

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA**

**Application No. 18/2014/EZ**

**Sankar Prasad Hajra & Anr. Vs General Manager Eastern Railway & Anr.**

**CORAM:** Hon'ble Justice Dr. P. Jyothimani, Judicial Member  
Hon'ble Prof. (Dr.) P. C. Mishra, Expert Member

**PRESENT:** Applicant : Mr. Sankar Prasad Hajra and  
Mr. Santanu Chacraverti (in persons)  
Respondent Nos.1 & 2 : No appearance

Date & Remarks	Orders of the Tribunal
<b>Item No. 1 September 17, 2014</b>	<p>The matter is taken up for admission on mentioning.</p> <p>We have heard the Applicants in person. The applicants have submitted the conduct of the 1<sup>st</sup> respondent for cutting down of well grown trees in Bally Railway Station under Howrah Division of Eastern Railway for the purpose of putting corrugated shelter for the passengers. They further submit that no appropriate plan has been made by the authorities before putting up the shelter by cutting well grown trees which also give shelter to a number of bird species as well as help to purify air.</p> <p>The applicants have submitted a number of photographs showing other railway stations under various railways divisions where trees and shelter co-exist namely, a station in Palakkad district, Kerala, Anekal Station near Bangalore, Kulem Station, Goa, Palasa Station, Andhra Pradesh, Kanhangad Station, Kerala, &amp; Gurgaon Railway Station where well grown trees have been protected while putting up passenger shelter. The present action of the respondents in cutting well-grown trees should have been stopped but unfortunately such steps have not been taken in respect of Bally Railway Station under Howrah Division of Eastern Railway and this application has been moved by the applicants since the process of cutting trees is going on. Therefore, we are of the view that the balance of convenience in granting an order of interim nature is in the interest of public at large. Thus, Respondent No. 1, General Manager, Eastern Railway shall not proceed further to cut any tree for construction of passenger shelter at Bally until further order of this Tribunal.</p> <p>We also make it clear that in respect of other places no trees shall be cut by the respondent no.1 for construction of passenger shelter without the</p>

permission of this Tribunal. Respondent No.1 is directed to appear before this Tribunal on the next date of hearing and submit a plan in respect of the following:-

1. No. of places where construction of passenger shelters is proposed;
2. No. of trees proposed to be cut for such construction;
3. Whether 10 times plantation for each tree to be cut has been approved/decided. If yes, the location where such plantation will be undertaken;
4. Whether, without cutting any well-grown tree, structures can be raised along with tree after marginal pruning of trees.

We also make it clear that the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of West Bengal should scrupulously implement the above direction of this Tribunal and submit Status Report on the next date of hearing.

Issue Notice and order by way of Dasti and by Registered Post in respect of Notice by today to all the respondents returnable by **15<sup>th</sup> October 2014.**

**Stand over to 15<sup>th</sup> October 2014**

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Dr. P. Jyothimani, JM

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Prof. (Dr.) P. C. Mishra, EM