

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

(Through Physical Hearing with Hybrid VC Option)

Original Application No.525/2022
(I.A No.185/2022, I.A No. 57/2023 and I.A No. 635/2023)

Laxmi

...Applicant

Versus

Ministry of Environment, Forests &
Climate Change & Others

...Respondents

Date of last hearing: 12.03.2024

Date of Order: 20.08.2024

PRESENT:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR TYAGI, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. AFROZ AHMAD, EXPERT MEMBER

Applicant: None for the applicant.

Respondents: Ms. Jyoti Mendiratta, Advocate for Respondent no. 2-
GNCT of Delhi, Respondent No. 3-DCF and
Respondent no. 6-Commissioner of Police, Delhi.
(through VC).

Mr. Sanwar Raza, Advocate for Respondent No. 7
(through VC).

Mr. Sanjeev Kumar, Patwari, Mr. Tajuddin, DRO, Mr.
Sumit Kumar, F. CR and Mr. Pawan Kumar, Forester.

**Application Under Sections 14 and 15 of the National Green Tribunal
Act, 2010.**

Order

1. The applicant, claiming herself to be an environmentalist working for protection and preservation of the environment, has filed the present application under Sections 14 and 15 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 for directions to the respondents no. 1 to 6 to prevent the misuse of forest land and its destruction at the hands of respondent no.7- Hanslok Ashram and its followers.

2. The application had been filed on the averments that the land of Khasra Nos. 848(6-11), 963(2-08), 969(1-11), 725(19-11), 729(04-04), 730(02-02), 954(08- 08) and 961(07-13) situated at revenue estate of village Bhati, New Delhi is declared forest land and the use of the same is restricted only to the forestry purposes. In the past, though, the encroachments from the forest land were removed by carrying out the demolition drive against the encroachments but with the passage of time the forest land is again encroached upon by the violators in active connivance of the authorities concerned. The respondent no.7 is also having its Ashram as mentioned which has been constructed by partially encroaching upon the forest land. The respondent no.7 is scheduled to hold a huge gathering of its followers and believers on 26th & 27th July 2022, to celebrate the birth anniversary of its head and in this regard the advertisements and information are being circulated through social media and other means of publicity. For the purposes of stay of its followers and address by its head, huge tin sheets have been erected on the forest land by causing the great damage to the forest land and its fauna and flora. In the process of laying of the roads and creating of the public conveniences the green trees of the forest have been felled without any permission in connivance of the concerned authorities. Besides that, for making the provisions for water and other necessary things of public convenience Bore Well has been dug illegally without obtaining permission from the concerned authorities. The applicant has further

submitted that he made a detailed representation dated 11.07.2022 to the respondents and other authorities concerned but no action has been taken.

3. Vide order dated 22.07.2022, notices were ordered to be issued to Respondents No. 1 to 7.

4. Pursuant to notice reply/response has been filed by respondent no. 6 (Commissioner of Police, Delhi) and short affidavit has been filed by respondent no. 7-Chief Operating Officer Hansjyoti vide email dated 24.07.2022.

5. Respondent No. 6 (Commissioner of Police, Delhi) has submitted in the reply that Hans Lok Ashram wanted to organize a program on 26th & 27th July, 2022 in the Honour of Shri Bhole Ji Maharaj on his birth anniversary and permission of the same had been taken from Police Department as per procedure.

6. In her reply respondent no. 7 -Ritu Rana, Chief Operating Officer Hansjyoti has submitted that application appears to have been filed by the applicant, a disgruntled applicant, malafide at the behest of few local miscreants and few persons who were associated with the Hanslok Ashram but due to their nefarious activities their involvement in the functioning of the Hanslok Ashram was restricted and against whom Complaint dated 06.07.2022 was submitted to P.S. Maidangarhi. HANSJYOTI has been organizing this program since the last ten years. The alleged tin shed structure, which the applicant has stated to have been erected, was placed about 9 years back on the privately held land of M/s RGSB Estates Pvt. Ltd., M/s Ashon Estates Pvt. Ltd. and M/s RGD Estates Pvt. Ltd. with which the HCC has existing leasehold rights. HANSJYOTI has already informed the Forest Department that the

