

**BEFORE THE Hon'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
Original Application No. 639/2022**

PRITPAL SHARMA

APPLICANT

VERSUS

**GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI &
ORS.**

RESPONDENTS

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Date: 20/12/2025

THROUGH

Place: New Delhi

Priyanka

**Priyanka swami
Advocate**

**Addl. Standing Counsel For DJB
F-13, Jangpura, New Delhi 110014**

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**REPLY TO THE I.A. NO. 694/2025 ON BEHALF OF DELHI JAL
BOARD**

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

1. That the present reply is being filed by the answering respondent Delhi Jal Board in compliance to the directions given by this Hon'ble Tribunal vide order dated 12.11.2025.
2. That in the present IA, the Intervenor Applicant has prayed for seeking clarifications in regard to the directions contained in order dated 28.05.2025 in OA No. 639/2022 which mainly pertain to extraction, transport and sale of ground water and


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Chief Engineer (SDW)
Delhi Jal Board
(Govt. of NCT of Delhi)
Varunalaya Phase-II, Karol Bagh
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do not apply to the use or supply of treated sewage water and the vehicles carrying this treated STP water. Further, it has been prayed by the Intervenor to direct the Commissioner of Police, GNCTD, DJB and all concerned authorities not to initiate or pursue FIRs or coercive legal actions against any person engaged in lawful supply of STP treated water and also to issue appropriate public clarifications and advisories distinguishing between ground water extraction and treated STP water reuse.

3. In this regard, it is apprised that the treated STP water is a processed by-product of wastewater treatment and does not fall within the definition of "groundwater" under any environmental or statutory framework and DJB issues proper letters / orders to the agencies / contractors / Firms which are permitted to lift treated effluent water from its designated Sewage Treatment Plants strictly for non-potable and environmentally compliant purposes.
4. That all the record of tankers collecting the treated wastewater from the designated STPs is always maintained and proper entries are made at the STP gates. The receipts and tokens are



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issued by DJB for every load of treated water lifted and vehicle deployment is carried out as per DJB's guidelines, including the use of GPS-enabled tankers, wherever required.

5. That the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal's order dated 28.05.2025 in O.A. No. 639/2022 regulates only illegal extraction of groundwater from unauthorised borewells. It does not prohibit the transport or supply of treated wastewater generated and supplied by DJB.
6. That the directions contained in paragraphs 38, 39 and 40 of the said order deal solely with commercial misuse of groundwater and mandate action against tankers that extract or carry groundwater without permission. These directions do not apply to DJB-Supplied treated STP water.
7. That it is specifically pertinent to mention about the copy of FIRs registered for seizure of two tankers in the respective Police Station, the copy of which has been enclosed as Annexure D in the IA. In reference to Tanker no. NL-01-AH-2412, it is apprised that the details of this tanker do not match with the record maintained at the filling point of Okhla STP; however



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one Tanker bearing no. NL-01-AH-2414 lifted the treated effluent from the aforementioned filling point on 07.10.2025. Further, another Tanker no. DL-1L-AF-7337 did not lift treated effluent on the date of FIR i.e. 24.09.2025.

8. That this Hon'ble Tribunal has, on multiple occasions, encouraged maximum utilisation of treated wastewater for construction, horticulture, road sprinkling, cooling, and similar activities, with the objective of reducing dependence on groundwater and promoting sustainable water use.
9. That the main grievance of the Intervenor Applicant in the present IA is about the action being taken by the Police Authorities for seizer of the tankers carrying STP treated effluent and in view of the above submitted facts, the Hon'ble Tribunal may pass any such orders/directions in this regard, as deem fit.



(On Behalf of DJB)

BHUPESH KUMAR

Chief Engineer (SDW)

Delhi Jal Board

(Govt. of NCT of Delhi)

Varunalaya Phase-II, Karol Bagh

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AFFIDAVIT

I, Bhupesh Kumar, aged about 56 years, S/o Sh. R.P.Bhaskar, presently posted as Chief Engineer (SDW), do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under:

1. That I am well conversant with the facts of the present case and as such competent and authorized to swear this affidavit before this Hon'ble Tribunal.
2. That the accompanying Reply to the IA No. 694/2025 has been drafted by my counsel upon my instructions.
3. That the contents of the accompanying Reply are true and correct, and the knowledge has been derived from official records and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.



[Handwritten signature]

DEPONENT

BHUPESH KUMAR
Chief Engineer (SDW)
Delhi Jal Board
(Govt. of NCT of Delhi)
Varunalaya Phase-II, Karol Bagh
New Delhi-110005
18 DEC 2025

VERIFICATION

Verified on solemn affirmation at New Delhi on this ___ day of
December of 2025, that the contents of this affidavit are true and
correct to the best of my knowledge and no part of it is false and
nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

[Handwritten signature]

DEPONENT

BHUPESH KUMAR
Chief Engineer (SDW)
Delhi Jal Board
(Govt. of NCT of Delhi)
Varunalaya Phase-II, Karol Bagh
New Delhi-110005

ATTESTED
[Handwritten signature]
NOTARY PUBLIC
(INDIA)

18 DEC 2025



[Handwritten signature]
I identified the deponent who
has signed in my presence