



HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

WPPIL No. 14 of 2024

IN THE MATTER OF SUO MOTO PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION

versus

THE STATE OF CHHATTISGARH

22/09/2025	This is an office reference. Heard Mr. Y.S. Thakur, learned Additional Advocate General for the State/respondent and Ms. Priyanka Shukla, learned counsel for the intervenor. In compliance of the Court's order dated 18.08.2025, the Director General, Jail and Correctional Services, Jail Headquarters, Nava Raipur, Atal Nagar C.G. has filed his personal affidavit on 18-09-2025, the relevant portion of the same is reproduced hereinbelow: <i>“(ii) That, the deponent most humbly and respectfully submits that, on account of</i>

alleged involvement in the incident, the departmental enquiry has been instituted against the 19 delinquents working as Chief Warder/Jail Prahari at Central Jail, Durg, District Durg (CG) namely Shri Dilip Kumar Lahri, Shri Suraj Ram Kosle, Shri Narendra Kumar Sarve, Shri Ajay Kumar Rai, Shri Kamlesh Kumar Bhardwaj, Shri Shashi Kumar Sahu, Shri Arun Kumar Tripathi, Shri Devvrat Patel, Shri Mahendra Kumar Verma, Shri Amit Singh Tanwar, Shri Akhilesh Kumar Joshi, Shri Rajesh Kumar Sahu, Shri Kailash Chandrawanshi, Shri Durgesh Kaushik, Shri Ravi Kumar Sahu, Shri Gopal Prasad Kashyap, Shri Ajesh Kumar Tiwari, Shri Sumitranandan Singh Rathore and Shri Pukeshwar Sahu and the Inquiry Officers as well as Presenting Officers have been appointed vide orders dated 18.08.2025 issued by the Jail Superintendent, Central Jail,

Durg, District Durg (CG) and pursuant to the said order, the Inquiry Officers have initiated the inquiry proceeding in the matter, which is under process. Copies of the orders dated 18.08.2025 issued by the Jail Superintendent, Central Jail Durg are collectively filed and marked herewith as ANNEXURE A.

(iii) It is further respectfully submitted that, against one delinquent namely Shri Diwakar Singh Paikra, the Jail Prahari of Central Jail, Durg, who has been arrested in connection with the said offence and is currently suspended and detained in Sub-Jail Dongargarh, charge sheet has been issued, on which, he sought time for a month to submit reply/explanation, but he did not submit reply/explanation stating that, his case is pending before the Hon'ble Court. Pursuant to the representation of Shri Diwakar Singh Paikra, the Jail Superintendent, Central Jail,

Durg, District Durg (CG) has directed him to submit his explanation to the charge sheet within 15 days vide letter dated 04.09.2025. In this regard, copy of the letter dated 04.09.2025 alongwith relevant documents, is filed and marked herewith as ANNEXURE B. It is respectfully submitted that the departmental proceeding is pending against him.

(iv) It is respectfully submitted that, on account of the aforesaid incident, looking in to the failure in controlling such crime being committed within the jail premises and also upon the aforesaid delinquents, the Deponent has issued charge sheet to the Shri Manish Sambhakar, Jail Superintendent, Central Jail, Durg, District Durg (CG) on dated 22.08.2025. Copy of the charge sheet dated 22.08.2025 is filed and marked herewith as ANNEXURE C. The Jail Superintendent, Central Jail, Durg, District Durg (CG) has submitted his

reply/explanation on 06.09.2025 and sought personal hearing, on which, the date of hearing has been fixed on 19.09.2025 vide letter dated 12.09.2025. In this regard, copy of the reply/explanation dated 06.09.2025 and letter dated 12.09.2025 issued by the Director General, Jail and Correctional Services, Jail Headquarters, Nava Raipur Atal Nagar (CG) are filed and marked herewith as ANNEXURE D.

(v) It is respectfully submitted that the Deponent has issued letter to the Senior Superintendent of Police, District Durg to provide present status of the Crime No. 92/2025 registered at Police Station Padmnabhpur, District Durg (CG). In turn, the Senior Superintendent of Police, Durg (CG), vide letter dated 11.09.2025 provided the status of Crime No. 92/2025 and has informed that the charge sheet has been filed before the

court of learned Chief Judicial Magistrate, Durg, District Durg vide Challan No. 130/2025 on 29.06.2025 and the a case has been registered as Case No. 22847/2025 before the learned Chief Judicial Magistrate, Durg. In this regard, copy of letter dated 11.09.2025 and letter dated 11.09.2025 are filed and marked herewith as ANNEXURE E.

(vi) It is respectfully submitted that that, on 15.09.2025 the Deponent took the meeting of Inquiry Officers, through video-conferencing, to review the progress of Departmental Enquiries instituted against the delinquent Jail staff. Subsequently, the Deponent has issued directions to the concerned Inquiry Officers to complete the pending departmental inquiries promptly and in a speedy manner. Copy of the minutes of meeting dated 15.09.2025 is filed and marked herewith as ANNEXURE F.

Amardeep	A bare perusal of affidavit, would goes to show that a Departmental Enquiry has been initiated against the 19 police personnel of Central Jail, Durg, District Durg, C.G., and the enquiry is still pending. In view of above, let the matter be listed on 10/11/2025, by which time, the Director General, Jail and Correctional Services, C.G., shall file an affidavit informing this Court regarding the result of the Departmental Enquiry initiated against the said police personal. List the case on <u>10/11/2025.</u> SD/- (Bibhu Datta Guru) Judge SD/- (Ramesh Sinha) Chief Justice
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