

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

WESTERN ZONE, PUNE

IN

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 04 OF 2026

IN THE MATTER OF:

GANESH DEVICHAND SALUNKE

....APPLICANT

VS.

DISTRICT COLLECTOR, PUNE & ORS

...RESPONDENT(s)

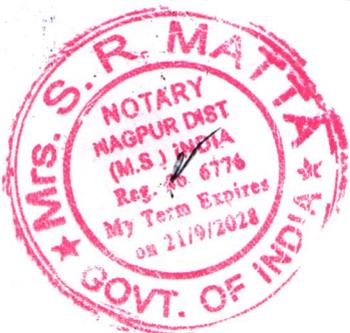
REPLY AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT No. 13,

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE

CHANGE :

I, Dr. Surender Gugloth, S/o Shri Shankar, aged about 40 years, presently working as Scientist 'E' at the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Regional Office, Ground Floor, East Wing, New Secretariat Building, Civil Lines, Nagpur, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under :-

1. That I am authorized to swear the present affidavit on behalf of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC).



2. That the instant application has been filed against Respondent Nos. 18 and 19, who are allegedly extracting groundwater for commercial purposes without obtaining the requisite No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), Government of Maharashtra, and the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority (MWRRA).
3. In this regard, That the answering Respondent No. 13 is primarily engaged in, inter alia, policy formulation for abatement, control and prevention of pollution, prescribing environmental standards which are implemented through the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Pollution Control Committees (PCCs). The SPCBs/PCCs are required to enforce these standards and monitor the compliance by industries.

Besides, the concerned State Pollution Control Boards/ Pollution Control Committees are empowered to take all such measures as are deemed necessary or expedient for the purpose of protection and improving the quality of environment as well as prevention, control and abatement of environmental pollution, including pollution from industries as in the instant matter.



4. It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter pertaining to the grant of permission for extraction of groundwater for commercial purposes squarely falls within the statutory domain and regulatory competence of the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) and, at the State level, the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB)
5. In view of the foregoing submissions, the answering Respondent most humbly prayed that the Hon'ble Tribunal may kindly pass such order(s) as may be deemed fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of this case.

DEPONENT

(डॉ. सुरेन्द्र गुगलोट)

(Dr. SURENDER GUGLOTH)

वैज्ञानिक 'ई' / Scientist 'E'

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
Min. of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
क्षे.का., नागपूर - R.O., Nagpur



