

# 2045

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
PRINCIPAL BENCH AT NEW DELHI  
APPEAL NO. 19 OF 2025**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

Rajeev Ranjan

...Appellant

Versus

Ministry of Environment, Forest and  
Climate Change & Ors.

...Respondents

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THROUGH



[AMIT BARDHAN MOHANTY]

Advocate for the R-7/AAI,

RZ 47-B, FF, NAND VIHAR,

NEAR DWARKA METRO, DELHI - 78.

NEW DELHI

Ph: 09818342503

DATED: 27.10.2025

Email: [advocateamit.sci@gmail.com](mailto:advocateamit.sci@gmail.com)

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**REPLY ON BEHALF OF R-7/AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF  
INDIA**

**MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:**

1. That the present reply is being filed on behalf of Respondent No. 7 – Airports Authority of India (hereinafter referred to as “AAI”) in response to the Appeal filed by the Appellant under Section 16(h) of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010, challenging the grant of Environmental Clearance (EC) dated 13.01.2025 issued by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC), MoEF&CC to Respondent No. 3 – M/s RR Texknit for the construction of a Group Housing Project at Khasra No. 1230/2, Sector-B, Pocket-1, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi.

That in the present appeal, the parties involved are: Rajeev Ranjan as Appellant; and the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of NCT of Delhi, M/s RR Texknit, Delhi Development



  
 उत्पल देवता बरुआ/UTPAL DUTTA BARUAH  
 महाप्रबन्धक (एटीएन)/General Manager (A. M)  
 भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण/Airports Authority of India  
 क्षेत्रीय मुख्यालय (उ. क्षेत्र)/Regional Headquarters (RHS)  
 न.वा.या.पो. गतिहर, आई.जी.आई. एयरपोर्ट/NATS Complex, IGI Airport  
 नई दिल्ली/New Delhi-110037

Authority, Central Pollution Control Board, Forest Department (GNCTD), Airports Authority of India, Ridge Management Board, Delhi Fire Service, Director General of Civil Aviation, Delhi Jal Board, and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi as the Respondents.

3. That in the present Appeal the appellant has alleged that the impugned Environmental Clearance (EC) granted by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF & CC), is bad in law, inter alia, for the following reasons:

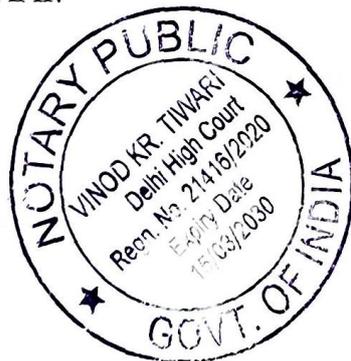
- a) That the EAC failed to consider that the proposed project falls within a silence zone, as it is situated less than 100 meters from an educational institution comprising children of tender age.
- b) That the EAC failed to assess the carrying capacity of the proposed project. Specifically, the project is located in a highly populated area which also includes schools, hospitals, and water bodies, all of which share common entry and exit points.
- c) That the EAC failed to note that Respondent No. 3 obtained the impugned EC by furnishing misleading information pertaining

to traffic data, water requirements, and the existence of nearby water bodies.



*U. D. Baruah*  
 उत्पल दत्ता बरुआ/UTPAL DUTTA BARUAH  
 महाप्रबन्धक (एटीएम)/General Manager (A: M)  
 भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण/Airports Authority of India  
 क्षेत्रीय मुख्यालय (उ. क्षेत्र)/Regional Headquarters (NS)  
 राज.आ.ते. परिसर, आई.सी.आई. एअरपोर्ट/RAJ. AIRPORT  
 नई दिल्ली/New Delhi

- d) That the project proponent suppressed material information, inter alia, regarding the nearest habitation and vulnerable groups, among other relevant details, which were necessary for the proper application of mind before granting the impugned EC, thereby misleading the public authorities in procuring the same.
- e) That the project proponent made dubious averments in order to obtain the present EC. Hence, the petitioner has filed the present appeal being aggrieved thereby.
4. That in the present appeal the Airports Authority of India (AAI) has been arrayed as Respondent No. 7 solely in its statutory capacity as the authority competent to issue No Objection Certificates (NOC) for building heights in the vicinity of airports.
5. It is most respectfully submitted that the issue of height was discussed by the Building Plan Committee (BPC) and Technical Committee of Respondent No. 4 (Delhi Development Authority) which clarified that “as per the Master Plan for Delhi (MDP) 2021, in controls prescribed by Group Housing, there is no restriction of height subject to clearance from AAI.



