

**Court on its own motion vs. State of H.P. and
others a/w connected matters**

CWPIL No.114 of 2024
a/w CWP No.1398 of 2018

Item No.D-16

02.12.2025 Present: Mr. Deven Khanna, Advocate, as *Amicus Curiae* in CWPIL No.114 of 2024.

None for the petitioner in CWP No.1398 of 2018.

Mr. Gobind Korla, Additional Advocate General, for the respondents-State.

Mr. Balram Sharma, DSGI with Mr. Rajeev Sharma, Advocate, for respondent No.4-UOI.

Mr. Vijay Kumar Arora, Senior Advocate with Ms. Godawari, Gaurav Kumar, Hitansh Raj, Aastha Kohli, Advocates, for respondent No.6.

Mr. Rajat Rana, Advocate, for Mr. Abhishek Banta, Advocate, for respondent No.7-Airtel.

Mr. Suneet Goel, Senior Advocate with Mr. Aman Hansretta, Advocate, for respondent No.8-Reliance Jio Infocomm.

Ms. Kusum, Advocate, for Ms. Seema K. Guleria, Advocate, for respondent No.9.

Mr. Nimish Gupta, Advocate, for respondent No.11.

Mr. Mukesh Thakur, Advocate, for respondent No.12.

Mr. Sandeep Dutta, Advocate, for respondent No.13.

Ms. Kiran Verma, Advocate, for Mr. Rajinder Thakur, CGSC, for respondent No.2.

Affidavit filed on behalf of respondent No.8-Reliance Jio, would go on to show that there is a scope of 1676 sites, of which 1609 are ready for service sites and for the F.Y.2025-26, there is a plan for 67 more. It has been mentioned that the said operator has installed 3488 number of 4G sites and 1609 5G

sites. There are also 262 indoor small cell sites to strengthen the network at locations such as hospitals and public utility buildings. A total of 2499 sectors have been upgraded with wireless broadband solutions for focusing and identifying school areas to ensure maximum internet connectivity for students and teachers in the vicinity of the schools. There is a plan to roll out 83 additional sites (16 sites with 4G technology and 67 sites with 5G technology) for installation of towers and other network connectivity for the State as provided.

2. The affidavit of respondent No.6-BSNL, would go on to show that out of the total 1115 villages, 4G coverage has been successfully extended to 835 villages, which is up from 773 villages as noticed by us in our order dated 02.07.2025. Under the 4G Saturation Scheme, a total of 1107 villages have been proposed for coverage from 642 planned sites up to Category IV and 527 4G (Base Transceiver Station) BTS (eNodeB) sites have been commissioned and made operational, providing 4G coverage to 832 villages.

3. The affidavit filed by respondent No.5 in August 2025 would go on to show that the meeting of State Broadband Committee (SBC) of Himachal Pradesh has been held on 12.06.2025, under the Chairpersonship of the Secretary, Deptt. Of Digital Technologies & Governance, H.P. Shimla.

4. Resultantly, a fresh meeting should also be convened to review what further progress has been made.

5. The new *Amicus Curiae* be also associated with this meeting.

6. To come up on **23.03.2026**.

(G.S. Sandhawalia)
Chief Justice

December 02, 2025
(ankit)

(Jiya Lal Bhardwaj)
Judge