

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
WESTERN ZONE BENCH, PUNE**

[Through Physical Hearing (with Hybrid Option)]

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO.186 OF 2023 (WZ)

News Item appearing in Pune Pulse
Dated 11.10.2023 titled "Pune Residents
Condemn tree felling for Urban Development
Projects"

.... Applicant

Versus

Maharashtra Forest Department & Ors.

.... Respondents

Date of hearing : 01.12.2023

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DINESH KUMAR SINGH, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE DR. VIJAY KULKARNI, EXPERT MEMBER**

Applicant : ----

Respondents : Mr. Mahadev Mohite, Dy. Conservator of
Forests, Pune and Mr. Naresh Zurmure, APCCC
(Nodal) for R-1
Ms. Vinaya Borse, Assistant Legal Officer
for R-2 - PMC

ORDER

1. This matter has been received by this Bench from the Principal Bench of this Tribunal and is being taken up for the first time. By order dated 01.11.2023 passed by the Principal Bench, a direction has been issued to implead the Maharashtra Forest Department through its Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (HoFF) and Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Pune. Accordingly the same has been carried out which is evident from the Memo of Parties.

2. Since in this matter, cognizance has been taken by the Principal Bench on the basis of a news item published in "Pune Pulse", the Registry has issued notice to respondent Nos.1 and 2 and today, from the side of respondent No.1, Mr. Mahadev Mohite, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Pune has appeared and from the side of respondent No.2 – PMC, Ms.

Vinaya Borse, Assistant Legal Officer has appeared through VC and informed that she herself would be contesting this matter.

3. From the side of respondent No1, it is stated that no reply is required to be filed from their side as the matter concerns the Pune Municipal Corporation. Therefore, we direct the Assistant Legal Officer of PMC to file their reply within two weeks in respect of the allegations made in the newspaper report against them. We direct the Registry to serve a copy of the news item along with a copy of the order dated 01.11.2023 passed by the Principal Bench upon respondent Nos.1 and 2 today only.

4. Put up this matter for next consideration on 25.01.2024.

Dinesh Kumar Singh, JM

Dr. Vijay Kulkarni, EM

December 1, 2023
O.A. Nos.186/2023(WZ)
npj