

NGT mulls email petitions to save time, curb hassles

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In a bid to ensure that people from across the country can file petitions quickly, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) is mulling email applications. It should be noted that at present those who want to move a petition has to travel to Delhi or other places where the bench sits to file their petition.

"We understand that it may not be possible for everyone to travel such long distance. It can also be very expensive so we are working on this system where anyone from any part of India will be able to file a petition with the help of an email," said Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel, chairperson of NGT on the sidelines of a lecture series held at GNLU in Gandhinagar.

He said they came up with the system because the NGT had received various emails and letters complaining of environmental problems and violations. "These petitions were not formal. We decided to make the process easy. We are coming up with a format where a person can mail us details of the environmental violations in a format. These include the person, the nature of the violation, the evidence if any and the authority responsible to check the matter," said Goel. A registered num-



Former Justice of Supreme Court, Adarsh Kumar Goel, took over as NGT chairperson in July

FOR THE NATURE

■ Adarsh Kumar Goel, chairperson of NGT, said the agency came up with the system because the body had received emails and letters complaining of environmental problems and violations. Plus, the letters take a lot of time.

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Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel, NGT chairman

ber will be assigned and we will ask the concerned authorities to look into it. We will also seek an action taken a report and also inform the complainant about the same. "At present, we are still developing the software for the said system," said Goel.

In many cases, the NGT curtails unnecessary proceedings by asking concerned agencies to investigate a violation when brought to its notice. "Since the NGT doesn't

have investigative power the concerned agency will do the investigation. We ask them to visit, verify, take action and inform us. We inform the petitioner and dispose off the matter instead of lengthening it by waiting for parties to file replies and counter replies," said Goel. He added that for issues that affect citizens pan India, they are calling experts of the subject and were having meeting through video conferencing with stakeholders.