

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

Original Application No. 311/2025

T. S. Singh

Applicant

Versus

Union of India & Ors.

Respondents

Date of hearing: 05.01.2026

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR TYAGI JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. A. SENTHIL VEL, EXPERT MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. AFROZ AHMAD, EXPERT MEMBER**

Applicant: Mr. T.S. Singh, Applicant in person.

Respondents: Mr. Gigi. C. George, Adv. for R-1.
None for Respondent No. 2.
Mr. Bhawar Pal Jadon, Ms. Gargi Chaturvedi and Ms. Anjali Sharma,
Advocates for R – 3 to 5.

ORDER

1. The Applicant has filed affidavit of service. The tracking report shows that the notice was duly delivered to Respondent No. 2 on 21.10.2025.

2. None has appeared for Respondent No. 2 - Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) despite due service.

3. The proceedings before this Tribunal cannot be treated as part of adversarial litigation where the concerned defendants may opt out to remain absent and suffer ex-parte proceedings. On the other hand, the Union of India, concerned State and their instrumentalities are under constitutional and statutory obligations to ensure compliance with environmental norms and, therefore, the Union of India, concerned State and their instrumentalities have to ensure their representation through duly authorised representatives/Counsel before this Tribunal.

4. Non-appearance of Respondent No. 2 – MOUD today has the effect of causing unnecessary adjournment and delaying appropriate resolution of the environmental issues involved in the case. Such deliberate non-appearance can be remediated only by an order imposing exemplary costs for unnecessary adjournment thereby caused.

5. Accordingly, respondent no. 2-MOUD is given one more opportunity to file its reply/response and to ensure its representation before this Tribunal subject to payment of costs of Rs. 1 lakh by Respondent No. 2 - MOUD.

6. The costs shall be deposited with the National Green Tribunal Bar Association, Principal Bench, New Delhi. The amount of costs so deposited shall be utilized for providing legal aid to the applicants not represented by any lawyer for effectively presenting their cases before this Tribunal and creating facilities for the litigants visiting this Tribunal for hearing of cases filed by them.

7. In the eventuality of non-deposit of costs, the National Green Tribunal Bar Association, Principal Bench, New Delhi will be entitled to file execution application before this Tribunal for execution of this order regarding payment of costs to it.

8. Learned Counsel for Respondents No. 1 and 3 also seek two months' time for filing of their responses.

9. Responses by Respondents No. 1 and 3 may be filed within two months.

10. List on 10.04.2026 for further consideration.

11. A copy of this order be sent to the Secretary, MoUD by email for requisite compliance.

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

Dr. Afroz Ahmad, EM

January 05, 2026
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