

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH**

(By Video Conferencing)

Original Application No.525/2022
(Interim Application No.185/2022)

Laxmi

...Applicant

Versus

Ministry of Environment, Forests
& Climate Change & Others

...Respondents

Date of hearing: 22.07.2022

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

Applicant

Mr. Kaushal Yadav, Mr. Nandlal Kumar Mishra and Mr.
Yashoda Katiyar, Advocates

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 has 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. Along with the original application the applicant has filed interim application seeking issuance of direction to respondent No. 1 to 6 not to grant permission to respondent No. 7 to hold the public gathering or any event in respect of birth anniversary of its at on 26th/27th July on the above mentioned forest land.

4. Notice of the O.A and I.A be issued to the respondents requiring them to file their reply/response to the same by email at judicial-ngt@gov.in preferably in the form of searchable PDF/OCR Supported PDF and not in the form of Image PDF.

5. List for further consideration on 25.07.2022.

6. The Registry is directed to issue notice today and get the same served on the respondents through E-mail IDs given in the Memo of Parties.

7. The applicant is also directed to take notice of Respondent no. 7 Dasti and get the service of notice effected on Respondent no. 7 by delivering the same personally to Respondent no. 7 and file her affidavit regarding such Dasti service on the date fixed i.e. 25.07.2022 through email at judicial-ngt@gov.in before commencement of the hearing.

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. Afroz Ahmad, EM

July 22, 2022
AG