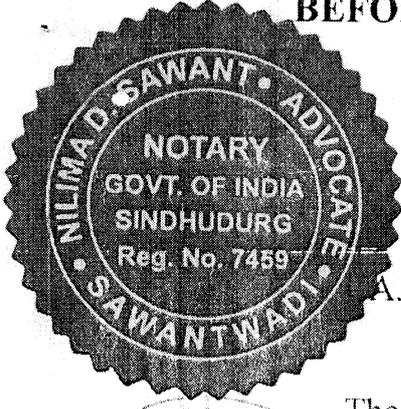
D.M.Gupte

Advocate

Email-advgupte@gmail.com

9422317884

BEFORE THE HON'BLE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
WESTERN ZONE, BENCH AT PUNE



ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 69 OF 2025 (WZ)

A. Saiprasad Mangesh Kalyankar ----- Applicant

Versus

The Sarpanch Grampanchayat Banda ----- Respondents
and others

AFFIDAVIT-IN-REPLY ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT

NOS. 3

I, **Suhas Balaso Patil**, Age - 34, working as **Range Forest Officer (Territorial)**, Sawantwadi state on solemn affirmation as under :-

1. I say and state that I am Respondent Nos. 3 filing this Affidavit-in-reply in his behalf in this Original Application (OA for short) and I am well acquainted with the facts of the case.
2. I say and state that I have carefully read the contents of this OA and documents produced along with it and I have understood the same.
3. I say that the contents of OA, which are not specifically admitted by me in this Affidavit-in-reply, should not be construed as admissions on the part of the Respondent Nos. 3.
4. I crave leave of this Hon'ble Tribunal to add or to delete or to alter to amend any of the contents in this Affidavit-in-reply or to file additional Affidavit-in-reply, if and as and when required.

FACTS OF THE CASE :

5. I say that village Banda, situated in Taluka Sawantwadi, District Sindhudurg, lies on the border of the States of Maharashtra and Goa.

BEFORE ME

N. D. Sawant

N. D. SAWANT

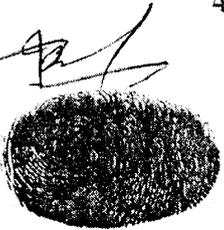
ADVOCATE NOTARY

Rejaina Complex

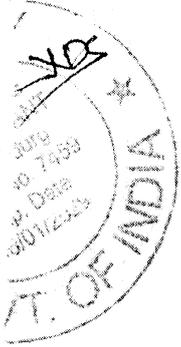
New Selaivada Ch. P. Tahasilkar Office

Tal. Sawantwadi, Dist. Sindhudurg

MOB. No. 9422596494



for felling 07 restricted tree without permission a total penalty of ₹14,000 was imposed - ₹7,000 each on Smt. Ritu Gupta and Smt. Varsha Agrawal. Additionally, they were directed to plant 100 trees as compensatory afforestation.



11. I say that Mr. Mandar Chandrakant Kudav had applied for permission to fell trees on behalf of Yugen Infra Pvt. Ltd. in Survey Nos. 218/1, 218/2, and 218/4. As per the recommendation of the Round Forest Officer, Banda, The Tree Officer & Range Forest Officer, Sawantwadi, permission was granted for felling 30 fully grown Jamun (*Syzygium cumini*) trees, only to the extent they were obstructing a proposed housing project and fruit plantation.

12. I say that 07 trees were felled illegally and for that, the forest department has already taken penal action under the provisions of the 1964 Act against those responsible.

PARAWISE REPLY :

13. As regard contents of Para 1 of the OA, I say and state that the contents therein being in respect of particulars of addresses of both the parties are not disputed.

14. As regard contents of Para 2 of the OA, I say and state that I offer no comments.

As regard contents of Para 3 of the OA, I say and state that the questioned area comes under the Village Banda, which is included in the Draft Notification Eco Sensitive Area published on 31st July, 2024 and in previous notification also, but till date final notification yet not published

BEFORE ME

N. D. Sawant

N. D. SAWANT

ADVOCATE NOTARY

Rajratna Complex

Sawantwadi Opp. Tahasildar Office

Sawantwadi, Dist. Sindhudurg

Mob No. 942259645

or finalized.

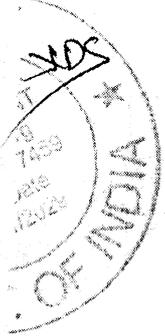
16. As regard contents of Para 4 of the OA, I say and state that these Respondents are not involved in tree felling. This Respondent has taken action on illegally felled trees and also given permission to legally fell 30 jamun tree under the provisions of Maharashtra trees felling (Regulations) Act 1964.

