

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,  
WESTERN REGION BENCH AT PUNE  
INTERLOCTORY APPLICATION NO. 60 OF 2025

IN

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 33 OF 2024 (WZ)  
(EARLIER ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 343 OF 2021)



Hormuz Salt Works

Applicant/Respondent No. 9

Through, Mr. Anmol Garodia (Authorized Representative)

**IN THE MATTER OF**

Madhura Tawde

Petitioner

Vs.

State of Maharashtra and Ors.

Respondents

**AFFIDAVIT IN REPLY BY THE APPLICANT / RESPONDENT NO. 9 TO THE  
ADDITIONAL AFFIDAVIT DATED 7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2025 FILED BY THE  
RESPONDENT NO. 6 (MPCB)**

I, Anmol Garodia, Age 31 years, carrying on my business at Shanti Nagar, Salt Pan Road, Near Madina Masjid, Wadala (E), Mumbai do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under:

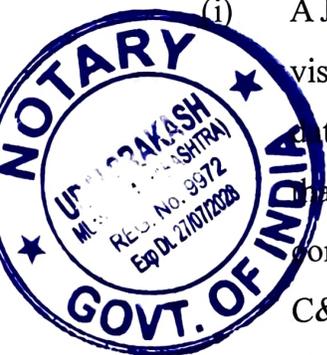
1. I say that I am in receipt of the Additional Affidavit dated filed by the Respondent No. 6 i.e. MPCB and the Report of the Technical Committee dated April 2025 (hereinafter referred to as "the Technical Committee Report") on

waste estimation of salt pan site. I say that I am filing my reply to the said Technical Committee Report.

**Events leading to the NGT Order dated 28<sup>th</sup> September 2022 and 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

2. I say that the aforesaid Original Application is based on a complaint filed by the Petitioner, Madhura Tawade, an activist *vide* email dated 19<sup>th</sup> June 2021 (“**said email**”). By the said email, the Petitioner had *inter alia* stated that certain people were adding debris on the salt pan land and these people had made a small island out of it and have even encroached the said area. It was also stated that sand is also being added on the mangroves which are important for the Mumbai city.
3. I say that *vide* an order dated 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021 the Principal Bench NGT, New Delhi registered the application based on the email of the Petitioner. The NGT sought a ‘factual and action taken report’ from a six member joint committee (being Respondent Nos. 1 to 8 herein) to undertake site visit and interact with the stake holders.
4. I say that pursuant to the order of the NGT dated 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021:

- (i) A Joint Committee (consisting of Respondent Nos.1 to 8) conducted a site visit and their observations were recorded in Minutes of the First Meeting dated 11<sup>th</sup> March 2022. In the said minutes of meeting, it is *inter alia* stated that along the periphery of salt pan at C.S. No. 145, Mr. Garodia has constructed a huge bandh (approx. 5 ft height and 10 feet wide made of C&D Waste) between the dense mangroves and salt pans. Mr. Garodia also informed the Joint Committee that the bunds are constructed to prevent intrusion of creek water into salt pans.



- (ii) A Progress Report dated 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022 whereby the findings of the First Minutes of Meeting dated 11<sup>th</sup> March 2022 were reiterated and MCGM was *inter alia* directed to submit the status of C&D waste with respect to ward wise daily/monthly generation.
- (iii) A Second Meeting of the Joint Committee was held on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022 in which it was *inter alia* decided to collect various records and documents from the Salt Pan Department about the status of ownership of C.S. Nos. 117, 144 and 145 along with P.R card.
- (iv) The Deputy Salt Commissioner by his letter dated 25<sup>th</sup> August 2022, *inter alia* clarified to the MPCB that no permission was taken by the Applicant/Respondent No. 9 for the repair or maintenance of the salt work, however no such permission is required for regular repair or maintenance of the outer embankment of the salt works.
- (v) A Progress Report dated September 2022 was submitted by the Joint Committee in compliance with the NGT Order dated 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021. In the said Report, it was *inter alia* recommended by the Joint Committee that “...**Dumping C&D waste/debris for carrying out repairing & augmentation works of existing bund, falling within 50 m mangrove buffer i.e. CRZ 1-A. The operator of salt pan / salt manufacturer under the supervision of Office of Dy. Salt Commissioner, Mumbai and F(N)/M(W) Ward of MCGM may be directed to remove the unauthorized dumping of C&D waste...**”
- (vi) The MPCB *vide* its Report dated 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022 *inter alia* stated that “...**existing bund which is repaired and augmented by dumping C&D waste falls within the 50 m mangrove buffer zone i.e. CRZ 1A .....**Operator



