



HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

WPCR No. 590 of 2025

To Monitor And Supervise The Implementation Of The Remission
And Premature Release Policies

Versus

The State Of Chhattisgarh

Order Sheet

27.01.2026	Heard Mr. Praveen Das, learned Additional Advocate General, appearing for respondents / State. In compliance to the Court's order dated 09.12.2025, the Senior Law Officer, Headquarters, Prisons and Correctional Services, Naya Raipur, Raipur (C.G.) has filed his personal affidavit, relevant portion of which is reproduced hereinbelow:- <i>"2. That the present affidavit is being filed in strict compliance of the directions issued by this Hon'ble Court, wherein it has been recorded that in the first meeting 17 cases and in the second meeting 28 cases were</i>

considered by the Committee, and the answering respondents were directed to file a fresh affidavit giving the status of all matters pending for remission.

3. That after the order of this Hon'ble Court dated 09.12.2025, a total of 38 cases of prisoners sentenced to life imprisonment have been approved for premature release/remission by the State Government.

4. That in the jails of the State of Chhattisgarh, a total of 595 cases relating to premature release/remission of life convicts are presently under process. The stage-wise status of the said cases is as under:

- 126 cases are under process at Jail Offices;*
- 58 cases are under process before the offices of the respective Hon'ble Presiding Courts;*
- 232 cases are under process before the offices of the concerned District Magistrates;*
- 49 cases are under process at the*

Jail Headquarters;

- 89 cases are under process before the State Sentence Review Board; and
- 41 cases are under process before the State Government for final decision. (28 cases under Rule 358 of Chhattisgarh Prisons Rule, 1968, 13 cases under Section 473 of Bhartiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023)

5. That the third meeting of the State Sentence Review Board, duly constituted under Rule 358 of Chhattisgarh Prisons Rule, 1968 was held on 24.12.2025, and the fourth meeting was held on 20.01.2026. Information regarding convening of the said meetings was issued by the Jail Department, Government of Chhattisgarh, vide Letter No. F- 4-30/Teen-Jail/Review Board/2025 dated 11.12.2025 and Letter No. F-4-31/Teen-Jail/Review Board/2025 dated 05.01.2026. Copies of the said letters are hereby collectively marked and annexed herewith as ANNEXURE A-1 (colly.).

6. It is respectfully submitted that, in the

meeting dated 24/12/2025, 28 cases were placed and considered by the State Sentence Review Board. The recommendations of the aforesaid 28 cases have been forwarded by the Board to the State Government for further action on 12/01/2026. Copy of the notesheets dated 22/12/2025 & 12/01/2026 are collectively marked and annexed herewith as ANNEXURE A-2. (colly.)

7. It is submitted that, 49 cases were placed for consideration before the Board on 20/01/2026 and the preparation of individual recommendations is under process for being forwarded to the State Government for further action. Copy of the notesheet dated 20/01/2026 is annexed herewith as ANNEXURE A-3.

8. That, it is further submitted that, all the pending cases as well as fresh cases, which appear before the State Sentence Review Board shall be dealt with promptly without any delay.

9. That the present affidavit is being filed in

strict compliance of the order dated 09.12.2025 passed by this Hon'ble Court, placing the factual and updated status of all matters relating to premature release/remission of life convicts on record for the purpose of further monitoring.”

From perusal of the affidavit, it transpires that despite the directions issued by this Court, a substantial number of cases relating to premature release/remission of life convicts continue to remain pending at various stages before different authorities. Although it has been stated that 38 cases have been approved for premature release/remission pursuant to the order dated 09.12.2025, the affidavit further discloses that as many as 595 cases are still under process across the State of Chhattisgarh, including 126 cases at the Jail Offices, 58 cases before the Hon'ble Presiding Courts, 232 cases before the concerned District Magistrates, 49 cases at the Jail Headquarters, 89 cases before the State Sentence Review Board, and 41 cases pending with the State

Government for final decision. The affidavit also indicates that meetings of the State Sentence Review Board were held on 24.12.2025 and 20.01.2026, wherein several cases were considered and recommendations forwarded, however, the large pendency at multiple levels reflects systemic delay in the processing of remission cases, warranting continuous monitoring by this Court to ensure timely consideration and expeditious disposal in accordance with law.

In view of the above, let fresh affidavit be filed by the Senior Law Officer, Headquarters, Prisons and Correctional Services, Naya Raipur, Raipur (C.G.), by the next date of hearing, giving the status of all matters pending for remission.

List the matter again on **11.03.2026** for further monitoring.

Sd/-
(Ravindra Kumar Agrawal)
Judge

Sd/-
(Ramesh Sinha)
Chief Justice