U. D. Baruah  
 उत्पल दत्ता बरुआ / UTPAL DUTTA BARUAH  
 महाप्रबन्धक (एटीएम) / General Manager (A. M)  
 भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण / Airports Authority of India  
 क्षेत्रीय मुख्यालय (उ. क्षेत्र) / Regional Headquarters (N. O)  
 न.वा.या.से. परिसर, आई.डी.आई. एम्पीएस/NAIS Complex, 43/1, 44/1  
 नई दिल्ली/NO. 43/1, 44/1

6. It further states that, AAI mandates a permissible height of 40 meters, and the sanctioned building plan of Respondent No. 3 reflects a proposed height of 33.5 meters.
7. However, it is pertinent to mention here that the No Objection Certificate (NOC) in respect of height clearance was initially granted to Mr. Lalit Jain, who subsequently executed a Sale Deed dated 23.04.2024 in favour of M/s RR Texknit (Respondent No. 3).
8. It is further clarified that the said NOC was granted to Lalit Jain (who has sold the property to Respondent No. 3) and not to M/s RR Texknit (Respondent No. 3), which appears to have been overlooked; in addition to the impact on nearby residents in the event of earthquakes, despite the site being located in Seismic Zone IV.
9. It is respectfully submitted that the Airports Authority of India has no role in the grant of Environmental Clearance and has not been involved in any stage of evaluation of the environmental or social impacts of the project. The role of AAI is strictly limited to ensuring compliance with the prescribed height restrictions.
10. In view of the foregoing, the Airports Authority of India (R-7) respectfully submits that the present appeal does not disclose any cause of action against it, and its participation in the proceedings is merely



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 महाप्रबन्धक (एटीएम) / General Manager (A1M)  
 भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण / Airports Authority of India  
 क्षेत्रीय मुख्यालय (उ. वि.) / Regional Headquarters (NIR)  
 न.क.आ.सो. परिसर, आई.डी.आर. एअरपोर्ट/NAIS Complex, IGI Airport  
 नई दिल्ली / New Delhi-110037

pro forma. Furthermore, the appellant has not sought any relief against AAI, as there is no specific prayer pertaining to it.

**PRAYER**

In view of the foregoing, it is most respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to:

- a. Dismiss the present Appeal as against Respondent No. 7 – Airports Authority of India, for want of any cause of action;
- b. Pass such other or further order(s) as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case.

*U. D. Baruah*

(RESPONDENT NO. 7) **UTTAM DUTTA BARUAH**  
 उत्तम दत्ता बरुआ / UTTAM DUTTA BARUAH  
 महाप्रबन्धक (एटीएम) / General Manager (AIm)  
 भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण / Airports Authority of India  
 क्षेत्रीय मुख्यालय (उ. क्षेत्र) / Regional Headquarters (NR)  
 न.वा.या.से. परिसर, आई.जी.आई. एयरपोर्ट / NATS Complex, IGI Airport  
 नई दिल्ली / New Delhi-110037

THROUGH

*AM*  
 [AMIT BARDHAN MOHANTY]

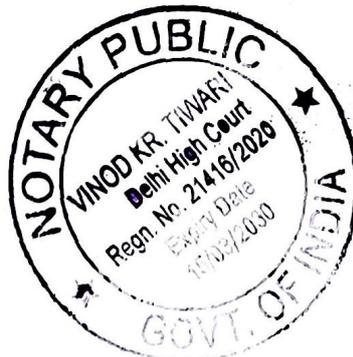
Advocate for the R-7/AAI,  
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 NEAR DWARKA METRO, DELHI - 78.

