

**HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR****WPPIL No. 95 of 2024**

In The Matter Of Suo Moto Public Interest Litigation

versus

State Of Chhattisgarh & Others

Order Sheet

28/04/2025	<p>This is an office reference.</p> <p>On the last date of hearing i.e. on 07.04.2025, this Court had directed the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Bilaspur to file an affidavit with respect to the present situation and how the authorities are controlling/dealing with the offences which are being registered under the Cigarettes or Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003.</p> <p>Pursuant to the above, affidavit has been filed by the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Bilaspur, the relevant portion of which reads as under:</p>

“4. In order to ensure effective implementation of COPTA, 2003, regular monitoring/inspections are being done by the stakeholders and also other departments to avoid selling of cigarettes, gutkha and other tobacco products and also the shops which are operative near schools & colleges.

5. It is respectfully submitted that the concerned authorities are monitoring and doing surprise checking to stop selling of tobacco produces near schools & colleges and precautionary measures /steps are regularly undertaken to restrain the selling of tobacco products.

6. It is further respectfully submitted that the schools have now closed for the summers while the colleges are regularly continuing their semesters and exams. Frequent awareness programmes to create awareness amongst all sections of students will be undertaken at regular intervals immediately upon reopening of these educational institutions

7. The deponent respectfully submits that for effective implementation of COPTA, 2003, all concrete steps are being taken in order to curb the hazardous effects and serious threats of tobacco products.”

Let the matter be listed again on **29th July, 2025** for further monitoring.

Sd/-
(Arvind Kumar Verma)
JUDGE

Sd/-
(Ramesh Sinha)
CHIEF JUSTICE