

**BEFORE THE HONOURABLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**

M.A. No. 128 of 2024

IN

OA No. 506 of 2022

IN THE MATTER OF:

TRIBHUVAN SINGH

...APPLICANT

VERSUS

GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI & ORS.

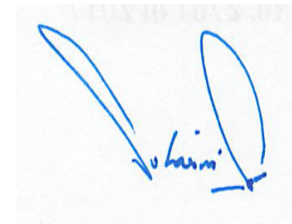
...RESPONDENTS

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N.D.O.H – 22.07.2026

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THROUGH



SUHASINI SEN
(COUNSEL FOR MOEF&CC)
R289B, LGF, GREATER KAILASH I NEW
DELHI- 110048
TEL: +91-96500 96066
suhasini@rschambers.net,
office@rschambers.net

New Delhi
Date: 21.07.2026

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**REPLY AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT,
FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE (MoEF&CC):**

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

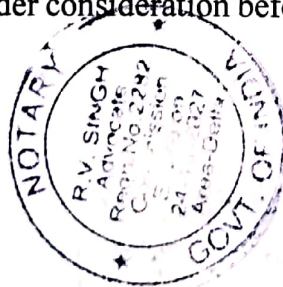
I, V. Pazhaniyandi, S/o Shri Velayudhan Pillai, aged about 47 years, working as Director in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Government of India having its office at Jorbagh, New Delhi, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under:

1. That I am presently serving in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (hereinafter referred to as "MoEF&CC") and, in my official capacity, am duly authorized and competent to swear the present affidavit on behalf of the answering Respondent. I am well acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the present case from the official records



maintained by the Ministry and am, therefore, competent to depose to the contents of this affidavit.

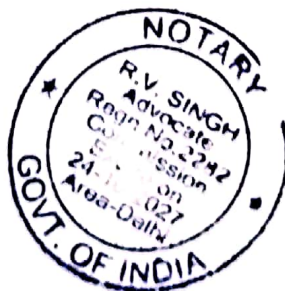
2. That the present affidavit is being filed in respectful compliance with the orders dated 10.02.2026 and 28.04.2026 passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal in the captioned matter, whereby the MoEF&CC was directed to submit its response on the issue relating to the utilization of Environmental Compensation (hereinafter referred to as "EC").
3. It is respectfully submitted that this Hon'ble Tribunal, vide orders dated 03.02.2017 and 07.02.2017 passed in O.A. No. 24 of 2011, *Samir Mehta vs. Union of India & Ors.*, directed every SPCBs/PCCs to remit 25% of the Environmental Compensation (EC) recovered pursuant to the orders of this Hon'ble Tribunal, to the CPCB and also directed to maintain a separate account for this fund, and further directed the CPCB to formulate a policy for utilization of such funds. Accordingly, the CPCB issued the Guidelines for Utilization of Environmental Compensation Fund on 03.04.2019, which were accepted by this Hon'ble Tribunal in O.A. No. 101 of 2019, *CPCB vs. Assam State Pollution Control Board & Ors.* It is further submitted that the issue relating to utilization of the 25% NGT EC Fund is presently under consideration before this Hon'ble Tribunal in O.A. No. 638 of 2023.



4. It is further respectfully submitted that, pursuant to the order dated 02.12.2021 passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal in O.A. No. 175 of 2018, *Jammula Choudharaiah vs. Union of India & Ors.*, the MoEF&CC constituted an Expert Committee to develop an appropriate methodology for assessment of Environmental Damage Cost/Environmental Compensation for environmental loss, degradation and restoration. In pursuance thereof, a Draft Environmental Damage Cost Assessment (EDCA) Report has been prepared jointly by the MoEF&CC and the CPCB.

5. It is respectfully submitted that the aforesaid Draft Environmental Damage Cost Assessment Report is presently under examination and deliberation by the answering Respondent and is in the process of being finalized after due consideration of the recommendations of the Expert Committee and other stakeholders.

6. It is respectfully submitted that the present Affidavit is filed to place on record the complete facts in compliance with the directions of this Hon'ble Tribunal. It is prayed that the answering Respondent may be permitted to file a further affidavit on any other aspects, as the Hon'ble Tribunal may direct.

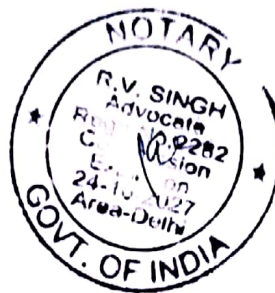


[Signature]
 DEPENDENT
 (R.V. SINGH, V.)
 निदेशक (सी.पी.)/डायरेक्टर (CP)
 पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
 MoEF Environment Forest and Climate Change
 भारत सरकार, नई दिल्ली
 New Delhi

VERIFICATION

Verified at New Delhi on this 21 JUL 2026 day of 2026 that the contents of the above affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and nothing material has been concealed thereof.

Signature
I identified the deponent/executant who has signed in my presence
21/07/2024



Signature
DEPONENT
(सह-निर्देशक (सी.पी.)/सी.पी. (सी.पी.))
(निदेशक (सी.पी.)/Director (CP)
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
Min. Environment, Forest and Climate Change
भारत सरकार, नई दिल्ली
Govt. of India, New Delhi

Solemnly affirmed before me, read over & explained to the deponent

Signature
Notary Public. **DELHI**

21 JUL 2026