

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL ,

SOUTHERN BENCH AT CHENNAI.

ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 315 /2024

IN THE MATTER OF :-

Nadavala Ashok,

...

Petitioner

VS

Ministry of Environment

Forests and climate change & 6 others.

...

Respondents 1 to 6

**REJOINDER BY THE PETITIONER IN RESPONSE TO THE REPORT FILED
BY THE 6th RESPONDENT, APPCB,**

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Dated 15-09-2025

Place: Nellore

FILED BY

Applicant-in-Person
(Nadavala Ashok)
N. Ashok

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL ,
SOUTHERN BENCH AT CHENNAI.**

OA No. 315 /2024

IN THE MATTER OF :-

Nadavala Ashok,

S/o Nadavala Babu,,

Pantapalem Village,,

Muthukur Mandal, SPSR

Nellore Dt.

Andhra Pradesh State.

Cell No. 7358517352

...

Petitioner

VS

1. Ministry of Environment

Forests and climate change

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan

Jorbagh Road New

Delhi – 110 003.

India.

Email: webmaster-moef@nic.in.

Phone: +91-11-24360675.

2. Water Resources Department,

Government of Andhra Pradesh,

D.No.48-10-9/1, N.H. Feeder Road,

Near Ramavarappadu Circle, Currency Nagar,

Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, India.

3. Ground Water & Water Audit Department ,

Office of the Director,

Ground Water & Water Audit Department,

4th & 5th Floor, Vysya Bhavan,

Namboori Gopalrao Street,

Vijayawada-520013, Andhra Pradesh.

4. District Collector and District Magistrate,

Achari street Collector's office,

Nellore, Andhra Pradesh, Pin code- 524001.

5. Nellore Municipal commissioner, Nellore Municipal Corporation office,

Dargamitta, Nellore.

Pincode: 524003,

Andhra Pradesh, India.

6. Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board

D.No.33-26-14 D/2, Near Sunrise Hospital Pushpa Hotel Centre, Chalamavari Street

Kasturibaipet, Vijayawada – 520010

Phone: 0866-2463202 / 2463204

... Respondents 1 to 6

**REJOINDER BY THE PETITIONER IN RESPONSE TO THE REPORT FILED
BY THE 6th RESPONDENT, APPCB,**

TO

THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

SOUTHERN ZONE BENCH, CHENNAI

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

I, Nadavala Ashok , residing at Pantapalem Village, Muthukur Mandal, SPSR Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

1. I am the Applicant in the above Original Application No. 315 of 2024 (SZ) and am well acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case. I am competent to swear this Rejoinder Affidavit in response to the report filed by the 6th Respondent (Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board) dated 28.02.2025, pursuant to the Hon'ble Tribunal's order dated 02.01.2025.
2. I have read the report filed by the 6th Respondent, including the Joint Committee report annexed as Annexure-II, and deny all averments made therein except those specifically admitted herein. The 6th Respondent is put to strict proof of the rest.
3. I state that I have filed the above application seeking to address the illegal extraction of groundwater by edible oil industries in Muthukur Mandal, SPSR Nellore District, particularly in Pantapalem Village, which violates prior NGT orders (O.A. No. 221 of 2015) and the Andhra Pradesh Water, Land and Trees Act (APWALTA), 2002.

4. I seek liberty from this Hon'ble Tribunal to file further affidavit(s) if found necessary at a later stage.
5. I state that the Hon'ble NGT, in its order dated 13.07.2022 in O.A. No. 221 of 2015, directed edible oil industries in Pantapalem village to source water only from government-authorized sources and adhere strictly to permitted quantities as per consents and permissions (Page 3, APPCB Report).
6. I submit that the APPCB report fails to address the violation wherein several edible oil industries are sourcing groundwater through tankers and pipelines from unauthorized shallow filter points in Pantapalem Village, without permissions from the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) or APWALTA authorities, in contravention of the NGT's directions.
7. I state that the report does not provide evidence, such as inspection records or penal actions, to confirm that all water used by the industries is from authorized sources, nor does it document actions taken against violators, which undermines the NGT's order in O.A. No. 221 of 2015.
8. I submit that the failure to enforce the NGT's directions constitutes contempt of court, and this Hon'ble Tribunal may initiate penal action against non-compliant industries and cancel their No Objection Certificates (NOCs) for groundwater extraction.
9. I state that the Joint Committee's report (Annexure-II, Page 18, Point e) identifies only 4 unauthorized shallow filter points in Epuru-Bit-IB (Pantapalem) Village, which is grossly inadequate given the widespread illegal extraction reported in my representation.
10. I further state that the committee's inspection on 07.01.2025 and 08.01.2025 failed to comprehensively identify the total number of illegal filter points supplying groundwater to industries, rendering the findings superficial and incomplete.
11. I state that the committee's reliance on the Tahsildar's report (Page 18, Point d), which notes 13 unauthorized borewells seized in Pantapalem Village in October 2024, does not clarify whether these seizures addressed all illegal filter points or prevented ongoing extraction.

