

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

**Execution Application No. 15 of 2026**

**In**

**Original Application No.928 of 2024**

In the matter of:

Saurabh Tiwari

...Applicant

Vs.

Union of India & Ors.

...Respondents

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**Filed by Adv. Amit Singh Chauhan  
On behalf of Central Pollution Control Board**

**Place: Delhi**

**Dated: 06.07.2026**

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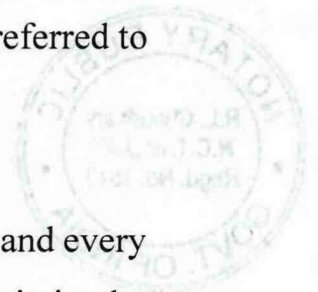
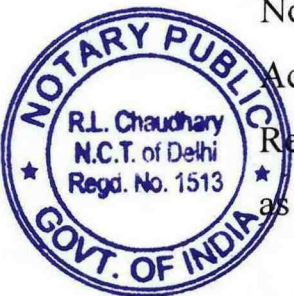
**RESPONSE ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT NO. 4, i.e. CENTRAL  
POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (CPCB)**

**MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:**

1. That the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench (hereinafter referred to as "**Hon'ble Tribunal**") vide Notice dated 27.03.2026, issued pursuant to its order dated 18.03.2026, has sought reply/response of the the Central Pollution Control Board (hereinafter referred to as "**CPCB**") in Execution Application No. 15 of 2026 arising out of Original Application No. 928 of 2024, titled *Saurabh Tiwari Vs. Union of India & Ors.*

Accordingly, the present response is being filed by the answering Respondent to the aforesaid Execution Application (hereinafter referred to as "EA").

2. That at the outset, the Respondent No. 4 respectfully denies each and every allegation, contentions, assertion, and averment made against it in the present Execution Application, save and except those specifically admitted herein. Nothing contained in the Execution Application shall be deemed to



have been admitted merely by reason of the absence of a specific denial, and the answering Respondent reserves its right to contest all such allegations.

3. That the CPCB has been constituted under the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. It performs the functions under The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 (hereinafter referred to as "Water Act, 1974"), The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 (hereinafter referred to as "Air Act, 1981") and The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Further, the State Pollution Control Boards (hereinafter referred to as "SPCBs") and Pollution Control Committees (hereinafter referred to as "PCCs") have been constituted in States/Union Territories under the Water Act, 1974 and the Air Act, 1981 and are empowered to implement the provisions of these Acts within their respective territorial jurisdictions.
4. That the present Execution Application has been preferred alleging non-compliance with the directions contained in the Hon'ble NGT Order dated 07.07.2025 (uploaded on 11.08.2025) passed by the Hon'ble Tribunal while disposing the parent Original Application No. 928 of 2024, whereby the Hon'ble Tribunal, inter alia, directed as follows:



*"20. Thus, in view of the above analysis, we are of the view that not only the Respondent No. 2- University should plant atleast 20 trees against each tree which has been found to be illegally cut but must also pay the environmental compensation for the illegal felling of trees which will be assessed by the UPPCB after giving an opportunity of hearing to the Respondent No. 2 within three months. UPPCB is*

*directed to assess and recover the environmental compensation from Respondent No. 2 by complying with the principles of natural justice....”*

5. That, with regard to the damage caused to trees, it is submitted that the cutting and felling of trees on forest land are governed by the provisions of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, and the Rules framed thereunder, as applicable in the State. In Uttar Pradesh, the felling of trees outside forest areas is governed by the Uttar Pradesh Protection of Trees Act, 1976. The implementation and enforcement of the aforesaid laws are the responsibility of the Forest Department of the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, in accordance with the applicable statutory provisions, rules, and Government Orders.

6. That, upon receipt of the present Execution Application, CPCB vide its letter dated 23.04.2026, requested the Member Secretary, Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board (UPPCB), to furnish the status regarding assessment and recovery of Environmental Compensation, as well as the action taken in compliance with the directions issued by the Hon'ble Tribunal. A copy of the said communication is annexed herewith as **Annexure-I**. The response from UPPCB is awaited.

7. That, upon receipt of the Execution Application, CPCB vide letter dated 23.04.2026 has requested the Vice-Chancellor, Banaras Hindu University (BHU), to furnish information regarding the status of compliance with respect to plantation of trees and payment of Environmental Compensation. A copy of the said communication is annexed as **Annexure-II**.



