

840

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA  
FOREST & ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

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**No.FOR/CC/2/2024/37**

**Dated: Shillong, the 9<sup>th</sup> May, 2024.**

From : Shri. R. Nainamalai, IFS.,  
Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya,  
Forest & Environment Department.

To : ✓ The Deputy Registrar,  
National Green Tribunal,  
Principal Bench, Faridkot House, Copernicus Marg,  
New Delhi - 110001.

Subject : Notice in Original Application No.728/2023.

Sir/ Madam,

With reference to the subject cited above, I am directed to enclose herewith an affidavit on behalf of the Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya for the purpose of filing before the Hon'ble NGT.

This is for favour of your information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

  
Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya  
Forest & Environment Department

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HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
PRINCIPAL BENCH, DELHI  
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 728/2023

**IN THE MATTER OF:-**

In re: News item appearing in Hindustan dated 30.11.2023 titled "Arsenic found in groundwater in 25 States, fluoride in 27 States: Govt."

**STATUS REPORT ON AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT NO.**

I, Shri. R. Nainamalai, S/o P. Ramasamy, Age 49 years, having office at MATI, Shillong, Meghalaya, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under :-

1. That I am presently posted as the Secretary of the Forest & Environment Department, Government of Meghalaya, and as such in my official capacity I am conversant with the facts and records of the case and hence competent and authorized to swear this affidavit on behalf of the State Government.
2. That the Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to passed order dated 20.12.2023 stating and directing at para 7 and 8 as under:

"7. The issue raised in the present matter with regard to presence of arsenic and fluoride in ground water in such large number of States and Districts is very serious and requires urgent preventive and protective steps by all concerned authorities."

S. L. Instrument No. 19  
Date 07-05-2024

Secretary  
to the Govt. of Meghalaya  
Forest & Environment Department



“8. Let Notices be issued to all the above respondents. Response may be filed by above respondents within one month after receipt of notice, by e-mail at [judicial-ngt@gov.in](mailto:judicial-ngt@gov.in) preferably in the form of searchable PDF/ OCR Support PDF and not in the form of Image PDF.”

3. That the State of Meghalaya is please to submit that the Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board, Shillong is monitoring the Water Quality of 13 (thirteen) Ground Water Sources located all across the state under the project National Water Quality Monitoring Programme sponsored by CPCB Delhi. The monitoring is done in half yearly basis i.e. during the month of April & October.

A copy of the Average data of Flouride & Arsenic Concentration for the year 2023 is enclosed herewith as **ANNEXURE - I**.

4. I say that the facts stated in the above paras are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and information.

Identified by:

Miss. P. S. Barch

  
(Advocate)



DEPONENT  
Secretary  
to the Govt. of Meghalaya  
Forest & Environment Department



  
07/05/2024

Lakshmi Tiwan  
Notary Public  
Govt of India

Solemnly Affirmed before me this day  
7/05/2024 The deponent is identified  
MISS P.S. BARCH

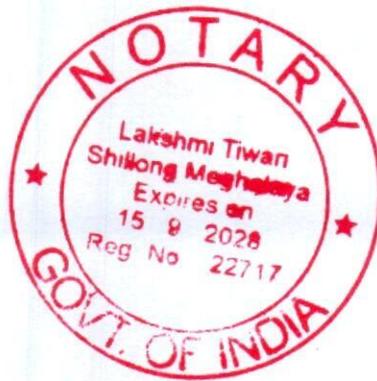
I Certify that the content of the Affidavit  
are read over and Explained to the Deponent  
who verified the same before me.

VERIFICATION

Verified at *Shillong* on this the *24<sup>th</sup>* day of April, 2024 that the contents of the above affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. No part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed there from.



DEPONENT  
Secretary  
to the Govt. of Meghalaya  
Forest & Environment Department

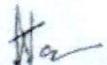


Lakshmi Tiwari  
Notary Public  
Govt of India

The Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board, Shillong is monitoring the Water Quality of 13(thirteen) Ground Water Sources located all across the state under the project National Water Quality Monitoring Programme sponsored by CPCB Delhi. The monitoring is done on half yearly basis i.e. during April & October. The average data of Fluoride & Arsenic Concentration for the year 2023 is provided in the table below:

| District                   | Monitoring Stations under NWMP                 | Fluoride (mg/l) | Arsenic (mg/l) |
|----------------------------|--|-----------------|----------------|
| East Jaintia Hills         | Borewell at Good Shepherd Parish at Lad Rymbai | 0.23            | BDL            |
|                            | Borewell at Khliehwah Shasem – A in Khliehriat | 0.12            | BDL            |
|                            | Borewell at Khliehwah Shasem – B in Khliehriat | 0.05            | BDL            |
| West Jaintia Hills (Jowai) | No Monitoring Stations                         | --              | --             |
| Ri – Bhoi                  | Narbong Well at Byrnihat                       | 0.06            | BDL            |
| West Garo Hills            | No Monitoring Station                          | --              | --             |
| North Garo Hills           | No Monitoring Station                          | --              | --             |

**BDL: Below Detectable Limit**

  
**Sr. Scientist**  
**MSPCB, Shillong**

Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board  
 Sr. Scientist  
 Shillong

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PRINCIPAL BENCH, DELHI  
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Secretary  
to the Govt. of Meghalaya  
Forest & Environment Department

S. L. Instrument No 13  
Date 07-05-2024



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Identified by:

Miss. P. S. Barch



(Advocate)





DEPONENT  
Secretary  
to the Govt. of Meghalaya  
Forest & Environment Department



Lakshmi Tiwan  
Notary Public  
Govt of India

Solemnly Affirmed before me this day  
on 7/05/2024 The deponent is identified  
By MISS P.S. BARCH

I Certify that the content of the Affidavit  
are read over and Explained to the Deponent  
who verified the same before me.

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**DEPONENT**  
to the Govt. of Meghalaya  
Forest & Environment Department

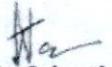


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