17. As regard contents of Para 5 of the OA, I say and state that the allegation regarding absence of co-owners' consent or incomplete "Hamipatra" (Consent Deed) is incorrect. The required fields were duly filled before processing the application.

I say and state that as averred in Para 10 above Mr. Mandar Chandrakant Kudav had applied for permission to fell trees on behalf of Yugen Infra Pvt. Ltd. in Survey Nos. 218/1, 218/2, and 218/4. As per the recommendation of the Round Forest Officer, Banda, The Tree Officer & Range Forest Officer, Sawantwadi, granted permission for felling 30 fully grown Jamun (*Syzygium cumini*) trees, only to the extent they were obstructing a proposed housing project and fruit plantation. The tree names and its numbers are written by Talathi on 7/12 and also the Tahsildar has given certificate for this tree entries.

18. As regard contents of Para 6 of the OA, I say and state that the contents therein are not with respect to this Respondent. Hence, I offer no comments.

As regard contents of Para 7 of the OA, I say and state that the forest department has already taken penal action under the provisions of the 1964



BEFORE ME

N. D. Sawant

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ADVOCATE NOTARY

Rajratna Complex

New Salewada Opp. Tahsildar Office

Tal. Sawantwadi, Dist. Sindhudurg

Mobile No. 9422596494

Act against those responsible. The answering Respondent has strictly adhered to all applicable statutory provisions, notifications, and guidelines.

20. As regard contents of Para 8 of the OA, I say and state that village Banda in on Maharashtra - Goa border and is included in the proposed notification Dated 31.07.2024 of the Western Ghats Ecologically Sensitive Area (ESA) as per the draft notification issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF & CC), Government of India.
21. As regard contents of Para 9 of the OA, I say and state that the contents therein are not with respect to this Respondent. Hence, I offer no comments.
22. As regard contents of Para 10 of the OA, I say and state that the contents therein are not with respect to this Respondent. Hence, I offer no comments.
23. As regard contents of Para 11 of the OA, I say and state that the contents therein are not with respect to this Respondent. Hence, I offer no comments.
24. As regard contents of Para 12 of the OA, I say and state that on 28.05.2024, a site inspection was conducted by the Range Forest Officer (RFO), Sawantwadi, and Round Forest officer, Banda and necessary *Panchnama* and official documents were prepared. During the said inspection, it was found that 07 restricted and 16 unrestricted trees had been felled without permission. Accordingly, as per Section 4 of the Maharashtra (Regulation of Felling of Trees) Act, 1964, a total penalty of ₹14,000 was imposed - ₹7,000 each on Smt. Ritu Gupta and Smt. Varsha

BEFORE ME



N. D. SAWANT

ADVOCATE NOTARY

Rajrtna Complex

New, Sawantwadi Opp. Tahasildar Office

Tal. Sawantwadi Dist- Sindhudurg

Mob. No 9422896494

Agrawal. Additionally, they were directed to plant 100 trees as compensatory afforestation.

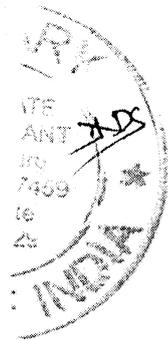
25. It is respectfully submitted that Yugen Infra Pvt. Ltd. has planted 100 trees as compensatory afforestation for the unauthorized felling of trees, and an additional 50 trees have been planted against the felling of 30 trees carried out with due permission. During the inspection conducted by the Forester, there was no any felling of tree is found. Hence, there is no deviation or violation beyond what has been duly reported and compensated in accordance with law.”

26. As regard contents of Para 13 of the OA, I say and state that I deny the contents therein. I say and state that no blasting activity has been undertaken by or linked to the forest department in this area.

27. As regard contents of Para 14 of the OA, I say and state that the Forest Department has neither undertaken any tree felling in the said area nor is there any intention or proposal to undertake such activity in the future. The answering Respondent affirms that no action inconsistent with the applicable forest and environmental regulations has been carried out or will be carried out.

28. As regard contents of Para 15 of the OA, I say and state that the contents therein are not with respect to this Respondent. Hence, I offer no comments.

29. As regard contents of Para 16 of the OA, I say and state that the contents therein are not with respect to this Respondent. Hence, I offer no comments.



