

Court on its own motion vs. State of HP and others

CWPIL No. 89 of 2025

Item No. D-30

20.11.2025

Present: Court on its own motion.

Mr. Rakesh Dhaulta, Additional Advocate General, for the respondents.

Perusal of the affidavit filed by the Forest Department would go on to show that though commenting upon the antecedents of the complainant, on account of the various penalties having been imposed upon him, it is also the stand that the trees of Khair dominated areas have to be counted by the Una Forest Division with GPS locations, as prescribed in the approved working plan.

We are of the considered opinion that the larger issue arises as even there is an admission that three forest officials have been charge sheeted for negligence in performance of government duty and failing to take appropriate action in illicit felling in two different cases. Una Forest Division is a Border Division and having many exit routes to Punjab and therefore, there is a easy get away to the major timber market. It is also admitted that 605 vehicles have been apprehended without legal documents since 01.04.2022.

Resultantly, we are of the considered opinion that an amicus should be appointed in the present case.

Mr. Abhishek Dulta, Advocate, is appointed as amicus curiae to assist the Court. Complete papers be supplied to him by the office.

To come up on **24.12.2025.**

(G.S. Sandhawalia)
Chief Justice

20th November, 2025
(Anurag)

(Jiya Lal Bhardwaj)
Judge