

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 555 of 2024

Court on its own motion

V/s

Central Pollution Control Board, through its Member Secretary Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032 & others.

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Place: SAS Nagar

Dated: 27.05.2025



DEPONENT

Dharminder Sharma, IFS  
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),  
Deptt. of Forest and Wildlife Preservation, Punjab

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**

**ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 555 of 2024**

Court on its own motion

.....Petitioner

V/s

1. Central Pollution Control Board, through its Member Secretary Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032 (Respondent No.1)
2. Ministry of Environment and Forest, through its Secretary, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh Road, New Delhi -110003. (Respondent No.2)
3. Survey of India, through its Director, Hathibarkala Estate, Dehradun, PIN - 248001 (Respondent No.3)
4. Forest Survey of India through the Director General, Dehradun, Uttarakhand. (Respondent No.4)
5. State of Andhra Pradesh, through Secretary, Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Green House Complex, Gopalareddy Road, Vijayawada - 520010, Andhra Pradesh (Respondent No.5)
6. State of Arunachal Pradesh, through Secretary, Department of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, P Sector, Zero Point Tinali, Itanagar, Papum Pare, Arunachal Pradesh - 791111 (Respondent No.6)

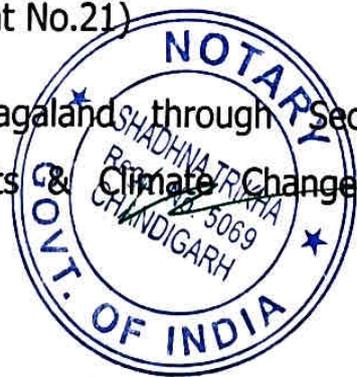


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7. State of Assam, through Secretary, Department of Environment and Forests, Janata Bhawan, Dispur, H-Block, 2nd Floor, Guwahati - 781006, Assam (Respondent No.7)
8. State of Bihar, through Secretary, Department of Environment, Forest & Climate Change Vikas Bhawan, New Secretariat, Patna - 800015, Bihar (Respondent No.8)
9. State of Chhattisgarh, through Secretary, Department of Environment, Forest & Climate Change Mahanadi Bhawan, Nawa Raipur, Atal Nagar, Raipur - 492002, Chhattisgarh (Respondent No.9)
10. State of Goa through Secretary, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Regional Office, 4th Floor, Dempo Towers, Patto Plaza, Panaji - 403001 (Respondent No. 10)
11. State of Gujarat through Secretary, Forest & Environment Department, Regional Office, 8th Floor, Block No. 14, New Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar - 382010, Gujarat (Respondent No. 11)
12. State of Haryana through Director, Directorate of Environment & Climate Change, Regional Office, Bay No. 55- 58, 2nd Floor, Paryatan Bhawan, Sector-2, Panchkula - 134109, Haryana (Respondent No. 12)
13. State of Himachal Pradesh through the Additional Chief Secretary (Forests) Armsdale building, H.P Secretariat, Shimla-2 (Respondent No. 13)
14. State of Jharkhand through Secretary, Department of Forests and Environment & Climate Change, Regional Office, Van Bhawan Doranda Ranchi - 834002 Jharkhand (Respondent No. 14)



15. State of Karnataka through Secretary, Forests and Ecology Department, Regional Office, Room No.709 ,7<sup>th</sup> Floor Gate No.4 M.S. Building Bangalore –560001 Karnataka (Respondent No. 15)
16. State of Kerala through Secretary of the Department of Environment and Climate Change, Regional Office, KSRTC Bus Terminal Thampanoor Thiruvananthapuram –695001 Kerala (Respondent No. 16)
17. State of Madhya Pradesh through Secretary, Integrated Regional Office Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change , Regional office, E5 Kendriya Paryavaran Bhawan E5 Arera Colony Link Road3 Ravishankar Nagar Bhopal –462016 (Respondent No. 17)
18. State of Maharashtra through Secretary of the Department of Environment and Climate Change, Regional office, 15th Floor New Administrative Building Madam Cama Road Mantralaya Mumbai –400032 Maharashtra (Respondent No. 18)
19. State of Manipur through Secretary, Directorate of Environment & Climate Change, Regional office, Porompat (Near DC Imphal East) Imphal East –795010 Manipur (Respondent No. 19)
20. State of Meghalaya through Secretary of the Department of Forests & Environment, Regional office, Sylvan House Lower Lachumiere Shillong – 793001 Meghalaya (Respondent No. 20)
21. State of Mizoram through Secretary of the Department of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Regional office, Tuikhuahtlang Aizawl –796001 Mizoram (Respondent No.21)
22. State of Nagaland through Secretary of the Department of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Regional office, Forest Office



*[Handwritten signature]*

Complex Agri-Farm Colony Near Ministers' Hill School Kohima -797001 Nagaland (Respondent No.22)

23. State of Odisha through Secretary of the Department of Forest, Environment & Climate Change, Regional office, Kharavel Bhavan Bhubaneswar -751001 Odisha (Respondent No.23)

24. State of Punjab through Secretary of the Department of Science Technology & Environment, Regional office, MGSIPA Complex Sector -26 Chandigarh -160019 Punjab (Respondent No.24)

25. State of Rajasthan through Secretary of the Department of Environment and Climate Change, Regional, Room no2114 Secretariat Jaipur -302005 Rajasthan (Respondent No.25)

26. State of Sikkim through Secretary of the Forest and Environment Department, Regional office, Forest Secretariat Deorali -737102 Gangtok East Sikkim (Respondent No.26)

27. State of Tamil Nadu through Secretary of the Department of Environment and Climate Change, Regional, No1 (Respondent No.27)