12. I submit that the committee's inspection overlooked the widespread practice of private vendors illegally extracting groundwater via tankers and pipelines for commercial purposes, as evidenced by the annexed photographs (Annexure 1 and Annexure 2).
13. I request that this Hon'ble Tribunal constitute an independent committee to re-inspect Pantapalem Village, to accurately document all illegal filter points and enforce punitive actions under the APWALTA Act, 2002.
14. I state that the APPCB report provides groundwater level and Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) data for Muthukur Mandal, referencing a piezowell at ZPHS, Muthukur (Page 17, Point b), which is irrelevant to my grievance concerning localized illegal extraction in Pantapalem Village.
15. I submit that the absence of specific groundwater level and TDS data for Pantapalem Village renders the report's findings misleading and inadequate to assess the impact of illegal extraction.
16. I request that this Hon'ble Tribunal direct the Respondents to submit groundwater level and TDS data specific to Pantapalem Village to accurately evaluate the localized environmental impact.
17. I state that the APPCB report lists permitted groundwater extraction quantities by the Ground Water Department (GWD) and APPCB under Consent to Establish (CTE)/Consent to Operate (CTO) orders (Page 15), but significant discrepancies are evident, particularly for Ana Oleo Private Limited.
18. I submit that The discrepancies between GWD and APPCB permissions indicate a lack of coordination and oversight, potentially enabling industries to exploit groundwater beyond authorized limits.
19. I submit that the GWD permits Ana Oleo Private Limited to extract 500 KLD of groundwater, while APPCB permits 940 KLD (820 KLD fresh water + 120 KLD recycled water), and the report claims usage of 500 KLD from borewells and 574 KLD from surface water, totaling 1074 KLD, exceeding permitted limits and there is no evidence of 574 KLD surface water source (Page 15, 8th S.no in table).

20. I state that no documentary evidence, such as water meter readings, logbooks, or third-party audits, is provided to substantiate the claim of 120 KLD recycled water or 574 KLD surface water usage from the Survepalli Reservoir by Ana Oleo Private Limited.
21. I submit that the discrepancies between GWD and APPCB permissions indicate a lack of coordination and oversight, enabling industries to exploit groundwater beyond authorized limits.
22. I request a thorough audit of water usage by Ana Oleo Private Limited and other edible oil industries to verify compliance with permitted quantities and provide documentary evidence of recycled and surface water usage.
23. I state that the APPCB report claims 10 out of 12 edible oil industries have Memoranda of Agreement (MOA) with the Irrigation Department for surface water from the Survepalli Reservoir (Page 16), but it does not confirm whether these industries exclusively use authorized sources or continue to rely on illegal groundwater extraction.
24. I submit that the APPCB report acknowledges that some industries utilize surface water via tankers (Page 18, Point j), but fails to provide evidence, such as licenses, contracts, or records of tanker operators, to confirm that these tankers are operated by authorized dealers, as mandated by the NGT in O.A. No. 221 of 2015. This omission raises concerns that industries may be sourcing illegal groundwater under the guise of surface water, necessitating immediate verification by the Respondents.
25. I submit that the report's assertion that industries utilize surface water via tankers (Page 18, Point j) lacks evidence to confirm that these tankers are operated by authorized dealers, as mandated by the NGT in O.A. No. 221 of 2015.
26. I state that the Joint Committee's recommendations (Page 19, Points l & m) to authorize the Mandal WALTA authority to curb illegal extraction and conduct regular meetings are vague and lack a clear timeline or action plan to address ongoing violations.
27. I submit that the APPCB's claim that all 12 edible oil industries have obtained permissions from the Ground Water Department (Page 5) is misleading, as it does not

address unauthorized extraction by private vendors supplying these industries, as raised in my representation.

28. I submit that the Joint Committee's failure to get the metrics of the water transported to industries and the private vendor names from the industries.
29. I state that I have annexed photographs evidencing illegal groundwater extraction through tankers and pipelines in Pantapalem Village, marked as Annexure 1 and Annexure 2, respectively, to substantiate my objections.
30. I submit that the APPCB report and the Joint Committee's findings are deficient, evasive, and fail to address the core issues of illegal groundwater extraction, thereby necessitating further investigation and corrective measures by this Hon'ble Tribunal.

