

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

Original Application No. 9/2014  
And  
M.A. No. 79/2014

Safal Bharat Guru Parampara V/s State of Punjab & Ors.

**CORAM:** HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DR. P. JYOTHIMANI, JUDICIAL MEMBER  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE M.S. NAMBIAR, JUDICIAL MEMBER  
HON'BLE DR. G.K. PANDEY, EXPERT MEMBER  
HON'BLE PROF. A.R. YOUSUF, EXPERT MEMBER  
HON'BLE MR. RANJAN CHATTERJEE, EXPERT MEMBER

**Applicant / Appellant** :Mr.P.K.Rana,Adv., and  
Mr. Ajeyabhardwaj, Adv. & Ms.  
Sangita Singh  
Singh, Adv.  
**Respondent No. 6** :Mr. M. Dutta, Adv.

<b>Date and Remarks</b>	<b>Orders of the Tribunal</b>
<p>Item Nos. 2 &amp; 3 February 19, 2014</p> <p>PA</p>	<p>Service is complete in respect of all the Respondents.</p> <p>The learned Counsel appearing for the Applicant would submit that after the service of notice which was stated to have been effected on 23.01.2014, the Government has hurriedly issued demand letters for 17,000 tube-wells connection.</p> <p>According, to the counsel such a hurried act is not only the dis-obedience of the pendency of the matter before the Tribunal but also it has tendency to affect the water level which will result in environmental disaster.</p> <p>It is unfortunate that all the respondents No. 1 to 5 have no proper response except some of the officials of the Respondent Nos. 3, 4 &amp; 5 seeking time for filing reply.</p> <p>The Chief Secretary of the State as well as the Principal Secretary having received notice have failed to either appear before the Tribunal through a responsible officer or represented through a Counsel. This only shows the lethargic attitude of the Government authorities in this case. We are compelled to make such a comment due to the reason that in this application, the applicant has raised a substantial issue about not only the water</p>

level but also planting of the Eucalyptus trees. The Government owes an explanation as to under what circumstances decision taken to plant Eucalyptus trees, and what are the purposes and whether such planting of Eucalyptus trees are likely to affect the water level as well as the environment.

In such view of the matter we direct the Chief Secretary of the State of Punjab to appear in person on the next date of hearing, failing which coercive steps will be taken. The other Respondents shall in the meantime file their reply. Respondent No. 6 is represented by the Counsel and he seeks time for filing reply.

Considering the necessity of having the Agriculture Ministry of the Government of India as a party in this Application, we implead the Union of India represented by the Ministry of Agriculture through its Secretary, New Delhi as Respondent no. 7. Registry to make necessary amendments in this regard.

The applicant shall file amended Memo of Parties.

Issue Notice to the newly added parties by registered post/acknowledgment due and Dasti as well. Notice returnable by the next date of hearing.

Stand over to 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2014.

....., JM  
(Dr. P. Jyothimani)

....., JM  
(M.S. Nambiar)

....., EM  
(Dr. G.K. Pandey)

....., EM  
(Prof. A.R. Yousuf)

....., EM  
(Ranjan Chatterjee)