

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 190/2025(PB)**

IN THE MATTER OF:

News Item titled "Brari Nambal: A stark failure Successive regime failed to restore glory of Dal Lake's lagoon" appearing in Greater Kashmir dated 13.04.2025"

INDEX

1.9.2025

Sl. No	Particulars	Page Nos.
1.	Reply on behalf of Central Pollution Control Board, CPCB, Respondent No.3 in compliance to Hon'ble NGT order dated 29.04.2025 in Original Application No.190/2025(PB)	


(ANUJBHANDARI)

Advocate

On behalf of Central Pollution Control Board

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Place: Delhi

Date: 30.8.2025

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IN THE MATTER OF:

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REPLY ON BEHALF OF THE CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (CPCB) i.e RESPONDENT NO. 01

1. That, this Hon'ble Tribunal vide order dated 29.04.2024 and Notice dated 09.05.2025 has sought the reply of CPCB in the instant matter. Thereby, the reply is made in succeeding paragraphs.
2. That, CPCB is a statutory Board constituted under Section 3 of The Water (Prevention and control) Act, 1974. It performs the functions under The Water (Prevention and control) Act, 1974, The Air (Prevention and control) Act, 1981 and The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
3. The matter is related to an Original Application (hereinafter referred as OA) registered suo motu on the basis of the news item titled "*Brari Nambal: A stark failure Successive regime failed to restore glory of Dal Lake's lagoon*" appearing in Greater Kashmir dated 13.04.2025, wherein the following issues have been raised:
 - i. The pollution and encroachments in the Brari Nambal water body in Srinagar;
 - ii. The absence of sustained conservation measures, widespread encroachments, and unchecked pollution;

- iii. A significant portion of the lake has been encroached upon, especially from the Baba Demb side and
 - iv. The area is reportedly being used as a dumping ground for plastic and other nonbiodegradable waste and even as a loading point for trucks.
4. That, while observing in Para No 6 and Para No 7 of Order dated 19/04/2025 that “The above matter indicates violation of provisions of the Environment Protection Act, 1986, Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution), Act 1974, Jammu and Kashmir Resource (Regulation and Management) Act 2010” and that “The news item raises substantial issues relating to compliance with the environmental norms and implementation of the provisions of scheduled enactment”, Hon’ble NGT has impleaded various agencies including Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) as respondent with directions to file their response/reply by way of affidavit.
5. That it is humbly submitted that the Government of J&K established an autonomous body called LAWDA (Lakes and Waterways Development Authority) tasked with overseeing, managing, and conserving J&K’s waterways and water bodies, which was renamed as Jammu and Kashmir Lake Conservation and Management Authority (“LCMA”) on November 3, 2021
6. That, as per data made available by J&KCC, two Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs), namely 17.08 MLD STP Brari Nambal, operated by Urban Environmental Engineering Department (UEED), and 16.10 MLD STP Brari Nambal, operated by LCMA, with a combined installed capacity of 33.18 MLD, are operational in the catchment of Brari Nambal Lagoon.

7. That, CPCB in the matter of OA No. 241 of 2021 (IA No. 105/2025); *Raja Mujaffar Bhatt Vs. Union of India and Ors*, under the orders of Hon'ble NGT dated 18/02/2025 has recently inspected and monitored the above mentioned two STPs that discharge treated effluent into BrariNambal Lagoonalong with other STPs of Srinagar on 22/07/2025.
8. That, the 17.0 MLD STP, BrariNambal, Srinagar was found discharging treated sewage having COD value 268 mg/l, BOD value 134 mg/l, TSS value 304 mg/l, Total Nitrogen value 21.86 mg/l and Fecal Coliform value 3.5×10^6 MPN/100), and the 16.1 MLD STP, BrariNambal, Srinagar was found discharging treated sewage having BOD value 28 mg/l, Total Nitrogen value 34.32 mg/l and Fecal Coliform value 2.2×10^5 MPN/100 ml. A combined report on performance of all STPs in Srinagar, including these two STPs, will be submitted in OA No. 241 of 2021
9. That, the answering respondent no. 1 craves leave of the Hon'ble Tribunal to file additional reply, if required, in future.
10. That, in the light of the above submissions, it is respectfully submitted that this Answering Respondent, i.e., CPCB, shall abide by any order(s) or direction(s) passed by this Hon'ble Court in the instant OA.

(Nazimuddin)

Scientist 'F'

Central Pollution Control Board