

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA
(THROUGH PHYSICAL HEARING WITH HYBRID MODE)**

Original Application No.33/2024/EZ

Subhas Datta

Applicant(s)

Versus

State of West Bengal & Ors.

Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 20.02.2024

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE B. AMIT STHALEKAR, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. SATYAGOPAL KORLAPATI, EXPERT MEMBER**

For Applicant(s) : Mr. Subhas Datta, in person

ORDER

1. Heard Mr. Subhas Datta, the Applicant, present in person.
2. The allegation of the Applicant in the present Original Application is that at the Shibpur Side of Howrah at Topiwala Ghat laundry waste of clothes and linen of the Railways is being discharged into the river Hooghly and fume is coming out from the outlet point of such laundry.
3. It is further alleged that the reputed and historic ghats of the city, namely, Rani Rashmoni Ghat, Mullick Ghat, Bagbazar Ghat, Shovabazar Ghat, Kashimitra Ghat and Nimtala Ghat are littered with garbage.
4. The next allegation is with regard to discharge of waste collected from goldsmith shops and discharge of contaminated water containing acid into the river of several small scale industries at Shibpur Bichali Ghat into Ganga on Howrah side.
5. It is also alleged that huge concrete pillars have been erected in the river Ganga at the second Hooghly Bridge towards the Shibpur side which is obstructing the smooth flow of the river.
6. Matter requires consideration.

7. Issue notice to the Respondents, returnable within four weeks.
8. Mr. Ashok Prasad, learned Counsel who is present (in Virtual Mode), accepts notice on behalf of the Respondent No.2, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG).
9. Mr. Surendra Kumar, learned Counsel who is present in Court, accepts notice on behalf of the Respondent No.3, Central Pollution Control Board.
10. Mr. Dipanjan Ghosh, learned Counsel who is present (in Virtual Mode), accepts notice on behalf of the Respondent No.6, West Bengal Pollution Control Board.
11. Ms. Amrita Pandey, learned Counsel who is present (in Virtual Mode), accepts notice on behalf of the Respondent No.8, Howrah Municipal Corporation.
12. We find that the District Magistrate, Howrah, has not been impleaded in the present Original Application. The Applicant is directed to implead the District Magistrate, Howrah, in the array of Respondents as Respondent No.9.
13. Issue notice to the Respondent Nos.1, 4, 5, 7 & 9, returnable within four weeks.
14. Considering the allegations made, we deem it appropriate to constitute a Committee comprising of the following Members:
 - (i) Sr. Scientist, West Bengal Pollution Control Board;
 - (ii) Sr. Scientist, Central Pollution Control Board;
 - (iii) Sr. Scientist, National Mission for Clean Ganga Authority;
 - (iv) Officer of Senior Rank, Department of Urban Development & Municipal Affairs, Government of West Bengal;
 - (v) Officer of Senior Rank, Howrah Municipal Corporation; and
 - (vi) Officer of Senior Rank, Kolkata Municipal Corporation,

15. The Committee shall visit the site in question and after inspection, with regard to the allegations made in the Original Application, submit its report within two months.
16. The Committee Report on affidavit shall be filed by the West Bengal Pollution Control Board.
17. The District Magistrate, Howrah, shall be Nodal Agency for all logistic purposes.
18. The Applicant shall serve e-copy/soft copy of the Original Application along with all its annexures upon Mr. Ashok Prasad, Mr. Surendra Kumar, Mr. Dipanjan Ghosh and Ms. Amrita Pandey, Counsel for the Respondents within 48 hours.
19. **List on 22.04.2024.**

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B. Amit Sthalekar, JM

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Dr. Satyagopal Korlapati, EM

February 20, 2024,
Original Application No.33/2024/EZ
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