

IN THE HIGH COURT OF GUJARAT AT AHMEDABAD**R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 6825 of 2026**

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GUJARAT BIOMASS BRIQUETTES ASSOCIATION (DELETED) & ORS.

Versus

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST AND CLIMATE
CHANGE, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA & ORS.

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Appearance:

MR ABHISHEK M MEHTA(3469) for the Petitioner(s) No. 1,1.1,2,3

MR ANKIT SHAH(6371) for the Respondent(s) No. 1,5,6

MR AV NAIR(5602) for the Respondent(s) No. 2

NANAVATI & CO.(7105) for the Respondent(s) No. 4

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**CORAM: HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MRS. JUSTICE
SUNITA AGARWAL**

and

HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE D.N. RAY

Date : 30/07/2026

ORAL ORDER

**(PER : HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MRS. JUSTICE SUNITA
AGARWAL)**

From the affidavit of the Gujarat Pollution Control Board (GPCB) filed in compliance of the order dated 07.05.2026 passed by this Court, it is evident that there has been no substantial progress in implementation of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) Circular dated 30.01.2024 issued under Section 18 (1) (b) of the AIR (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, at the ends of GPCB. The statement made in the affidavit of the GPCB that the allegation of the petitioners that there is complete inaction on the part of the GPCB is factually incorrect, is rather misleading.

On a query made by the Court, it is admitted by the learned advocate appearing for the GPCB that no progress whatsoever has been made for implementation of the circular dated 30.01.2024 issued by the CPCB for co-firing of biomass pellets i.e. by utilizing agro-residues effectively as an alternate fuel as compared to coal in such industries. The direction was to promote and implement the direction of CPCB for Thermal Power Plan, brick kilns etc., use of agro-residues as alternate fuel having benefits specially in terms of lower particulate matter emissions. When this was pointed out, the learned advocate for the GPCB would submit that a Member Secretary, GPCB shall conduct an urgent meeting to work out the measures for implementation of CPCB circular in its true letter and spirit.

For reporting the compliance of the direction in the circular dated 30.01.2024, the matter is posted on 27.08.2026.

(SUNITA AGARWAL, CJ)

(D.N.RAY,J)

VARSHA DESAI