*of salt pan under the supervision of Office of Dy. Salt Commissioner Mumbai may be directed to remove unauthorized dumping of the C&D waste..”*

- (vii) The National Green Tribunal (‘NGT’) *vide* Order dated 28<sup>th</sup> September 2022 and 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023 in O.A. 343 of 2021 *inter alia* accepted the recommendation of the Joint Committee and the MPCB and directed the removal of the unauthorized dumping of waste and removal of encroachments near the coastal road at Wadala.
5. I say that it would be evident that both the Reports of the Joint Committee and the MPCB state that the removal of the C&D waste dumped by the Applicant was **restricted to the ‘bund’ which was ‘repaired and augmented’** by the Applicant/Respondent No.9.
6. I say that by letter dated 27<sup>th</sup> April 2023 (*Exhibit “15”*) addressed to the Deputy Salt Commissioner, Mumbai, the Applicant/Respondent No. 9 had expressed their willingness to comply with the orders of the NGT and **remove the C&D waste used by them to strengthen and fortify the existing bund**, as stated in the aforesaid orders.

**Observations in the Technical Committee Report regarding compliance by the Applicant/Respondent No. 9 of the Order of the NGT**

7. The members of the Technical Committee inspected the salt works of the Applicant on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 and prepared a report dated 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025. The report *inter alia* states that:



- (i) A total of nine (9) test pits were excavated by the members of the Technical Committee, wherein Pit Nos. 1 to 7 were located on the Bund, and Pit Nos. 8 and 9 were excavated along the access road.
- (ii) The pit nos. 1 to 7 (Stretch Distance 0.9 km) show no signs of C&D waste as it is filled up with fresh soil.
- (iii) The quantum of the soil used for the bund in the stretch between Pit 1 to 7 is estimated to be 10,463 MT mostly of soil having bulk density of 15000 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.
8. It would be pertinent to note that the points from Pit Nos. 1 to 7 form a part of the 'bund' which was 'repaired and augmented' by the Applicant/Respondent No. 9.
9. I say that by April-May 2024, the Applicant had removed approximately 1775-1788 MT C&D waste used for repairing and augmenting the existing bund, which has been confirmed by the Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation. The Certificate from the NMMC dated 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2024 along with the delivery notes are annexed as **Exhibit 'A'** herein.
10. I say that the Applicant has duly complied with the directions of the Hon'ble NGT by removing the C&D waste from the 'bund' which was 'repaired and augmented' by them. The Applicant / Respondent No. 9 is therefore entitled to resume the operations of the salt works, including restoration of its water supply and electricity, as the orders of the NGT have been duly complied by them.





### Access Road

11. I have annexed at **Exhibit 'B'** herein which is taken from Internal Page 11 of the Technical Committee Report and additional markings/highlights have been made therein. I say that the bund starts from Pit No. 1 and extends to Point 7A which highlighted in green colour. The pre-existing access road starts from point 7A and extends up to Pit 9. Pit 8 and Pit 9 form a part of the access road on which no direction of removal of C&D waste was issued.

12. I say that the Technical Committee Report, at Internal Page No. 4, also refers to Google Earth photographs from February 2015 to April 2022. In the said photographs, the Technical Committee have used various terms such as '*filling observed in this Area*', '*Filing progressed up to this Point*' and '*Filling Progress Point*' to show the point up to which the filling has progressed.

13. I say that it would be evident from a perusal of the Technical Committee Report that filing from the points from Pit Nos. 8 to 9 has not even been observed from February 2015 to April 2022. This would clearly indicate that the Pit Nos. 8 and 9 are on the access road which was always in existence. The directions to remove C&D waste is only *qua* the bund which the Applicant/Respondent No.9 has duly removed. Further, a Google Map image for the years 2010 and 2025 would also indicate that there has been no dumping on the access road. Hereto annexed as **Exhibit "C"** is a copy of the Google Map image for the years 2010 and 2025.

