

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, AT NEW DELHI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 218 of 2020**

IN THE MATTER OF:

DEVI DAS KHATRI

.....APPLICANT

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & Ors.

.....RESPONDENTS

**COUNTER AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF THE MINISTRY OF
ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE,
RESPONDENT NO. 1:**

I, Sundeep working as Director in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor bagh Road, New Delhi, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under:

1. That I am duly authorized by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (hereby referred as Respondent No. 1) to swear this affidavit and I am conversant with the facts and circumstances of the present case and am thereby competent to depose as under:

2. That the answering Respondent no.1 is engaged in, *inter alia*, policy formulation for abatement, control and prevention of pollution by prescribing environmental standards which are implemented through the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Pollution Control Committees (PCCs).

Besides, the State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees concerned are mandated and empowered to take all such



measures as are deemed necessary or expedient for the purpose of protection and improving the quality of environment as well as prevention, control and abatement of environmental pollution.

3. The original application pertains to quash the notification dated 24.09.2020 issued by Ministry of Jal Shakti to regulate and control the ground water extraction in the country under section 3 (3) read with Section 5 of the Environment Protection Act, 1986.
4. In view of this, it has been submitted that the issue pertains to Ministry of Jal Shakti and the answering respondent has no role to play in it.
5. It is humbly prayed that the Hon'ble Tribunal may kindly pass such order(s) as may be deemed fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of this case.

VERIFICATION:

Verified at New Delhi on this the _____ day of _____ 2021 that the contents of this reply affidavit based on official record(s) maintained and information available in the office are correct to my knowledge and belief. No part of it is false and nothing has been concealed there from.


DEPONENT

(SUNDEEP)
निदेशक/Director
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
M/o Environment, Forest and Climate Change
भारत सरकार, नई दिल्ली
Govt. of India, New Delhi


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