



HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

WPPIL No. 95 of 2025

In The Suo Moto Public Interest Litigation Based On News Item Published In Navbharat, Last Page, Bilaspur, Thursday Dated 23.10.2025 Vidambana Gayon Ki Maut Par Sawal, Veterinary Vibhag Par Laaparvahi Ka Aarop, Beltara Va Sukalkari Bane Kabragaha Bhukh Pyas Se Tadapkar Mar Rahi Gayen

... Petitioner(s)

versus

- 1 - State Of Chhattisgarh Through Chief Secretary, Mahanadi Bhawan, Atal Nagar, Naya Raipur, Chhattisgarh
- 2 - Principal Secretary Animal Husbandry And Veterinary Services Department, Mahanadi Bhawan, Atal Nagar, Naya Raipur, Chhattisgarh
- 3 - Directorate Of Veterinary Services Through Director, Ground Floor Block No. 3 Indravati Bhawan Naya Raipur, Chhattisgarh
- 4 - Director Chhattisgarh Rajya Pashu Chikitsa Parishad, Raipur
- 5 - Collector Bilaspur District Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh

... Respondent(s)

Order Sheet

23/10/2025	This is an office reference. This suo-moto public interest litigation petition has been registered on the basis of a news item published today in Hindi Daily, Navbharat with a heading “बेलतरा व सुकलकारी बने कब्रगाह भूख-प्यास से तड़पकर मर रही गायें” and sub-heading “विडंबना: गायों की मौत पर सवाल, वेटनरी विभाग की लापरवाही का आरोप ”. Heard Mr. Ajit Singh, learned Government Advocate for the State/respondents. The aforesaid news report goes to state that cattle are dying continuously in the Beltara and Sukulkari areas of the Masturi Block of District Bilaspur. Temporarily housed cows are dying due to lack of proper management, food, water, and medical care. According to local villagers, more than a dozen cows have died in Beltara and 04 in Sukulkari, but the Veterinary Department officials are unaware of this. The Government Administration is implementing plans daily for the protection of cows. Meanwhile, the Department is being accused of inaction and insensitivity. The news of the deaths of a large number of cows has raised questions about the Veterinary Department's indifference. Locals allege that the cows were kept in a swampy and muddy

room within Betlara's Mini Stadium. Locals further allege that more than a dozen cows died about 10 days ago due to lack of proper management and care for the cattle, and adequate food and water. Villagers allege that officials appear insensitive to such a major incident as they arrive at the scene, but return after conducting a mere formal investigation. No one has investigated the actual causes. The sudden deaths of such large numbers of cattle are simply taken for granted. The gross negligence of the Veterinary Department is the primary cause of this tragedy. Most of the animals that died were neither old nor previously ill, which has fueled public suspicion that the deaths were caused by mismanagement.

According to the news report, the continued deaths of cattle in Beltara and Sukulkari are not just a Departmental failure, but a profound assault on human sensibilities. When schemes are being developed in the name of cow service, this negligence is bound to raise questions about the Department. The Department's attitude is fueling anger among villagers. People say that while the Government talks about cow protection and cow service, the situation on the ground is completely different. There is no provision for food or medical care for the cattle.

Two photographs have also been published which shows

the pathetic condition prevailing.

The version of Joint Director, Veterinary Services, Bilaspur has also been published who states that he has received complaints about cow deaths in Sukulkari, but he has no information about the deaths in Beltara and that the Department is not responsible for the deaths of cattle.

Mr. Ajit Singh, learned Government Advocate appearing for the State/respondents submits that he may be granted some time to seek instructions.

Prima facie, the aforesaid news report reveals serious administrative lapses on the part of the Veterinary Department and the local authorities concerned, which warrants immediate attention of the State Administration.

In view of the above, let the Principal Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, Government of Chhattisgarh, file his personal affidavit with respect to the above news report before the next date of hearing.

Let this matter be listed again on **27.10.2025**.

Sd/-
(Bibhu Datta Guru)
JUDGE

Sd/-
(Ramesh Sinha)
CHIEF JUSTICE

Amit