

**BEFORE THE HONOURABLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
SOUTHERN ZONE-CHENNAI  
OA.No.315/2024 (SZ)**

BETWEEN

Nadavala Ashok Kumar  
,

... Applicants

Vs

MoEF&CC and others

... Respondents

**REPLY AFFIDAVIT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE  
RESPONDENT NO.1 - (MOEF & CC)**



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**T.RAGHAVAN**

**Counsel for Respondent No.1 (MOEF & CC)**

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI BENCH

OA No. 315 of 2024 (SZ)

IN THE MATTER OF:

NADAVALA ASHOK

.....APPLICANT(S)

VERSUS

MOEF & CC & ORS

.....RESPONDENT(S)

REPLY AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE, RESPONDENT No. 1.

I, Dr. Murali Krishna Chimata working as Scientist-E in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Sub-Office at Vijayawada I do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under:

1. That I am duly authorized by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, 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 present matter filed against the refinery industries situated at Pantapalem village in Andhra Pradesh, which are importing the crude edible oil from Krishnapatnam port in bulk form, largely across the southern and eastern part of India. It is alleged that the said industries are extracting groundwater in violation

Dr. Murali Krishna

of guidelines and without requisite permission from Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA).

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

Besides, the concerned State Pollution Control Boards/ Pollution Control Committees are 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, including pollution from industries as in the instant matter.

4. It is respectfully submitted that the issue regarding extraction of ground water does not fall within the purview of this Ministry. Therefore, the answering respondent humbly prays for leave to make additional submissions as may be necessary in the interest of justice.

Ch. Pradi Krishna

5. It is humbly prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to pass such order(s) as may be deemed just, fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the present case.

  
DEPONENT

डॉ. मुरली कृष्ण चिमटा/Dr. Murali Krishna Chimata  
वैज्ञानिक "ई"/Scientist "E"  
भारत सरकार/Government of India  
पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
उप-कार्यालय, विजयवाडा-520 010  
Sub-Office, Vijayawada-520 010

VERIFICATION:

Verified at Vijayawada on this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of July 2025 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 and no part of it is false and nothing has been concealed there from.

  
DEPONENT

डॉ. मुरली कृष्ण चिमटा/Dr. Murali Krishna Chimata  
वैज्ञानिक "ई"/Scientist "E"  
भारत सरकार/Government of India  
पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
उप-कार्यालय, विजयवाडा-520 010  
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