NEW DELHI

DATED: 27.10.2025

Ph: 09818342503

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.....Respondents

**AFFIDAVIT**

AFFIDAVIT OF UTPAL DATTA BARUAH , S/O LATE T.N.D. BARUAH , AGED ABOUT 56 YEARS, R/O DELHI RHQ WORKING AS GENERAL MANAGER (ATM),NR,AAI, PRESENTLY AT NEW DELHI.

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

1. That I am the authorized officer of the Respondent No. 7/AAI in the above matter. As such being conversant with the facts and circumstances of the case, I am competent to swear this affidavit.
2. That the contents of accompanying Application have been drafted by my counsel as per my instructions and are true and correct to my knowledge.
3. That the contents of accompanying application are based on my personal knowledge which the Respondent No.7 believes to be true.



*U. D. Baruah*  
27/10/25  
DEPONENT

उत्पल दत्ता बरुआ/UTPAL DATTA BARUAH  
महाप्रबन्धक (एटीएम)/General Manager (ATM)  
भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण/Airports Authority of India  
क्षेत्रीय मुख्यालय (न. देहली)/Regional Headquarters(NR)  
न.वा.आ.ओ. परिसर, आई.सी.आई. एयरपोर्ट/NATS Complex, IGI Airport  
नई दिल्ली/New Delhi-110037

VERIFICATION:

Verified at \_\_\_\_\_ on this the 28 OCT 2025 day of 2025, 2025, that the contents of my above affidavit are true and correct as per my belief, no part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

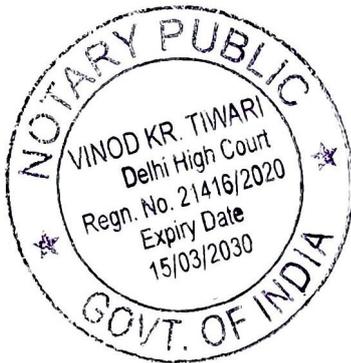
DEPONENT

*M. D. Baruah*

उत्पल दत्ता बरुआ/UTPAL DUTTA BARUAH  
महाप्रबन्धक (एटीएम)/General Manager (ATM)  
भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण/Airports Authority of India  
क्षेत्रीय मुख्यालय (उ. क्षेत्र)/Regional Headquarters (N.E.)  
ए.आ.सी. बरिसर, आई.सी.आई. एम्प्लॉय/HAATS Complex, IGI Airport  
उई दिल्ली/Delhi 110027

*Hee*

Identify the Deponent who has signed/put thumb impression in my presence :



CERTIFIED THAT THE DEPONENT  
Shri/Smt./Km..... *Utpal Baruah*  
S/o, W/o, D/o, Sh..... *R/A*  
Identified by Shri/Smt.. *Sd/A B Baruah*  
has solemnly Attested before me at Delhi  
on..... 28 OCT 2025.....Sl. No. 35  
that the contents of the affidavit which  
have been read Over & explained to him/her  
are true & correct to his/her knowledge.

NOTARY



Amit B Mohanty &lt;advocateamit.sci@gmail.com&gt;

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**In Rajeev Ranjan v MoEF&CC and Ors, Appeal No. 19/2025 - Reply on behalf of AAI**

1 message

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**Amit B Mohanty** <advocateamit.sci@gmail.com>  
To: Advocate KS Thupden <thupden2009@gmail.com>

Tue, Oct 28, 2025 at 9:55 PM

[thupden2009@gmail.com](mailto:thupden2009@gmail.com) -- Appellant -- Advance copy be supplied

Dear Sir,

I have attached herewith a copy of the Reply on behalf of Respondent no. 7/AAI being filed in the captioned case on behalf of the Appellants.

I am sending this for your kind information and records.

**Regards;****Amit Bardhan Mohanty****Advocate for Respondent No.7/AAI****High Court of Delhi****Phone - 9818342503****Email - [advocateamit.sci@gmail.com](mailto:advocateamit.sci@gmail.com)**

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 **Appeal no 19 of 2025 - Reply by R-7 AAI.pdf**  
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