

949
BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

Execution Application No. 27/2023

In

M.A. No. 54/2023

IN THE MATTER OF -

Urvashi Shobhna Kachari

...Applicant

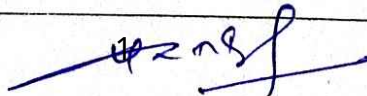
Versus

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change & Ors.

...Respondents

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Environment Protection and Climate Change Section, Government of Uttarakhand, Dehradun	
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Member Secretary,

Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board

THROUGH-


K. P. Gautam
Advocate
Supreme Court of India
Reg. No. D/119/98



KAUSHAL GAUTAM
COUNSEL FOR UKPCB
OFF AT: A-25, 2ND FLOOR,
DEFENCE COLONY, NEW DELHI,
MOB NO: 9811101934

NEW DELHI

DATED: 11.09.2025

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

Execution Application No. 27/2023

In

M.A. No. 54/2023

IN THE MATTER OF -

Urvashi Shobhna Kachari

...Applicant

Versus

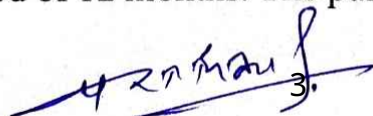
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change & Ors.

...Respondents

**STATUS REPORT ON BEHALF OF THE UTTARAKHAND
POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

1. In compliance of the order dated 28.07.2025, passed by the Hon'ble Green Tribunal in the execution application no 27 of 2023 in M. A No 54 of 2023, it is informed that the Wildlife Institute of India had sent a proposal vide letter dated 31.05.2024 to Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board for carrying out of "Scientific Study for assessment of Carrying Capacity of Kedarnath, Hemkund Sahib, Gangotri & Yamunotri tracks of Uttarakhand" pursuant to which the Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board issued a work order dated 27.07.2024. The work order dated 27.07.2024 issued by the Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board is annexed herewith as **ANNEXURE-R/1**.
2. It is further submitted that the Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board had entered into an agreement with the Wildlife Institute of India on 06th August 2024, initially for a period of 12 months. The purpose of the agreement was to

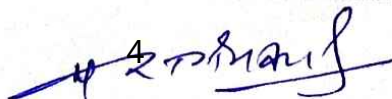


carry out *Scientific Study for assessment of Carrying Capacity of Kedarnath, Hemkund Sahib, Gangotri & Yamunotri tracks of Uttarakhand*, wherein the Wildlife Institute of India was entrusted to carry out assessment of various environmental and socio-economic etc. variables required for assessment of carrying capacity in terms of identified objectives in scientific manner and to undertake sampling, data collection, data interpretation, modelling etc, as per prescribed and accepted methodologies and references, similar terrain/geographical conditions. The Agreement entered into between the Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board and Wildlife Institute of India on 06.08.2024, is annexed herewith as ANNEXURE-R/2.

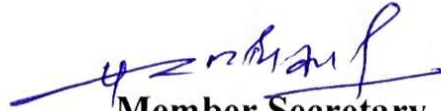
3. It is further submitted that a letter bearing no WII/BSA-CCKHGY-2025/2 dated 02.04.2025, for a request for project extension and assistance in data collection for the project, was sent by the Wildlife Institute of India to the Member Secretary, Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board, whereby the extension was sought by the Wildlife Institute of India on the grounds that –

- a) The difficulty was being faced to collect secondary information from various line agencies due to the delay in obtaining authorisation from respective headquarters before sharing any data, and
- b) Since there are two peak seasons, i.e., one from April to mid-July and the other from October to November, it is necessary to collect complete data for one year.

The letter bearing no WII/BSA-CCKHGY-2025/2 dated 02.04.2025, is annexed herewith as ANNEXURE-R/3.



4. The Member Secretary, Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board, vide letter dated 24.07.2025, had informed the Additional Secretary, Environment Protection and Climate Change Section, Government of Uttarakhand, Dehradun, that the Wildlife Institute of India has requested an extension of the period for 6 months, i.e, till February 2026, for completion of its study. The letter dated 24.07.2025, sent by the Member Secretary, Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board, to the Additional Secretary, Environment Protection and Climate Change Section, Government of Uttarakhand, Dehradun, is annexed herewith as ANNEXURE-R/4.
5. It is submitted that the difficulty, as mentioned by the Wildlife Institute in their aforementioned letter, is being addressed on a priority basis by the different stakeholders.


