

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
AT NEW DELHI

APPEAL NO. 55 OF 2020

IN THE MATTER OF:

Anil Kumar Yadav

... Appellant

-VERSUS-

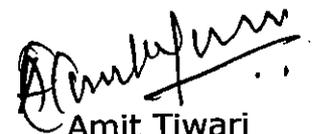
State Level Environment Impact Assessment
Authority & Ors.

... Respondents

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REPLY ON BEHALF OF STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT
ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY, UTTAR PRADESH.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH: -

1. The captioned appeal challenging the grant of Environment Clearance by the SEIAA, Uttar Pradesh vide order dt. 19.11.2020 bearing ref. no. 519/Parya/SEIAA/4737/2020 for the proposed Dolo Stone Mining at Khasra No. 5593 Ka, Village Billi Markundi, Tehsil Robertsganj, Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh in favour of Sh. Amit Mittal is pending adjudication before this Hon'ble Tribunal. The main grievance of the appellant is that the project falls in the Critically Polluted Industrial Areas (CPAs). It is further contended that since the project falls in critically polluted area, in view of

General Condition appended to EIA Notification dt. 14.09.2006, respondent no.1 could not have granted EC to the project.

2. Upon consideration of the matter, this Hon'ble Tribunal vide order dt. 24.12.2020 issued notice and sought response from respondent no.1. The appellant has placed reliance on order dt. 20.11.2020 passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal in Appeal No. 04/2020 titled as "Abhinav Gramodyog & Seva Sansthan vs. State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority, UP & Ors." wherein this Hon'ble Tribunal placing reliance of the law settled by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Alembic Pharmaceuticals Ltd. vs. Rohit Prajapati & Ors. 2020 SCC Online SC 347 held that the circular dt. 30.12.2019 of the MoEF & CC, Govt. of India, in exercise of administrative powers, cannot have the effect of diluting the 14.09.2006 notification which is statutory under section 3 of The Environment Protection Act. It was further held that applicant could not be clothed with the power to issue EC in violation of Notification dt. 14.09.2006 under which the project in polluted zone has to be appraised as "A" category by the MoEF itself. Consequently, the appeal was allowed and the impugned EC was quashed.

3. It is submitted that the subject mining project in Appeal No. 04/2020 is situated in Village Pipardih & Koragi, Tehsil Dudhi, District Sonbhadra, UP. It is further submitted that said area does not fall in Critically Polluted Area as per CEPI Scores monitored by CPCB. It is submitted that inadvertently, such fact could not be brought to the notice of this Hon'ble Tribunal and because of which EC was quashed vide order 20.11.2020. It is submitted that respondent no.1 is filing Review Application in Appeal No.04/2020 and placing correct facts for kind consideration of this Hon'ble Tribunal.

4. It is submitted that entire basis of the captioned appeal is order dt. 20.11.2020 passed in Appeal No.04/2020. It is submitted that the subject project falls in Village Billi Markundi, Tehsil Robertsganj, Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh which falls in Singrauli area.

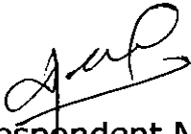
5. It is submitted that as per the General Condition appended to Notification dt.14.09.2006 as amended, it is only the Category "B" projects located in whole or in part within 5 kms. from the boundary of **Critically Polluted Areas** as identified by the CPCB from time to time are to be considered as category "A" project and needs to appraised by MoEF & CC, Govt. of India. It is

submitted that the subject project is located in Village Billi Markundi, Tehsil Robertsganj, Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh which falls in Singrauli area which does not fall in "**Critically Polluted Areas**". It is submitted that as per the CEPI score issued by Central Pollution Control Board monitored in year 2018, the areas falling in Uttar Pradesh in Singrauli Industrial Area **are Severely Polluted and not Critically Polluted**. It is submitted that as per Note in the CEPI scores, a sub-index score of more than 60 shows a critical level of pollution in the respective environmental component, whereas a score between 50-60 shows a severe level of pollution with reference to the respective environmental component. It is submitted that the CEPI score in sub-index of the concerned area are 45, 57.25 and 27.75 with reference to Air, Water and Land respectively. It is further submitted that since the subject project falls in severely polluted area and not critical polluted area, the General Condition appended to Notification dt. 14.09.2006 does not apply and project is to be treated as Category B project and not Category A project. Therefore, applicant/SEIAA was within its power to grant EC to the project. The copy of CEPI score is **Annexure A1**.

