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BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,  
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI  
OA NO. 572 OF 2025

In the matter of: -

Dr. Amit Kumar

Applicant

Versus

Union of India & Ors.

Respondents

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1.	<b>Reply on behalf of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) respondent no. 3</b> in compliance to Hon'ble NGT order dated 19.11.2025 in O.A. No. 572/2025.	

**Filed by Saurabh Balwani**  
**On behalf of Central Pollution Control Board**

Place: Delhi

Dated: 12.02.2026

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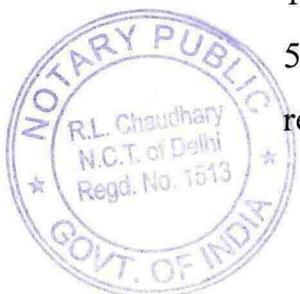
Union of India & Ors.

Respondents

**REPLY ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENT No. 3 I.E. CENTRAL  
POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (CPCB)**

**Most Respectfully Showeth:**

1. That the CPCB is constituted under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974 (hereinafter referred to as "the Water Act, 1974"). It performs the functions under the Water Act, 1974. The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1981 (hereinafter referred to as "the Air Act, 1981"), and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
2. That the State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees (hereinafter referred to as "SPCBs/PCCs") have been constituted in State/Union Territories under the Water Act, 1974 and the Air Act, 1981 and are empowered to perform the functions and implement the provisions of these Acts in respect of territories falling in their respective Territorial Jurisdiction.
3. That the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (hereinafter referred as the "Hon'ble NGT"), Principal Bench, New Delhi vide Order dated 19.11.2025 in Original Application (hereinafter referred as "OA") No. 572/2025 has sought response/reply from the respondents (CPCB is respondent no. 03) in the instant matter. Thereby the response by

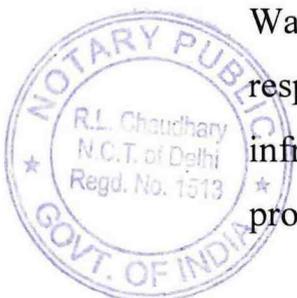


answering respondent herein is made hereunder in the succeeding paragraphs.

4. That the present application has been filed by the applicant seeking intervention of Hon'ble NGT in respect of the alleged violation of environmental norms by illegally operating units and alleged burning & dumping hazardous industrial waste transported from Rajasthan in the ecologically sensitive Aravali Hills of Villages Khori Kalan and Khori Khurd, District Nuh, Haryana.
5. That at the outset, the answering respondent deny all claims, contentions, allegations and averments against answering respondent CPCB in the above Original Application (hereinafter called as 'OA') to anything stated or submitted in this reply. Nothing in the OA may be deemed to have been accepted or admitted by the answering Respondent for want of a specific denial or on the ground of non-traverse, save any averment which has been expressly admitted hereinafter.

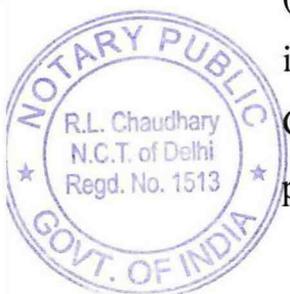
#### **PARAWISE REPLY**

1. That no comments are offered by the answering respondent herein over the averments made in the Para 1-4 of Original Application being introductory in nature.
2. That the averments made in Para 5 & 6 of Original Application are regarding the status, activities, and alleged violations of Respondent Nos. 14-27. In this regard, it is humbly submitted that Section 6 of the Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) (PWM) Rules, 2016, defines the responsibility of local bodies for development and setting up of infrastructure for segregation, collection, storage, transportation, processing and disposal of the plastic waste either on its own or by



engaging agencies or producers. Further it is also submitted that Rule 15(g) of Solid Waste Management(SWM) Rules, 2016 defines duties of local authorities to direct waste generators not to litter i.e throw or dispose of any waste such as paper, water bottles, liquor bottles, soft drink canes, tetra packs, fruit peel, wrappers, etc., or burn or burry waste on streets, open public spaces, drains, waste bodies and to segregate the waste at source as prescribed under these rules and hand over the segregated waste to authorised the waste pickers or authorized waste collectors. That Rule 16 of SWM Rules, 2016, defines the duties of SPCBs/PCCs for enforcement & implementation of these rules in their State through local bodies as well as monitor environmental standards and adherence to conditions as specified under the Schedule I and Schedule II for waste processing and Disposal sites.

3. That averments made in Para 7 & 8 are regarding the Hon'ble Tribunal's order dated 19.08.2025 in R.A. No. 18/2025 in O.A. No. 277/2025, which are matters of record and needs no comments by this answering respondent.
4. That the averments made in the Paras 9 to 12 of the OA wherein the location and ecological status of Khori Kalan and Khori Khurd villages is brought out and allegations of unauthorized activities of certain units i.e operating without obtaining CTE/CTO from SPCBs, including industrial waste handling, environmental impacts, and complaints by villagers are provided. In this regard, it is humbly submitted that the concerned SPCBs/PCCs constituted under the section 4 Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and section 6 of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, are responsible for implementation of the provisions of both the Acts including Grant/Renewal/Cancellation of Consent to Establish/Operate. Further, as per Rule 16(1) of the SWM Rules 2016, the State Pollution Control



Boards or Pollution Control Committees (SPCBs/PCCs) are entrusted with the responsibility of enforcement of the said Rules in their states through local bodies in their respective jurisdiction and periodical review of implementation of these Rules.

