

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

O.A NO. 546 OF 2025

IN THE MATTER OF:

AMIT KUMAR

....APPLICANT

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

....RESPONDENTS

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Filed by:



Amit Kumar
(Applicant in person)
Place: New Delhi
Dated: 02.02.2026

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**REJOINDER ON BEHALF OF THE APPLICANT TO THE RESPONSE
FILED BY RESPONDENT NO. 8 (UTTAR PRADESH POLLUTION
CONTROL BOARD, MUZAFFARNAGAR)**

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

1. That at the outset, it is pertinent to mention that the deponent of the response affidavit dated 31.01.2026 filed on behalf of UPPCB is an officer from the Regional Office, Muzaffarnagar. It is submitted that the administrative jurisdiction of the said office is limited to District Shamli, whereas the majority of the Katha River's course falls within District Saharanpur, which is outside the functional jurisdiction of the Muzaffarnagar Regional Office. Consequently, the reply lacks the necessary administrative authority and ground-level oversight required for a matter of this nature.
2. That with respect to the portions of the response concerning District Saharanpur (para 6 - 9, judicial page no. 137 - 140), the Respondent No. 8 has merely reproduced the selective and misleading data already submitted by Respondent No. 13 (DM Saharanpur). The Applicant has already challenged these averments in detail via the Rejoinder dated 28.01.2026, and for the sake of brevity, the same are not repeated here but may be read as part and parcel of the present submissions.
3. That regarding District Shamli, the Respondent No. 8 in its response (Judicial page 140-141) has merely provided a superficial status report. It is submitted that despite identifying the sources of degradation, the UPPCB has **failed to place on record any evidence of "Action Taken." No environmental compensation**

has been levied, nor have any closure notices or prosecution proceedings been initiated against the polluters of Katha River, making the entire response a mere clerical exercise.

4. That the Respondent No. 8, under the *Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974*, is the nodal agency responsible for preventing the entry of pollutants into waterbodies. However, **the Respondent no. 8 has completely ignored the rampant dumping of solid waste in the Katha riverbed (pictures annexed at judicial page no. 26 - 27.**
5. It is also submitted that the Respondent No. 8 has listed the drains carrying untreated sewage into the Katha River, it has conspicuously failed to provide any concrete "Action Plan" to divert, or treat these effluents. This failure to act constitutes a gross violation of the *Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016* and the *River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities Order, 2016*.
6. It is submitted that by allowing untreated sewage and solid waste to flow into a tributary of the Yamuna (and consequently the Ganga), the Respondent No. 8 has failed in its statutory mandate under the Ganga Order 2016. The Board has acted as a silent spectator to the ecological destruction of the riverbed, which is a protected entity under the said Order.
7. The Applicant seeks liberty to rely on the geotagged photographs, coordinates, and historical maps already placed on record during the course of the hearing, which clearly contradict the "all-is-well" picture attempted to be painted by the Respondent Board.

Prayer

8. In light of the above submissions, it is most respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to:
 - a. Direct the Respondent No. 8 to submit a comprehensive Action Taken Report (ATR) including the details of environmental compensation levied on the polluting local bodies/industries;
 - b. **Direct** the Respondent No. 8 to coordinate with the District Ganga Committees of Saharanpur and Shamli to formulate an immediate

Interception and Diversion (I&D) plan for the drains mentioned in their report;

- c. Direct the Respondent No. 6 & 7 to file a separate response pertaining to Katha River in Saharanpur district;
- d. Grant any other relief that this Hon'ble Tribunal deems fit and proper in the interest of justice and environmental protection.

VERIFICATION

Verified at **New Delhi** on this **2nd** day of **February** 2026 that the contents of the above submission, are correct and true to the best of our knowledge, belief, and official records. No part of it is false, and nothing material has been concealed therein.

Filed by:



Amit Kumar
(Applicant in person)
Place: New Delhi
Dated: 02.02.2026