8. In response, BHU, vide its letter dated 08.05.2026, informed CPCB that 285 trees have been planted in compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble Tribunal. A copy of the said reply is annexed herewith as **Annexure-III.**
9. That, it is humbly submitted that no express/specific directions were rendered by Hon'ble Tribunal to CPCB while disposing of the parent Original Application No. 928 of 2024 vide order dated 07.07.2025.
10. That the Answering Respondent respectfully craves leave of this Hon'ble Tribunal to file an additional affidavit or such further reply/response as may be considered necessary or as may be directed by this Hon'ble Tribunal.
11. That, the answering respondent herein shall abide by all the orders / directions passed by the Hon'ble Tribunal in the instant matter.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sharandeep Singh".

**Sharandeep Singh**  
**Scientist 'E'**  
**Central Pollution Control Board**  
**06.07.2026**

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

Execution Application No. 15 of 2026

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Original Application No.928 of 2024

**In the matter of:**

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...Applicant

Vs.

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...Respondents

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, Sharandeep Singh, aged about 46 years in the capacity of Scientist-E, having office at the Delhi, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state on oath as follows:

1. That I, the deponent herein is well conversant with the facts and circumstances of the present case on the basis of the information derived from the official records, and hence, I am competent to verify, sign and swear this affidavit on behalf of the Respondent CPCB.

2. That the accompanying response may be read part and parcel of the present affidavit.

3. That the accompanying response has been drafted and filed under my instructions and authority the contents thereof are true and correct on the basis of the records maintained during ordinary course of business of CPCB and available records and documents and the contents of the same



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are read over and explained to me and are not repeated herein for the sake of brevity.



**DEPONENT**

शरणदीप सिंह / Shara.ndeep Singh  
 वैज्ञानिक 'ई' / Scientist 'E'  
 केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड  
 Central Pollution Control Board  
 (पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)  
 (Mo Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India)  
 परिवेश भवन, पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली-110032  
 Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032

**VERIFICATION**

I, Sharandeep Singh, working as Scientist 'E' in Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032, the Respondent No. 4 herein does hereby verify that the contents above paragraphs are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

06 JUL 2026

Verified at Delhi on this the ..... Day of, 2026.



**ATTESTED**

**NOTARY PUBLIC  
GOVT. OF INDIA**

  
06 JUL 2026



**DEPONENT**

शरणदीप सिंह / Shara.ndeep Singh  
 वैज्ञानिक 'ई' / Scientist 'E'  
 केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड  
 Central Pollution Control Board  
 (पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)  
 (Mo Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India)  
 परिवेश भवन, पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली-110032  
 Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032



File No: CM-13011/203/2024-LAW-HO-CPCB-HO

April 23, 2026

To,

The Member Secretary  
Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board  
Building No. TC – 12V, Vibhuti Khand,  
Gomti Nagar, Lucknow – 226010

**Subject: Compliance of Hon'ble NGT Order dated 11.08.2025 in Original Application No. 928/2024 (Saurabh Tiwari vs. Union of India & Ors.)**

**Reference: EA No. 15 of 2026 in Original Application No. 928/2024 before Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, New Delhi.**

Sir/Madam,

This is with reference to the subject cited above, wherein the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), vide its order dated 11.08.2025 in Original Application No. 928/2024 titled *Saurabh Tiwari vs. Union of India & Ors.* (copy enclosed), has issued the following directions:

*"Thus, in view of the above analysis, we are of the view that not only the Respondent No. 2- University should plant atleast 20 trees against each tree which has been found to be illegally cut but must also pay the environmental compensation for the illegal felling of trees which will be assessed by the UP PCB after giving an opportunity of hearing to the Respondent No. 2 within three months. UPPCB is directed to assess and recover the environmental compensation from Respondent No. 2 by complying with the principles of natural justice."*

In the aforesaid matter, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has been impleaded as Respondent No. 04 before the Hon'ble Tribunal and is therefore required to file its response within the stipulated time frame.

In view of the above, directions of the Hon'ble NGT, it is requested that the status of assessment and recovery of environmental compensation, as well as action taken in compliance with the Tribunal's directions, may kindly be furnished to this office at the earliest for necessary submission before the Hon'ble Tribunal.

Yours faithfully,

(Sharandeep Singh)

Additional Director & Head –UPC-I

**'परिवेश भवन' पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली - 110032.**

**Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 110 032.**

दूरभाष /Tel : 43102030, 22305792, वेबसाइट /Website: www.cpcb.nic.in



**केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड**  
**CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**  
 पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार.  
 MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE, GOVT. OF INDIA.

