

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 934 of 2024**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Rajat Verma

...Applicant

Versus

Member Secretary, Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board & Ors. ...Respondents

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THROUGH

DATE: 22.11.2024

PLACE: NEW DELHI

**Gigi.C.George, Advocate
Advocate for Respondent
Ch No. 457, Lawyers Block-1
Delhi High Court, New Delhi**

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Mob-9810625315**

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

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ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 934 of 2024

IN THE MATTER OF:

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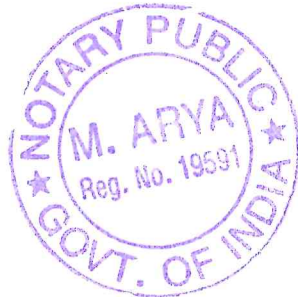
Member Secretary, Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board & Ors. ...Respondents

**AFFIDAVIT IN COMPLIANCE OF ORDER DATED 03.07.2024 ON BEHALF OF
NATIONAL MISSION FOR CLEAN GANGA i.e. R-5**

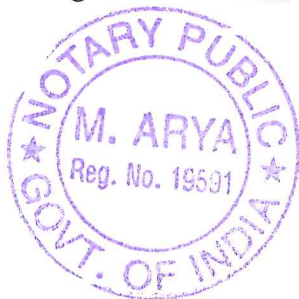
MOST RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:

I, Anup Kumar Sirvastava, aged about 57 years, presently working as Executive Director (Technical) in the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India, New Delhi do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under:

1. That I am working as Executive Director (Technical) in the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India, New Delhi. I am duly authorized for and on behalf of the Respondent No. 5 to swear to the present affidavit. I am fully conversant with the facts and circumstances of the present case from the records.
2. That I am the Authorized Representative of the Respondent No. 5 in the captioned matter. I am fully conversant with the facts of the case and am thus competent to depose the present affidavit.



3. That there are three primary tannery clusters located along the main stem of the Ganga River: Jajmau, Banthar, and Unnao. These clusters comprise approximately 411 tannery units. To mitigate pollution, 350 units are linked to the CETP in Jajmau, 42 to the Leather Technology Park (LTP) in Banthar, and 16 to Site-II in Unnao respectively.
4. That NMCG has sanctioned the 20 MLD CETP project for Jajmau Tannery Cluster, Kanpur, UP with a condition that Jajmau Tannery Effluent Treatment Association (JTETA) has to contribute the committed Rs. 25 Crore towards capex, undertake PETP component worth Rs. 137 crores and 100 % O& M cost will be borne by JTETA. The construction work of 20 MLD CETP at Jajmau has been completed, the plant is operational and under stabilization phase. The treated outlet effluent is being used for irrigation purpose.
5. That further NMCG has undertaken significant efforts to address both industrial pollution and domestic sewage pollution in the Kanpur area as part of the Namami Gange program. These initiatives include:
 - a. A comprehensive approach has been adopted under the Namami Gange mission for the Kanpur city to address the issues related to pollution abatement, conserving ecology, biodiversity and to connect people with the river. Under Namami Gange mission a set of interventions at an estimated cost of about Rs. 2500 Crore have been taken up for the pollution abatement and rejuvenation of river Ganga in the Kanpur region.
 - b. To tackle the pollution load in river Ganga from Kanpur, NMCG in close association with State Government has prepared a comprehensive scheme rationalizing the available sewerage infrastructure for better utilization, development of new sewerage infrastructure, rehabilitation of existing infrastructure, industrial pollution abatement and their operation and maintenance. Also, to improve the people-river connect, development of river front and several public outreach activities have also been taken up.
 - c. **Industrial Pollution Abatement**
 - i. **20 MLD CETP at Kanpur:** A project for integrated industrial wastewater management system comprising of collection and conveyance system, adoption of clean technology and incorporating an institutional framework for comprehensive waste management has been

