

NEW LINK TO MEDIA # 8D

WPC PIL 14046/2022 FILED IN HON'BLE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA IN THE MATTER OF DAMAGE TO THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE BY CUTTING AGE OLD TREES FOR MLA COLONY IN BHUBANESWAR

02 06 2022 1 05 PM FELLING OF TREES IN BHUBANESWAR MLA COLONY HC DIRECTS GA TO FILE AFFIDAVIT

Felling of trees in Bhubaneswar's MLA colony: HC directs GA to file affidavit

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Cuttack, June 2: The Orissa High Court today directed the General Administration (GA) department to file an affidavit in connection with the felling of trees in Bhubaneswar's MLA colony for the construction of new quarters for the legislators.

The next hearing of the case will be conducted on June 27.

The petition has been filed by social activist Jayanti Das, seeking a direction to save hundreds of old and valuable trees.

Making 10 parties to the PIL including the State and Central governments, Das has prayed for adequate compensation for the trees already felled.

Several social organisations including the Mahanadi Banchao Andolan and Prerana, political leaders, intellectuals and city dwellers have been protesting the cutting of trees. The Mahanadi Banchao Andolan had also lodged a complaint with the Kharvelnagar police.

Notably, for the construction of the new MLA quarters, the old quarters in Colony are being demolished and the trees in the area are also being cut down.

More than 200 trees have already been chopped off while more than 600 trees are planned to be felled.