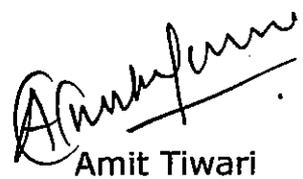
6. It is submitted that since project falls in severely polluted area and not critically polluted area, therefore, respondent no.1 was within its jurisdiction to issue the impugned EC. The captioned appeal is based on misconception of fact and hence is liable to be dismissed.

PRAYER

It is, therefore, most respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may graciously be pleased to dismiss the Appeal with Exemplary cost. Or such other order as deem fit may be passed.


Respondent No.1

Through


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Dated: 25.02.2020

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AFFIDAVIT

AFFIDAVIT OF SH. HEMENDRA KUMAR VERMA AGED ABOUT 51
YEARS S/O K P VERMA, PRESENTLY POSTED AS ASSISTANT
DIRECTOR, DIRECTORATE OF ENVIRONMENT, GOVERNMENT OF
UTTAR PRADESH HAVING OFFICE AT E-12/1, SECTOR -1, NOIDA,
UTTAR PRADESH.

1. That I am posted as stated above and well conversant with
the facts of the present case and as such competent to swear this
affidavit before this Tribunal.

2. That the accompanying reply has been drafted by our
counsel upon my instructions.

3. That the contents of the accompanying reply are true and
correct and the knowledge has been derived from official records
and nothing material has been concealed there from.

Handwritten signature

Identify the Deponent in my presence



Handwritten signature
DEPONENT

VERIFICATION:

Verified on solemn affirmation at New Delhi on this 25 FEB 2021 day Feb. 2021, that the contents of the foregoing affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and no part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed there from.

[Signature]
DEPONENT

[Faint, illegible text, possibly a signature or stamp]

