

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

(BY HYBRID MODE)

M.A. No. 27/2023
IN
Original Application No. 748/2022

In re : news item published in the Newspaper The Hindu dated
02.10.2022 titled **“Over 6,000 trees illegally cut for tiger safari
project in Corbett Reserve, says FSI report”**

Date of hearing: 19.07.2023

**CORAM: HON’BLE MR. JUSTICE SHEO KUMAR SINGH, CHAIRPERSON
HON’BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR TYAGI, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON’BLE DR. A. SENTHIL VEL, EXPERT MEMBER**

Respondents: Mr. Gaurav Kumar Bansal, Adv.
Mr. Rahul Verma, AAG for the State of Uttarakhand (Physically)
Mr. Atul Sharma, Adv. for the State of Uttarakhand (Virtual Mode)
Mr. Ajay Kumar Pandey, Adv. for MoEF & CC

ORDER

1. Learned Counsel appearing for the MoEF&CC has submitted that similar matter is pending before the Hon’ble Supreme Court of India in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995, IN RE : T.N. GODAVARMAN THIRUMULPAD vs. UNION OF INDIA AND ORS. & ORS. in which while disposing the Contempt Petition (C) NO.319/2021, I.A. Nos. 186910/2022 and 20650/2023, in paragraphs 5 and 6 Hon’ble Supreme Court has observed as follows:

"xxxxxx.....xxx

5. Prima facie, we do not appreciate the necessity of having a zoo inside Tiger Reserves or National Parks. The concept of protecting Tiger Reserves and National Parks is that the fauna must be permitted to reside in the natural habitat and not the artificial environs.

6. We, therefore, call upon the NTCA to explain the rationale behind granting such a permission for permitting Tiger Safaris within Tiger Reserves and National Parks.

7. Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.”

2. Learned Counsel Shri Gaurav Kumar Bansal has submitted that another Writ Petition No. 295/2022 is pending before the Hon’ble Supreme Court with regard to cutting and felling of trees.

3. In view of above, it is submitted that the matter should be taken up after disposal of the Writ Petitions pending before the Hon’ble Supreme Court of India.

4. The officers appeared through video conference prayed for exemption of their appearance. Prayer is granted and their appearance is exempted.

5. List the matter on 19.10.2023.

Sheo Kumar Singh, CP

Arun Kumar Tyagi, JM

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

July 19, 2023
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DV