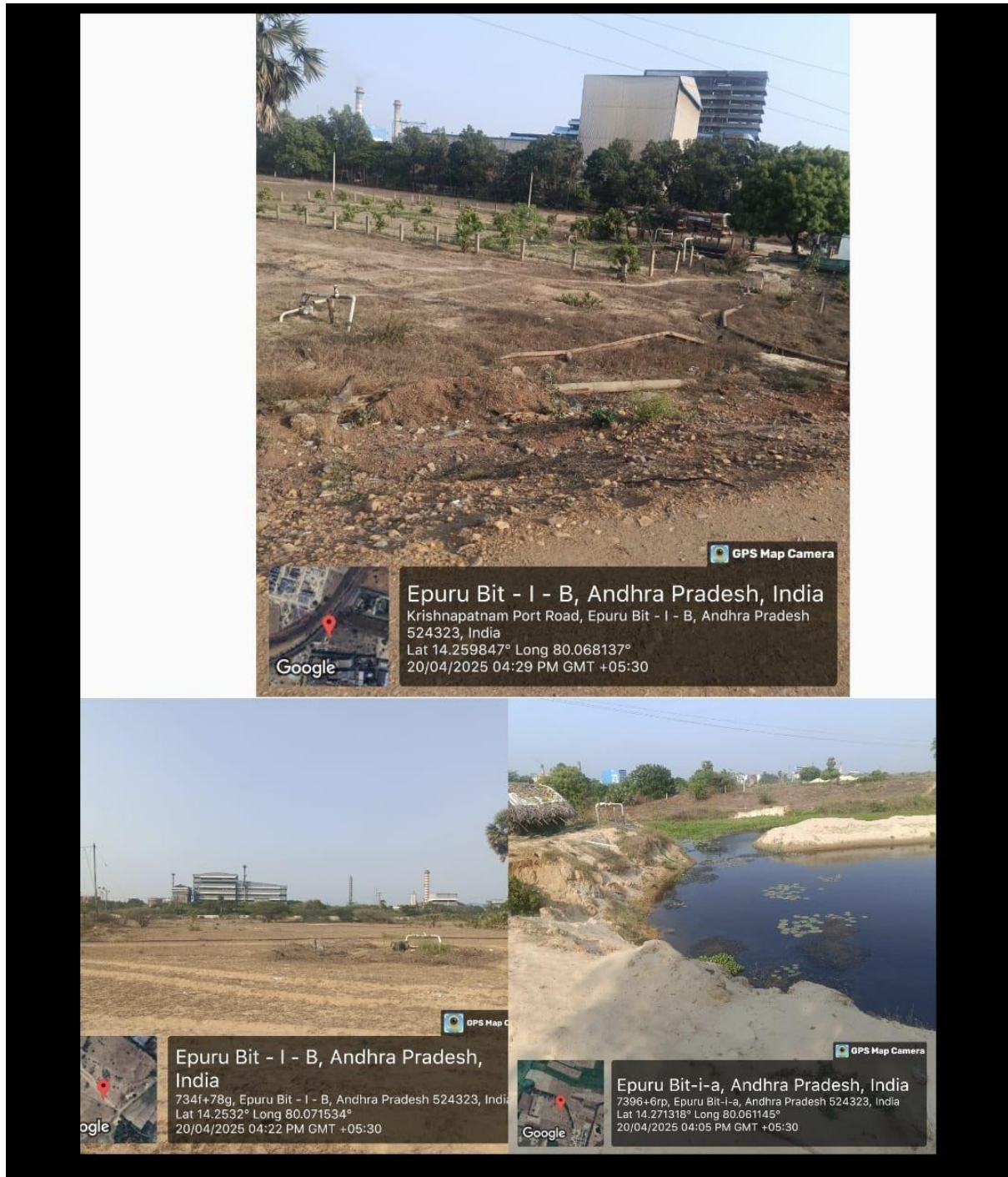
Prayer:

- a) In the light of above revelation Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to:
 - a. Direct the Respondents to ensure strict compliance with the NGT's orders in O.A. No. 221 of 2015, including penal action and cancellation of NOCs for industries sourcing water from unauthorized sources.
 - b. Order the submission of groundwater level and TDS data specific to Pantapalem Village to assess the localized impact of water quality and quantity.
 - c. Direct a detailed audit of water usage by Ana Oleo Private Limited and other edible oil industries to verify compliance with permitted quantities and provide documentary evidence of recycled and surface water usage.

Annexure - I : Latest GPS photocopies of groundwater filter points for illegal extraction through tanker:



1. Annexure - II: Latest GPS photocopies of groundwater filter points for illegal extraction and pumped directly to industries through pipeline:



Verification

I, Nadavala Ashok, do hereby verify that the contents of paragraphs 1 to 33 are true to my personal knowledge and that I have not suppressed any material fact.

Solemnly affirmed at Pantapalem on this the 15th day of SEP, 2025, and signed in my presence.

Nadavala Ashok
Applicant-in-Person

N. Ashok