25 FEB 2021



Details of CEPI Scores of Polluted Industrial Areas (PIAs) monitored during 2018

| Sl. No. | Zone wise and State wise | Name of Polluted Industrial Areas (PIAs) | Environment | Criteria pollutants selected on the basis of monitoring carried out during 2018 | EPI Score | CEPI Score | Status of Environment | Demarcation of boundaries/industrial clusters/potential impact zones |
|---------|--------------------------|--|-------------|---|-----------|------------|-----------------------|--|
| 1. | Uttar Pradesh | Agra | Air | PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} , Ben., | 60.00 | 76.22 | Ac_Wc_Ln | Nunihai Industrial Estate, Rambag Nagar, UPSIDC Industrial Area and Runukata Industrial Area. |
| | | | Water | TP, T NH ₄ -N, BOD | 66.88 | | | |
| | | | Land | TDS, T. Nit., T. Hard. | 47.00 | | | |
| 2. | Uttar Pradesh | Aligarh | Air | PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} , CO | 56.25 | 64.42 | As_Wc_Ln | ITI Industrial area, UPSIDC industrial area sectors I and II and TalaNagri in Aligarh. |
| | | | Water | TP, T NH ₄ -N, BOD | 61.88 | | | |
| | | | Land | T, Hard., BOD, F | 11.88 | | | |
| 3. | Uttar Pradesh | Bulandsahar-Khurza | Air | PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} , As | 79.50 | 85.23 | Ac_Wc_Ln | UPSIDC Industrial area, Shikandarabad, Khurza. |
| | | | Water | TP, T NH ₄ -N, BOD | 76.00 | | | |
| | | | Land | T. Hard., SO ₄ ⁻² , Se | 36.75 | | | |
| 4. | Uttar Pradesh | Firozabad | Air | PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} , As | 76.00 | 81.62 | Ac_Wc_Ln | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Greater Industrial Estate, Firozabad, - Greater Industrial Estate, Shikohabad, - Mini industrial estate, tundla, Firozabad, - Mini industrial estate, Usaini, Firozabad, - UPSIDC Industrial Estate, Firozabad - Industrial Estate, Makkhanpur, Firozabad |
| | | | Water | TP, T NH ₄ -N, BOD | 72.00 | | | |
| | | | Land | TKN, Fe, T. Hard. | 32.50 | | | |
| 5. | Uttar Pradesh | Gajraula Area | Air | PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} , Ben. | 71.00 | 80.14 | Ac_Wc_Ln | UPSIDC Industrial area, Gajraula |
| | | | Water | Phenol, T. NH ₄ -N, BOD | 70.00 | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|----|-----------|-------|---|-------|-------|----------|---|
| 6. | Ghaziabad | Land | Mn, Se, T. Hard. | 45.00 | 72.30 | As_Wc_Ln | Sub-cluster A - Mohan nagar Industrial area - Rajindernagar Industrial area - Sahibabad Industrial areas Sub-cluster B - Pandavnagar Industrial area - Kavinagar Industrial area - Bulandshahar Road Industrial area - Amritnagar - Aryanagar Industrial area Sub-cluster C - Merrut road Industrial area Sub-cluster D - Loni Industrial area - Loni Road Industrial area - Roop Nagar Industrial area Sub-cluster E - Hapur Road Industrial area - Dasna - Philkua Sub-cluster F (other scattered Industrial areas) - South side of GT road - Kavi Nagar - Tronica city - Anand Nagar - Jindal Nagar - Prakash Nagar - Rural Industrial estate |
| | | Air | PM ₁₀ , PM ₂₅ , CO | 57.50 | | | |
| | | Water | TP, Phenol, BOD | 66.00 | | | |
| | | Land | T. Hard., Hg, TDS | 32.25 | | | |
| 7. | Kanpur | Air | PM ₁₀ , PM ₂₅ , SO ₂ | 66.00 | 89.46 | Ac_Wc_Ln | Industrial areas: - Dada Nagar - Panki |
| | | Water | TP, Phenol, T NH ₄ -N | 85.00 | | | |
| | | Land | Fe, Mn, T. Hard. | 45.00 | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----|---------------------|-------|---|-------|-------|----------|---|--|
| | | | | | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fazalganj - Vijay Nagar - Jajmau |
| 8. | Mathura | Air | PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} , As | 86.00 | 91.10 | Ac_Wc_Ln | Mathura City Area (6 km ²). | |
| | | Water | OCP, TP, T. NH ₄ -N | 81.00 | | | | |
| | | Land | TDS, B, Fe | 45.00 | | | | |
| 9. | Meerut | Air | PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} , CO | 52.00 | 66.09 | As_Wc_Ln | Meerut (25-30 km ²). | |
| | | Water | TP, Phenol, T. NH ₄ -N | 65.00 | | | | |
| | | Land | T. Hard., TDS, Fe | 6.00 | | | | |
| 10. | Moradabad | Air | PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} , As | 76.00 | 87.80 | Ac_Wc_Lc | Moradabad city (2.41 km ²) | |
| | | Water | TP, T NH ₄ -N, BOD | 71.50 | | | | |
| | | Land | T. Hard., TDS, Mn | 68.75 | | | | |
| 11. | Noida | Air | PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} , As | 59.75 | 68.76 | As_Wc_Ln | Territorial jurisdiction of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Noida Phase-1 - Noida Phase-2 - Noida Phase-3 - Surajpur Industrial Area - Greater Noida Industrial Area - Village-Chhaparaula | |
| | | Water | BOD, TP, T NH ₄ -N | 62.75 | | | | |
| | | Land | T. Hard., TDS, Mn | 27.00 | | | | |
| 12. | Singrauli (UP & MP) | Air | PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} , CO | 45.00 | 62.59 | An_Ws_Ln | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sonebhadra (UP): Dala-Tola, Obra, Renukoot, Anpara, Renusagar, Kakri, Dudhichuwa, Bina, Khadia, Shakti Nagar, Rihand Nagar, Bijpur - Sigraulti (Madhya Pradesh): Vindhya Nagar and Jayant, Nigahi, Dudhichua, Amlohri&Jhingurdah townships | |
| | | Water | TP, Hg, BOD | 57.25 | | | | |
| | | Land | T. Hard., Fe, As | 27.75 | | | | |
| 13. | Varanasi- | Air | PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} , CO | 67.50 | 85.35 | Ac_Wc_Ln | - Industrial Estate, Mirzapur | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|----------|-------|-----------------|-------|--|--|--|
| * | | Mirzapur | Water | Phenol, TP, BOD | 80.00 | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chunar - Industrial Estate, Chandpur Varanasi - UPSIDC, Industrial Estate, Phoolpur - Industrial Area, Ramnagar, Chandauli - Industrial Area Karkhiyon |
| | | | Land | TP, T. Hard., F | 39.63 | | | |

Notes:

- The overall CEPI is presented in the alpha numeric form stating the score along with the status of Air, Water and Land environment in terms of subscript as critical/severe/normal. A sub-index score of more than 60 shows a critical level of pollution in the respective environmental component, whereas a score between 50-60 shows a severe level of pollution with reference to the respective environmental component.