

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 751 OF 2024**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Abhisht Kusum Gupta

...Applicant

Versus

State of Uttarakhand & Others

...Respondents

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THROUGH**SUNIL J. MATHEWS /JYOTI CHIB/ASHTAMI KHATRI**

[Advocates for the Applicant]

Chamber No. 114 & 128, Lawyer's Chamber,

R.K Jain Block, Supreme Court of India

Mobile: 9311567212,

Email: sjmathews@gmail.com

Place: New Delhi

Date: 28.11.2025

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**RESPONSE TO THE REPORT FILED BY UKPCB REGARDING
WASTE MANAGEMENT IN KEDARNATH AS PER THE ORDER
DATED 02.05.2025 ALONGWITH ANNEXURES AS PER ORDER
DATED 09.09.2025**

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

1. That, by the order dated 09.09.2025, this Hon'ble Tribunal had directed to provide proper Annexures to the documents provided by the Applicant. That, the requisite links in the Annexures pertain to video documentaries filed in support of the allegations raised by the Applicant.
2. That, for the assistance of this Hon'ble Tribunal, the Applicant has provided, in the form of a Pendrive containing all the videos earlier annexed as hyperlinks.
3. That, the Applicant has examined the report of the UKPCB concerning the status of solid and liquid waste management in Kedarnath.
4. According to a Newslines dated 30.08.2025 and supporting data, over 17.6 tons of waste was generated at Kedarnath between May and July 2025. Of this, only 7.1 tons were processed, leaving over

10 tons dumped untreated at a landfill near the base camp.

(Annexure 1)

5. News dated 10.06.2025 shared by Socca times shows plastic bottles disposed of in water streams which negate their claim managing plastic and other inorganic waste. **(Annexure 2)**
6. Serious faults were noted in the solid-waste management mechanism, with improperly constructed waste pits lacking cement flooring and leachate collection, and untreated sewage was found to be discharged into the Mandakini and Saraswati rivers.
7. The 600 KLD STP remains under construction, and its completion has been repeatedly delayed. There is also inadequate capacity for the increasing number of pilgrims.
8. No environmental compensation or penalties have been enforced against local authorities, despite repeated violations and the issuance of show-cause notices by UKPCB.
9. The data shows a year-on-year increase in the generation and dumping of both organic and inorganic waste, with significant portions not being processed or recycled.
10. There is sewage / human excreta being discharged in Mandakini with strong stench, thereby polluting Mandakini at Gaurikund **(Annexure 3)**
11. The data shows a year-on-year increase in the generation and dumping of both organic and inorganic waste, with significant portions not being processed or recycled.
12. **The applicant respectfully submits the following concerns and recommendations:**

- a) Immediate completion and adequate scaling of the STP and solid waste processing facilities, with clear household connectivity and operation timelines.
- b) Strict monitoring and enforcement by UKPCB and district authorities, including environmental compensation for non-compliance.
- c) Installation of additional material recovery facilities and improvement in collection/segregation at source in high-altitude environments.
- d) Enhanced awareness and compliance among pilgrims and all stakeholders to reduce the waste burden on the fragile Himalayan ecosystem.

10. The applicant prays for urgent directions from this Hon'ble Tribunal to ensure environmental safeguards, timely infrastructure upgrades, and accountability of concerned authorities for sustainable waste management in Kedarnath.

THROUGH



SUNIL J. MATHEWS /JYOTI CHIB/ASHTAMI KHATRI

[Advocates for the Applicant]

Chamber No. 114 & 128, Lawyer's Chamber,
R.K Jain Block, Supreme Court of India

Mobile: 9311567212,

Email: sjmathews@gmail.com

Place: New Delhi

Date: 28.11.2025

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PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 751 OF 2024

IN THE MATTER OF:

