



HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

WPPIL No. 58 of 2019

SANJAY RAJAK **versus** STATE OF CHHATTISGARH

WPPIL/63/2019

Order Sheet

14/10/2025	Heard Mr. Sunil Otvani, learned Senior Counsel assisted by Mr. Anshul Tiwari, learned counsel for the petitioner in WPPIL No. 58 of 2019 and Mr. V. Jayant Kumar on behalf of Mr. Prakash Tiwari, learned counsel for the petitioner in WPPIL No. 63 of 2019. Also heard Mr. Prafull N. Bharat, Advocate General assisted by Mr. Yashwant Singh Thakur, learned Additional Advocate General, appearing for the Respondent/State, Mr. Dhiraj Kumar Wankhede, learned counsel appearing for the Respondent/NHAI, Mr. Tushar Dhar Diwan, learned Central Government Counsel appearing for the Respondent/UOI,

Dr. Sudeep Agrawal, Mr. Anil S. Pandey, Mr. Dinesh Yadav on behalf of Mr. Anuroop Panda, Mr. Adarsh Rajput on behalf of Mr. Rajnish Singh Baghel, Mr. Saurabh Gupta, on behalf of Mr. Sourabh Sharma, appearing for the respective respondents and Mr. Goutam Khetrapal, Mr. Mayank Chandrakar and Mr. R. S. Patel, learned counsel for the intervenor.

The learned Advocate General submits that in compliance of the Court's order dated 19.09.2025, the District Magistrate, Bilaspur, District Bilaspur has filed his personal affidavit which is reproduced hereinbelow:

“1. That, the Hon'ble Court vide order dated 19.09.2025 had directed the District Magistrate Bilaspur to file his personal affidavit clearly indicating the steps taken by him in response to the news reports pertaining to the incidents involving the deaths of cattle on public roads. The affidavit shall also detail any preventive or remedial measures initiated by the district administration in this regard.

2. It is most humbly submitted by the deponent that the instructions have been issued to control serious accidents caused by cattle on the roads in the district, remove traffic obstructions, manage stray/wandering animals

and resolve accidents/problems and ensure public safety. In the district, under village Baridih Block Kota, on 14.07.2025, 13 cows were crushed to death and 04 cows were injured due to being crushed by a, speeding vehicle near Baridih on Kenda road in Ratanpur police station area and also on 28.07.2025, 19 cows were crushed by an unknown speeding vehicle in Bilha Block, out of which 18 cows died and 01 cow was seriously injured. The deponent constituted a committee heading by concerned Sub Divisional Officer (Revenue) and directed to submit the report within one week. The Sub Divisional Officer (Revenue), Masturi, after due enquiry, submitted its report that on the incident occurred on 17.09.2025, the Police has registered the FIR No. 627/2025 for the offence punishable under Section 281, 325 of B.N.S. and U/s 10, 04, 06 of Chhattisgarh Agricultural Cattle Preservation Act, 2004 in which during the investigation accused Rajtilak Patel driver of the vehicle has been arrested. The vehicle Trailer CG 11 AK 9525 has also been seized. Copy of enquiry report dated 07.10.2025 of Sub Divisional Officer (R), Masturi is filed herewith as **ANNEXURE X/1**.

That, on the incident occurred on 17.09.2025 near village Gatouri on N.H. 130 in which 8

cattle crushed by the vehicle, the Sub Divisional Officer (Revenue), Bilaspur made enquiry. After due enquiry, the Sub Divisional Officer (Revenue), Bilaspur submitted its report stating that the Police of Police Station Koni registered the FIR No. 292/2025 against unknown person and the investigation in the case is under progress. Copy of report dated 30.09.2025 of Sub Divisional Officer (Revenue), Bilaspur is filed herewith as **ANNEXURE X/2.**

3. It is humbly submitted that the Government of India has issued a Tollfree number 1962 for providing treatment to the injured cattle. After receiving the call, the Mobile Veterinary Unit Vehicle will reach on the place of accident and will provide emergency medical treatment. In District Bilaspur, total 6 Mobile Veterinary Unit Vehicle is working which provides emergency medical treatment to the injured cattle.

4. It is most humbly submitted that for establishment of Jogipur Cow Sanctuary, Cow Protection Trench has been constructed on 205.10 acres of land. For early establishment of the Cow Sanctuary, the Chief Executive Officer, Zila Panchayat, Bilaspur has approved the construction of three cattle sheds and a chain-link fence. It is submitted that the

	borewell, feeding manger (water trench), land leveling and three cattle sheds have already been constructed. The constructed sheds have accommodation for 600 animals. For the establishment of Jogipur Cow Sanctuary, the Chhattisgarh Government's Livestock Development Department vide order dated 10.09.2024 has approved the funds of Rs. 5 Crores for Three Cow Santuries and the Gauseva Aayog, Raipur has been directed to complete the work on priority and expedite the detailed action plan. Thus, the target has been set to accommodate a total of 1600 unproductive old animals in the Cow Sanctuary Jogipur. A proposal has been sent to the Gauseva Commission for installation of fencing and solar system in the cow sanctuary Jogipur, which has already been approved and administrative approval has been sanctioned from the State Government. The fund has also been released to Gau Seva Ayog for construction and completion of project. The Joint Director, Veterinary Services, Bilaspur has sent proposal of sanction of setup of the posts for Cow Sanctuary Jogipur to the Registrar, Chhattisgarh Gau Seva Ayog, Raipur on 04.08.2025 and the same is awaited. Copy of letters regarding establishment of Cow Sanctuary Jogipur are filed herewith as
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ANNEXURE X/3 Collectively.

