GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1356 TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.07.2025

Functioning of NGT, Kolkata

1356. SHRI SAMIK BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has received a significant number of cases related to environmental violations in Kolkata in the past five years;
- (b) the total number of cases resolved and pending under the NGT's jurisdiction in Kolkata, including the reasons for pendency;
- (c) the key steps taken to ensure effective implementation of NGT orders in Kolkata and surrounding areas; and
- (d) whether any measures are being considered to strengthen the infrastructure of NGT to expedite environmental justice in Kolkata?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) to (d) As informed by the NGT, total 1888 cases related to environmental violations have been received in Kolkata Bench in past five years i.e from July 2020 till June 2025. Since inception of Kolkata Bench, NGT i.e. 26th May, 2014, a total of 5350 cases including environmental violations matters have been resolved and 346 cases are pending as on 30th June, 2025. In total pending cases, 273 are at the notice stage or for completion of pleadings. Further, 50 cases are at the stage of hearing and in remaining 23 cases, NGT's interim order has been challenged in the Supreme Court.

It is the responsibility of the respondents to mandatorily comply with the NGT orders in a time-bound manner. Further, where time-bound compliances are to be made, the Tribunal initiates suo motu case in the form of a Miscellaneous Application to monitor and ensure compliance.

To expedite the environmental justice in Kolkata jurisdiction, the digital infrastructure has been upgraded by facilitating the virtual court proceedings and e-filing of cases through a dedicated portal. There is no demand pending with Ministry regarding any infrastructure requirement of Kolkata bench..