Member Secretary,

Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board

THROUGH-


K. P. Gautam
Advocate
Supreme Court of India
Reg. No. D/119/98



KAUSHAL GAUTAM
COUNSEL FOR UKPCB
OFF AT: A-25, 2ND FLOOR,
DEFENCE COLONY, NEW DELHI,
MOB NO: 9811101934

Dehradun

Dated: 11.09.2025



Regd. No - 2063/ERK
01-08-24

ANo-162/CR-1/2023-24-410-18
Pt-128-2024



HEAD OFFICE
Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board
"Gaura Devi Paryavaran Bhawan"
46B, IT Park, Sahastradhara Road, Dehradun
E-mail : msukpcb@yahoo.com, Phone No. 0135-2607092

Ref. No: UKPCB/HO/Gen-183-600(11)/2024/614,

Date: 27.07.2024

SPEED POST / E-MAIL

ADM/MC/SAO.

To,

Director,
Wildlife Institute of India
Chandrabani, Dehradun - 248001
Uttarakhand

Jugalsingh
13/08/24
Dm
01/8

Sub: Work order for carrying out of "Scientific Study for Assessment of Carrying Capacity of Kedarnath, Hemkund Sahib, Gangotri & Yamunotri tracks of Uttarakhand" -reg.

Sir,

Please refer to the orders passed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in the matter of E.A. No. 27 of 2023 in M.A. No. 54 of 2023 (O.A. No. 561 of 2022 titled as "Urvashi Shobhna Kachari Versus Union of India & Ors." from time to time. Hon'ble Tribunal *inter alia* directed to carry out Carrying Capacity of Kedarnath, Hemkund Sahib, Gangotri & Yamunotri tracks of Uttarakhand within a period of one year. In this regard proposal were sought from various Government Institutions/Universities for carrying out "Scientific Study for Assessment of Carrying Capacity of Kedarnath, Hemkund Sahib, Gangotri & Yamunotri tracks of Uttarakhand". Proposal was also submitted by the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun vide letter dated 31.05.2024.

I am pleased to inform you that the Competent Authority of the Board has approved your proposal for carrying out "Scientific Study for Assessment of Carrying Capacity of Kedarnath, Hemkund Sahib, Gangotri & Yamunotri tracks of Uttarakhand". In this regard the proposed study as mentioned above is hereby awarded to you as per details mentioned below:

Name of Study	Duration of Study	Sectioned Budget
Scientific Study for Assessment of Carrying Capacity of Kedarnath, Hemkund Sahib, Gangotri & Yamunotri tracks of Uttarakhand.	12 Months	Rs. 97,47,400.00 (Rs. Ninety Seven Lakh Forty seven Thousand Four Hundred only)

Terms and Conditions for the Study:

1. The Wildlife Institute of India (WII) shall undergo with an agreement regarding scope of study as well as the timeline for carrying out the study. Copy of agreement is enclosed with this Work Order.
2. Time start date for the study will be considered as the date of issuing of this letter.
3. WII will start the proposed study activities at the earliest.

4. Payment shall be made in 4 parts as follows:
- 40% after signing agreement for carrying out said study.
 - 30% after submission of Progress Report-I (within 6 months).
 - 20% after submission of Progress Report-II (within 9 months).
 - 10% After submission of Final report (within 12 months).

WII shall provide the bank details for release of payment to this office.

5. WII shall carry out the proposed study with close co-ordination with concerned District Magistrate and Nodal Officer nominated by the District Magistrate for said study purpose.
6. WII shall not assign or outsource any component or part of this study to any other Agency.
7. WII shall submit monthly progress report to the UKPCB by 10th day of next month.
8. For all matters pertaining to the proposed study, the decision of Member Secretary, UKPCB shall be final and binding to both the parties.
9. For any legal dispute, Dehradun shall be the jurisdiction.

You are therefore requested to sign the enclosed agreement in 02 original sets and submit to the Board.

Enclosure: As above.

Yours Faithfully,

(Dr. Parag Madhukar Dhakate)
Member Secretary

Copy to:

- Chairman, UKPCB, Dehradun for kind information please.
- District Magistrate, Rudraprayag / Uttarkashi / Chamoli for kind information Please. In order to Finance Controller, Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board for the kind information. In order to timely completion of study, you are requested to nominate Nodal Officer for co-ordination with WII, please.
- Finance Controller, UKPCB, Dehradun for kind information please.
- Regional Officer (I/c), UKPCB, Regional Office, UKPCB, Dehradun for information and necessary assistance to WII, please.

Member Secretary

Agreement for "Scientific Study for Assessment of Carrying Capacity of Kedarnath, Hemkund Sahib, Gangotri & Yamunotri tracks of Uttarakhand"

This agreement for carrying out "Scientific Study for Assessment of Carrying Capacity of Kedarnath, Hemkund Sahib, Gangotri & Yamunotri tracks of Uttarakhand" is made and executed at Dehradun on 6th Day of August 2024 between, the **Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board, Dehradun** through its **Member Secretary** of the first part, hereinafter called the **FIRST PARTY**.

