



HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

WPIL No. 37 of 2017

Kamal Kumar Dubey (Died) Through Lrs **versus** Union Of India

WPIL/67/2017

Order Sheet

16/01/2026	Heard Mr. Ashish Shrivastava, Senior Advocate assisted by Mr. Rahul Ambast, learned counsel for petitioner in WPIL No.37/2017 and Mr. Sudiep Shrivastava, learned counsel for the petitioner in WPIL No.67/2017. Also heard Mr. Ramakant Mishra, learned Deputy Solicitor General assisted by Mr. Anmol Sharma and Ms. Annapurna Tiwari, learned Central Government Counsel appearing for the Union of India, Mr. Shashank Thakur, learned Additional Advocate General appearing for the State, Mr. Anumeh Shrivastava, learned counsel appearing for the Airport Authority of India, Mr. Shobhit Koshta, learned counsel appearing for IndiGo Airlines and Mr. Suraj Patel, learned counsel holding the brief of Mr. Shobhit Koshta, learned counsel appearing for the

Alliance Air Aviation Limited.

In compliance of the Court's order dated 24.11.2025 the Chief Secretary, Government of Chhattisgarh has filed his personal affidavit which is reproduced hereinbelow:-

"1. That, the deponent, having the highest and great regards and respect for the lawful authority of this Hon'ble Court, files the present affidavit in compliance of the order dated 24/11/2025 passed by the Hon'ble Court.

2. That, on 24/11/2025 the instant Public Interest Litigation Petition was listed before the Hon'ble Court for hearing and after hearing the parties, the Hon'ble Court vide its order dated 24/11/2025, was pleased to observe that certain basic amenities in Bilasa Devi Kevat Airport Bilaspur have been improved. The Hon'ble Court was, thereafter, pleased to direct the Chief Secretary, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur to file a fresh affidavit regarding further progress with respect to the basic amenities and other aspects to be provided in the - Bilaspur Airport.

3. That, in compliance with the order dated 24/11/2025 passed by the Hon'ble Court, the deponent respectfully submits that Bilaspur Airport has been duly provisioned with all passenger amenities as prescribed under the applicable Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR) issued by the

Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) for the grant of an aerodrome licence for public use. The terminal building is equipped with adequate seating arrangements for 120 passengers in the Departure Hall and Security Hold Area, and 30 passengers in the Arrival Hall; potable drinking water facilities (RO filters & coolers) installed at one location in the Departure Hall, two locations in the Security Hold Area, and one location in the Arrival Hall; a dedicated Child Care Room in the Security Hold Area; and sufficient, segregated washroom facilities for gents, ladies, and persons with reduced mobility in the Departure Hall and Security Hold Area, in addition to washroom facilities in the Reserved Lounge, staff areas, and outside the terminal building. Washrooms are functional and clean.

4. That, the deponent further respectfully submits that the airport is equipped with 45 baggage trolleys (including 20 newly procured), adequate dustbins placed across terminal areas, a functional Public Address System covering all parts of the terminal building, mandatory passenger signage, a Flight Information Display System (FIDS), a Medical Information Room with medical staff, a tender for an automatic beverage machine in process, and a snack bar outside the terminal building is operational. The Food & Beverage (F&B) outlet inside the Security Hold Area is presently operated by airport staff for the benefit of passengers. Stakeholders' meeting was conducted on

07/01/2026 after the receipt of Fire No Objection Certificate (NOC), under the chairmanship of the Regional Director, BCAS, Raipur for finalizing the floor plan. A few minor changes are required in the prepared floor plan. Revised floor plan along with the Fire NOC has been forwarded to BCAS for approval on 14.01.2026. Upon receipt of approval for floor plan of terminal building from BCAS, a new agreement will be executed with vendor for operating the outlet.

That, subsequent to the last hearing before this Hon'ble High Court, the Collector, Bilaspur, has also inspected Bilaspur Airport on 29.11.2025, 04.12.2025. and 05.01.2026.

