



HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

WPIL No. 28 of 2025

Shirin Malewar **Versus** Union Of India & Others

Order Sheet

09/04/2025	Proceedings of this matter have been taken through Video Conferencing. Heard Mr. Rudra Pratap Dubey, learned counsel for the petitioner, Mr. Ramakant Mishra, learned Deputy Solicitor General for the respondent No. 1/Union of India as well as Mr. Shashank Thakur, learned Deputy Advocate General for the State/respondent No. 2. On the last date of hearing i.e. on 27.03.2025, the Chief Secretary, Government of Chhattisgarh, was directed to file his affidavit in compliance of the order dated 20.03.2025 and the matter was directed to be listed today. In compliance of the aforesaid order, the Chief Secretary to the Government of Chhattisgarh has filed his affidavit, the relevant

portion of which reads as under:

“4 That, a proposal for getting the Cyber Forensic Laboratory, Police Headquarters certified as examiner of electronic evidence was sent to the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEiTY), Government of India on 19.12.2019. A copy of covering page of letter dated 19.12.2019, is being filed herewith as ANNEXURE A-1. On the basis of the said request, the Stage I assessment was conducted by MEiTY Officers on 28.01.2020. A copy of report regarding assessment conducted by MEiTY Officers on 28.01.2020, is being filed herewith as ANNEXURE A-2.

5. That, after the assessment, a Stage-I Document Evaluation Report was shared by MeiTY on the same date. In compliance to the remarks mentioned in Document Evaluation report, necessary action was taken up including changing the name of the Cyber Forensic Lab, updating Quality manual and Standard Operating Procedure [SOP], training of employees and strengthening access control. A letter enumerating the above mentioned actions was sent to MeiTY, via e-mail on 24.03.2025. A copy of e-mail dated 24.03.2025, is being filed herewith as ANNEXURE A-3.

6. In reply, MEiTY has asked to submit a fresh application for notification. It is respectfully submitted that the fresh application has been sent on 02.04.2025 along with the closure report of previous remarks. MEiTY team is expected to visit the Cyber Forensic Laboratory soon and complete the certification process. A copy of covering page of application dated 02.04.2025, is being filed herewith as ANNEXURE A-4.”

Mr. Thakur submits that on the request of the State, a team

of the Union of India conducted an inspection and they pointed out certain shortcomings. The State was required to remove those shortcomings and submit a compliance report. The deficiencies pointed out by the said team have been cured and vide letter Annexure A/3, a request has been made to the Union of India, and now the Ministry concerned has written to the State Government to submit a fresh application in pursuance of which a fresh application has been duly submitted and now it is for the Union of India to take the call.

Mr. Ramakant Mishra submits that now a fresh inspection would be conducted by the Union of India.

In view of the above submissions, we hope and trust that the Union of India as well as the State would expedite the matter expeditiously.

Let the matter be listed on **30th April, 2025**, for further monitoring.

Sd/-
(Arvind Kumar Verma)
JUDGE

Sd/-
(Ramesh Sinha)
CHIEF JUSTICE

Amit