A

ND Sawant
Advocate
Rajrama Complex
New Salawada Opp. Tahasildar Office,
Tal. Sawantwadi, Dist- Sindhudurg
Mob. No. 9222564194

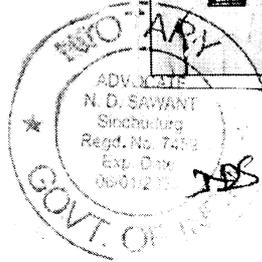
30. As regard contents of Para 17 of the OA, I say and state that the contents therein are not with respect to this Respondent. Hence, I offer no comments.
31. I say that the answering Respondent is in no manner involved in any illegal tree felling. On the contrary, this Respondent have taken timely and appropriate action against the persons responsible for such unauthorized activities and have ensured that all requisite permissions and approvals were duly obtained prior to any lawful tree felling undertaken in the area.
32. In view of the foregoing, the grounds advanced and the interim prayer, insofar as they pertain to this Respondent, are hereby denied.
33. Therefore, I pray this Hon'ble Tribunal to dismiss the OA against this Respondent with costs

Pune.

Date : 12 / 12 / 2025



(Suhas Balaso Patil)
Range Forest Officer (T) Sawantwadi,
Forest Division Sawantwadi
For the Respondent Nos. 3



BEFORE ME

N. D. Sawant

N. D. SAWANT
ADVOCATE NOTARY

Rajratna Complex
New Salaiwada Opp. Tahasildar Office
Tal. Sawantwadi Dist. Sindhudurg
Mob No 9422596494

VERIFICATION

I, Suhas Balaso Patil, Age - 34, working as Range Forest Officer (Territorial), Sawantwadi, Forest Division Sawantwadi for the Respondent Nos. 3 do hereby solemnly verify above contents of Para Nos. 1 to 33 of the Affidavit-in-reply as true and correct to the best of my knowledge, belief and information derived from the records and files maintained in the office and I verify the same to be true. I say that I have not suppressed any material fact from this Hon'ble Tribunal.

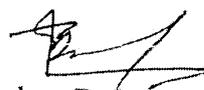
Solemnly affirmed at Pune.

Pune.

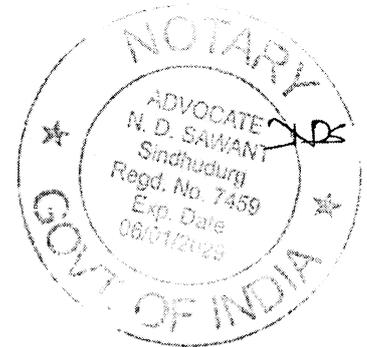
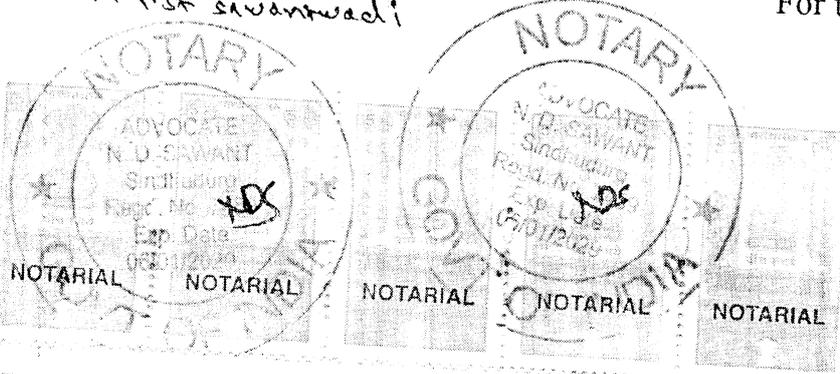
Date : 12 / 12 / 2025

Witness

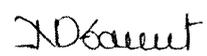

Pramod Vasant Rane
At Post Sawantwadi


(Suhas Balaso Patil)

Range Forest Officer (T) Sawantwadi
Forest Division Sawantwadi
For the Respondent Nos. 3



This document has been personally presented & signed by Shri / Smt / Mrs / Miss Suhas Balaso Patil residence of Sawantwadi who is identified by Shri / Smt / Mrs / Miss Pramod Vasant Rane to whom I personally know No. of corrections No. of pages 8 Notary Regd No 372/2025 Dated 12.12.2025

BEFORE ME

N. D. SAWANT
ADVOCATE NOTARY
Rajratna Complex
New Salaiwada Opp. Talgaon Office
Tal. Sawantwadi Dist- Sindhudurg
Mob No 9422696494

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN
TRIBUNAL, WESTERN ZONE, PUNE
Original Application No.69 of 2025(WZ)

In the matter of :

C.A.Saiprasad Mangesh Kalyankar ...Applicant

Versus

The Sarpanch Grampanchayat Banda & Ors.
...Respondents

Reply Affidavit of Respondent No.3

DATED 23^h December ,2025

D.M.GUPTE

ADVOCATE FOR RESPONDENT NO.3

3,LAXMAN APARTMENT

25/26, OLD TOPHKAHANA,

S'NAGAR, PUNE – 411 005

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