

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
Original Application No. 623/2025**

IN THE MATTER OF: -

News Item titled "*Govt's efforts to tap KSPCB funds set to hit legal hurdle*" appearing in The Deccan Herald dated 23.11.2025

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Filed by: -



Dated:31-01-2026
New Delhi

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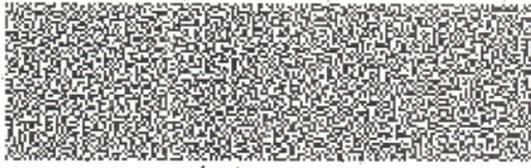
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**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
Original Application No. 623/2025**

In the matter of:

News Item titled "Govt's efforts to tap KSPCB funds set to hit legal hurdle" appearing in *The Deccan Herald* dated 23.11.2025

****AFFIDAVIT / REPLY ON BEHALF OF
LADAKH POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE,
(RESPONDENT NO. 36)****

I, Mandeep Mittal, IFS, son of Sh. Ashok Kumar Mittal, aged about 37 years, presently working as the Regional Director in the Ladakh Pollution Control Committee, having office at Skara Yokma, KBR Airport Road, Leh, Union Territory of Ladakh, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under:

1. That I am the authorised officer of the Pollution Control Committee, Ladakh (hereinafter referred to as "LPCC") and am well conversant with the facts and records of the case and competent to swear this affidavit on behalf of **Respondent No. 36**.
2. That the Ladakh Pollution Control Committee (LPCC) is a statutory body established to regulate and monitor environmental pollution in the Union Territory of Ladakh.
3. That the present affidavit is being filed in compliance with the Order dated 03.12.2025 passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal in the above-mentioned Original Application, whereby LPCC has been impleaded as Respondent No. 36 and directed to file its response.
4. That at the outset, it is respectfully submitted that the news item forming the basis of the present *suo-motu* proceedings pertains to the alleged diversion of funds of the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board by the State Government of Karnataka. The said issue does not relate to or arise from any action or decision of the Pollution Control Committee, Ladakh.

5. That it is respectfully submitted that all major expenditures of LPCC, including:
- Salaries and allowances of staff,
 - Establishment and infrastructure-related expenses,
 - Office functioning and operational costs,
 - Procurement of equipment and logistics, are fully funded by the Administration of the Union Territory of Ladakh through budgetary support.
6. That the funds generated by LPCC are primarily in the nature of Consent Fees, collected under the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
7. That the consent fee collection of LPCC is limited in nature, as:
- *There are no large-scale industries operating in the Union Territory of Ladakh; and*
 - *Only a small number of micro and small establishments exist, resulting in very modest revenue generation by way of consent fees.*
8. That the limited consent money so generated is not sufficient nor intended for any large development or non-environmental activities.
9. That no funds of the Pollution Control Committee, Ladakh have ever been diverted, transferred, loaned, or granted for any purpose not envisaged under the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, or the rules and directions issued thereunder.
10. That LPCC maintains separate and transparent accounts, duly audited as per applicable financial rules, and no expenditure is incurred outside the statutory mandate of the Committee.



11. That LPCC is fully conscious of the consistent directions issued by this Hon'ble Tribunal prohibiting diversion or misuse of Pollution Control Board/Committee funds and strictly adheres to the same in letter and spirit.

12. That LPCC respectfully submits that it shall continue to comply with all directions issued by this Hon'ble Tribunal and shall place any additional information or clarification as may be required by this Hon'ble Tribunal from time to time.

13. That the LPCC is duty bound by the orders of the Hon'ble Tribunal and abide by law.

14. That the answering respondent craves leave to file further reply if needed in future or so directed by the Hon'ble Tribunal.




DEPONENT

VERIFICATION

Verified at Leh on 31/01/2026 that the contents of the above reply by way of affidavit are correct and true on the basis of the records of the case as maintained in the day-to-day affairs of the LPCC. Nothing has been concealed therefrom or mis-stated.

Certified that SwLASH Manukeep Mittal (IFS)
Who is identified by NISSAR H. LADKAR (Adv.)
and witnessed by RIGZIN STUNDOS
presented this affidavit before me today
the Saturday day of 31-01-2026
& administered Oath to her/him who
Swore/Solemnly affirmed to the contents
of this affidavit, Hence attested


DEPONENT

Notary Reg. No. 769
Dated: 31-01-2026


NOTARY PUBLIC
31/1/2026