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## IGT forms panel to check buffer zone on Mantri TechZone site

I News Service, New Delhi, Sep 9 2017, 2:11 IST



The National Green Tribunal (NGT) on Friday constituted a five-member panel to inspect the project site of Mantri TechZone Pvt Ltd in southern Bengaluru to check whether the company had maintained a 75-metre buffer zone where no construction should take place.

The panel will comprise T V Ramachandra, senior scientist, Indian Institute of Science (IISc); CEO, Karnataka Lake Conservation and Development Authority (KLCDA); Additional Director of Town and Country Planning, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP); Chairman, State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC), and Member Secretary, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB).

Earlier, Sajan Poovayya, the counsel for Namma Bengaluru Foundation (NBF), said that Mantri Developers, the parent company of Mantri TechZone, had denied access to the project site, and requested for the appointment of a local commissioner.

Poovayya added: "We wanted to check whether Mantri TechZone, which is coming up between Bellandur and Agara lakes in Bengaluru, has followed the 75-metre buffer zone where no construction should take place."

The tribunal, headed by Justice Swatanter Kumar, directed the panel to visit the spot and submit a report.

The NBF also filed reports of the inspection carried out on Core Mind Technologies' project, for which the company sought time to file its reply. The next hearing is on October 5.

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