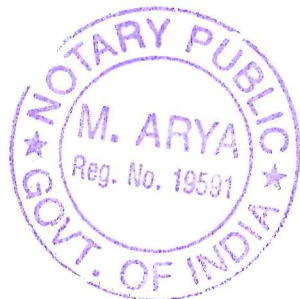


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approved by NMCG at an estimated cost of Rs. 741.36 Crores. In addition, 20 MLD CETP Jajmau is the largest CETP in India of its own kind for handling effluent from the Leather Tannery cluster. This CETP is capable to handle the TDS up to 23000 mg/lit, Sulphate up to 5000 mg/lit, COD up to 7000 mg/lit. The CETP construction work has been completed and plant is in stabilization phase. The Salient features of this CETP are:

- 20 MLD capacity CETP based on primary assessment of existing production capacity and infrastructure of tanneries
 - First time Odour control & management measures adopted in wastewater management system for Tannery sector
 - SCADA based online qualitative and quantitative assessment of water requirements and wastewater management
 - Chrome liquor to be treated separately and chrome cakes to be sold back to the industry
 - Dedicated effluent collection and conveyance system of 25 KM to CETP. No urban sewage interference, unlike present system
 - Improvisation of Individual Pre-treatment System at individual tanner's level.
 - 200 KLD state-of-the-art ZLD based demonstrative plant for recovery of marketable salt and re-usable water from wastewater
 - 900 KLD capacity Common Chrome Recovery (CCR) facility to recover usable chrome chemical for reuse in the process, thereby reducing its consumption and pollution load
 - Segregation of wastewater at generation source based on pollution characteristic
 - CETP discharge to be used for Irrigation purpose by maintained acceptable quality by dilution with treated sewage
- ii. **Banther Tannery Cluster** – In addition to Jajmau tannery cluster, the up-gradation of CETP (4.5MLD) for tannery clusters at Banthar has also been taken up at the cost of Rs. 136.76 Crore. This project is currently under implementation phase and has achieved overall physical progress about 52%.
- iii. **Unnao Tannery Cluster** –Up-gradation of CETP (2.6MLD) for tannery cluster at Unnao has also been sanctioned at the cost of Rs. 107.21 Crore (excluding Taxes) in 2022.



However, there has been no agreement signed between Unnao Tannery Pollution Control Company (UTPCC) and EPC Contractor, i.e., UTIPL-OASIS-SIMA. NMCG has been constantly pursuing this matter with UTPCC and SMCG, UP.

- 6. That it also submitted that the Consent to Establish (CTE) and Consent to Operate (CTO) are crucial environmental clearances issued by State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. CTE is required before setting up an industry or project, ensuring it adheres to environmental standards during construction. CTO is granted after completion, allowing operation only if pollution control measures are in place and operational standards are met. These consents are vital for sustainable industrial development and environmental protection.
- 7. That in response to the applicant's alleged grievances, the NMCG has formally requested the UPPCB (Respondent no.1) to provide essential information about the tanneries. The letter seeks specific information or status report concerning the tanneries' operational licenses, ongoing operations, adherence to environmental regulations, the status of their pollution control systems (PETP/ETP), and the discharge of effluent into the Ganga River. Copy of the letter dated 16.10.2024 and reminder letter dated 07.11.2024 is marked and annexed herewith as 'Annexure - A'

Identify the deponent who signed before this



[Handwritten signature]

DEPONENT

VERIFICATION

I, the deponent above named do hereby verify that the contents of the aforesaid affidavit are true and correct to my knowledge and belief and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

Verified at New Delhi on this 22 day of NOV 2024.

