

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 1198 OF 2024**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Peoples Rights and Social Research Centre (PRASAR) & Ors.

...Applicants

Versus

Union of India & Ors.

...Respondents

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Respondent

(Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board)

Through its Counsel



(Nishant Awana/ Rebecca Mishra)

For NMA Law Chambers

Advocates for the Respondent No. 11 and 12

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Place: New Delhi

Date: 11.02.2026

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**REPLY ON BEHALF OF RAJASTHAN STATE POLLUTION
CONTROL BOARD**

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

1. The present Reply is being filed on behalf of the Respondent i.e., Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board ("RSPCB/answering Respondent"), in compliance of the Order dated 20.11.2025 passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal in the present Original Application ("subject OA").
2. It is stated that the subject OA has been instituted by the Applicant raising the issue of Silicosis among workers in various industries across the country. The Applicant has raised a plea that Silicosis is an incurable occupational lung disease caused by prolonged inhalation of silica dust and the said disease is rampant throughout India due to inadequate detection, monitoring, and remedial measures. It was also pleaded that the inhaled silica particles over time cause inflammation and scarring of the lung tissue, leading to reduced lung function and severe respiratory distress.
3. In the abovesaid respect it is submitted that quartz grinding units are regularly inspected by the answering Respondent and compliance with CTO and environmental norms is ensured.
4. By way of a chart the answering Respondent is bringing on record the year-wise data of 3 years pertaining to action taken


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against non-complying quartz grinding units, which is annexed herewith and marked as **Annexure R-1**.

5. It is submitted that the said chart brings out the details of the functioning Quartz grinding units, the no. of compliant and non-compliant units, the no. of units against which Show-cause Notices have been issued, and the no. of units against which directions of closure was passed.
6. The answering Respondent most humbly reserves its rights to file an additional Affidavit/Report as and when deemed necessary.
7. It is submitted that the answering Respondent is still in the process of evaluating the compliance of the identified units, and therefore craves leave of this Hon'ble Tribunal to place on record any such supplementary information that may be essential for the effective adjudication of the present matter.
8. The above-quoted information has been provided by the answering Respondent *bonafide* on the basis of records, without prejudice to its rights and contentions in law and on facts.

Respondent

(Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board)

Through its Counsel 

(Nishant Awana/ Rebecca Mishra)

For NMA Law Chambers

Advocates for the Respondent No. 11 and 12

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AFFIDAVIT

I, Vijay Sharma, aged about 53 years, working as Senior Environmental Engineer with the Respondent- Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board, having its office at Jhalana Dungri, presently at Jaipur, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under:

1. That I am the Officer in Charge for the above noted matter and have been duly authorized by the answering Respondent in this regard. I am well conversant with the facts and circumstances of the case on the basis of official records, and, hence, competent to affirm this affidavit.
2. That the contents of the accompanying Reply have been drafted by my counsel under my instructions. Facts stated therein are true to my knowledge on the basis of official records and the legal submissions made therein are based on the advice received and believed to be correct. Nothing material has been concealed therefrom.




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VERIFICATION:

I, the abovenamed deponent, do hereby verify that the contents of the above affidavit are true and correct to my knowledge and belief and as per the official records available. I say that no part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

Verified at Jaipur on this 11 day of February, 2026.

ATTESTED

NOTARY PUBLIC JAIPUR
INDIA


DEPONENT

Annexure R-1

Quartz grinding units are regularly inspected by RSPCB to ensure compliance of environmental norms. Suitable actions against Non-complying units are taken by RSPCB according to Rules, year wise data of last 3 years regarding action taken against non-complying quartz grinding units is as under:-

2023				
Number of Quartz grinding units inspected	Number of units found complying	Number of units found Non-complying	Action taken against non-complying units	
			SCN issued	If deficiencies not removed, Direction of Closure issued
356	263	93	98	9

2024				
Number of Quartz grinding units inspected	Number of units found complying	Number of units found Non-complying	Action taken against non-complying units	
			SCN issued	If deficiencies not removed, Direction of Closure issued
178	135	43	44	12

2025				
Number of Quartz grinding units inspected	Number of units found complying	Number of units found Non-complying	Action taken against non-complying units (no.)	
			SCN issued	If deficiencies not removed, Direction of Closure issued
246	168	77	77	0

Total Number of Quartz grinding units in Rajasthan – 960

Number of Quartz grinding units inspected in last 3 years - 677