

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

I N D E X

IN

RESPONSE AFFIDAVIT

(On behalf of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/HoFF, Uttarakhand,
Dehradun)

(In Compliance to the Hon'ble Tribunal's Order dated 23.10.2024)

IN

O.A. No. 686 OF 2024

Pt. Girdhari Lal

.....Applicant

Versus

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change & Ors.

.....Respondents

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3.	<u>ANNEXURE-1</u> Copy of the report dated 22.11.2024 furnished by the Forest Range Officer, Asarori Range.	4

Dated: /11/2024

Anjali Rajput
Panel Counsel
Government of Uttarakhand

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Affidavit of Neeraj Kumar (Male),
aged about 57 years, S/o Sh. M. N.
Sharma, presently posted as
Divisional Forest Officer,
Dehradun Forest Division,
Dehradun.

(Deponent)

I, the above named deponent, do hereby solemnly affirm and state on
as of:

1. That the deponent is presently posted as Divisional Forest Officer,
Dehradun Forest Division, Dehradun and has been arrayed as a
Respondent No.12 and also authorised on behalf of Respondent No.11
as such he is fully conversant with the facts of the case and competent
to swear the present Affidavit.



2. That the applicant one Mr. Pt. Girdhari Lal has approached to this Hon'ble Tribunal alleging that on Delhi-Saharanpur Dehradun Expressway starting from Akshardham Temple, large number of big trees have been cut indiscriminately, in an illegal manner, causing damage to environment and cleanliness to air.
3. That on 23.10.2024, after the course of hearing in the present matter, this Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to pass certain directions and direct the deponent to file response affidavit The relevant paras of the said Order dated 23.10.2024 are being quoted here for kind perusal of this Hon'ble Tribunal:

"4. In these facts and circumstances, we find it appropriate to implead following as respondents:-

- i. *Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change through its Secretary, Delhi, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi - 110003;*
- ii. *State of UP through Secretary, Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Lucknow, 2, Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow - 226010;*
- iii. *UP Pollution Control Board through its Member Secretary, TC12V, Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow - 226010 Phone: +91-522-2720681 Email: chairman@uppcb.in;*
- iv. *National Highway Authority of India through its Chairman, G5&6, Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi - 110075;*
- v. *Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, UP, Lucknow, 17, Tashkent Marg, Lucknow - 226001; Divisional Forest Officer, Meerut,*
- vi. *Divisional Forest Office, Meerut, Near PWD Rest House, Meerut - 250001;*
- vii. *Divisional Forest Officer, Ghaziabad, Divisional Forest Office, Ghaziabad, Sector-16A, Vasundhara, Ghaziabad - 201012;*



(Signature)
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- viii. *Divisional Forest Officer, Baghpat, Divisional Forest Office, Baghpat, Near District Court, Baghpat – 250609;*
- ix. *Divisional Forest Officer, Saharanpur, Near Saharanpur Railway Station, Saharanpur – 247001;*
- x. *State of Uttarakhand through Principal Secretary, Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Dehradun, 4th Floor, Secretariat Building, Dehradun - 248001 and;*
- xi. *Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, Uttarakhand, Dehradun, 1st Floor, Van Bhawan, Kaulagarh Road, Dehradun – 248195;*
- xii. *Divisional Forest Officer, Dehradun, Divisional Forest Office, Dehradun, Near ISBT, Dehradun–248001 and;*
- xiii. *Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board, 1st Floor, Van Bhawan, Kaulagarh Road, Dehradun - 248195*
5. *Registry is directed to issue notice to respondents who may file their replies within three weeks after receipt of notice”.*

After receiving the notice issued by this Hon'ble Tribunal in the present matter, a factual report has been sought from the Forest Range Officer, Asarori Range, Dehradun Forest Division. As per the report furnished by the Range Officer, in widening of the State Highway 72A, neither any illicit felling of trees has taken place nor any forest case has been registered under the jurisdiction of the deponent in Dehradun Forest Division, Uttarakhand State with regard to the widening of State Highway 72A i.e. Delhi-Saharanpur Dehradun Expressway starting from Akshardham Temple. Copy of the report dated 22.11.2024, furnished by Range Officer is being annexed as **ANNEXURE-1.**

4. That the deponent undertakes to comply the further directions, to be passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal in the present matter.



[Handwritten Signature]

I, the above named deponent, do hereby verify that the contents of Para nos. _____ of this affidavit are true to my personal knowledge, those of Para nos. _____ of this affidavit are based on records, those of Para nos. _____ of this affidavit are as per the legal advice received and those of Para nos. _____ of this affidavit are as per the information received which all I believe to be true. That no part of this affidavit is false and nothing material has been concealed.

So help me God



[Signature]
DEPONENT

I, Avnish Gupta, Legal Assistant, Forest Department, Uttarakhand, Dehradun, do hereby identify the deponent who has produced the records of the case before me and I am satisfied that she is the same person as alleged.

[Signature]
IDENTIFIER

Solemnly affirmed before me today, the 26 day of November, 2024 at 3-20 am/pm by the deponent who has been identified by the aforesaid person.

I have satisfied myself by examining the deponent that he has understood the contents of this affidavit, which have been read over and explained to him.



70843/19 OATH COMMISSIONER/NOTARY

This affidavit is sworn before me by
Shri. [Signature]
who is identified by Shri. [Signature]
at Dehradun on _____

[Signature]
(Rajender Singh Negi)
Advocate & Notary, Dehradun

[Signature]



सेवा में,

।। कार्यालय:-वन क्षेत्राधिकारी, आसारोड़ी रेंज, देहरादून।।
पत्रांक- 329/21, आसारोड़ी, दिनांक-22/11/2024.

प्रभागीय वनाधिकारी,
देहरादून वन प्रभाग,
देहरादून।

द्वारा:-

उप प्रभागीय वनाधिकारी, देहरादून।

विषय:-

गाठ राष्ट्रीय हरित अधिकरण नई दिल्ली में योजित मूल आवेदन संख्या-686/2024
Pt. Girdharl Lal Vs GNCTD के सम्बन्ध में।

संदर्भ:-
महोदय,

आपका पत्रांक-2381/29-3, दिनांक 22.11.2024.

उपरोक्त विषयक संदर्भित पत्र के क्रम में अवगत कराना है कि राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग 72ए
दिल्ली-सहारनपुर-देहरादून एक्सप्रेसवे Starting from Akshardham Temple के चौड़ीकरण कार्य के दौरान
आसारोड़ी रेंज के अंतर्गत कोई भी अवैध पातन नहीं हुआ है और ना ही कोई राजिवाद दर्ज किया गया
है।

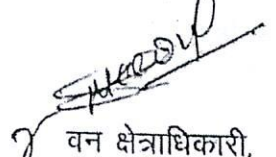
अतः सूचना रिपोर्ट महोदय की सेवा में प्रेषित।



This affidavit is sworn before me by
Shri.....
who is identified by Shri.....
at Dehradun on.....

(Rajender Singh Negi)
Advocate & Notary, Dehradun

भवदीय


वन क्षेत्राधिकारी,
आसारोड़ी रेंज।