File No: CM-13011/203/2024-LAW-HO-CPCB-HO

April 23, 2026

To,  
**The Vice-Chancellor**  
 Banaras Hindu University (BHU)  
 Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh -221005

**Subject: Compliance of Hon'ble NGT (PB) Order dated 11.08.2025 in Original Application No. 928/2024 (Saurabh Tiwari vs. Union of India & Ors.)**

**Reference: EA No. 15 of 2026 in Original Application No. 928/2024 before Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, New Delhi.**

Sir,

This is with reference to the subject cited above, wherein the Hon'ble NGT order dated 11.08.2025 in Original Application No. 928/2024 titled *Saurabh Tiwari vs. Union of India & Ors.* (Copy of Hon'ble NGT order enclosed) has directed as follows:

*"Thus, in view of the above analysis, we are of the view that not only the Respondent No. 2- University should plant atleast 20 trees against each tree which has been found to be illegally cut but must also pay the environmental compensation for the illegal felling of trees which will be assessed by the UP PCB after giving an opportunity of hearing to the Respondent No. 2 within three months. UPPCB is directed to assess and recover the environmental compensation from Respondent No. 2 by complying with the principles of natural justice."*

In the aforesaid matter, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has been impleaded as Respondent No. 04 before the Hon'ble Tribunal and is required to file its response within the stipulated time.

In view of the above, directions of the Hon'ble NGT, it is requested that the status of compliance with respect to plantation of trees and payment of environmental compensation, as directed by Hon'ble NGT, may kindly be furnished to this office at the earliest.

Yours faithfully,

(Sharandeep Singh)

Additional Director & Head -UPC-I

**'परिवेश भवन' पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, दिल्ली - 110032.**

**Parivesh Bhawan, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 110 032.**

दूरभाष/Tel : 43102030, 22305792, वेबसाइट/Website: www.cpcb.nic.in



HU/2026-27/Court Case/103

08 May 2026

The Additional Director &  
Head-UPC-1,  
Central Pollution Control Board  
New Delhi - 110032

**Compliance of Hon'ble NGT(PB) order dated 11.08.2025 in Original Application No. 928/2024 (Saurabh Tiwari Vs. Union of India & Ors.)**

1. Kindly refer to your letter no. CM-13011/203/2024-LAW-HO-CPCB-HO/1001 dated 23.04.2026 on the above cited subject.
2. In compliance with the Order dated 11.08.2025 passed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (Principal Bench), it is submitted that the University has already carried out compensatory plantation of a total of 285 trees within the University campus. The same was duly intimated to the Divisional Forest Officer, Varanasi, vide this office letter No. HU/2025-26/Court Case/425 dated 19 September 2025. The details of the trees planted are as follows:-

|                   |   |            |
|-------------------|---|------------|
| (a) Sagaun (Teak) | - | 95         |
| (b) Katsagwan     | - | 98         |
| (c) Sheesam       | - | 77         |
| (d) Balam Kheera  | - | 05         |
| (e) Karanj        | - | 10         |
| <b>Total</b>      | - | <b>285</b> |

Relevant documents along with photographs of the plantation site are enclosed herewith for kind perusal.

3. Further, as per the order of the Hon'ble NGT, New Delhi, the University has to pay the environmental compensation for the illegal felling of trees which will be assessed by the U.P. P.C.B. after giving an opportunity of hearing to the respondent no. 2 within three months.
4. In view of the above, kindly do the needful for respectful compliance of the directives passed by Hon'ble Tribunal within stipulated time.

Regards,

*Sarfaraz Alam*

Dr. Sarfaraz Alam  
(Professor In-charge)  
Horticulturist Unit, BHU





HU/2025-26/Court Case / 425

19 Sep 2025

The Divisional Forest Officer  
Varanasi  
Uttar Pradesh**Compensatory Plantation as per NGT Order Dated 11.08.2025**

1. Please refer to Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), New Delhi order dated 11.08.2025.
2. As per the Hon'ble NGT guidelines, the Horticulturist Unit, BHU has successfully planted a total of 285 saplings of various tree species, fulfilling the compensatory plantation requirement. The designated site for the plantation was the Central Dump Yard area. The specific details of the plantation activities are as follows:-

| Ser | Species of sapling | No of saplings planted |
|-----|--------------------|------------------------|
| (a) | Teak               | 95                     |
| (b) | Katsagwan          | 98                     |
| (c) | Sheesam            | 77                     |
| (d) | Balam Kheera       | 05                     |
|     | Karanj             | 10                     |
|     | <b>Total</b>       | <b>285</b>             |

3. The above facts are submitted herewith for information and record. The University will continue to monitor the growth of the saplings and ensure their survival as per the sustainability norms and guidelines. The photographs of the plantation site are attached here for your reference.

Regards,

*Safaraz Alam*  
(Professor In-Charge)  
Horticulturist UnitEnclosure. As above.Copy to:-

The Registrar, BHU

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