

Item No.04

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

Original Application No.02/2024/EZ

Tapas Kumar Bal

Applicant(s)

Versus

State of Odisha & Ors.

Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 31.05.2024

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SHEO KUMAR SINGH, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. ARUN KUMAR VERMA, EXPERT MEMBER**

For Applicant(s) : Mr. Sankar Prasad Pani, Advocate a/w
Mr. Ashutosh Padhy, Advocate (in Virtual Mode)

For Respondent(s) : Ms. Saswata Patnaik, AGA for R-1 to 10 (in Virtual Mode),
Mr. Dipanjan Ghosh, Advocate for R-11 (in Virtual Mode),
Ms. Rashmi Singhee, Advocate for R-12 (in Virtual Mode),
Ms. Amrita Pandey, Advocate for R-13 (in Virtual Mode),
Mr. Subir Palit, Sr. Advocate a/w
Mr. Abhisek Kejriwal, Advocate for R-14 (in Virtual Mode)

ORDER

1. Affidavit dated 29.04.2024 of the Respondent No.9, Deputy Director of Mines, Keonjhar Circle has been filed and the same is taken on record.
2. The Respondent No.12, State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Odisha was directed to clarify whether any other mining lease was granted in the area or the Respondent No.14 is the only lease holder. No response from SEIAA, Odisha has been filed till date. Therefore, SEIAA, Odisha is directed to file its response within four weeks, without fail.
3. The Respondents were directed to file para-wise counter affidavits but none of the affidavits meeting parawise allegations/issues has been filed so far. As a last chance, they are directed to file counter affidavits giving para-wise remarks within four weeks. Other

respondents should also file their counter affidavits giving para-wise remarks within four weeks.

4. Ms. Saswata Patnaik, learned Additional Government Advocate appearing (in Virtual Mode) on behalf of the State Respondents, has sought further time to file affidavit. Let the affidavit be filed within four weeks.
5. Ms. Rashmi Singhee, learned Counsel appearing (in Virtual Mode) on behalf of the Respondent No.12 and Ms. Amrita Pandey, learned Counsel appearing (in Virtual Mode) on behalf of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, have sought further four weeks' time to file affidavit. Time is granted as prayed.
6. Mr. Subir Palit, learned Senior Counsel appearing for Respondent No.14 states that Affidavit dated 29.04.2024 filed by Respondent No.9 has received by him only two days back. He prays for time to file response. Let the affidavit be filed within four weeks.
7. Ms. Saswata Patnaik states that the affidavit of Respondent No.8 has been filed but the office of the Tribunal informs that the same is in defect. Let the defect be removed and re-file the same within one week.
8. Learned Counsel for the parties shall exchange the pleadings among themselves before the next date of listing.

List it on 13.08.2024.

.....
Sheo Kumar Singh, JM

.....
Dr. Arun Kumar Verma, EM

May 31, 2024,
Original Application No.02/2024/EZ
SKB