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IN THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,  
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

I.A. NO. 253/2025

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 6/2012

IN THE MATTER OF –

NIZAMUDDIN WEST ASSOCIATION

....APPLICANT

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

....RESPONDENT(S)

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30/3/26

**Respondent No. 12**

Central Ground Water Board (CGWB)

डॉ. राजा राम पुरोहित  
Dr. RAJA RAM PUROHIT  
वैज्ञानिक "डी" एवं कार्यालय प्रमुख  
Scientist "D" & Head of Office  
केन्द्रीय भूमि जल बोर्ड  
Central Ground Water Board  
राज्य एकक कार्यालय/State Unit Office  
नई दिल्ली/New Delhi-110086

Filed by:

New Delhi

Dated: 30-03-26



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Advocate

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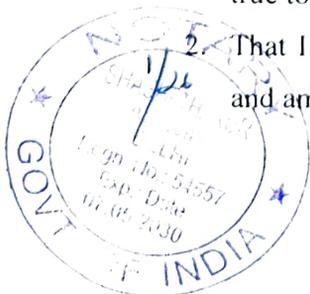
REPLY TO IA NO. 253/2025 ON BEHALF OF CENTRAL GROUND WATER

BOARD (R-12)

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:-

I, Raja Ram Purohit, S/o.Lt. Sunil Kumar Purohit, Aged 48Years, working as Scientist-D & HOO in SUO New Delhi, CGWB having office at West Block-2, Sector-1, R.K Puram, New Delhi, the deponent herein do hereby solemnly affirm and state on oath as under:

1. That I am competent and authorized to file this reply on behalf of the Central Ground Water Board (hereinafter referred to as the Answering Respondent) and the facts stated herein are true to my knowledge and as per the available records.
2. That I have gone through the contents of the above-captioned Interlocutory Application and am duly authorized to submit this reply on behalf of the answering respondent.



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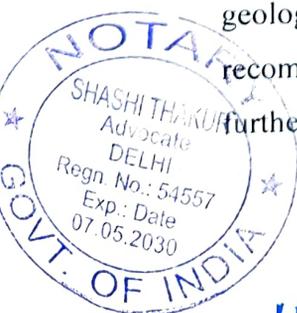
*J. Purohit*

**IT IS MOST RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**

3. That the Interlocutory Application has been filed by the applicant i.e. New Delhi Municipal Corporation, New Delhi (NDMC) seeking permission to open 57 out of 124 closed borewells for the horticulture purpose of maintaining green areas e.g. parks, road side green belts, etc. within the jurisdiction of NDMC.
4. That the above IA was listed before the Hon'ble Tribunal on 20.08.2025, wherein vide para 16 of the above order, the Hon'ble Tribunal permitted the applicant i.e. NDMC to implead CGWB in the matter and directed respondents to file reply this IA. The relevant extract of para 16 of the order is reproduced hereunder:

*"IA No. 253/2025 has been filed by the NDMC seeking permission to open 57 out of 124 closed borewells. Learned counsel for the Applicant is permitted to implead the CGWB and serve the notice upon it".*

5. That in pursuance to the directions of Hon'ble Tribunal it is most respectfully submitted that the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC), vide letter No. D-01/C.T/Advisor dated 21/01/2025, requested the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) to undertake a study within the NDMC area of the National Capital Territory of Delhi regarding water logging issues on roads and to suggest appropriate remedial measures. A list of locations of 124 bore wells were submitted by NDMC. Further, CGWB was requested to examine the feasibility of re-open/de-sealing of bore wells which had earlier been closed pursuant to the orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) due to declining groundwater levels.
6. That pursuant to the aforesaid request, the State Unit Office, New Delhi of the CGWB conducted a study utilizing data available with CGWB. The study incorporated scientific inputs including groundwater level monitoring through observation wells, long-term hydrograph analysis, rainfall data evaluation, soil infiltration studies, and detailed geological and hydrogeological investigations. Based on the findings, CGWB recommended the revival of 55 bore wells for drinking and domestic purposes. It was further advised that groundwater extraction should not lower the water table beyond 10



metres below ground level (mbgl). Additionally, the construction of suitable artificial recharge structures was suggested in areas where groundwater levels remain comparatively deeper.

7. That the recommendation for revival the wells was based on the observation of CGWB study of ground water of NDMC areas. Wherein, that groundwater levels in the vicinity showed a rising trend, and in certain locations the water table has become shallow, in some cases reaching basements, thereby contributing to water logging problems. It is also pertinent to mention that no evidence or documented studies indicating land subsidence in the NDMC area have been reported so far.
8. That after sealing of the borewells in the recent past, the abstraction of ground water has reduced. This has led to an increase in ground water level in the area, affecting basements and roads. The reopening of borewells, strictly in a controlled manner, will help in stabilizing the ground water level to an optimum level. Sealing and de-sealing can further be done based on the ground situation after de-sealing of 55 wells, which are to be used only for drinking and domestic purposes. NDMC authorities have shared a list of water logging points along prominent roads in the NDMC area. The list contains 37 locations where storm water stagnates and creates traffic problems during the rainy season. As the whole NDMC area is experiencing rising ground water levels, water levels more than 10 m are considered suitable for taking up recharge structures to recharge storm water. Out of the 37 water logging locations, CGWB suggested 20 locations as feasible for construction of artificial recharge structures. Two types of artificial recharge designs have been suggested, which are site-specific.
9. That in light of the above, it is therefore most respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may kindly be pleased to take the present reply on behalf of CGWB on record and pass such further order(s) as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the present case.



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*Dr. Purohit*  
30/09/26  
DEPONENT

**डॉ. राजा राम पुरोहित**  
**Dr. RAJA RAM PUROHIT**  
वैज्ञानिक "डी" एवं कार्यालय प्रमुख  
Scientist "D" & Head of Office  
केन्द्रीय भूमि जल बोर्ड  
Central Ground Water Board  
एच.ए.ए. कार्यालय/State Unit Office  
नई दिल्ली/New Delhi-110066

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Verification

30 MAR 2026

I, Raja Ram Purohit, S/o. Lt. Sunil Kumar Purohit, do hereby verify on 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2026 at New Delhi, the contents of the above paragraphs which are true to my own knowledge and/or are in the nature of legal submissions which I believe to be true and no material has been suppressed herewith.

*Raja Ram Purohit*  
30/3/26

DEPONENT पुरोहित  
Dr. RAJA RAM PUROHIT  
वैज्ञानिक "डी" एवं कार्यालय प्रमुख  
Scientist "D" & Head of Office  
केन्द्रीय भूमि जल बोर्ड  
Central Ground Water Board  
एकक कार्यालय/Station Unit Office

Verify the Execution of this document by the person who has Signed in My Presence



CERTIFICATE THAT DR DEPONENT has solemnly affirmed before me that the contents of the above which have been read & explained to him/her are true and correct to his/her knowledge

*[Signature]*  
NOTARY DELHI

30 MAR 2026

NOTARY PUBLIC  
SHASHI THAKUR  
ADVOCATE  
DELHI  
REGN. NO.: 54557  
EXP. DATE: 07.05.2030