*It is therefore affirmed that the requisite passenger amenities are available and operational at Bilaspur Airport in compliance with DGCA CAR requirements. and that any remaining approvals are procedural in nature and are being actively pursued with the competent authorities. In this regard, it is respectfully submitted that the Airport Director, vide its letter dated 08/01/2026, has updated the status of the basic amenities provided at Bilaspur Airport to the Directorate of Aviation, Raipur, and to demonstrate this fact, a copy of the letter dated 08/01/2026 is being filed herewith as **Annexure A/1**.*

5. That, with respect to the land, the deponent

*respectfully submits that the Ministry of Defence assessed and proposed an amount of ₹50,64,48,908.18 (Rupees Fifty Crore Sixty-Four Lakh Forty-Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Eight and Paise Eighteen only) for 290.8 acres of land. Pursuant to a decision taken at the appropriate level of the State Government of Chhattisgarh, the said amount has been deposited by the State Government through the Collector, Bilaspur, vide Cheque No. 095342 dated 30.12.2025, issued in favour of Raksha Sampada Karyalaya, Jabalpur. To substantiate the above, a copy of the memo dated 30.12.2025 along with a photocopy of the cheque for an amount of ₹50,64,48,908.18 issued in favour of the Defence Estate Officer, Ministry of Defence, Government of India, Jabalpur Division, Jabalpur Cantonment (M.P.), is filed herewith as **Annexure A/2** (colly).*

It is respectfully submitted that the State Government has sanctioned and disbursed a total sum of Rs. 47,06,73,431 (Rupees Forty-Seven Crore Six Lakh Seventy-Three Thousand Four Hundred Thirty-One only) towards Viability Gap Funding (VGF) to the concerned airlines for the financial years 2024-25 and 2025-26 (up to November 2025).

6. That, with regard to status of DVOR commissioning, the deponent respectfully submits that the DVOR-DME has installed at Bilaspur

*Airport has been commissioned. The Bilaspur Airport has conveyed its consent to the Airports Authority of India (AAI) for undertaking the designing of Instrument Flight Procedures (IFP). The AAI had requested release of full payment towards the DVOR-DME related works as per the invoice raised by it, and the Department of Aviation has already released and deposited the entire amount as demanded by the AAI. The AAI is now required to commence preparation of the IFP. It is further submitted that Bilaspur Airport has forwarded application for upgradation of the airport category from 3C VFR to 3C IFR to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on 14.01.2026 along with all requisite documents. To demonstrate this fact, copy of the email communications is filed herewith as **Annexure A/3** colly.*

That, in view of the foregoing, the Director of Aviation, Government of Chhattisgarh, has also addressed separate letters to the Airports Authority of India (AAI) and the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), requesting expeditious action for completion of the Instrument Flight Procedure (IFP) design and for upgradation of the airport licence from 3C VFR to 3C IFR, respectively.

7. That, the deponent respectfully submits that from the aforesaid facts and documents, it is quite clear that every possible steps are being undertaken for providing the basic amenities to the passengers in

the Bilaspur Airport and further every steps are taking for making provisions of basic amenities to the passengers in the Bilaspur Airport and the administration intends to complete the same at the level of highest priority.

8. That, the contents of this affidavit have been drafted according to my instructions and the contents thereof are true and correct to the best of my personal knowledge and belief, based on the official records."

It is stated by the learned Additional Advocate General appearing for the State that the positive steps required for Bilasa Devi Kevat Airport, Bilaspur, have been taken and that the airport has been made operational. So far as the transfer of money to the Ministry of Defence is concerned, an amount of ₹50,64,48,908.18 has been deposited by the State Government through the Collector, Bilaspur, vide Cheque No. 095342 dated 30.12.2025, issued in favour of Raksha Sampada Karyalaya, Jabalpur. It is further submitted that the State Government has sanctioned and disbursed an amount of ₹47,06,73,431/- towards Viability Gap Funding (VGF) to the concerned airlines for the financial years 2024-25 and 2025-26 (up to November 2025).

So far as night landing is concerned, it is submitted by

learned Additional Advocate General appearing for the State that communication has also been made to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), and a copy of the same has been annexed as Annexure A-3 (colly) to the affidavit of the Chief Secretary.

Mr. Ramakant Mishra, learned Deputy Solicitor General, submitted that the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) would be executed between the Central Government and the State Government for transfer of the land at the earliest.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), is also directed to get the night landing facility inspected by the DGCA so that the matter may be expedited. The competent authority of the DGCA shall file his personal affidavit regarding the communication made by the State Government with respect to night landing.

Mr. Sudiep Shrivastava, learned counsel for the petitioner in WPPIL No. 67/2017, has pointed out that, as observed by this Court in its order dated 24.11.2025, additional facilities including a new food and beverage outlet and visitor washrooms outside the terminal were under development and were expected to be completed within two months, however, the said facilities have not yet been

commenced.

The Chief Secretary, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur, is directed to file his personal affidavit in this regard, as the present affidavit is silent on the above issue.

List this matter on **20.02.2026** for further monitoring.

Sd/-

(Ravindra Kumar Agrawal)
Judge

Sd/-

(Ramesh Sinha)
Chief Justice