



CGHC010258862026

HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR**WPCR No. 390 of 2026**Smt. Anita Chandra **Versus** State of Chhattisgarh**Order Sheet**

18/08/2026	Heard Mr. T.K. Jha, learned Senior Advocate assisted by Mr. Tapan Chandra, learned counsel for the petitioner as well as Mr. Saumya Rai, learned Deputy Government Advocate, appearing for the State/respondents. In compliance of the Court's order dated 30.07.2026, whereby this Court had directed to file a fresh personal affidavit regarding the progress of the investigation for tracing the missing minor girl and the suspected accused, an affidavit has been filed by the Superintendent of Police, District – Sakti (C.G.). Relevant portion of the said affidavit, read as under :- <i>“23. That, on 31.07.2026, the investigation</i>

team returned to District Sakti. It has been stated by the Investigating Officer that, when the team left for Jammu & Kashmir on 21.07.2026, try to contacted the mobile number 7889899835, which belonged to Teejram Yadav, the brother-in-law of the suspected accused, namely Sukhlal Yadav. A Copy of case diary dated 31.07.2026 is being filed and annexed here with as ANNEXURE R/1.

24. That, on 23.07.2026, the Investigating Officer, along with his team, reached Jammu Tawi. As it was very late at night and there was heavy rainfall, the team could not proceed further and stayed at Srinagar. Thereafter, on 25.07.2026, the Investigating Officer, along with his team, proceeded from Srinagar to Police Station Chadura, District Badgam. Upon reaching Police Station Chadura, the I.O along with the other team, local police officials attempted to trace the location of the aforesaid mobile number belonging to Teejram Yadav, the brother-in-law of the suspected accused, Sukhlal Yadav. The local police officials also made inquiries regarding the whereabouts of Teejram Yadav. Upon making inquiries in the nearby area, the Investigating Officer finally located Teejram

Yadav, who was residing in Village Chadura, and enquired from him regarding the whereabouts of the suspected accused, Sukhlal Yadav.

25. That, a statement of Teejram Yadav has been recorded under Section 180 BNS, upon enquiry, Teejram Yadav stated that the suspected accused, namely Sukhlal Yadav, had come to Jammu & Kashmir and had stayed with him before coming to Jammu & Kashmir, the Sukhlal Yadav along with missing minor girl to Punjab, Village Dinapur, for work for a period of approximately four to five months. However, Teejram Yadav specifically stated that when Sukhlal Yadav came to him, he was accompanied by a minor girl. Upon enquiring as to who the said minor girl was, the suspected accused, Sukhlal Yadav, refused to provide any information regarding her and subsequently left along with the minor girl without informing Teejram Yadav about her identity or whereabouts. It is pertinent to mention that, when a specific question was put to Teejram Yadav as to whether he had any information regarding the present whereabouts of the suspected accused, Sukhlal Yadav, Teejram Yadav categorically stated that he had no specific

information regarding the present location or whereabouts of Sukhlal Yadav. Further, when specific order was put to Teejlal Yadav, where he has not informed anyone about Sukhlal Yadav in his village. He denied to give such information and does not wish to give any information. A copy of statement of Teejram Yadav is being filed and annexed here with as ANNEXURE R/2.

26. That, a statement of wife of Teejram Yadav namely Premlata Yadav has been recorded upon enquiry, the wife of Teejram Yadav also stated that the suspected accused, namely Sukhlal Yadav, had come to Jammu & Kashmir and had stayed with her husband, Teejram Yadav, for the purpose of work for a period of approximately four to five months. She further stated that Sukhlal Yadav had been accompanied by a minor girl when he came to meet her husband. Upon enquiring as to who the said minor girl was, Sukhlal Yadav did not disclose any information regarding the identity or whereabouts of the said minor girl and subsequently left along with her. A copy of statement of wife of Teejram Yadav is being filed and annexed here with as ANNEXURE R/3.

27. It was further stated by the wife of Teejram Yadav that neither she nor her husband had any specific information regarding the present whereabouts or location of the suspected accused, Sukhlal Yadav, or the missing minor girl. Upon being specifically enquired as to whether Sukhlal Yadav had informed any person in the village regarding his whereabouts or the whereabouts of the minor girl, she stated that she had no such information. She further stated that she did not wish to provide any further information regarding Sukhlal Yadav or the missing minor girl. Thus, the statement of the wife of Teejram Yadav is also consistent with the statement given by Teejram Yadav regarding the suspected accused and the missing minor girl.

28. That, after receiving information that the suspected accused was residing in Jammu & Kashmir, the Investigating Officer, along with his team, visited Jammu & Kashmir and specifically conducted searches and enquiries at various localities, including Sakti Nagar, Shanti Nagar, Gobhibaadi, Trikuta Nagar, Nagrota, and Phulsai in Jammu, where labourers are known to reside. During the course of the search and enquiry, the

Investigating Officer and his team made enquiries with the local residents and labourers regarding the whereabouts of the suspected accused and the missing minor girl. However, despite making enquiries and conducting searches in the aforesaid areas, the local residents and labourers stated that they had neither seen the suspected accused nor noticed any minor girl residing in the said areas.

29. That, it has further been stated that the suspected accused, Sukhlal Yadav, is not using any mobile phone. Teejram Yadav further stated that neither had he contacted the suspected accused nor had the suspected accused contacted him. However, he came to know that the suspected accused, Sukhlal Yadav, was staying somewhere in Jammu along with the minor girl. He further stated that he had no specific information regarding the exact location or whereabouts of Sukhlal Yadav in Jammu.

