

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
WESTERN ZONE BENCH, PUNE  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO.123 OF 2024 (WZ)  
(LETTER PETITION NO.47 OF 2024)  
(Complaint dated 10.05.2024)**

**Report of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board in  
compliance of the Order dated 31/05/2024 passed by this  
Hon'ble National Green Tribunal Western Zone Bench, Pune**

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1. Applicant Mr. Nitin Kolte, has made a Complaint dated 10.05.2024 in respect of illegal cutting of trees along NH-65's divider, Near Shewalwadi Bus Depot, District Pune by unknown persons. The complainant is running Kadamb Foundation for conservation of trees and planted many trees along the said divider, which runs from Ravidarshan to Loni-Kalbhor Toll Plaza. It is alleged by the complainant that on 12.04.2024, fifteen trees were forcibly felled in order to make the hoarding more visible.
2. Hon'ble NGT vide order dtd.31/5/2024 directed the MPCB to verify the truthfulness of the contents of the aforesaid complaint and submit action taken at their end.
3. In compliance of the Order dated 31/5/2024, the Officials of MPCB at Pune carried out visit alongwith the complainant at

NH-65 divider, near Shewalwadi Bus Depot, District Pune and observed as follows :-

- i. Mr. Nitin Kolte has received permission from the National Highway Authority vide letter dated 27.12.2017 for stage wise tree plantation between divider from Kodipat Toll plaza to Hadapsar.
  - ii. Complainant had planted about 4 types of trees and shrubs in the divider viz. Terminalia tree, Neem tree, Conocarpus tree and Oleander / Cascabela Thevetia.
  - iii. A joint survey was also carried out with the complainant along the road site and observed that approximately 12 to 15 trees had been cut down. In which about 10 to 12 nos. of Terminalia tree were cut down, and 02 nos. of Neem tree were cut down and some are shrubs. These trees were cut down at 3 to 4 locations in a 5 km stretch.
  - iv. Now presently, at some locations, the said trees are regrowing and observed new foliage and regrowth reaching a height of about 2 to 3 feet. At a few places, complainant have again replanted the saplings. A copy of the Visit Report dated 12/07/2024 is attached as **Annexure I**
4. The complaint made by Shri Nitin Kolte regarding tree cutting is falls under the purview of Tree Authority

Department (Pune Municipal Corporation). Therefore, MPCB vide letter dated 18/07/2024 requested to Tree Authority Department, Pune to take appropriate action. A Copy of the letter dated 18/07/2024 is attached as **Annexure II.**

For & on behalf of the Maharashtra  
Pollution Control Board,

Date:- /07/2024  
Place :- Pune

  
(Kartikeya Langote)  
Sub-Regional Officer, Pune-I

# MAHARASHTRA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD SUB-REGIONAL OFFICE – PUNE-I



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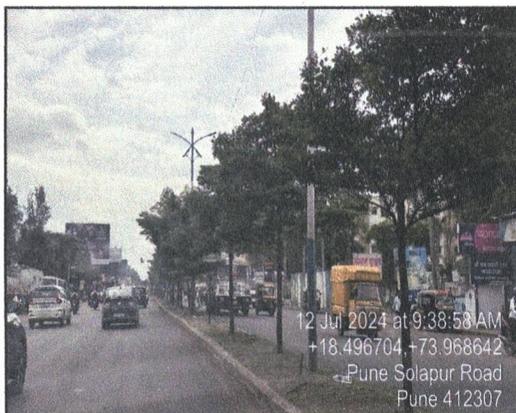
Jog Center Bldg.  
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## Joint Visit Report