AND

The **Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun** through **The Director, Wildlife Institute of India** of the second part, hereinafter called the **SECOND PARTY** with the following terms and conditions:

Name of Study	Duration of Study	Sectioned Budget
Scientific Study for Assessment of Carrying Capacity of Kedarnath, Hemkund Sahib, Gangotri & Yamunotri tracks of Uttarakhand.	12 Months	Rs. 97,47,400.00 (Rs. Ninety Seven Lakh Forty seven Thousand Four Hundred only)

1. Payment terms:

Payment shall be made in 4 parts as follows:

- i) 40% after signing agreement for carrying out said study.
- ii) 30% after submission of Progress Report-I (within 6 months).
- iii) 20% after submission of Progress Report-II (within 9 months).
- iv) 10% After submission of Final report (within 12 months).

WII shall provide the bank details for release of payment to this office.

2. Objective of the study:

1. Assessment of available infrastructures for tourists/pilgrims in the concerned areas.
2. Limiting number & types of vehicles with respect to available/proposed infrastructures.

3. Restricting number of tourists/Pilgrims especially during the peak season.
4. Numbers of equines that can be permitted and their monitoring mechanism.
5. Mechanism of operation of equines and disposal of dung and dead mules.
6. Management of solid & liquid wastes.
7. Measures for protection of flora & Fauna of the concerned areas.
8. Identification of prohibited/regulated activities which are incompatible with environment for concerned areas.
9. Safety precautions & Preventive measures.
10. Compliances of environmental acts/rules.
11. Environmental awareness.
12. Monitoring Mechanism.

General Conditions

1. The study areas shall be the Kedarnath, Hemkund Sahib, Gangotri & Yamunotri tracks of Uttarakhand and its connecting areas.
2. The study is to be carried out for scientific assessment of Carrying Capacity of Kedarnath, Hemkund Sahib, Gangotri & Yamunotri tracks of Uttarakhand ".
3. The Second Party will carry out assessment of various environmental and socio-economic etc. variables required for assessment of carrying capacity in terms of identified objectives in scientific manner.
4. The Second Party shall undertake sampling, data collection, data interpretation, modelling etc. as per prescribed and accepted methodologies and references, similar terrain/geographical conditions.

Deliverables of the assignment

5. The study period shall be for a period of 12 months from the date of receiving the money in WII's account and apart from bi-monthly report, progress report shall be submitted as per following schedule:
 - i) 1st Progress Report: Within 6 Months.
 - ii) 2nd Progress Report: Within 9 Months.
 - iii) Final Report: Within 12 Months.

6. The First Party shall have absolute and sole right on the data generated/collected in the process of the entire study. The Second Party shall be responsible for security and safe custody of data and documents related thereto. In no way the information/data/documents shall be used/copied duplicated/published/ supplied whole or in part during and after completion of the study without prior written permission from the First Party.
7. In case of submission of false/incorrect data, delay or non-completion of work in prescribed time or any other case of non-compliance or discrepancy, the First Party reserves the right to charge additional appropriate penalty or take any action which First Party deems fit and suitable including permanent debarment from carrying out such works in future or blacklisting the institution. In such a case, the institution shall make no financial claim and shall remain a bound to deliver satisfactory work in stipulated time duration.

Confidentiality

8. The data will be the ownership of First Party, hence, any information pertaining to this study shall be deemed to be confidential and the Second Party shall be fully responsible, for the same being kept confidential and help in trust, as also for all consequences of its concerned personnel failing to observe the same.

Force Majeure

9. WHEREAS, in case of delay in timely execution of the assignment caused by factors beyond the control of the institution, such as war, riot, earthquake, flood, fire or other natural disasters, restrictions imposed by the Government or other statutory bodies, the Second Party shall advise the First Party in writing at the beginning and the end of the above causes of delay, within seven days of occurrence and cessation of the force majeure conditions.

Termination of Assignment/Penalty

10. In the event the institution fails to carry out the assignment in terms of this document or the work order within the stipulated period or any extension thereof, as may be allowed by the First Party without any valid reasons acceptable to the First Party, The First Party may terminate the assignment after giving seven days' notice. The First Party, may give the Second Party a chance to put forth the reasons for delay/non-performance before deciding on the matter.

11. In case of deviation from the time line for final submission of the report a penalty of 2% per month of the total cost of award will be levied and to be deducted by First Party from the final payment releasing to the Second Party.

Signed on Dated 06.08.2024 and Place at DEHRADUN.

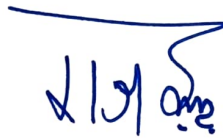


Dr. Parag Madhukar Dhakate
Member Secretary
Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board
Dehradun
On Behalf of First Party



(Shri Virendra R Tiwari)
Director
Wildlife Institute of India
Dehradun
On Behalf of Second Party

Witness



Dr. Rajendra S. Kathait
Scientific Officer
Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board

Witness Dr.