14. I say that the access road requires to be sturdy to bear the weight of the heavy trucks used for transportation of salt. The area from Point 8 to 9 is the century-old pre-existing road which was used for ingress and egress of vehicles in the salt pan. The same would be confirmed from the following observation made by the Technical Committee Report:

*“5.3. From the Google Image before 2016, its observed that the said mix of C&D waste dumped before 2016”.*

15.I further say that the Applicant/Respondent No. 9 has been operating the salt pan land since 1913. The Applicant/Respondent No. 9 had requested for permission for construction of internal road for the purpose of removal of salt from the salt pans from the Collector of Salt Revenue, Bombay. The Collector of Salt Revenue forwarded the same to the Under Secretary, Government of Bombay who, *vide* letter dated 31<sup>st</sup> January 1916 was pleased to grant permission for the same. It would therefore be evident that the access road has been existence since more than one hundred years. Hereto annexed as **Exhibit “D”** is a copy of the said letter of the Government of Bombay dated 31<sup>st</sup> January 1916.

**Heap lying at the entrance**

16.The Technical Committee Report has also observed that:

*“5.5. Apart from this a huge heap of C&D waste is dumped on the left side of the entrance of the Salt pan (refer figure attached on page no. 11)”.*

17.I say that the said image at internal page no. 11 of the Technical Committee Report is unclear. In any event, the aforesaid heap contains paper weights/paver blocks and is essentially required for the salt manufacturing business. Such paver blocks are not in the nature of C&D waste as is wrongly claimed by the Respondent No. 6.The heaps of salt in the shape of a pyramid, produced in the salt pan is usually covered by way of tarpaulin sheet and the paperweights/paver blocks are placed on the tarpaulin sheet to keep the sheet grounded. Hereto annexed as **Exhibit “E”** is a clear photograph of the alleged ‘heap’ of paperweights/paver blocks which are lying at the entrance of the Applicant’s salt pans. Hereto annexed as **Exhibit ‘F’** is a photograph showing the paver blocks holding the tarpaulin sheet.



18. I say that the salt pan land has not been in use for almost 9 months. Due to this, a lot of miscreants illegally enter into salt works and create a nuisance. The miscreants indulge in drinking alcohol and even play loud music on speakers causing severe disturbance to the Applicant/Respondent No. 9. Hereto annexed as **Exhibit 'G'** is a photograph of the miscreants creating nuisance over the said property.

19. I repeat and reiterate that the Applicant/Respondent No.9 has duly complied with the directions of the Hon'ble NGT by removing the C&D waste from the 'bund' which was 'repaired and augmented' by them. The Applicant / Respondent No. 9 may therefore be permitted to resume its operations of the salt works, including restoration of its water supply and electricity, pursuant to the compliance of the NGT Orders.

Dated this \_\_\_ day of April 2025

*Smt. M. Gordia.*  
Applicant

*Phivan*  
Advocate for the Applicant



VERIFICATION

I, Anmol Garodia, the authorized representative of Hormuz Salt Works, the Applicant above named do hereby state that whatever is stated in the aforesaid paragraphs is true to my knowledge and I believe the same to be true.

Solemnly affirmed at Mumbai )

On this \_\_\_\_ day of April, 2025)

*Anmol M. Garodia*  
Applicant

Identified by

BEFORE ME

*Privan*

Advocate for the Applicant

**BEFORE ME**

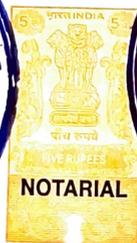
*Udaiprakash*

UDAIPRAKASH (M.A.LL.B.)  
ADVOCATE & NOTARY GOVT. OF INDIA  
MUMBAI (MAHARASHTRA)

REG. No. 9972  
Room No. 10, S. No. 44, Ishwardi, Kharodi Village,  
Marve Road, Mumbai - 400 085.



