

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

PRINCIPAL BENCH, DELHI

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 129/2024

"News Item titled "Forest Land five times Delhi's geographical area under encroachment govt data shows" appearing in Deccan Herald dated 05.01.2024

STATUS REPORT IN THE FORM OF AFFIDAVIT BY THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY, ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL IN COMPLIANCE OF THE ORDER OF THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, PRINCIPAL BENCH DATED 09.02.2024

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Filed by:

MBJ
Madhumita Bhattacharjee

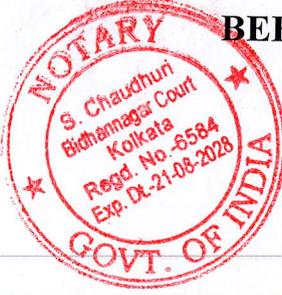
J-1921, C. R. Park, Delhi-110019

Email-office.advocate.madhumita@gmail.com

Mob No-9811785211

Place:- New Delhi

Date :- 05.06.2025

SL. NO. 142 20 25²

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

PRINCIPAL BENCH, DELHI

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 129/2024

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BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC
AT BIDHANNAGAR
DIST.-NORTH 24 PARGANAS

Most Respectfully Sheweth

I, Smt. Roshni Sen, D/o- Late Saibal Kanti Sen , aged about 59 years, by occupation service, having office at Prani Sampad Bhawan, 5th Floor, LB-2, Sector III, Salt Lake, Kolkata- 700106, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:-

1. That, I am holding the post of Additional Chief Secretary, Environment Department, Government of West Bengal and I have made myself acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the instant Original Application. I have gone through the documents and reports pertaining to the subject matter of the instant

04 JUN 2025



Original Application No. 129/2024, Principal Bench. Hence I am competent to file the present affidavit before this Hon'ble Tribunal.

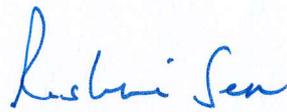
2. That, this affidavit is being affirmed in pursuant to the solemn Order passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal, Principal Bench dated 09.02.2024, wherein the Deponent has been directed to file response to place on record the actions taken by the State.

3. That the Forest Department, Government of West Bengal has reported that the total forest area covering all the districts of West Bengal is **11879 sq km**. The total encroachment of forest land up to March, 2024 is **90.001685 sq km**. Action has been taken for removal and eviction is **2.88608 sq km**. The actual encroachment after eviction is **87.115605 sq km**. The percentage of loss of land is **0.733%**.

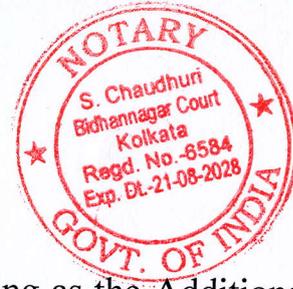
The copy of the report of the Forest Department, Government of West Bengal is marked and annexed as Annexure **R/1**.

That the reply is true to my knowledge and belief, which I had derived from the office records.


S. CHAUDHURI
★ NOTARY ★
GOVT. OF INDIA
Regd. No.-6584/08
Bidhannagar Court
Dist.-North 24 Pgs.


DEPONENT

04 JUN 2025

VERIFICATION

I, Smt. Roshni Sen, D/o Late Saibal Kanti Sen acting as the Additional Chief Secretary, Environment Department, Government of West Bengal, do hereby verify that the contents of the report in the form of affidavit are true to my best of knowledge and belief. No part of the report is false and nothing has been concealed.

Verified at Kolkata on this ~~04~~ day of June, 2025.



Roshni Sen

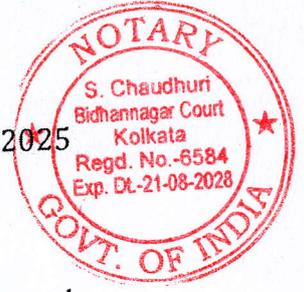
DEPONENT


S. CHAUDHURI
★ NOTARY ★
GOVT. OF INDIA
Regd. No.-6584/08
Bidhannagar Court
Dist.-North 24 Pgs.

04 JUN 2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS
ARANYA BHAWAN, BLOCK-LA-10A, SECTOR-III
SALT LAKE CITY, KOLKATA-700106

Annexure R/1
4 599



No. I/632952/2025

Kolkata, the 25th April, 2025

From: The Principal Secretary to the Government of West Bengal

To: The Additional Chief Secretary, Environment Department, Govt. of West Bengal
5th Floor, Pranisampad Bhavan, Block-LB-II, Salt Lake, Sector-III, Kolkata -106

Sub: Hon'ble NGT Order dt 09.03.2024 in O.A. No. 129/2024 in the matter of Suo Moto matter in re: News Item appearing in Decan Herald at 05.01.2024 entitled 'Forest Land five times Delhi's geographical area under encroachment, govt data shows' before NGT(PB), New Delhi
Re- E-mail dated April 04, 2025 by Smt. Madhumita Bhattacharjee, Ld. AOR, Supreme Court of India.

Madam,

With reference to the above kindly find a copy of the report prepared on behalf of the Department of Forests . The said report may be kindly shared with the Ld State Advocate Ms Madhumita Bhattacharjee, Ld AOR, Supreme Court of India, Her e-mail Id is "bhattacharjee.madhumita@gmail.com" .

