



HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

WPIL No. 95 of 2025

In The Suo Moto Public Interest Litigation

versus

State Of Chhattisgarh & Others

Order Sheet

19/01/2026	This is an office reference. Heard Mr. Shashank Thakur, Additional Advocate General for the State/respondents. Pursuant to the order dated 19.11.2025 passed by this Court, the Principal Secretary, Government of Chhattisgarh, Department of Livestock Development, has filed his affidavit, the relevant portion of which reads as under: <i>“4. That, the deponent respectfully submits that as the majority of the area in the State of Chhattisgarh is cultivated by the Agriculturists who reside in the villages The cattle which belong to villagers as well as the stray cattle cause damage to the crops and in order to prevent the same, the villagers established the temporary shelter homes at the community level or under the aegis of the</i>

respective Gram Panchayat and the stray cattle are kept in these temporary cattle shelter homes for some period ie. till the crops is harvested and thereafter the same are distributed to the villagers or returned back to owners. It is respectfully submitted that temporary cattle shelter homes were being run by the respective Gram Panchayats in Gram Panchayat Beltara and Sukulkari and after harvesting the crops, the Gram Panchayat Beltara has taken a decision to distribute 87 cattle kept in the said temporary cattle shelter homes to 16 villagers who showed their interest and the same have been distributed to these persons between the period from 24/11/2025 to 26/11/2025 and as such at present, the temporary cattle shelter home is not operational in Gram Panchayat Beltara. Similarly, the Gram Panchayat Sukulkari has handed over 120 cattle which were kept in temporary cattle shelter home of Shri Vasudeo Gaushala Sewa Samiti Okhar Block Masturi District Bilaspur (newly established Goudam). All 120 cattle are presently being taken care of by the Goudam managed by Shri Vasudeo Gaushala Sewa Samiti Okhar block Masturi. It is respectfully submitted that the Collector, District Bilaspur vide its letter dated 09/01/2026 has submitted the above mentioned information on the basis of the inputs received from the Department, Copy of the letter dated 09/01/2026 is being filed herewith as Annexure A/1.

5. That, regarding steps taken by the department for improvement of infrastructure, sanitation, fodder storage, drinking water facilities and medical assistance in all temporary cattle shelters and monitoring framework the deponent further respectfully submits that vide order dated 07/11/2025 the Registrar, Chhattisgarh Rajya Gouseva Ayog have been appointed as Nodal Officer for stray animals for monitoring and coordination between the officials of all concerned departments as well the district administration. Specific direction has been issued to nodal officer to submit monthly report to the Director, Veterinary Services. Copy of the letter dated 07/11/2025 alongwith the format of monthly report is being filed herewith as Annexure A/2

6. It is most respectfully submitted that, in compliance a letter dated 24/12/2025 was issued by the Nodal Officer, Registrar, Chhattisgarh Rajya Gouseva Ayog to Joint/ Deputy Director Veterinary Services regarding regular monitoring, health check-up, treatment, vaccination, reporting and assurance of basic infrastructure, feed, clean drinking water at temporary cattle shelter. Copy of the letter dated 24/12/2025 is being filed herewith as Annexure A/3

7. That, the deponent further respectfully submits that as per the instructions department officials are regularly visiting the temporary shelters for health check-up, treatment and vaccination. Nodal officer

Registrar, Chhattisgarh Rajya Gouseva Ayog vide its letter dated 13/01/2026, has provided information that total 46 temporary cattle shelter homes are operational and the same are managed and maintained by local community or the respective Gram panchayats with proper monitoring and supervision of the department and the district administration. In these 46 temporary cattle shelter homes, 4160 cattle have been kept. Copy of the letter dated 13/01/2026 with detailed report is being filed herewith as Annexure A/4.

8. Furthermore, it is humbly submitted that at present there are 118 functioning Goshala wherein 37632 destitute animals are sheltered under the aegis of Chhattisgarh Rajya Gau-Sewa Ayog.

