

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

Original Application No. 10/2025

News Item Titled "Districts With Excess Nitrates In Groundwater At Seven Year High"

Appearing In The Hindu Dated 01.01.2025

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Filed by

Through

New Delhi

Dated 07-04-2026


Respondent No. 3
बिनोद कुमार दोडियाल / Vinod Kumar Dhaundiyal
प्रशासक / Administrator
केन्द्रीय भूमि जल प्राधिकरण / Central G
जल संसाधन, नदी विकास एवं
Deptt. of Water Resources, River Development
जल शक्ति मंत्रालय / Ministry of Water Resources
भारत सरकार / Government of India



GIGI.C. GEORGE

Advocate

Standing Counsel (UOI)

NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

Email: gigicgeorge.adv42@yahoo.in

M-9810625315

IN THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
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**REPORT ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT NO. 3 (CENTRAL GROUND WATER
AUTHORITY)**

It is most respectfully showeth:-

1. That the present report is being filed by Respondent No. 3 i.e. Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) through Vinod Kumar Dhaundiyaal working as Administrator having office at 18/11, Jam Nagar House, Man Singh Road, New Delhi who is authorized and competent to file the same on behalf of the answering respondent no. 3.
2. That I am in my aforementioned official capacity, well conversant with the facts and circumstances of the present case on the basis of the documents and records available with the department. As such, I am competent and authorized to sign this report on behalf of Respondent No.3 i.e. Central Ground Water Authority (hereinafter referred to as "answering respondent").
3. That the present Original Application has been registered suo motu by this Hon'ble Tribunal on the basis of a news item disclosing excessive nitrate levels in the groundwater of 440 districts in India, posing serious health hazards, particularly to young children, and contributing to environmental toxicity. The said news item reported that about 56% of India's districts have excessive nitrates.
4. That the answering respondent has already submitted its reply dated 14.10.2025 and additional reply dated 22.12.2025, enclosing the Annual Ground Water Quality Report 2024 prepared by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB). It was further submitted that the CGWB is conducting a Baseline Water Quality Assessment, expected to be

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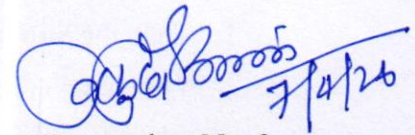
completed by March 2026, and that a consolidated national groundwater quality assessment report will be published by September 2026. The same shall be shared with all stakeholders along with suitable directions for remediation of groundwater quality issues.

5. That the matter was thereafter listed before this Hon'ble Tribunal on 24.12.2025, wherein directions were issued to the answering respondent to place on record the report concerning the Baseline Water Quality Assessment.
6. That, it is respectfully submitted that the analysis of background monitoring groundwater samples has been duly undertaken and completed by the Regional Laboratories of the CGWB. The processes of data compilation, scrutiny, and validation are presently in progress and are expected to be concluded by 10.04.2026. Thereafter, the CGWB shall, on the basis of the validated water quality data, prepare the Pre-Monsoon National Ground Water Quality Bulletin, 2025, in the last week of April 2026, which shall be placed on record before this Hon'ble Tribunal.
7. That in view of the above, it is most humbly prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to grant some time to the answering respondent for placing the said report before this Hon'ble Tribunal .

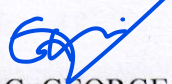
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Respondent No. 3
विनोद कुमार धाण्डियाल / Vinod Kumar Dhaundiyal
प्रशासक / Administrator
केन्द्रीय भूमि जल प्राधिकरण / Central Ground Water Authority
जल संसाधन, नदी विकास एवं गंगा संरक्षण
Deptt of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation
जल शक्ति मंत्रालय / Ministry of Jal Shakti
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