

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
(Through Video Conferencing)

Original Application No. 43/2018 (EZ)

Ashis Thakur & Ors.

Applicant(s)

Versus

Union of India & Ors.

Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 20.11.2018

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S.P. WANGDI, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE K. RAMAKRISHNAN, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. NAGIN NANDA, EXPERT MEMBER

For Applicant(s): Mr. Anindya Ghosh, Advocate
For Respondent (s): None

ORDER

1. The allegation in this application is that the Steel Authority of India respondent no. 6, has been carrying on coal mining activities i.e. Ramnagar Colliery, in the process of which they have been cutting earth and blasting dynamites within hundred metres of residential areas. It is alleged that such activities have resulted in causing continuous vibration and noise pollution. The authorities have also failed to take steps in controlling emission of smoke, fumes and harmful gases by the collieries and also that the dust from the debris and from the trucks and dumpers carrying coal have resulted in causing severe pollution as well as health hazards for the inhabitants. Apart from this, there are several other allegations which are said to be the cause of inconvenience for the people of the area.
2. Without going further into the other details, we are satisfied that the case involves substantial questions relating to environment.
3. Upon hearing the learned counsel for the applicant and upon perusal the application, we are of the considered opinion that it would be sufficient for the moment to direct the Director General of Mines Safety, Eastern Zone, the District Magistrate, Paschim Bardhaman,

the West Bengal Pollution Control Board (WBPCB) and the Central Pollution Control Board to form a joint team and to inspect the area in question within a period of two weeks from the date of this order. The nodal agency shall be the WBPCB.

4. Upon inspection, if it is found that the statements contained in the applications are factually correct, appropriate action may be taken for mitigation.
5. An action taken report shall be filed by the Committee within a period of one month from hence.
6. Report be filed to this Tribunal by e-mail at ngt.filing@gmail.com. Let the report be placed before us on 14.01.2019 for consideration.
7. Copy of this order be transmitted forthwith to all the aforesaid authorities and the other respondents.
8. The applicant shall be at liberty to place the copies of this application before the said authorities for their consideration.
9. List the case on 14.01.2019.

S.P. Wangdi, JM

K. Ramakrishnan, JM

Dr. Nagin Nanda, EM

November 20, 2018

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