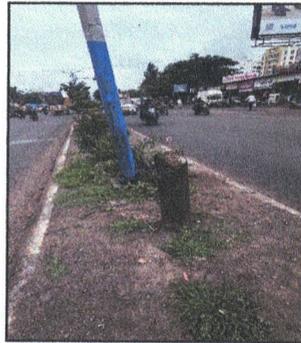
This office has received the order of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal dated 31.05.2024 in OA no.123 OF 2024 (WZ) (Letter Petition No.47 of 2024) (Complaint dated 10.05.2024). In the said report Hon'ble NGT has directed MPCB to submit the report of the truthfulness of the contents of the aforesaid complaint and the action taken at MPCB end, if any,

In compliance with the aforesaid order, as per directives of Sub-regional Officer, Pune-1, Field Officer, Sub-Regional Office, Pune-1 visited NH-65 divider near Shewalwadi Bus Depot, District Pune along with the complainant Mr. Nitin Kolte on 12.07.2024 at 9.30 am. During the visit the following observations were made.

1. The visit was paid along with the complainant Mr. Nitin Kolte. The complainant reported that they have carried out tree plantation in divider of NH 65 from Ravidarshan to Loni Kalbhor toll plaza which is about 5 km stretch. The plantation was carried out as per permission received from the National Highway Authority.
2. Mr. Nitin Kolte has received permission from the National Highway Authority vide letter dated 27.12.2017 for stage wise tree plantation between divider from Kodipat Toll plaza to Hadapsar.
3. Complainant had planted about 4 types of trees and shrubs in the divider viz. Terminalia tree, Neem tree, Conocarpus tree and Oleander / Cascabela Thevetia.



4. A joint survey was carried out with the complainant along the road site. Based on the physical observation during the survey, it was noted that approximately 12 to 15 trees had been cut down. In which about 10 to 12 nos. of Terminalia tree were cut down, and 02 nos. of Neem tree were cut down and some are shrubs. These trees were cut down at 3 to 4 locations in a 5 km stretch.
  
5. Now, presently, at some locations, the said trees are regrowing and observed new foliage and regrowth reaching a height of about 2 to 3 feet. At a few places, complainant have again replanted the saplings.



*Doke*  
 (Soyant M. Doke)  
 Field officer  
 SRO. Pune-1  
 MPCB.

*K. Nitien*  
 12.07.24  
 Nitin Ankuash Kotte

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MPCB/ SROP1/240718-FTS-02681

Date: 18/07/2024

To,  
Member Secretary (Tree Authority Department)  
Shivajinagar-Ghole Road Regional Office, 2nd Floor,  
Tree Authority Office, Shivajinagar, Pune 411005  
Phone No: +91 25501553  
E-Mail id: treeauthority@punecorporation.org

Subject: NGT matter of OA no. 123 of 2024 (WZ), filed by Mr. Nitin Kolte Letter  
Petition No.47 of 2024 (Complaint dated 10.05.2024)

Reference: Hon'ble NGT Order issued dated 31.05.2024.

Sir,

This is to inform you that, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal has passed order on 31.05.2024 in the matter of OA no. 123 of 2024 (WZ), filed by Nitin Kolte (Applicant) Petition No.47 of 2024 (Complaint dated 10.05.2024).

The complainant has raised grievance against unknown person for the illegal cutting of trees along NH65's divider near to Shewalwadi Bus Depot. According to the complainant he is running the Kadamb Foundation for the conservation of trees, and they have planted many trees along NH65's divider. Which runs from Ravidarshan to Loni Kalbhor Toll Plaza. However, a mystery hoarder is illegally cutting the trees. On April 12, 2024, 15 mature trees were forcibly taken down in order to support/make the hoarding board more visible.

Therefore, you are hereby requested to take the appropriate action and communicate the action taken report to the complainant and a copy to this office on priority.

DA- As above.

Yours faithfully,

(Kartikey Langote)  
Sub-Regional Officer,  
M. P. C, Board, Pune-I

Copy submitted for information to:

- 1) The Joint Director (APC), MPC Board, Mumbai.
- 2) The Regional Officer, MPC Board, Pune.
- 3) The Legal Department, MPC Board, Mumbai.