

**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 & Others

Order Sheet

12/03/2026	<p>This is an office reference.</p> <p>Heard Mr. Praveen Das, learned Additional Advocate General for the State, Mr. Trivikram Nayak, learned counsel for CGMSC, Ms. Surya Kawalkar Dangi and Mr. Harishmander Rastogi, learned counsel for the intervener.</p> <p>In compliance to the Court's order dated 03.02.2026, the Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department (C.G.), has filed his affidavit, relevant paras of which are reproduced hereinbelow:</p>

“4. That in compliance with the directions of this Hon'ble Court, a meeting was convened on 18.02.2026 at Mantralaya, Nava Raipur under the chairmanship of the undersigned, wherein representatives of the following departments and authorities were present:

Police Headquarters, Chhattisgarh

Housing and Environment Department

Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board

Law and Legislative Affairs Department

Urban Administration and Development Department

- HOD and Professor from the department of Radiology, Govt

Medical College Raipur

Officers of the Home Department

Copy of the minutes of meeting convened on 18.02.2026 is hereby marked and annexed herewith as ANNEXURE A-1.

5. That during the said meeting, the issue regarding the possible hazards of laser lights on human beings, particularly on the eyes and vision, was deliberated in detail

with the concerned medical experts and departmental representatives.

6. That the HOD and Professor from the department of Radiology present in the meeting informed that no specific scientific study or research regarding the adverse effects of laser lights on human beings has so far been conducted within the State of Chhattisgarh.

7. That the representative from Police Headquarters also informed that presently the police authorities do not possess any technical equipment or mechanism to scientifically assess the hazards posed by laser lights, and further that there is no specific statutory provision under the existing legal framework enabling the police to take action solely on the basis of use of laser lights during events. That it was also brought to the notice of the meeting that certain instances reported from the State of Maharashtra relating to loss of vision and other adverse effects allegedly caused due to exposure to laser lights have been referred to before this Hon'ble Court.

9. That in order to obtain authentic and scientific information regarding the said issue, the Home Department, Government of Chhattisgarh addressed a communication dated 25.02.2026 to the Health Department, Government of Maharashtra, seeking details of any studies, research material, or documented medical evidence regarding the harmful effects of laser lights on human beings. Copy of the said communication dated 25.02.2026 is hereby marked and annexed herewith as ANNEXURE A-2.

10. That further communication dated 10.03.2026 have also been issued to the Health and Family Welfare Department of the State of Chhattisgarh seeking information as to whether any cases, complaints, medical reports relating to injuries or adverse health effects caused by laser lights have been reported within the State. Copy of the said communication dated 10.03.2026 is hereby marked and annexed herewith as ANNEXURE A-3.

11. That so far as the second issue relating to amendment of the Kolahal Niyam, 1985 is concerned, it is respectfully submitted that the proposal for amendment of the relevant provisions of the said Act is presently under active consideration before the Home Department, Government of Chhattisgarh.

12. That in this regard, consultations are being undertaken with various stakeholders including the Police Department, Environment Department, Urban Administration Department and District Administration authorities so as to examine possible amendments required for more effective regulation of noise pollution and associated activities. That in continuation of the above process, a meeting through video conference has been scheduled on 16.03.2026 under the chairmanship of the Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department, wherein Divisional Commissioners, Collectors, Inspectors General of Police and Superintendents of Police across the State have been requested to participate and provide their

suggestions regarding the proposed amendments to the Kolahal Niyantran Adhinyam, 1985. Copy of the said communication dated 09.03.2026 is hereby marked and annexed herewith as ANNEXURE A-4.

14. That the State Government is actively examining the issue and is taking necessary steps to ensure that the proposed amendments are finalized expeditiously, keeping in view the concerns expressed by this Hon'ble Court regarding the hardship caused to citizens due to noise pollution.

15. That the State Government reiterates its commitment to ensuring effective implementation of the laws relating to control of noise pollution and protection of public health and safety, and is taking all necessary steps in compliance with the directions issued by this Hon'ble Court.”

Perusal of the affidavit filed on behalf of the State goes to show that, in compliance with the directions issued by this Court, a meeting was convened on

18.02.2026 at Mantralaya, Nava Raipur under the chairmanship of the concerned authority, wherein representatives of Police Headquarters, Housing and Environment Department, Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board, Law and Legislative Affairs Department, Urban Administration and Development Department, officers of the Home Department and the HOD and Professor from the Department of Radiology, Government Medical College, Raipur were present. During the said meeting, the issue relating to the possible hazards of laser lights on human beings, particularly on eyesight and vision, was deliberated upon with the concerned medical experts and departmental representatives. It has been stated in the affidavit that no specific scientific study regarding the adverse effects of laser lights on human beings has so far been conducted within the State of Chhattisgarh and that the police authorities presently do not possess any technical mechanism to scientifically assess such hazards, nor is there any specific statutory provision

enabling action solely on the basis of use of laser lights during events. It has further been stated that in order to obtain authentic scientific information on the subject, communications dated 25.02.2026 and 10.03.2026 have been addressed to the Health Department of the State of Maharashtra and the Health and Family Welfare Department of the State of Chhattisgarh respectively seeking information regarding any studies, research material, medical evidence or reported cases relating to adverse effects caused by laser lights. The affidavit further discloses that the proposal for amendment of the Kolahal Niyam, 1985 is presently under consideration before the Home Department and consultations are being undertaken with various stakeholders including the Police Department, Environment Department, Urban Administration Department and District Administration authorities.

Learned State counsel further submits that a meeting through video conference has been

	<p>scheduled on 16.03.2026 under the chairmanship of the Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department with Divisional Commissioners, Collectors, Inspectors General of Police and Superintendents of Police across the State to obtain their suggestions regarding the proposed amendments. The State Government has further reiterated in the affidavit that it is actively examining the issue and taking necessary steps to ensure expeditious finalization of the proposed amendments so as to effectively address the concerns relating to noise pollution and protection of public health.</p> <p>In view of the same, let the matter be listed again 01.04.2026.</p> <p>Fresh affidavit shall be filed by the State authorities, disclosing the progress in the matter till the next date of hearing.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sd/- Sd/-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Ravindra Kumar Agrawal) (Ramesh Sinha) Judge Chief Justice</p>
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