



HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

WPPIL No. 37 of 2017

Kamal Kumar Dubey (Died) Through Lrs **versus** Union of India and others

WPPIL/67/2017

Order Sheet

20-04-2026	Heard Mr. Ashish Shrivastava, learned Senior Advocate along with Mr. Rahul Ambast, learned counsel for petitioners in WPPIL No. 37/2017 as well as Mr. Sudeep Shrivastava, learned counsel for petitioners in WPPIL No. 67/2017. Also heard Mr. Suraj Patel on behalf of Mr. Shobhit Mishra, learned counsel for Indigo Airlines, Mr. Anumeh Shrivastava for respective Airport Authority of India, Mr. Shobhit Koshta, learned counsel for Alliance Air (Air India), Mr. Praveen Das, learned Additional Advocate General for the State and Mr. Ramakant Mishra, learned Deputy Solicitor General for Union of India. Mr. Ramakant Mishra, learned Deputy Solicitor General of India appearing for Union of India submits that the Asst. Director (Operations) in the office of DDG-WR, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA),

Govt. of India, Mumbai, Maharashtra has already filed the affidavit dated 19-02-2026 in compliance of the Court's order dated 16-01-2026.

In compliance of the Courts order dated 06-04-2026, Incharge Director, Directorate of Aviation, Mahanadi Bhawan, Nava Raipur (CG.) has filed affidavit dated 16-04-2026, relevant part of which are as under:-

"2. That, the matter was listed before the Hon'ble Court for hearing on 06/04/2026 and during the course of hearing, it was pointed out that, outcome of meeting between the collector, Bilaspur and Team of ministry of defence, Govt. of India, with respect to transfer/handing over/taking over of 290.80 Acres of land for expansion of Runway and what steps have been taken after 3CIFR license including the issue of increasing similar Aircrafts of other companies upon which the Hon'ble Court, vide its order dated 06/04/2026 was pleased to direct the Director of Civil Aviation, Directorate of Civil Aviation, Mahanadi Bhawan, Mantralaya, Capital Complex, Naya Raipur Chhattisgarh to file his personal affidavit in this regard.

3. That, in compliance of the order dated 06/04/2026 passed by the Hon'ble Court, the deponent respectfully submits that Handing/Taking over the physical possession of 290.8 acres defence land between Rep of Local Military Authority, Raipur, Rep of DEO, Jabalpur and Rep of Collector, Bilaspur on 06th Apr 2026 has been completed.

4. That, the deponent respectfully submits that for developing the Bilaspur Airport, various works of extension

of Apron, construction of boundary wall of perimeter of Airport, Asphaltting the perimeter roads and runway re-carpetting work have been sanctioned. It is respectfully submitted that the work of extension of Apron has already been completed and the remaining works are under tendering process by the Department of Public Works. In addition, for maintaining the norms with respect to the manpower for proper and smooth functioning of the Airport, the recruitment process for filling up the post of Chief Security Officer, Assistant Executive, Assistant Grade III and Accountant is in process.

5. That, the deponent respectfully submits that in the aviation industry, the standard procedure for initiating new operations at an airport begins with scheduled airline operators conducting a feasibility visit. During this visit, operators evaluate the planned route and assess the availability of critical infrastructure, such as operational slots, office space, and check-in counters etc. Once infrastructure and timing are secured, the airline coordinates with the airport operators at both ends of the route to finalize a flight schedule. This proposal is then forwarded to the AAI Network Planning Section for finalization during scheduled slot meetings, before being submitted to the DGCA for formal regulatory approval. Presently Bilaspur Airport possesses the requisite infrastructure and slot capacity to support the operational requirements of any interested airline operators.

6. That, the deponent respectfully submits that after up-gradation of the airport category from 3C VER to 3C IFR, the State Government is making all its best possible

efforts for providing all aviation facilities at Bilaspur Airport so that the interested Airlines may express their view for operation of flights from Bilaspur Airport to prominent metro cities. However, till date, no Airline has shown interest to fly on commercial basis.

7. That, the deponent respectfully submits that Govt. of Chhattisgarh has paid to Alliance Air during the period from Mar 2024 to Feb 2026 more than Rs. 52 crores as VGF for operating flights. It is respectfully submitted that Chhattisgarh Govt. has paid more than Rs 50,64,48,908.18 (Rupees fifty crore Sixty-Four Lakh Forty-Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Eight and Paise Eighteen only) to Ministry of Defence for the land of 290.8 acres. Further, it is submitted that State Govt. has spent more than Rs. 100 Crore till now on Bilaspur Airport for the development, maintenance and operation of the Airport.”

The Incharge Director, Directorate of Aviation, Mahanadi Bhawan, Naya Raipur, Chhattisgarh is directed to file his personal affidavit informing further progress in the matter, on or before the next date of hearing.

Let the matter be again listed for further monitoring in the last week of July, 2026.

Sd/-

Ravindra Kumar Agrawal)
Judge

Sd/-

(Ramesh Sinha)
Chief Justice