



HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

WPIL No. 14 of 2024

IN THE MATTER OF SUO MOTO PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION

versus

THE STATE OF CHHATTISGARH

Order Sheet

03/04/2025	This is an office reference. Heard Mr. Y.S. Thakur, learned Additional Advocate General for the State as well as Mr. Akash Kundu, learned counsel for the Intervenor. On the last date of hearing i.e. on 25/02/2025 this Court has directed the respondent/State to file another affidavit stating the updated status of the enquiries conducted against the delinquent officials and the action taken against them. Pursuant to the above direction, the affidavit has been filed by the Law Officer, Central Jail, Bilaspur, District Bilaspur, C.G. and Officer-in-charge of the case, which reads as under:- 2. That, earlier, in compliance of the order

	dated 15/01/2025, an affidavit has been filed thereby detailing the stages of the departmental enquiries conducted against delinquent employees as well as completion of departmental enquiry and imposition of punishment on the delinquent employee. 3. That, after filing the aforesaid affidavit, the matter was again taken up for hearing on 25/02/2025 by the Hon'ble Court and after going through the said affidavit, the Hon'ble Court has further been pleased to direct the State to file another affidavit in the matter before the next date of hearing stating the updated status of the enquiries conducted against the delinquent officials and the action taken against them, in case they are found guilty. 4. That, the present Officer-in-Charge of the case, to comply with the Hon'ble Court dated 25/02/2025, most humbly and respectfully submits that out of total 10 delinquent employees/ officials, the punishment orders against 6 officials / employees have already been issued imposing appropriate penalty / punishment on them considering the
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	misconduct on their part and 2 employees have been exonerated in the departmental enquiry conducted against them. 5. That, so far as one official / employee namely Shri Maheshwar Hichami Warder is concerned, in this regard, it is submitted that in earlier affidavit, it has been submitted that the Inquiry Officer, who was conducting the inquiry, stood transferred. It is respectfully submitted that to continue the said already initiated departmental enquiry, a new incumbent Inquiry Officer has been appointed vide order dated 17/02/2025 and the said newly appointed Inquiry Officer is still conducting the departmental enquiry instituted against the aforesaid delinquent employee. A chart dated 02/04/2025 showing status of departmental enquiry and punishment given is being filed herewith as Annexure A/9 for kind perusal of this Hon'ble Court. 6. That, so far as another official namely Shri Sandeep Kumar Kashyap, Assistant Jail Superintendent is concerned, in this regard, it is respectfully submitted that the concurrence for imposing punishment on
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the aforesaid delinquent employee is still awaited from the Chhattisgarh Public Service Commission for which a reminder through the Department has been sent to the Commission on 21/03/2025 with a prayer to accord its concurrence so that the departmental enquiry instituted against the aforesaid official could be completed by passing the punishment order. Copy of the letter dated 21/03/2025 is being filed herewith as Annexure A/10.

Perusal of the above affidavit, makes it explicit that out of total 10 delinquent employees the punishment orders against 6 officials have been issued imposing appropriate punishment on them; 2 employees have been exonerated in the departmental enquiry conducted against them; against one official / employee the Inquiry Officer, who was conducting the inquiry, stood transferred and to continue the departmental enquiry, a new incumbent Inquiry Officer has been appointed; and lastly with regard to another official i.e. the Assistant Jail Superintendent the concurrence for imposing punishment on the aforesaid delinquent employee is still awaited from the Chhattisgarh Public Service Commission.

ashu	In such eventuality, this Court deems it appropriate to direct the respondent/State to file another affidavit before the next date of hearing stating the updated status of the enquiries conducted against the two remaining delinquent employees against whom the enquiry is still pending and the action taken against them, in case they are found guilty. Let the matter be listed again on 07th of May, 2025. <table><tr><td data-bbox="502 851 1037 1075"> SD/- (Arvind Kumar Verma) Judge </td><td data-bbox="1037 851 1453 1075"> SD/- (Ramesh Sinha) Chief Justice </td></tr></table>	SD/- (Arvind Kumar Verma) Judge	SD/- (Ramesh Sinha) Chief Justice
SD/- (Arvind Kumar Verma) Judge	SD/- (Ramesh Sinha) Chief Justice		