27. That, on 05.08.2026, after returning from Jammu, the Investigating Officer, along with his team, further made enquiries with various persons regarding the whereabouts such as friend and family member of the missing minor girl. However, they stated that the missing

minor child has never tried to contact or has made any efforts to try to communicate with them, they had not seen or had any contact with the missing minor girl for the last one year. The mobile phones of the concerned persons were also kept under surveillance as part of the investigation. A copy of case diary dated 05.08.2026 is being filed and annexed here with as ANNEXURE R/4

28. That, it is pertinent to mention that, despite various efforts made by the Investigating Officer and his team to ascertain the whereabouts of the missing minor girl, her whereabouts could not be traced. Similarly, the present whereabouts of the suspected accused, Sukhlal Yadav, could also not be ascertained, particularly in view of the fact that he is not using any mobile phone.

29. That, on 10.08.2026, the Investigating Officer, along with his team, once again visited the house of the suspected accused, Sukhlal Yadav, and made enquiries with his family members. The family members stated that they were not in contact with Sukhlal Yadav and that he had neither called them nor sought any assistance or help from them. However, despite the aforesaid efforts and enquiries, the exact whereabouts of the

suspected accused and the missing minor girl could not be traced. The investigation is still ongoing. A copy of case diary dated 10.08.2026 is being filed and annexed here with as ANNEXURE R/5.

30. That, it is very pertinent to mention herein that a record pertaining to the missing children, including boys and girls, has been placed before this Hon'ble Court, wherein it has been specifically stated that, out of 12 missing boys, 10 have been successfully recovered, whereas, out of 81 missing girls, 49 have been successfully recovered. Thus, the aforesaid record clearly demonstrates that earnest and continuous efforts are being made by the Police at all levels to trace and recover missing children. In the present case also, the Police have made every possible effort and have left no stone unturned to trace and recover the missing minor girl. However, due to the lack of specific and reliable information regarding her whereabouts, the missing minor girl could not, till date, be traced. Nevertheless, the investigation is still ongoing, and the Police are continuing their efforts to trace and recover the missing minor girl at the earliest. A copy of the details of the missing child report is filed herewith as

ANNEXURE R/6.

31. That, it has become difficult for the investigating team to ascertain his exact location and place of residence. It is further submitted that the police investigation team, along with other police constables, is still present at Srinagar and is making efforts to trace the suspected accused, Sukhlal Yadav. The search operation has been conducted at various locations in Srinagar, and further enquiries are still in progress. However, despite the efforts made by the investigating team, the whereabouts of the suspected accused, Sukhlal Yadav, as well as the minor girl child, could not be ascertained till date. It has also been found that there has been no communication between Sukhlal Yadav and the minor girl child through the mobile numbers available with the investigating agency.”

Learned State counsel submits that the Investigating Agency has made continuous, sincere and exhaustive efforts to trace the missing minor girl and the suspected accused, Sukhlal Yadav. Pursuant to the investigation, the police team proceeded to Jammu & Kashmir, made enquiries with the

	concerned local police authorities, traced and examined Teejram Yadav and his wife Premlata Yadav, conducted searches and enquiries at various localities including Chadura, Sakti Nagar, Shanti Nagar, Gobhibaadi, Trikuta Nagar, Nagrota, Phulsai and Srinagar, and also made enquiries with local residents, labourers, friends, relatives and family members of the missing minor girl and the suspected accused. The statements recorded during the course of investigation disclose that the suspected accused had previously been accompanied by a minor girl, but neither Teejram Yadav nor his wife could furnish any specific information regarding the identity or present whereabouts of the minor girl or the suspected accused. It has further been ascertained that the suspected accused is not presently using any mobile phone and that there has been no communication between him and the persons known to him or through the mobile numbers available with the Investigating Agency, thereby making his location difficult to ascertain. The Investigating Agency has also continued surveillance and made repeated visits to
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the house of the suspected accused and enquiries with his family members, but no useful information could be obtained. Despite all such efforts, the whereabouts of the missing minor girl and the suspected accused could not be traced till date; however, the investigation remains active and the police team is continuing its search and making all possible efforts to secure the recovery of the minor girl at the earliest. He further submitted that there has been no negligence or lack of diligence on the part of the Investigating Agency and that, in view of the ongoing investigation and the efforts being undertaken at various levels, this Hon'ble Court may kindly take the aforesaid facts on record and grant such further time and appropriate directions as may be deemed fit and proper in the interest of justice.

Learned Senior Advocate, appearing for the petitioner would submit that the affidavit filed by the concerned Superintendent of Police is contradictory as in paragraph 23 of the said affidavit, it has been stated that when the team left for Jammu & Kashmir on 21.07.2026, try to contacted the mobile number

7889899835, which belonged to Teejram Yadav, the brother-in-law of the suspected accused, namely Sukhlal Yadav whereas in paragraph 31, it has been stated that the police investigation team, along with other police constables, is still present at Srinagar and is making efforts to trace the suspected accused, Sukhlal Yadav.

In view of the above, further two weeks' time is granted to the Investigating Agency for tracing the missing minor girl and the suspected accused.

List the matter after two weeks, by which date, the Superintendent of Police, Sakti is directed to file a fresh personal affidavit regarding the progress of investigation for tracing the missing minor girl and the suspected accused.

Sd/-
(Ravindra Kumar Agrawal)
Judge

Sd/-
(Ramesh Sinha)
Chief Justice