

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA
(THROUGH PHYSICAL HEARING WITH HYBRID MODE)**

Original Application No.168/2023/EZ

Dilip Nath

Applicant(s)

Versus

State of Assam

Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 23.11.2023

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE B. AMIT STHALEKAR, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. ARUN KUMAR VERMA, EXPERT MEMBER**

For Applicant(s) : Mr. Dilip Nath, in person (in Virtual Mode)

ORDER

1. Heard Mr. Dilip Nath, the Applicant appearing in person (in Virtual Mode).
2. The present Original Application has been registered on the basis of a complaint letter petition dated 20.09.2023 submitted by the Applicant with regard to allegations of violation of provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 with regard to Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary in Sonitpur district of Assam. The allegation is that illegal roads, bridges and schools have been constructed by the Government within the Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary and there is illegal encroachment and depletion of forest and that illegal encroachers may be evicted therefrom.
3. In our opinion prima facie, the matter requires consideration.
4. The followings be impleaded in the array of Respondents: -
 1. Principal Chief Conservation of Forest (PCCF), Assam
 2. Member Secretary, Environment and Forest, Government of Assam;

3. Deputy Commissioner/District Magistrate/Collector,
Sonitpur Tezpur, Assam;
 4. D.F.O., Western Assam, Wildlife Division; and
 5. Sonitpur Tezpur State Road Division through its
Executive Engineer
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5. Issue notice to the Respondents, returnable within four weeks.
 6. Ms. Malabika Roy Dey, who is Counsel for the State of Assam, is
directed to accept notice on behalf of the State Respondents,
Government of Assam.
 7. All the Respondents shall file their counter-affidavits within four
weeks.
 8. Office of the Tribunal shall serve e-copy/soft copy of the letter
petition and the Original Application along with all its annexures on
Ms. Malabika Roy Dey, learned Counsel within 48 hours.
 9. **List on 18.01.2024.**

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B. Amit Sthalekar, JM

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Dr. Arun Kumar Verma, EM

November 23, 2023,
Original Application No.168/2023/EZ
SKB