

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

Original Application No. 249/2023

In re : News item published in Newspaper The Hindu dated 19.03.2023
titled "India's Sinking Island"

Date of hearing: 13.10.2023

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRAKASH SHRIVASTAVA, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDHIR AGARWAL, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. A. SENTHIL VEL, EXPERT MEMBER**

Respondent: Dr. Swati Jindal Garg, Adv. for MoEF & CC (Through VC)

ORDER

1. The original application involves the issue of dangers of sea level rise and submergence of low lying islands.
2. In pursuance to the previous directions of the Tribunal, joint committee has filed report dated 10.10.2023. The report reflects that there is rise in the water level of the sea and the areas of the islands are coming in submergence because of the said rise. In the report suggested policies and measures to protect the islands.
3. We take note of the fact that in the notification dated 18.01.2019 issued by MoEF&CC, it has been provided that Integrated Island Management Plans (IIMPs) will be formulated by the respective States/Union Territories for the concerned islands and that the earlier notification dated 06.01.2011 was issued for preparation of the Integrated Island Management Plan for Andaman Nicobar and Lakshadweep. The suggestions incorporated in the report dated 10.10.2023 need to be looked into for preparation/amendment of the Integrated Island Management Plan.

4. In view of the larger issue involved in the original application and also considering seriousness of the matter, we deem it proper to issue notice to Coastal Management Authority of all the Coastal States as also the Union Territories.
5. A memo of parties be prepared by the Registry including the coastal management authorities of all the Coastal States, Union Territories, the Secretary, MoEF & CC, Secretary of Ministry of Earth Science and Secretary, Island Development Authority.
6. Let notice be issued to all the aforesaid authorities by the Registry of the Tribunal.
7. The Learned Counsel appearing for MoEF &CC also seeks time to obtain instructions in the matter.
8. List the matter on 08.01.2024.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Sudhir Agarwal, JM

Dr. A. SenthilVel, EM

October 13, 2023
Original Application No. 249/2023
SN