- Enclo: 1. Report
2. e-mail sent by Smt. Bhattacharjee

Yours faithfully,

sd/-

Principal Secretary to the Government of West Bengal

No. I/632952/2025

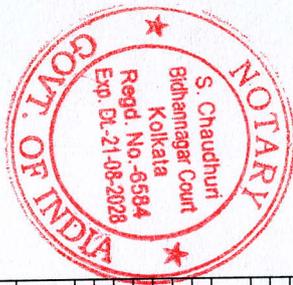
Kolkata, the 25th April, 2025

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. The CEO , Environment Department, Govt. of West Bengal
2. The CCF, PGLI, Directorate of Forests, West Bengal



Senior Deputy Secretary to the Government of West Bengal



| Sl No. | Name of The Division | Name of the District | encroachment in which type of forest land | | | | | | Total encroachment upto March 2024 in sq km | Action taken for removal and evicted in sq km | Actual encroachment after eviction in sq km | % loss |
|--------|-------------------------------|--|---|------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---|---|---|--------|
| | | | Forest area in district in sq km | Protected Forest | Reserve Forest | Deemed Forest | Sanctuaries and protected areas | Any other type of forest | | | | |
| 1 | Darjeeling WL Division | Darjeeling | 1204 | | V | | | 0.6395 | 0 | 0.6395 | 0.053 | |
| 2 | Gorumara WL Division | Kalimpong and Jalpaiguri | 1927 | | | | V | 0.5086 | 0 | 0.5086 | 0.026 | |
| 3 | Jaldapara WL Division | Alipurduar | 1067 | | V | | V | 0.18 | 0.015 | 0.165 | 0.015 | |
| 4 | Darjeeling Forest Division | Darjeeling | 1204 | | V | | | 0.3088 | 0 | 0.3088 | 0.026 | |
| 5 | Kurseong Division | Darjeeling | 1204 | | V | | | 4.311759 | 0.1275 | 4.184259 | 0.348 | |
| 6 | Kalimpong Division | Kalimpong, erstwhile Darjeeling | 1204 | | V | | | 4.1641 | 0 | 4.1641 | 0.346 | |
| 7 | Bakunthapur Division | Darjeeling & Jalpaiguri | 1927 | | V | | | 4.8453 | 0.58957 | 4.25573 | 0.221 | |
| 8 | Jalpaiguri Division | Alipurduar, Jalpaiguri & Cooch Behar | 1847 | | V | | | 1.60926 | 0.26 | 1.34926 | 0.073 | |
| 9 | BTR (East) Division | Alipurduar & Cooch Behar | 1124 | | V | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.000 | |
| 10 | BTR (West) Division | Alipurduar | 1067 | | V | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.000 | |
| 11 | Coochbehar Division | Coochbehar | 57 | | V | | | 6.4923 | 0 | 6.4923 | 11.390 | |
| 12 | Raijani Division | Uttar Dinajpur & Dakshin Dinajpur | 18 | | V | | | 0.04 | 0 | 0.04 | 0.222 | |
| 13 | Malda Division | Malda | 20 | | V | | | 2.6 | 0 | 2.6 | 13.000 | |
| 14 | Bankura (North) Division | Bankura | 1482 | | V | | | 4.1352 | 0.407 | 3.7282 | 0.252 | |
| 15 | Bankura (South) Division | Bankura | 1482 | | V | | | 9.478556 | 0.0753 | 9.403256 | 0.634 | |
| 16 | Panchet(North) Division | Bankura | 1482 | | V | | | 6.807 | 0.095 | 6.712 | 0.453 | |
| 17 | Kangsabati(North) Division | Purulia | 876 | | V | | | 4.4387 | 0.1 | 4.3387 | 0.495 | |
| 18 | Kangsabati South Division | Purulia | 876 | | V | | | 1.0918 | 0.295 | 0.7968 | 0.091 | |
| 19 | Purulia Division | Purulia | 876 | | V | | | 6.81666 | 0.12144 | 6.69522 | 0.764 | |
| 20 | Burdwan Division | Purba Burdwan & Paschim Burdwan, erstwhile Burdwan | 277 | | V | | | 2.3935 | 0 | 2.3935 | 0.864 | |
| 21 | Durgapur Division | Paschim Burdwan erstwhile Burdwan | 277 | | V | | | 5.4907 | 0.35 | 5.1407 | 1.856 | |
| 22 | Medinipur Division | Paschim Medinipur & Jhargram | 1709 | | V | | | 3.3658 | 0 | 3.3658 | 0.197 | |
| 23 | Jhargram Division | Purba Medinipur & Jhargram | 1709 | | V | | | 6.5856 | 0.34797 | 6.23763 | 0.365 | |
| 24 | Rupnarayan Division | Paschim Medinipur | 1709 | | V | | | 9.1825 | 0 | 9.1825 | 0.537 | |
| 25 | Kharagpur Division | Purba Medinipur, Paschim Medinipur & Jhargram | 1709 | | V | | | 4.0133 | 0.1023 | 3.911 | 0.229 | |
| 26 | Purba Medinipur Division | Purba Medinipur | 1709 | | V | | | 0.021 | 0 | 0.021 | 0.001 | |
| 27 | Birbhum Division | Birbhum | 159 | | V | | | 0.2031 | 0 | 0.2031 | 0.128 | |
| 28 | Nadia - Wurrshidabad | Nadia & Wurrshidabad | 20 | | V | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.000 | |
| 29 | 24-Paraganas (South) Division | 24-Paraganas (South) | 4221 | | V | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.000 | |
| 30 | 24-Paraganas (North) Division | 24-Paraganas (North) | 43 | | V | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.000 | |
| 31 | Howrah Division | Howrah & Hooghly | 3 | | V | | | 0.27853 | 0 | 0.27853 | 9.284 | |
| TOTAL | | | 11879 | | | | | 90.001685 | 2.88608 | 87.115605 | 0.733% | |