

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 144/2025

IN THE MATTER OF:

NEWS ITEM TITLED "DEEP DIVE INTO ILLEGAL WATER BUSINESS" APPEARING IN THE TIMES OF INDIA DATED 02.04.2025

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Date:05/12/2025

THROUGH

Place: New Delhi

Priyanka

Priyanka swami
Advocate
Standing Counsel for State of U.P
F-13, Jangpura, New Delhi 110014

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IN THE MATTER OF:

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REPLY ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT NO.7 – THE IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT, STATE OF UP WITH AFFIDAVIT.

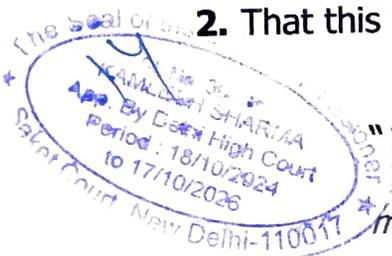
MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

I, Dinesh Singh S/o Bajrang Bahadur Singh age about 55 years posted as Chief Engineer (Yamuna), Irrigation and Water Resource Department, State of Uttar Pradesh do hereby solemnly affirm, as under:

1. I submit this affidavit in compliance with the order dated 10/09/2025 of this Hon'ble Tribunal in the above Original Application.

2. That this Hon'ble Tribunal vide order dated 10/09/2025 as follows

"The regulation of these borewells requires continuous monitoring by the authorities at the ground level. It has been pointed out that some of the borewells are operating

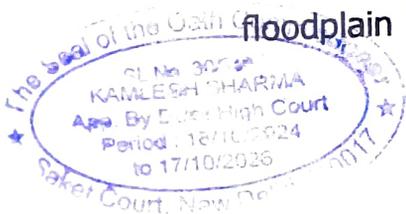


from the area which falls within the adjoining State of UP.

Hence, the concerned authorities of the State of UP are also required to be impleaded. It has been pointed out that effective monitoring can be done by the concerned SHO without whose knowledge such an activity within his jurisdiction is not possible."

3. That the observation regarding continuous monitoring of borewells pertains to regulation of underground water extraction, which, as per the statutory and administrative framework of the State of Uttar Pradesh, does not fall within the domain of the Irrigation Department. The responsibility of grant of permission, regulation, inspection, sealing of illegal borewells and continuous monitoring of groundwater extraction exclusively vests with the Ground Water Department/State Ground Water Authority and the respective Development Authorities operating within the territorial jurisdiction of the area concerned.

4. That it is, therefore, respectfully submitted that the Irrigation Department of Uttar Pradesh has been made a party to the present proceedings not in relation to borewell monitoring, but solely owing to its limited role connected with protection of the Yamuna floodplain land, which is under its ownership. In this regard, it is



pertinent to bring to the kind notice of this Hon'ble Tribunal that for restoration, preservation and beautification of the Yamuna floodplain, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi, while passing its order dated 25.07.2018 in O.A. No. 06/2012, titled *Manoj Mishra vs. Union of India & Ors.* directed various authorities to collaborate and undertake measures to revive the river and its floodplains.

5. That pursuant to the aforesaid directions, and as per the consensus arrived at in the inter-departmental meeting held on 12.06.2019 between the Uttar Pradesh Irrigation Department and the Delhi Development Authority (DDA), it was mutually resolved that the task of removal of encroachments from the Irrigation Department land situated along the Yamuna floodplain would be exclusively undertaken by the DDA, as the executing agency. The role of the Uttar Pradesh Irrigation Department is confined only to providing assistance to the DDA during such anti-encroachment operations, and does not extend to enforcement or monitoring of groundwater extraction or borewell operations. **A true copy of the minutes of the meeting dated 12/06/2019, is annexed herewith and marked as Annexure P/1**



6. In view of the above, it is most respectfully submitted that the issue of continuous monitoring of borewells, including those allegedly operating within the jurisdiction of Uttar Pradesh, may appropriately be addressed by the Ground Water Department/Development Authority having statutory control over the same, and not by the Uttar Pradesh Irrigation Department.

7. The above statements are true to the best of my knowledge and belief, and nothing material has been concealed.

[Handwritten Signature]
05/12/2025

DEPONENT



06/12/2025

Verified on solemn affirmation at on this day of December 2025, 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 therefrom.

has signed/put it in my presence
I have verified that the Deponent
Shri/Smt/Km. *[Handwritten Name]*
S/o. *[Handwritten Name]*
Identified by me at *[Handwritten Address]*
has made the statement which
Delivered to me and I am satisfied that the
that the contents of the affidavit are
have been read and explained to him and
true and correct to this knowledge

[Handwritten Signature]
06/12/25
Commissioner, Delhi
Kamlesh Sharma
New Delhi

[Handwritten Signature]
05/12/25

DEPONENT

Date:05/12/2025

THROUGH

Priyanka

Place: New Delhi

**Priyanka swami
Advocate
Standing Counsel For Sate of U.P
F-13, Jangpura, New Delhi 110014**