

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

IN THE MATTER OF SUO MOTO PUBLIC INTEREST
LITIGATION, **versus** STATE OF CHHATTISGARH

Order on Board

29/07/2025	<p>This is an office reference.</p> <p>Heard Mr. Shashank Thakur, learned Dy. A.G. for the State/ respondent and Mr. T.K. Jha, learned counsel for intervener.</p> <p><u>I.A. No. 05/25</u> i.e. application for seeking permission to intervene in the matter.</p> <p>The aforesaid application is filed by Mr. Lokeshwar Singh Chandra by which he has</p>

brought into record the condition of the basic amenities of the District Sakti.

On due consideration, the application (I.A. No. 05/25) is allowed.

In compliance to the court's order dated 14.07.2025, the respondent No. 2 i.e. Secretary, School Education Department, Government of C.G. has filed his personal affidavit, relevant portion of which is reproduced hereinbelow:-

a. That, the incident on occurred on 08/07/2025 with the student of the school namely Khileshwar Patel, student of Class III, was immediately reported by one of the students playing in the playground of the school, to the Head Master, Primary School Sendri upon which the Head Master of the said school alongwith other teacher immediately rushed to the incident place and found that the right hand of said student was stuck to an electric wire. The said student was immediately separated by dashing it from

the foot. Thereafter, the student was immediately admitted to the nearby hospital where a preliminary aid treatment was given by the doctor to the said student. The said student remained in the hospital till 4 PM and thereafter, after examination, the doctor discharged the said student from the hospital.

b. That, on 09/07/2025 the mother of the said student came to the school where his mother stated about this unwell. Upon the same, on the same date, the said student was got admitted at Srishti Hospital, Jarhabhata Bilaspur where the best and possible treatment has been given to the said student by the attending doctor. The said student remained in the said hospital till 14/07/2025 and after being well completely, the doctor discharged the said student from the hospital. A report to the aforesaid effect has been received from the Head Master, Primary School Sendri. To demonstrate this fact, copy of the report alongwith the photograph is being filed Therewith as Annexure A/1 colly.

c. That, the incident occurred on 08/07/2025 with the student of the school namely Khileshwar Patel, student of Class III, was also immediately reported to the officials of the CSPDCL Company Sendri with a request to do the needful in the matter. That, after receipt of the aforesaid information from the Head Master, Primary aSchool Sendri, the attending Lineman of CSPDCL Company Sendri immediately rushed to the incident and cut the power flowing in the wire from which the student was stuck. The said lineman changed the wire from the electric meter fitted in the school. Thereafter, the wire coming from the said electric meter fitted in the school has completed been got changed by the Head Master, Primary School Sendri with the help of private electrician. After changing the entire wire. as of now, no electric current over the walls of the school buildings has been reported and a report in this regard, has been submitted by the Head Master, Primary School Sendri. Copy of which is being filed herewith as Annexure A/2.

	<p>d. That, the alleged incident spot / place has also been inspected by the Junior Engineer of CSPDCL Company Sendri on 13/07/2025 and in the course of inspection, it has been found that over the roof of the building of the school, there was water stored due to the rainfall which resulted in wetting the wall of the school building. The wire coming from the electric meter fitted in the school was in a bad condition, due to which the electric current was flowing in the walls of the school buildings. The Junior Engineer also found that the wire of the LT Line carrying the electric current, was touching with the wall of the school building and due to the contact with the said wire coming from the LT Line, the student faced a serious incident. In the inspection, it was also found that there was an Insulator fitted with the said wire coming from LT Line which suggested that due to the fault in the internal wiring of the building, the alleged incident happened. All the lacunas found at the time of inspection has been removed by the official of the CSPDCL</p>
--	--

Company Sendri and a report to this effect has been received from him. To demonstrate this fact, copy of the report of Junior Engineer, CSPDCL. Company Sendri is being filed herewith as Annexure A/3.

e. That, with regard to the action plan for immediate rectification of the existing hazards as such high tension lines, pruning of trees coming in contract with electric lines and repairs and maintenance of school buildings vulnerable to electric current leakage, the deponent most humbly and respectfully submits that, he initially tenders his unconditional apology for any act or omission on his part which may fall within the ambit of violation of the orders or directions of the Hon'ble Court and for the said action plan as demanded by the Hon'ble Court in the matter, two months time is essentially required for the reason that there are more than 45000 schools in the entire State of Chhattisgarh. As per the information supplied by the Directorate of Public Instructions, Chhattisgarh, all the District Education

Officers of State of Chhattisgarh have already been instructed to supply a detailed information about the schools where the high tension lines are passing either over the school or nearby the school, pruning of trees coming in contact with electric lines and schools facing electric current leakage due to rain so that a comprehensive action plan could be prepared. It is submitted that a better comprehensive action plan could only be prepared on the basis of a preliminary inspection of the school for which necessary instructions have already been issued to all the concern authorities. To demonstrate this fact, copy of the letter dated 15/07/2025 issued by the Deputy Director, Directorate of Public Instructions, Chhattisgarh is filed herewith as Annexure A/4.

Under the aforesaid circumstances, the deponent most humbly and respectfully prays from this Hon'ble Court to grant a suitable time of two months for preparation of the said action plan so that the hazards mentioned in the order of this Hon'ble Court could, in all

possibility, be rectified from such schools.

f. That, the deponent most humbly and respectfully submits that he is a law abiding person and has 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 and he is duty bound to abide by and adhere to the orders and directions of this Hon'ble Court.”

From perusal of the aforesaid affidavit it transpires that the concerned Secretary has sought two months time for preparation of an action plan as there are more than 45,000 schools in the entire State of C.G. and to prepare a comprehensive plan preliminary inspection of all the schools is necessary.

Apart from this, it is the responsibility of the Education Department that it should ensure the safety of the children who are going to schools. After taking cognizance of the matter in the present PIL by this Court, the Education department would have wake up. It is little bit

painful that so many children in entire State of C.G. are going to attend school and their safety is being compromised. Though on occasions, the State Government has paid compensation for the casualties taken place but loss of life cannot be compensated in terms of money those who lose their children due to lack of safety measures for school going children.

We further hope and trust that the Secretary, School Education shall ensure that the schools are safe and all basic amenities are provided in the school for safety of children.

The Secretary, Department of School Education is directed to file a fresh affidavit with regard to the comprehensive action plan and the issues raised by the intervener in the I.A. No. 05/2025.

List the case on **2nd September, 2025.**

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

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