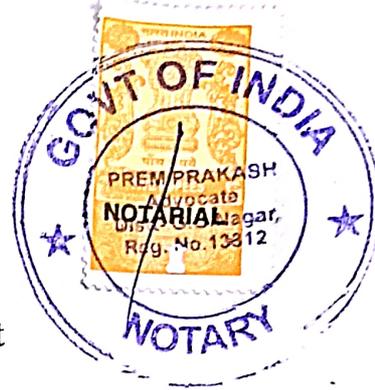
Abhisht Kusum Gupta

...Applicant

Versus

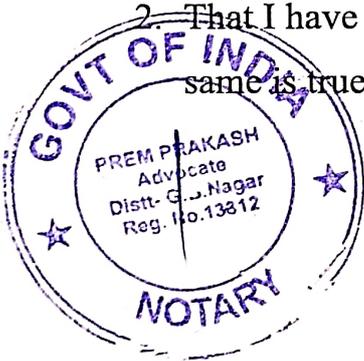
State of Uttarakhand & Others

...Respondents



I Abhisht Kusum Gupta, S/o Prabhat Kusum Gupta, aged about 44 years, r/o E-001, Paramount Floraville, Sector 137, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar -201304 do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under:

1. That I am the Applicant in the present case and Deponent in the present Affidavit, hence, I am competent to swear this Affidavit.
2. That I have read over the contents of the accompanying Application and the same is true and correct and is drafted on my instruction.



DEPONENT

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VERIFICATION

Verified on this ____ November, 2025, that the contents of the above Affidavit are true and correct, and nothing material has been concealed therefrom, nor any part of it is false.



DEPONENT

IDENTIFIED BY



Attested



PREM PRAKASH
Notary Public
(G B Nagar)

28 NOV 2025

Annexure 1: PENDRIVE

Copy of the video report by *News9 Live* titled “*LIVE: Kedarnath Chokes On Waste | Pilgrimage Boom Puts Himalayas At Risk | News9*” dated **August 31, 2025**, available at:

 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vReykYOAcIE>

This video serves as documented evidence highlighting the magnitude of the waste management crisis in Kedarnath during the 2025 yatra season, showing official figures on waste accumulation, untreated waste dumping, ecological impact, and calls for urgent action.

Annexure 2: PENDRIVE

Copy of the video report by *Sokka Times* titled “धरती का स्वर्ग बना कूड़ाघर? केदारनाथ के झरनों में पसरी गंदगी” dated **June 30, 2025**, available at:

 <https://youtu.be/jg693TjluGs?si=vZnMSaOGapczPmdT>

This video serves as documented evidence highlighting the magnitude of the waste management crisis in Kedarnath during the 2025 yatra season, showing plastic waste flowing in the stream.

Annexure 3: PENDRIVE

Copy of the video report by *Sokka Times* titled “*Kedarnath’s Dirty Secret Exposed*” dated **June 19, 2025**, available at:

 https://youtu.be/1T1x3Om17WQ?si=SlzlgJ_ng-jifRs-

This video serves as documented evidence highlighting the sacred Kedarnath Dham, a major pilgrimage site for millions of Hindus, is now facing a severe environmental crisis. Due to government negligence, the region is overwhelmed with filth, foul smell, and waste. Horse and mule excreta is flowing into the holy Mandakini River. In some cases, dead mules are being thrown directly into the river, contaminating the water. This video reveals disturbing visuals and voices from the ground

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sunil mathews <sjmathews@gmail.com>

Advance Service_OA 751/2024_Submission of Amended Response to the report filed by the UKPCB

1 message

Sunil J. Mathews <sjmathews@gmail.com>

28 November 2025 at 20:44

To: ngtpb.cpcb@gov.in

Cc: atripathi.cpcb@gov.in, kamalbandhu.cpcb@gov.in, sunilksharma.cpcb@gov.in, kanika.cpcb@supportgov.in, srinivas@svlawchambers.in, msukpcb@yahoo.com, dm-rud-ua@nic.in, cs-uttaranchal@nic.in, mscb.cpcb@nic.in, ccb.cpcb@nic.in, admn.nmcg@nic.in

Dear all,

Please find the enclosed copy of Amended Response to the report filed by the UKPCB. Next date of hearing is 01.12.2025.

--

Sunil J. Mathews, Advocate
Attn: Padmanabhan
114, Lawyer's Chambers
Supreme Court of India
New Delhi - 110 001

Mobile: +91.93115.67212

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 **REVISED RESPONSE OA 751_2025 .docx.pdf**
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