28. State of Telangana through Secretary, Environment , Forest & Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, Regional, 3rd Floor Room no309 Aranya Bhawan Opposite RBI Safiabab Hyderabad -500004 Telangana (Respondent No.28)

29. State of Tripura through Secretary of the Department of Environment and Forests, Pandit Nehru Complex Gurkhabasti Agartala -799006 Tripura (Respondent No.29)



30. State of Uttar Pradesh through Secretary, Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, Regional office, 3rd Floor Uttar Pradesh Samaj Kalyan Nirman Nigam Building TC46/V Vibhuti Khand Gomti Nagar Lucknow -226010 Uttar Pradesh India (Respondent No.30)
31. State of Uttarakhand through Secretary, Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Integrated Regional office Deputy Director General of Forests (C) Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, Regional office, 25 Subhash Road Dehradun -248001 Uttarakhand India (Respondent No.31)
32. State of West Bengal through Secretary, Integrated Regional office Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, North Block (2nd Floor) Salt Lake Kolkata - 700091 West Bengal India (Respondent No.32)
33. Andaman and Nicobar Islands through Secretary, Department of Environment and Forests, Andaman and Nicobar Administration Port Blair Andaman and Nicobar Islands - 744101 (Respondent No. 33)
34. Chandigarh through Secretary, Integrated Regional office Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, SCO95-98 Ground and Second Floor Sector17-B Chandigarh -160017 India (Respondent No. 34)
35. Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu through Secretary, Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Integrated Regional office Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change 4th Floor Vidyut Bhavan Kachigam Daman 396210 Dadra and Nagar Haveli Daman Diu India (Respondent No. 35)



36. Lakshadweep through Secretary, Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Integrated Regional office Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change Kavaratti 682555 Lakshadweep (Respondent No. 36)
37. Delhi Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, through Secretary, 3rd&4th Floor Rajendra Bhawan Rajendra Place New Delhi 110008 India (Respondent No. 37)
38. Puducherry through Secretary, Integrated Regional office Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, 1st Floor Additional office block for GPOA Shastri Bhawan Haddows Road Nungambakkam Chennai 600006 (Respondent No. 38)
39. Ladakh through Secretary, Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Union Territory Ladakh near Polo Ground Leh Ladakh 194101 (Respondent No. 39)
40. Jammu and Kashmir through Secretary, Environment Forest and Climate Change Government Jammu Kashmir Civil Secretariat Srinagar Jammu Kashmir 190001 (Respondent No. 40)
41. Secretary, Department of Forests and Wildlife Preservation, Government of Punjab (Respondent No. 41)
42. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, Department of Forest and Wild Life Preservation, Punjab (Respondent No. 42)



.....Respondents

**Reply by way of short affidavit of Dharminder Sharma, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Department of Forest and Wildlife Preservation, Punjab on behalf of Respondent No. 41 & 42.**

**RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:**

I, the above named deponent do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under:-

1. That the deponent is presently working as Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Department of Forest and Wildlife Preservation, Punjab and the deponent is well conversant with the facts of the case and authorized to file the present affidavit on behalf of Respondent No. 41 & 42.
2. That the above mentioned OA is pending for consideration on 07.08.2025 before this Hon'ble Tribunal.
3. That this affidavit is being filed by the deponent in compliance of the order of this Hon'ble Tribunal dated 09.05.2025.
4. That it is submitted that in compliance of the order dated 09.05.2025 of this Hon'ble Tribunal, the information regarding Forest Cover, Tree Cover for the period from the year 2001 to 2021 in the State of Punjab, as per Indian State of Forest Report published by Forest Survey of India from year 2001 to 2023, is given as follows:



Sr No.	Year	Forest Cover (in sqkm)	Percentage of Geographical area	Tree Cover (in sqkm)	Percentage of Geographical area
1	2001	2432.00	4.80	1634.00	3.20
2	2003	1580.00	3.14	1608.00	3.19
3	2005	1558.00	3.09	1823.00	3.62
4	2007	1664.00	3.30	1699.00	3.37
5	2009	1664.00	3.30	1699.00	3.37
6	2011	1764.00	3.50	1699.00	3.37
7	2013	1772.00	3.52	1499.00	2.98
8	2015	1771.00	3.52	1544.00	3.07
9	2017	1837.00	3.65	1622.00	3.22
10	2019	1848.63	3.67	1592.00	3.16
11	2021	1846.65	3.67	1138.00	2.26
12	2023	1846.09	3.67	1475.15	2.92

Keeping the abovesaid in view, the report of the Department of Forest and Wildlife Preservation, Punjab is placed for kind consideration and further orders of this Hon'ble Tribunal please.

Place: SAS Nagar /CH

Dated: 27.05.2025

*D Sharma*  
DEPONENT

**Dharminder Sharma, IFS**  
**Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),**  
**Deptt. of Forest and Wildlife Preservation, Punjab**

### VERIFICATION:

Verified that the contents of para no 1 to 4 the above my above affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. No part of it is false and nothing has been kept concealed there from.



Place: SAS Nagar /CH

Dated: 27.05.2025

*D Sharma*  
DEPONENT

**Dharminder Sharma, IFS**  
**Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),**  
**Deptt. of Forest and Wildlife Preservation, Punjab**

ATTESTED & IDENTIFIED

**SHADHNA TRIKHA**  
**NOTARY, Chandigarh**

27/5/25

I identified the deponent  
executant who has  
document in my presence

Signature

Certified that the Affidavit / GPA / SRA has been read over and explains to the deponent / executant who seemed particulars to understand the same at the time of making thereon