5. It is submitted that by letter dated 29.09.2024 the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Bilaspur, permission has been granted permission to distribute the stray cows to the willing persons. Last year total 83 cows have been distributed to the 33 willing families from the Gothan situated at Mopka.

6. It is further submitted that the deponent vide order dated 29.08.2025 formed departmental teams in all the blocks of the district for monitoring and management of stray animals. Copy of order dated 29.08.2025 is filed herewith as **ANNEXURE X/4**.

7. It is submitted that on 06.01.2025 for changing behaviour of the cattle owners, the Chief Executive Officer, Zila Panchayat, Bilaspur has issued instructions to all the Chief Executive Officer of Janpad Panchayats of the District. Vide order dated 06.01.2025 it is instructed that the subject of 'Management of stray animals on the road' should be included as a mandatory agenda of the scheduled Gram Sabhas/meetings to be held in the Gram measures/alternatives Panchayats should and effective be sought and implemented after discussion with the villagers. Panchayats should conduct public awareness campaigns to

promote behavior change among villagers through street plays and cultural programs in local markets and other public places. For this, assistance can also be sought from NGOs, voluntary organizations, etc. working in the area. They should be employed to educate and raise awareness among villagers through behavior change and public awareness programs. For the management of stray animals on the road, publicity should be made through various means like wall writing, poster banner, loudspeaker etc. to promote behaviour change and public awareness. Further a review meeting should be held with animal owners on regularly scheduled dates every month regarding preventing their animals from going on the road. Copy of order dated 06.01.2025 is filed herewith as **ANNEXURE X/5**. It is further submitted that for changing behavior of the cattle owners, the District Administration is regularly convening the Janchopal in presence of Panchayat Secretaries and other Panchayat officials in the villages. In Block Bilha total 38, in Block Kota total 36, in Block Masturi 22 and in Block Takhatpur total 45 Janchopal have been organized by the district administration and made appeal to not leave the cattle on the road.

8. That, a proposal have been sent to

establishment of seven "Gaudham" for keeping the stray cattle at 7 places i.e. village Okhar, Lakhasar, Paraghat Kanai (Khondra), Jaitpur, Chhatouna and Kuli to the Registrar, Gou Seva Ayog on 24.09.2025 & 09.10.2025. Copy of proposals dated 24.09.2025 & 09.10.2025 are filed herewith as **ANNEXURE X/6**.

9. It is humbly submitted that the marked places where the cattle gathered at National Highway, solar lights are being installed. In two places at Darrighat and Dhekha, solar lights have already been installed. Copy of photographs are filed herewith as **ANNEXURE X/7**.

That, in National Highway 130A Bilaspur Takhatpur Mungeli Pandariya, Indicator Boards have been installed on the accident prone areas. Copy of photographs are filed herewith as **ANNEXURE X/8**. That a proposal has also been sent to the Regional Officer, Ministry of Road Transport for installation of Indicator Boards on the accident prone areas at National Highways.

10. It is also submitted that a proposal has also been sent to the Regional Officer, Ministry of Transport and National Highway for development of cattle Zone through cement concrete on NH 130 A between Sakri and

Khamhariya. Copy of proposal dated 08.10.2025 is filed herewith as **ANNEXURE X/9.**

The learned Advocate General submits that the Chief Secretary, State of Chhattisgarh, has recently joined his office. Therefore, he prays for further time to file the affidavit in compliance with the Court's order dated 19.09.2025.

An application (I.A. No. 14 of 2025) has also been filed by the Chief Secretary, State of Chhattisgarh, Raipur for giving some more time to him to prepare road map and to examine and consider the whole issue involved in the petition as he has recently appointed Chief Secretary of the State of Chhattisgarh,

In view of the same two weeks' time is allowed to the Chief Secretary to file his personal affidavit in compliance of the Courts' order dated 19.09.2025.

I.A. No. 14/2025, is accordingly disposed of.

Mr. Goutarm Khetrapal, Intervenor has filed intervenor application stating about the large number of stray animals, including cattle, are found sitting on the public roads in the night in between Bilaspur to Janjgir-Champa on the National Highways, the Chief Secretary is

also directed to take a response on the said intervention application and to file an affidavit to that regard also.

Let these matters be listed again on **11th of November, 2025.**

Sd/-

(Ravindra Kumar Agrawal)
Judge

Sd/-

(Ramesh Sinha)
Chief Justice