

**HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR****WPPIL No. 88 of 2023**

IN THE MATTER OF SUO MOTO PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION,
REGARDING NOISE POLLUTION BASED ON NEWS ITEM **versus**
THE CHIEF SECRETARY

Order on Board

17/12/2025	<p>This is an office reference.</p> <p>Heard Mr. Praveen Das, Dy. A.G. for the State, Mr. Sourabh Kale on behalf of Mr. Trivikram Nayak for the CGMSC and Ms. Surya Kawalkar Dangi and Mr. Harshmander Rastogi, learned counsel for the Intervener.</p> <p>In compliance of court order dated 15.12.2025 affidavit has been submitted by Collector, Bilaspur. The relevant portion of the affidavit is reproduced herein below:-</p>

“ XXX

2. *In the present case, the Hon'ble Court on 12.12.2025, directed the Additional Chief Secretary, Chhattisgarh, Department of Home, to file his personal affidavit, however, on 15.12.2025 a news item caught eye of the Hon'ble Court which was published in the Hindi Daily Newspaper, Dainik Bhaskar with a heading "देर रात लाउडस्पीकर का शोर, ओम विहार में ध्वनि प्रदूषण से लोग परेशान" and the matter was then again taken up by the Hon'ble Court for hearing on 15.12.2025, after consideration on the aforesaid news item the Hon'ble Court directed the Collector, Bilaspur (Deponent) to file personal affidavit with respect to the aforesaid news item.*

3. *That, at the outset the deponent most respectfully submits that he has the highest regard and great respect of the*

lawful authority of the Hon'ble Court and it's orders, directions and instructions issued by this Hon'ble Court from time to time.

4. The deponent most respectfully submits that taking cognizance of the Hon'ble Court's direction dated 15.12.2025 a preliminary inquiry was conducted and initial statements were recorded from the complainant Anuraj Agrawal and the priest of the Lateshwar Mahadev Mandir. The complaint alleges that the temple's loud speaker is used daily from approximately 4:00 AM to 8:00 AM and again from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM, causing significant distress to local residents. The temple priest, Ashok Mishra, on the other hand, claims that the temple is undergoing repair and that prayers are held daily, but the use of the loud speaker is limited to a slow volume for only 10-15

minutes in the morning and evening denying the aggressive use of the loudspeaker.

5. Further the investigation involved interviewing several neighborhood residents, including Shrimati Sandhya Sinha, Sushila Singh, Preeti Nayak and Ajay Kumar, regarding the noise levels emanating from the temple. These residents largely corroborated the priest's statement, confirming that the loudspeaker is not played at a high volume but rather at a slow volume for a short duration. Therefore, on the basis of the above mentioned inquiry it is crystal clear that the complaint filed by the complainant was baseless and unfounded. A letter dated 15.12.2025, has been submitted by the Station House Officer, to the Senior P.S. Sarkanda (C.G.) Superintendent of Police and the same has been

forwarded to the office of Advocate General with regard to the above held enquiry report, it is submitted that in the statement of the local residents it has become clear that the loud speaker was being played for some time in the morning and the evening hours however, presently the same has been removed. It is submitted that a panchnama has also been prepared wherein the complainant has also signed and it is clear that that the loud speaker has been removed. A copy of the panchnama and 15.12.2025 alongwith relevant records are collectively annexed herewith as ANNEXURE A/1. including the statements recorded from the Anurag Agrawal and the priest of the Lateshwar Mahadev Mandir alongwith the statements of neighborhood residents. including Shrimati Sandhya Sinha,

Sushila Singh, Preeti Nayak and Ajay Kumar. It is submitted that a panchnama has also been prepared wherein no loud speaker has been found in the temple and the said panchanama has been duly signed by the complainant Anurag Agrawal.

6. 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.

XXX “

Learned State counsel points out that preliminary inquiry was conducted and it was found that except the complainant namely Anuraj Agrawal, no local resident has made complaint regarding playing of loud speaker in high volume. It is further stated that the loud speaker is played on slow volume for only 10-15 minutes only. He

further submits that the loud speaker has also been removed from the place.

Let the matter be listed again on **3rd February, 2026** for further monitoring.

We hope and trust that the Collector and the concerned Superintendent of Police shall ensure no such incident further takes place.

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

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