Dr. B. S. Adhikazi Scientist
Wildlife Institute of India, P.O. Box-18
Chandrabani, Dehra Dun-248 001
Uttaranchal



(An Autonomous Institute under Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India)
चंद्रबनी, देहरादून/Chandrabani, Dehradun - 248001, उत्तराखण्ड, भारत/Uttarakhand, INDIA

Letter no. WII/BSA-CCKHGY-2025/2

2 April, 2025

To,
The Member Secretary
Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board
Dehradun

Subject: Request for assistance in data collection for the project and project extension reg.

Sir,

I am writing to request your assistance in collecting data for our ongoing "Assessment of Available Infrastructure for Pilgrims/Tourists in Concerned Areas", focused on pilgrims, tourists, mules and garbage etc. Recently, we conducted reconnaissance survey in the field areas and visits to various line agency departments in districts of Uttarkashi, Rudraprayag and Chamoli for data collection. As part of our fieldwork, we interacted with hotel owners and locals in these sites. We are finding it difficult to collect secondary information from various line agencies and our team encountered several challenges, including an inadequate data management system that hindered our ability to access and retrieve the necessary information. Additionally, many departments required us to obtain authorization from their respective headquarters before sharing any data, resulting in further delays. Your organization would be invaluable in facilitating the process of getting secondary data from the various line agencies.

As the pilgrims, tourists and mule owners visits these sites largely in two seasons, the first peak season from April to mid-July and the second peak season is October-November, for which data on above mentioned parameters has to be collected. Considering this fact, we request you to kindly extend the duration of the project for another 6 months, i.e. up to February 2026, so that we may be able to capture one year data completely. The time limit of the project was also mentioned in the proposed project proposal, i.e. 18 months during the time of submission.

Your assistance would greatly enhance the quality and reliability of our data, ultimately contributing to the success of our project.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

[Dr. B.S. Adhikari]
Scientist G & Head

Ecocodevelopment Planning and Participatory Management Department

EP-Admin

Archived, 3-4-25



LIFE
Lifestyle For
Environment

961
ANNEXURE-R/4

मुख्यालय

उत्तराखण्ड प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड

"गौरा देवी पर्यावरण भवन"

46बी, आई.टी. पार्क, सहस्त्रधारा रोड़, देहरादून

E-mail : msukpcb@yahoo.com, दूरभाष: 0135-2607092

पत्रांक-यूकेपीसीबी/एच.ओ./सा0-183-600-Vol-III-2025-767

दिनांक 24.07.2025

सेवा में,

अपर सचिव,

पर्यावरण संरक्षण एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन अनुभाग,

उत्तराखण्ड शासन, देहरादून।

विषय:-मा0 राष्ट्रीय हरित अधिकरण में योजित निष्पादन आवेदन सं0 27/2023 (मूल आवेदन सं0 561/2022), उर्वशी शोभना कछारी बनाम भारत संघ एवं अन्य के सम्बन्ध में।

महोदय,

कृपया उपरोक्त विषयक मा0 राष्ट्रीय हरित अधिकरण में योजित निष्पादन आवेदन सं0 27/2023 में दिनांक 23.07.2025 को पारित आदेश में निर्देशित किया गया है कि-

"Learned Senior counsel appearing for the State of Uttarakhand submits that the work order assessing the carrying capacity has been assigned to the Wild Life Institute of India in August, 2024 which is to be completed in 18 months. He submits that agreement reflected in the work order which is executed with the Wild Life Institute of India will be placed on record during the course of day."

तत्क्रम में अवगत कराना है कि राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड द्वारा भारतीय वन्य जीव संस्थान को श्री केदारनाथ धाम, हेमकुण्ड साहिब, गंगोत्री एवं यमनोत्री की carrying capacity assessment हेतु दिनांक 27.07.2024 को 12 माह में अध्ययन पूर्ण करने हेतु कार्य आदेश दिया गया है, जिसका अनुबन्ध दिनांक 06.08.2024 को किया गया है।

उपरोक्त अध्ययन के क्रम में भारतीय वन्य जीव संस्थान द्वारा अपने पत्र दिनांक 02.04.2025 के द्वारा अध्ययन को पूर्ण किये जाने हेतु परियोजना अवधि को माह फरवरी, 2026 तक बढ़ाये जाने का अनुरोध किया गया है। सूचनार्थ प्रेषित।

संलग्नक:-दिनांक 27.07.2024, 06.08.2024 एवं 02.04.2025 के अभिलेखों की प्रति।

भवदीय

(डा0 पराग मधुकर धकाते)

सदस्य सचिव

प्रतिलिपि:- श्री कौशलपति गौतम, अधिवक्ता, मा0 राष्ट्रीय हरित अधिकरण को सूचनार्थ प्रेषित।

सदस्य सचिव