NOTARIAL REG. NO. 11  
Sr. 2692 Page No. 47  
Date 22/05/2025



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LIST OF DOCUMENT'S

Sr. No.	Particular's	Page No.	Exh.
1.	Copy of Certificate from the NMMC dated 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2024 along with the delivery notes.	1	"A"
2.	Copy of Technical Committee Report which is taken from Internal Page 11.	2	"B"
3.	Copy of the Google Map image for the years 2010 and 2025.	3-4	"C"

4.	Copy of the letter of the Government of Bombay dated 31 <sup>st</sup> January 1916.	5	"D"
5.	Copy of the clear photograph of the alleged 'heap' of paperweights/paver blocks which are lying at the entrance of the Applicant's salt pans.	6	"E"
6.	Copy of the photograph showing the paver blocks holding the tarpaulin sheet.	7	"F"
7.	Copy of the photograph of the miscreants creating nuisance over the said property.	8-9	"G"

*Phivan*

(ADV. FOR APPLICANT/RESPONDENT NO.9)



# Exhibit A

①



नवी मुंबई

Navi Mumbai

महानगरपालिका

Municipal Corporation

प्लॉट नं १ व २, गोवर्धनी चौक, सेक्टर १५ए,  
सी.बी.डी., बेलापूर, नवी मुंबई ४०० ६१४  
दूरध्वनी क्र : २७५६ ७००२  
फॅक्स : २७५६ ७००२

Plot No. १ & २, Govardhani Chowk, Sec.  
१५A, C.B.D., Blapur, Navi Mumbai - ४०० ६१४  
Tel. No. : २७५६ ७००२  
Fax No. : २७५६ ७००२

No:/NMMC/EE(Env.)/ 79/2024

Date :- 02/04/2024.

## To Whom so Ever It May Concern

This is to certify that, the Waste containing 1432.447 M.T. C&D waste Received at C&D Waste Processing Plant of Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation for recycle by M/s Hormoz Salt Works. Indraprastha Shanti Nagar, Salt Pan Road, Near Madina Masjid, Wadala (E), Mumbai-400037).



Executive Engineer (Environment)  
Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation



# EXHIBIT B



## KEY

	Old Bund
	New Bund
	Pre-existing access road

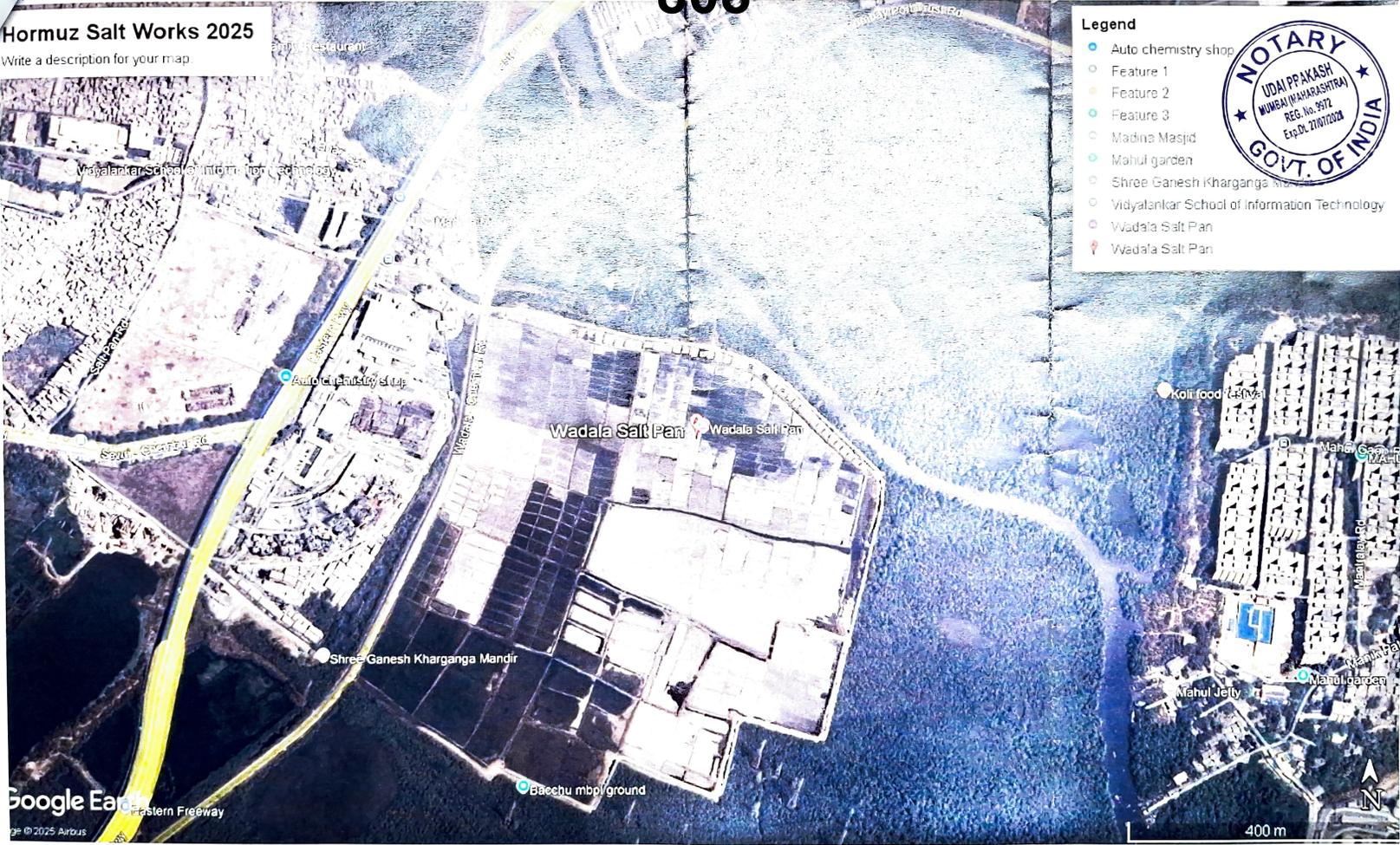
# Exhibit C



NOTARY  
UDAI PRAKASH  
LUMBAL (MAHARASHTRA)  
REG. No. 3972  
Exp. Dt. 21/07/2028  
INDIA

## Hormuz Salt Works 2025

Write a description for your map



**Legend**

- Auto chemistry shop
- Feature 1
- Feature 2
- Feature 3
- Madina Masjid
- Mahul garden
- Shree Ganesh Kharganga Mandir
- Vidyalankar School of Information Technology
- Wadala Salt Pan
- Wadala Salt Pan

**NOTARY**

UDAI P P AKASH

MUMBAI (MAHARASHTRA)

REG. No. 9972

Exp. Dt. 27/07/2028

**GOVT. OF INDIA**

(5)

# 809 Exhibit D

A-3

To:   
Bombay   
Transfer to the Salt Department of certain   
plots of Government marshy land at   
Matunga.

GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Order No. 1158.

Bombay Castle, 31st January 1916.

Letter from the Collector of Bombay No. L.R. -291 dated 11th January 1916.

I have the honour to acknowledge herewith copies of letters noted in the margin from the Collector of Salt Revenue, Bombay, asking for certain plots of Government marshy land at Matunga for the extension of Hormazd Salt Works and for construction of a road for the removal of salt from the Salt Works and to report that in accordance with the orders conveyed by Government in Government Resolution No. 6829 dated 5th October 1891, the land in question has been handed over by me to the Collector of Salt Revenue and transferred to the name of the Salt Department, Bombay, in the records of this office.

A plan showing the lands in question is herewith submitted.

ORDER. - Recorded.

J. A. POPE,

Under Secretary to Government.



To   
The Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium and Akbari,   
The Collector of Bombay,   
The Collector of Salt Revenue,   
The Superintending Engineer, N. D.,   
The Executive Engineer, Presidency,   
The Public Works Department of the Secretariat.

M Rev 211

No. 33 of 1916

Copy forwarded for information and guidance to

*The A.C. of L.R. Khan*

*Range*

*21-2-16*

*led*  
*Collr.*

"Supplied under R.T.I. Act, 2005"

"Supplied under R.T.I. Act, 2005"  
"आर.टी.आई. ऐक्ट, 2005 के तहत आपूर्ति की गई"

EXHIBIT E



OPPO F27 Pro+ 5G  
2025.04.28 17:44



EXHIBIT F



EXHIBIT G



OPPO F27 Pro+ 5G  
2025.04.17 19:46



EXHIBIT G



OPPO F27 Pro+ 5G  
2025.04.17 19:45

