



# HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

## WPIL No. 62 of 2025

In the matter of Suo Moto Public Interest Litigation

**Versus**

State of Chhattisgarh & Others

### Order Sheet

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| <b>22/09/2025</b> | <p>This is an office reference.</p> <p>Mr. Shashank Thakur, learned Deputy Advocate General, appearing for the State/respondents.</p> <p>In compliance of the Court's order dated 03.09.2025, an affidavit has been filed by the Chief Secretary, State of Chhattisgarh, relevant portion of the said affidavit reads as under :-</p> <p><i>"3. That, the deponent, having the highest regards and great respect for the lawful authority of this Hon'ble Court and its orders and directions issued from time to time, most humbly and respectfully submits that pursuant to the order dated 29/07/2025 passed by the Hon'ble Court, an affidavit was earlier filed by the deponent wherein it has been submitted that the Department of Home, Govt. of</i></p> |

*Chhattisgarh has forwarded the revised proposal after curing the defects / objections to the LWED Department of Home, Government of India vide letter dated 20/08/2025 for construction of bridge in Kanker District as well as other 3 districts of the State of Chhattisgarh.*

*4. That, the deponent respectfully submits that the Hon'ble Court has taken further cognizance of the news item published in the newspaper namely "Dainik Bhaskar" dated 02/09/2025 as well as "the Times of India" dated 03/09/2025 with respect to the children crossing the river /stream by the help of wooden logs. The Hon'ble Court, taking cognizance of the said news items, has directed the Chief Secretary, Government of Chhattisgarh Raipur / deponent herein to file affidavit in the matter showing the initiatives which have been taken by the Central Government regarding the construction of the large bridge over the stream and further in relation to the aforesaid news items before the next date of hearing.*

*5. That in compliance of the order dated 03/09/2025 passed by the Hon'ble Court, the deponent respectfully submits that the Department of Home, Government of India vide letter dated 12/09/2025, has made a request for grant of approval for the project submitted by the Government of Chhattisgarh with respect to construction of large / high level bridge in L/036 Temnapani Khamhapara to Kanamgaon Khamhapara RD 2100 m. at 34.62 meter length in District Kanker under the head of Special*

*Project. Copy of the reminder letter dated 12/09/2025 is being filed herewith as Annexure A/7 for kind perusal of the Hon'ble Court.*

*6. It is respectfully submitted that the State Government is continuously perusing the matter with the Department of Home, Government of India and as soon as the administrative approval for construction of the said Bridge is received, the work of the same would be expedited.*

*7. That, the deponent respectfully submits that in Km 36/6 in road from Chitrakote to Barsoor, a bridge over the Mandher Naala was constructed by the Department of Public Works. It is submitted that in the month of August, 2025, there was excessive rainfall in the Bastar Division, due to which one side approach of the said bridge of near about 100 meter constructed over the Mandher Naala was washed away by the huge flow of water, rendering the said bridge unusable. Copy of the photographs before restoration is annexed herewith as Annexure A/8.*

*8. That, the deponent respectfully submits that up to 04/09/2025 due to heavy rainfall the water level was high in "Mandher Naala" and hence, the restoration works of the approach of the bridge could not be started nor any alternative arrangement could be made. However, after lowering down the rainfall, the restoration work was started from 05/09/2025 and the same was completed within 2-3 days. It is submitted that after restoration works, the*

*approach road which connects the bridge which was washed away due to heavy rainfalls has been restored to its original position and now the same is being used regularly by the public at large. To demonstrate this fact, copy of the photographs after restoration is filed herewith as Annexure A/9.*

*9. That, the deponent further respectfully submits that vide order dated 09/07/2025 the Department of Public Works, Government of Chhattisgarh has accorded an administrative approval for the construction of high level bridge and approach road over the said Mandher Naala and for the said work, an amount of Rs. 585.60 lakh has also been sanctioned. A copy of the administrative approval order dated 09/07/2025 is being filed herewith as Annexure A/10.*

*10. That, the deponent respectfully submits that in the months of July and August, the region witnessed the excessive rainfall and water level of the Mandher Naala raised to a high and alarming level and it came to the notice of the authorities that the height which has been proposed earlier, needs to be increased as the height which was proposed was on the basis of the Highest Flood Level (in short as HFL) which was 101.110 meter. It is respectfully submitted that now the technical parameters of the proposed bridge needs to be revised in light of the amended HFL which has been taken with 106.60 meter. It is respectfully submitted that a revised proposal will be prepared on the basis of the increased HFL and*

*after obtaining necessary administrative approval, the work of new bridge would be started.*

It is stated that though vide order dated 09/07/2025 the Department of Public Works, Government of Chhattisgarh has accorded an administrative approval for the construction of high level bridge and approach road over the said Mandher Naala and for the said work, an amount of Rs. 585.60 lakh has also been sanctioned, but as in the months of July and August, the region witnessed the excessive rainfall and water level of the Mandher Naala raised to a high and alarming level and it came to the notice of the authorities that the height which has been proposed earlier, needs to be increased as the height which was proposed was on the basis of the Highest Flood Level (in short as HFL) which was 101.110 meter, therefore, now the technical parameters of the proposed bridge needs to be revised in light of the amended HFL which has been taken with 106.60 meter and a revised proposal will be prepared on the basis of

the increased HFL and after obtaining necessary administrative approval, the work of new bridge would be started.

In view of the above, let fresh affidavit be filed by the Chief Secretary, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur showing the steps which are to be taken by the authorities for preparing a revised proposal on the basis of the increased HFL and for obtaining necessary administrative approval for construction of the new bridge.

Let this matter be listed on **09.12.2025**.

Sd/-  
**(Bibhu Datta Guru)**  
Judge

Sd/-  
**(Ramesh Sinha)**  
Chief Justice