

**HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR****WPIL No. 103 of 2025****IN THE MATTER OF SUO MOTO PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION****versus****STATE OF CHHATTISGARH & ORS**

17/12/2025	This is an office reference. Mr. Praveen Das, learned Deputy Advocate General for the State/respondent. Mr. Amrito Das, learned counsel for the respondent No.2, Ms. Vanshika Singh Jaiswal, learned counsel on behalf of Dr. Veena Nair, learned counsel for the respondent No.3 and Mr. Anadi Sharma, learned counsel for the respondent No.6. In compliance of the order of this Court dated 15/12/2025, two affidavits have been filed by the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Bilaspur and by the Collector, Bilaspur, C.G. on 17/12/2025, respectively. For the sake of convenience, relevant part of both the affidavits are quoted below: Affidavit of the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Bilaspur: <i>4. That immediately upon publication of the said news item, the matter was taken up by the Municipal Corporation and a joint spot inspection was conducted on the same day by the team of 1 scientist from Chhattisgarh Pollution Control Board, Zone Commissioner of Zone No. 02,</i>
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Corporator of Zone No. 07 along with the Cleanliness Inspector of Zone No. 02. Copy of report submitted by the Zone Commissioner of Zone No. 02, Dated 15/12/2025 is hereby annexed as ANNEXURE R/1. Copy of photograph taken while the work was performed on 15/12/2025 is hereby annexed as ANNEXURE R/2.

5. That during the spot inspection, no incident of active garbage burning was found at the location; no fire, smoke, or ongoing burning of solid waste was noticed at the site at the time of inspection.

6. That local residents informed that some incidents of garbage burning had occurred earlier, approximately two months prior, however, no such activity was found to be presently occurring.

7. That regular door-to-door garbage collection and sanitation work is being carried out in Ward No. 07, including the concerned location, through municipal sanitation staff on a routine basis.

8. That the Municipal Corporation, Bilaspur strictly prohibits open burning of solid waste, and standing instructions have been issued to all zonal officers and sanitation staff to ensure strict compliance with environmental norms, and in case of any violation, appropriate action is taken as per applicable municipal and environmental laws, and the Municipal Corporation remains conscious of its statutory obligations relating to public health, sanitation, and environmental protection.

9. That this affidavit is being filed in faithful compliance of the directions issued by this Hon'ble Court vide order dated 15.12.2025.

10. That the statements made herein are true



and correct to my personal knowledge and based on official records. No material fact has been concealed.

Affidavit of the Collector, Bilaspur

5. It is respectfully submitted that pursuant to the direction of the deponent, the matter has been taken up by the Municipal Corporation and a joint spot inspection has been conducted by the team of 1 Scientist from Chhattisgarh Pollution Control Board, Zone Commissioner of Zone No. 02, Counselor of Ward No. 07 along with the Cleanliness Inspector of Zone No. 02. It is submitted that, during the spot inspection, no incident of active garbage burning was found by the said team at the location; no fire, smoke, or on-going burning of solid waste was noticed at the site at the time of inspection. A panchnama to the aforesaid effect has been prepared on 15/12/2025. Copy of Panchnama prepared by the team alongwith photographs is hereby annexed as ANNEXURE A/1 colly.

6. It is respectfully submitted that during the spot inspection, the local residents have also been asked for the said burning of solid waste and in response to which, they have categorically stated that some incidents of garbage burning had occurred earlier, approximately two months prior; however, no such activity was found to be presently occurring.



7. It is respectfully submitted that the regular door-to-door garbage collection and sanitation work is being carried out in Ward No. 07, including the concerned location, by the staff of the Municipal Sanitation on a routine basis. Further, it is respectfully submitted that to prohibit open burning of solid waste materials in open place, necessary directions and instructions have also been issued by the Municipal Corporation Bilaspur to all Zonal Officers and Sanitation staff to ensure strict compliance with environmental norms, and in case of any violation, appropriate action is taken as per applicable law against the erring persons.

8. That, the deponent most humbly and respectfully submits that he is a law abiding person and holds the highest and deepest regard and respects of this Hon'ble Court and is duty bound to adhere to and abide by the orders and directions of this Hon'ble Court.

9. That, the contents of this affidavit have been drafted according to my instructions and the contents thereof are true and correct to the best of my personal knowledge and based upon the official records.

A bare perusal of the above indicates that the incident reported in the newspaper, concerning a citizen complaint submitted via the QR Code, took place approximately two months ago. As of today, no evidence of the alleged garbage



Amardeep/ Rahul	burning has been found. In view of this, we hope and trust that news agencies, before publishing such grievances, should verify the facts carefully to prevent causing inconvenience or hardship to the stakeholders. List the case for further monitoring in the month of February, 2026 SD/- (Bibhu Datta Guru) Judge SD/- (Ramesh Sinha) Chief Justice
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