

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
O.A. NO. 627 OF 2022**

IN THE MATTER OF:

PRAKASH YADAV

...APPLICANT

VERSUS

STATE OF HARYANA & ORS.

...RESPONDENTS

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**RESPONDENT NO. 9- State of Rajasthan
through Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan**

Place: New Delhi

Date: 25.05.2025

THROUGH

(Signature)

धिशायी अभियन्ता

संसाधन खण्ड, अलवर

Sanjay kumar khatri

Assistant Officer-in-Charge for Respondent No. 9

Executive Engineer Water Resources Division

Alwar, Rajasthan

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**FACTUAL SUBMISSIONS ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT NO. 9-
STATE OF RAJASTHAN THROUGH CHIEF SECRETARY,
GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN**

1. The present factual submissions are being filed on behalf of the State of Rajasthan through Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan, i.e., Respondent No. 9 herein, in compliance of order dated 12.02.2025 of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench (*hereinafter referred to as 'Ld. Tribunal'*).
2. The Ld. Tribunal vide order dated 12.02.2025 has directed the Respondent No. 9-State of Rajasthan to file the response specifically mentioning the requisite details regarding the river course/channel through which river Sahibi (*hereinafter referred to as 'River'*) was flowing in the State of Rajasthan, State of Haryana and Govt. of NCT of Delhi, prior to year 1977.

FACTUAL SUBMISSIONS

3. The Sahibi River (also known as 'Sabi River') originates from the eastern slopes of the Saiwar Protected Forest Hills in Sikar district of Rajasthan, enters Jaipur near the foot of these hills, and after initially flowing southeast turns northeast near Shahpura and continues further to pass

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through Bansur, Behror Tehsil of kotputli-Behor District and Mundawar, Kotkasim, Tijara tehsils of khairthal- Tijara District till it exits Rajasthan to enter Haryana, and drains into Yamuna in Delhi (where its channelled course is also called the Najafgarh drain).

4. It covers around 157 km in Rajasthan, 100 km in Haryana and 40 km in Delhi. The catchment area of the Sahibi River in Rajasthan is approximately 4607.9 km². It stretches between 27° 18' 39.13" to 28° 13' 55.10" North latitude and 76° 58' 21.09" to 75° 45' 35.05" East longitude.
5. Sahibi River Basin is spread across the Four Districts of Rajasthan, namely: Sikar, Jaipur, kotputli-Behror and khairthal-tijara. A major part of the basin area lies in khairthal-Tijara district which accounts for about 64% of its catchment area, with Sikar covering just 9% of the basin area.
6. Sahibi River is an ephemeral, seasonal river primarily dependent on monsoons for maintaining flow of the river. The Sahibi River was flooded in 1977, and as a result thereof the Masani barrage was constructed on the Delhi-Jaipur Highway near Masani village, Rewari. However, the construction of dams in the nearby region has stifled the flow of water in the Sahibi River and it is now rare for water overflow from monsoon rains to reach up the Masani Barrage. There are several minor streams or nallas which flow for short distances and disappear in sandy tracts, thereby not contributing significant water to Sahibi River.
7. The climate of the Sahibi River Basin is semi-arid, with very hot summers and extremely cold winters. The monsoon season is of very short duration with the south-west monsoon running from July to mid-

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September, and the post-monsoon season running from mid-September to mid-November.

SAHIBI RIVER ROUTE AND FLOW BEFORE 1977

8. In the State of Rajasthan, the River originated from the eastern slopes of the Aravalli Range near Ajitgarh and Manoharpur village in Sikar district, the River flowed northeast through Alwar district, passing areas like Kotputli and Bansur. It was joined by tributaries such as the Sota and Indori rivers, contributing to its flow. The River left Rajasthan near Aakoli (block-Kotkasim), it entered southern Haryana.
9. After crossing Aakoli (block-Kotkasim), Alwar, the River used to enter the state of Haryana through Bawal, Rewari District. The River meandered through regions including Pataudi and Jhajjar. In earlier times, the river sometimes changed its route, flowing through areas like Rewari, Jhajjar, and Rohtak, which occasionally led to flooding.
10. Thereafter, the River used to enter Delhi via Dhansa village. Thereafter, the River emptied into Najafgarh Jheel – a large, seasonal lake and marsh in southwest Delhi. From Najafgarh Jheel, waters eventually drained into the Yamuna River via natural or semi-natural channels, especially during heavy monsoon years.
11. It is pertinent to highlight that in the year 1977, northern India experienced unusual heavy rainfall. The River, which is normally ephemeral (seasonal), overflowed across its catchment area—particularly in southern Haryana, including Rewari, Dharuhera, and Gurugram. Rewari and surrounding villages saw severe inundation, with agricultural fields and low-lying settlements submerged. The flood caused major losses to agriculture, local infrastructure, and displaced thousands. It revealed the lack of flood control infrastructure in the Sahibi basin, especially in Haryana.

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12. Furthermore, the flood significantly affected the southwestern parts of Delhi, primarily due to the overflow from Haryana. At that time, Delhi still had some remnants of its natural floodplain, including the Najafgarh Jheel (Lake), which played a crucial role in absorbing floodwaters. However, the volume of water in 1977 exceeded the natural absorption capacity.
13. Shortly after the 1977 flood, the Masani Barrage was designed as a flood control and water retention structure near Masani village, Rewari, Haryana. It is pertinent to note that depending on low rainfall, the flow of water had been low in last many years. A True Copy of Compilation of Maps prior to the year 1977 is annexed herewith and marked as **Annexure R-1**.
14. In view of the factual submissions made hereinabove, it is humbly submitted that the State of Rajasthan-the Answering Respondent No. 9 most respectfully reserves their right to file an Additional Reply/ Status Report, as and when directed by this Ld. Tribunal.

**RESPONDENT NO. 9- State of Rajasthan
through Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan**

**Place: New Delhi
Date: 25.05.2025**

THROUGH

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