

**Pawan Kumar vs. State of H.P. & Ors.
a/w connected matters**

Item No. D-17

CWPIL No. 61 of 2023 a/w CWPIL No. 73 of 2022 and CWP No. 2895 of 2023

CWPIL No. 61 of 2023

03.11.2025 Present: Mr. S. C. Sharma, Senior Advocate as Amicus Curiae with Mr. Ravi Patial, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr. Anup Rattan, Advocate General with Mr. Pranay Pratap Singh, Additional Advocate General, for respondents No. 1 to 7.

Mr. Bharat Bhushan, Senior Panel Counsel, for respondents No. 8 and 9-Union of India.

CWPIL No. 73 of 2022

Mr. Shivom Vashista, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr. Anup Rattan, Advocate General with Mr. Pranay Pratap Singh, Additional Advocate General, for respondents No. 1 to 4.

Mr. Mukul Sood, Advocate, for respondent No. 5-MC, Dharamshala.

CWP No. 2895 of 2023

Mr. Naresh Verma, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr. Anup Rattan, Advocate General with Mr. Pranay Pratap Singh, Additional Advocate General, for the respondents-State.

The Secretary, Animal Husbandry has filed affidavit in pursuance to the order dated 31.07.2025. It has been pointed out that 21306 cattle have been rehabilitated in the cow sanctuary/gausadans and there are 15 functional cow sanctuaries in the State and seven are under construction, the details of which are given in Annexure A-2. For District Lahaul Spiti & Kinnaur, it is averred that the State

does not intend to invest the amount as there is negligible stray cattle menace etc., however, two gausadans are functional in non-Government sector. Eight CCTV cameras have been installed in Radhe Krishan Godham Cow Sanctuary Luthan, District Kangra and construction work of Tudi Store is under progress as 65% of the work has been completed. It has also been pointed out that the said sanctuary will be maintained by Jawalaji Temple Trust.

2. While referring to the news item dated 01.08.2025, it is mentioned that the Nadaun Gou Sadan in MC area Palampur, has capacity of housing 50 animals where 55 animals have been kept in place. Similarly, in Pitartarpan Gou Sadan, 35 animals have been kept instead of the capacity of 30 animals. The Cow Sanctuary at Kundan in sub-Tehsil Chachian has been handed over to Animal Husbandry Department in March, 2025 and the same was further handed over to Dev Bhumi Gou Raksha Foundation and to run it, a Committee of official/non-official members has been constituted by the Deputy Commissioner, Kangra at Dharamshala. The proposal for shifting the stray animals to the Cow Sanctuary Kundan, which is stated to have capacity of 200 animals, 40 animals have been shifted from Gopalpur Panchayat, 30 animals from Jia Panchayat, 12 animals from Arth Panchayat and 30 animals from MC Palampur. Steps be taken to utilize the same to its optimum capacity.

3. Reference has also been made to the communications addressed for shifting of the cattle vide Annexures R-7/3 and R-7/5.

4. Counsel for the petitioner has pointed out that the menace of stray cattle as such can only be suitably addressed if at the first instance, census be conducted on stray cattle on the road, District-wise, so that at least the State could have futuristic plan in place as to what would be the requirement for the coming years. The details of the cattle already housed in all the sanctuaries be also supplied. Steps be also taken to tag such stray animals.

5. Necessary affidavit be filed before the next date of hearing.

List on **15.12.2025**.

(G. S. Sandhawalia)
Chief Justice

(Ranjan Sharma)
Judge

3rd November, 2025
(sanjeev)