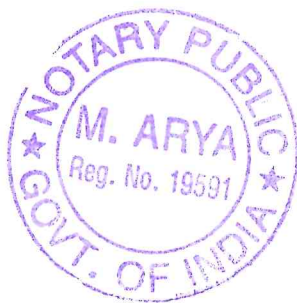


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DEPONENT

Date: 22.11.2024

Place: New Delhi



ATTESTED
[Handwritten signature]
NOTARY PUBLIC

22 NOV 2024

F.No.25012(11)/39/2024-O/o ED(Tech)-NMCG

भारत सरकार
जल शक्ति मंत्रालय
जल संसाधन, नदी विकास एवं गंगा संरक्षण विभाग
राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन

पहली मंजिल, मेजर ध्यान चंद नेशनल स्टेडियम,
निकट इंडिया गेट, नई दिल्ली - 110001,
दिनांक: 16.10.2024

सेवा में,

The Member Secretary,
Uttar-Pradesh Pollution Control Board
TC-12V, Regency Rd, Vibhuti Khand,
Gomti Nagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh 226010

Subject: Original Application No 934/2024- Rajat Verma (Applicant) versus Member Secretary, Uttar-Pradesh Pollution Control Board & Org. Respondent(s); before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal Principal, New-Delhi(PB)-reg.

(Court Matter: Priority)

Dear Sir,


Kindly refer to OA Nos 934/2024 - Rajat Verma (Applicant) Versus Member Secretary, Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board & Ors. Respondent(s), in Hon'ble NGT vide which the applicant has raised the grievance on illegally operating tanneries, in Kanpur Nagar, against the government orders namely Gajjupoorva, Sheetla Bazar, Moti Nagar, Saraiyya, Wazidpur. These tanneries can operate only for 15 days in a phased manner, as per the government orders, however, it has been alleged by the applicant that these industries are operating for an entire 30-day period in a month. It has also been alleged that due to a broken pipeline connected to the STP is resulting in the discharge of polluted water in River Ganga. The petition has also highlighted the name of the tanneries which is enclosed in Annexure-1.

With reference to the above matter, I have been directed to seek requisite information on the alleged grievances of the applicant and factual information about the tanneries w.r.t consent to operate, operational and compliance status, PETP/ETP status report, and discharging of effluent into the river Ganga.

You are requested to kindly get the matter investigated and action taken report may be forwarded to NMCG by the end of this month's (30.10.2024), so-that, responses in affidavit, as required will be forwarded to appropriate branch of the tribunal.

Encl.: As Above

Yours faithfully,


Dr Pravin Kumar
Director (Technical)

Copy for kind information to:

- 1) PS to Director General, NMCG
- 2) PS to ED (Technical)
- 3) Regional Officer -Kanpur, UPPCB (advance copy, for information please)

REMINDER -I
COURT MATTER: PRIORITY

F.No.25012(11)/39/2024-O/o ED(Tech)-NMCG

भारत सरकार
जल शक्ति मंत्रालय
जल संसाधन, नदी विकास एवं गंगा संरक्षण विभाग
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पहली मंजिल, मेजर ध्यान चंद नेशनल स्टेडियम,
निकट इंडिया गेट, नई दिल्ली - 110001.
दिनांक: 07.11.2024

सेवा में,

The Member Secretary,
Uttar-Pradesh Pollution Control Board
TC-12V, Regency Rd, Vibhuti Khand,
Gomti Nagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh 226010

Subject: Original Application No 934/2024- Rajat Verma (Applicant) versus Member Secretary, Uttar-Pradesh Pollution Control Board & Org. Respondent(s); before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal Principal, New-Delhi(PB)-reg.

Reference: NMCG letter dated 16.10.2024-reg.

Dear Sir,

Kindly refer to our letter of even no dated 16.10.2024 (copy enclosed) vide-which action taken report were sought on the representation of OA Nos 934/2024 - Rajat Verma (Applicant) Versus Member Secretary, Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board & Ors. Respondent(s), in Hon'ble NGT by 30.10.2024.

However, the response/Action Taken Report is still awaited. Thus this is a gentle reminder that the report may be sent to NMCG by 15.11.2024, so that responses, as required may be forwarded to appropriate branch of the Hon'ble tribunal.

Encl.: As Above

Yours faithfully,


Dr Pravin Kumar
Director (Technical)

Copy for kind information to:

- 1) PS to Director General, NMCG
- 2) PS to ED (Technical)
- 3) Regional Officer -Kanpur, UPPCB (advance copy, for information please)