9. That, regarding "Goudham Yojana" the deponent respectfully submits that with the object for protection and conservation of stray cattle and cattle seized under the provisions of the Chhattisgarh Krishik Pashu Parirakshan Adhiniyam, 2004, the Department of Livestock, Government of Chhattisgarh took a decision to establish Goudham's by the order dated 06/08/2025. Under the scheme Goudham (Capacity 200 cattle per Gaudham) is to be established in such government land which has safe enclosure, cattle shed, adequate water facility, electricity facility such as established Gauthan. Gaushala Committee registered with Chhattisgarh Rajya Gouseva Ayog. Voluntary Organization, NGO, Trust, Farmer

Producer Company and Cooperative Society are eligible institutions for operating Goudham Operating Institution is responsible for management of feeding, health care, breed improvement and human resources needed for running Goudham. Local Veterinary Officer has to visit Goudham regularly and should provide monthly information in prescribed format for release of subsidy Copy of the order dated 06/08/2025 alongwith the Goudham Yojana is being filed herewith as Annexure A/5.

10. It is respectfully submitted that pursuant to the said Goudham Yojana, till date administrative approval for establishment of 36 Goudhams has been issued. The Department of Livestock Development has given administrative sanction for setting up of 11 Goudhams in various districts by the order dated 17/11/2025. Out of which 03 Goudhams have been made operational and in rest 8 Goudhams basic facilities (animal shed, electricity water supply) are under renovation. These 08 Goudhams would be made operational shortly Copy of the order dated 17/11/2025 is being filed herewith as Annexure A/6.

Inspection reports of the Okhar Goudham and Lakhasar Goudham, district Bilaspur are annexed and marked as Annexure A/7.

11. That, the deponent respectfully submits that vide order dated 29/12/2025 the administration sanction for establishment of 25 more Goudhams

under the scheme has been accorded and the same would also be made operational shortly Copy of the order dated 29/12/2025 is being filed herewith as Annexure A/8

12. That, regarding the monitoring framework the deponent respectfully submits that as per the "Prapatra 6" of the Chhattisgarh Go-Seva Ayog Rules, 2005 the local Veterinary Assistant Surgeon has to visit Gaushala/ Goudham and should provide monthly information in prescribed format for release of subsidy. Copy of the "Prapatra 6" is being filed herewith as Annexure A/9 Furthermore, it is humbly submitted that Registrar, Nodal Officer, Chhattisgarh Rajya Gouseva Ayog vide letter dated 25/11/2025 had issued prescribed format to Joint/ Deputy Director, Veterinary Services to submit monthly detailed information of Goushala, Godham and Temporary cattle shelters Copy of the letter dated 25/11/2025 is being filed herewith as Annexure A/10.

13. That, the deponent respectfully submits that a meeting of higher officials of various departments of Government of Chhattisgarh, NHAI and Inter-Departmental Lead Agency- Road Safety was held pursuant to the directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the suo moto Writ Petition (C) No 05/2025 and various directions have been issued with respect to the protection and conservation of stray cattle. Copy of the letter dated 12/11/2025 is

being filed herewith as Annexure A/11 It is further respectfully submitted that, in order to ensure concerted efforts and a holistic approach with respect to the protection and conservation of the stray cattle including the stray dogs, a letter dated 29.12.2025 was issued to all departments and concerned officials, with the collective approval of all the concerned Secretaries of the State. Furthermore, to avoid any confusion and to ensure better coordination with regard to the steps required to be taken by the departments, the roles and responsibilities of all concerned departments are chalked out, so as to effectively address and mitigate the issue. Copy of the letter dated 29/12/2025 is being filed herewith as Annexure A/12”

Let this matter be listed for further monitoring on
23rd March, 2026.

Sd/-
(Ravindra Kumar Agrawal)
JUDGE

Sd/-
(Ramesh Sinha)
CHIEF JUSTICE

Amit