5. That the averments made in the Para 13 & 14 are related to actions taken by HSPCB or erring private polluting entities and about the reported fire incident in Khori kalan and Khori Khurd Villages. It is humbly submitted that no comments are offered over the same as the facts alleged by the applicant is not in knowledge of this answering respondent. Accordingly, the response of concerned respondents may kindly be considered in this regard.
6. That the averments made in the Para 15 & 16 are regarding filing of O.A. No. 277 of 2025 by applicant, the order dated 30.05.2025 passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal, and submission of representations to HSPCB (R- 4 & 5), RSPCB (R 11 & 12) and RIICO (R 13), pursuant to the Hon'ble Tribunal's order dated 30.05.2025, which are matters of record and needs no comments from this answering respondent.
7. That the averments made in the Para 17 are regarding the response of HSPCB to the applicant's representation pursuant to the directions issued in O.A. No. 277 of 2025 and the contents of the communication issued by HSPCB to RSPCB are the matter of record and needs no comments from this answering respondent.
8. That the averments made in the Para 18 & 19 are regarding the alleged inaccurate correlation of OA no. 21/2025 made by HSPCB with OA no. 572/2025 and the scope, subject matter, and proceedings in O.A. No. 21 of 2025, including the Hon'ble Tribunal's orders passed therein and needs no comments from this answering respondent.



9. That no comments are offered by this answering respondent over the averments made in the Paras 20 to 24 of the OA wherein allegations regarding the inter-departmental communications made between HSPCB and RSPCB, issuance of show-cause notices by RSPCB to industries and further actions alleged to have not been taken by RSPCB and impleadment of private respondents in this OA by the applicant allegedly identified local violators by HSPCB and RSPCB.

10. That the averments made in the Paras 25 to 29 under the heading Grounds are regarding alleged statutory violations by respondents 13 to 26, alleged institutional or administrative failures, purported infringement of fundamental rights, alleged environmental damage to an ecologically sensitive area, and issues relating to inter-state pollution and jurisdiction. In this regard, it is humbly submitted that the Central Government has notified the Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016 (HOWM Rules, 2016) in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 6, 8 and 25 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and in supersession of the Hazardous Waste (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008 (HWM Rules, 2008), for safe and environmentally sound management of hazardous and other wastes. The Rule 19 of the HOWM Rules, 2016, prescribes a manifest system to ensure safe, regulated and traceable transportation of hazardous and other wastes within state and inter-state. The concerned SPCBs/PCCs are responsible for ensuring compliance with the manifest system, monitoring movement of hazardous and other wastes and taking appropriate regulatory action in cases of non-compliance. The Rule 6 of the HOWM Rules, 2016 lays down the duties of SPCBs/PCCs to grant, renew, suspend or cancel authorisation to units handling hazardous and other wastes after verifying the adequacy of facilities through inspection.



It also mandates SPCBs/PCCs to monitor compliance with authorisation conditions. Also, as per Schedule VII of the HOWM Rules, 2016, the SPCBs/PCCs in their respective territorial jurisdiction, are entrusted with the duties of grant & renewal of Authorization, Inventorisation of hazardous and other wastes; Monitoring of compliance of various provisions of these rules and for any other function under these Rules assigned to it by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change from time to time.

11. That no comments are offered by the answering respondent herein over averments made in the Para 30 & 31 under the heading Jurisdiction and Urgency in the OA respectively.
12. That the averments made in the Para 32 (point 'a' to 'k') under the heading prayer of the OA seeking various directions and reliefs from this Hon'ble Tribunal. In this regard, the submissions made in the preceding paragraphs of this reply are re-iterated and are not repeated herein for the sake of brevity.
13. The Answering Respondent craves liberty of the Hon'ble Tribunal to file additional reply if the same is considered to be necessary at later stage.
14. That in light of the above submissions, it is respectfully submitted that this answering respondent i.e. CPCB shall abide by all the order(s) or direction(s) passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal in this original application.



(Dinabandhu Gouda)  
Scientist 'F'

Central Pollution Control Board  
दीनबन्धु गोड़ा / Dinabandhu Gouda  
12.02.2026  
प्रभागीय प्रमुख, डबल्यू क्यू एम-II / Division Head, WQWMP  
केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड  
Central Pollution Control Board  
(पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)  
(M/o Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India)  
परिवेश भवन, पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली-110058  
Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110058

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**AFFIDAVIT**

I, **Dinabandhu Gouda**, working as Scientist 'F', having office at the Delhi, Central Pollution Control Board, Respondent No.3, Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state on oath as follows: -

1. That I, the deponent herein, is well conversant with the facts and circumstances of the present case on the basis of the information derived from the official records, and hence, I am competent to verify, sign and swear this affidavit on behalf of the Respondent CPCB.
2. That the accompanying reply may be read part and parcel of the present affidavit.
3. That the accompanying reply has been drafted and filed under my instructions and authority, the contents thereof are true and correct based on the record maintained during the ordinary course of business of CPCB and available records and documents and the contents of the same are read over and explained to me and are not repeated herein for the sake of brevity.



**DEPONENT**



दीनबन्धु गौड़ा / Dinabandhu Gouda  
प्रभागीय प्रमुख, डबल्यू क्यू एम-II / Division Head, WQM-II  
केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड  
Central Pollution Control Board  
(पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)  
(M/o Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India)  
परिवेश भवन, पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली-110032  
Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032

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VERIFICATION

Verified at Delhi on this day of ~~12 FEB~~ February, 2026, that the contents above are correct and true based on the records of the case as mentioned in the day-to-day affairs of the CPCB. Nothing has been concealed therefrom or misstated.

DEPONENT

ATTESTED  
  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
GOVT. OF INDIA

दीनबन्धु गौड़ा / Dinabandhu Gouda  
प्रभागीय प्रमुख, डबल्यू क्यू एम-II / Division Head, WQM-II  
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