



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

SUO MOTU W.P.(C) PIL No.2140 of 2020

***Registrar (Judicial),
Orissa High Court, Cuttack Petitioner***

*Mr. Manoj Kumar Mishra
Senior Advocate
President, OHCBA*

*Mr. Avijit Pattnaik
Advocate
Secretary, OHCBA*

*Er. N.K. Mohanty
Amicus Curiae*

*Mr. Bijay Kumar Dash
Amicus Curiae*

-versus-

State of Odisha & others Opp. Parties

*Mr. Debasis Nayak-A
Addl. Govt. Advocate &
Advocate for C.M.C.*

CORAM:

JUSTICE S.K. SAHOO

JUSTICE V. NARASINGH

ORDER

18.12.2025

These matters are taken up through Hybrid arrangement (video conferencing/physical mode).



BSWC DRAIN OF CUTTACK

370.
18.12.2025

During the previous hearing held on 11.12.2025, learned counsel for the State produced a letter dated 10.12.2025 issued by the Deputy Secretary to the Government, Housing & Urban Development Department, Government of Odisha, wherein it was stated that, in compliance with the orders of this Court, WATCO has been instructed to execute the box drain projects of the Cuttack Municipal Corporation, and that WATCO has already submitted the drainage DPRs to IIT, Bhubaneswar for re-vetting.

On that day, the General Manager (Drainage), WATCO Mr. Achyuta Bijayananda Behera appeared through virtual mode and intimated this Court that a meeting had been scheduled at IIT, Bhubaneswar on 16.12.2025 for technical discussions relating to the DPRs as submitted and accordingly, this Court asked Mr. Behera to take all necessary steps to expedite the vetting of the DPR.

Similarly, keeping in view the sensitive nature of assignment of construction of BSWC of Cuttack Municipal Corporation, the Managing Director of WATCO was also asked to join the proceedings either in person or virtually.

Mr Debabrata Mohanty, Managing Director, WATCO appeared virtually and assured this Court that he



will take steps in right earnest to justify the confidence imposed in the technical expertise of WATCO for seamless execution of the work and as a first step, he will impress upon the experts of IIT to conduct the survey by 4th of January, 2026 in the light of nineteen soil test reports conducted afresh by WATCO having been submitted to the IIT in the meanwhile.

M.D. WATCO is also called upon to intimate the concerned experts of the IIT to join the next sitting of this Court on 08.01.2026 either in person or virtually when this matter will be taken up.

List this matter on 08.01.2026.

(S.K. Sahoo)
Judge

(V. Narasingh)
Judge

BOX DRAIN WORK UNDER RAILWAY OVERBRIDGE
NEAR MATRUBHAWAN

371.
18.12.2025

During the course of hearing, Er. Sri N.K. Mohanty, learned Amicus Curiae brought to the notice of this Court in the form of a news item about the lack of progress for connecting the Box Drain to the Open Drain leading to Matgajpur is taken on record which prima facie indicates that because of lack of coordination



between Senior Divisional Operational Manager, Senior Divisional Engineer and Divisional Railway Manager, Khurda, the desired progress has not been achieved.

List this matter on 08.01.2026.

Mr. P.K. Parhi, learned DSGI, who is present through virtual mode, is requested to inform the concerned officials to remain present either virtually or in person on the next date.

Let the learned Amicus Curiae serve a copy of the news item as submitted to this Court to Mr. P.K. Parhi, learned DSGI who shall obtain instruction in this regard.

(S.K. Sahoo)
Judge

(V. Narasingh)
Judge

**S.C.B. MEDICAL COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL
PROBLEMS**

**ABSENCE OF SHED FOR THE PATIENTS AND THEIR
RELATIONS IN PATHOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

372.
18.12.2025

When this issue was taken up on 20.11.2025, the Medical Superintendent, SCBMCH, Cuttack filed a written instruction dated 18.11.2025 regarding provision for basic facilities such as toilets, sitting arrangement etc., in each and every department, the facility of toilets



for staff and patients are available. Near RDC (Regional Diagnostic Centre), two numbers of toilets meant for patient attendants (1 for male and 1 for female) have been constructed. Similarly, near the Super Specialty OPD, 4 toilets meant for Male and 4 toilets for Female attendants have been made available. All the broken doors of toilets have been repaired and/or replaced with new ones. Furthermore, the sitting arrangements for outdoor patients and attendants have also been made by fixing new chairs.

It was further stated in the written instruction dated 18.11.2025 that so far as the facilities for patients and attendants in the O & G Department are concerned, there are 5 toilets in the Labour Room, 3 number of toilets for patient attendants are available. Prof. (Dr.) Ms. Sasmita Swain, HoD, O & G Department, who was present online through video conferencing mode, also stated that for attendants outside of Labour room, there are toilets and bathroom which are cleaned regularly. Rest area for female and male attendants is also made available.

On 20.11.2025, the learned Members of the Advocates' Committee brought to the notice of this court that so far as male attendants who were waiting in the sheds, there are no toilet facilities for them. When the response of the Medical Superintendent was sought for



in this regard, the Superintendent in-charge, SCBMCH, Cuttack and HoD, O & G Department, who appeared through virtual mode assured this Court that they would explore the possibility of constructing toilets for the male attendants as well in and around the sheds so that at night, the attendants do not have to walk across the road to ease themselves. The Superintendent also informed that for the construction of such toilets, involvement of three departments i.e. WATCO, R & B and GED are required.

The Superintending Engineer, R & B, Division No.1, Cuttack and the General Manager, WATCO, who were present online through video conferencing on 20.11.2025 assured this Court that within a period of one month from receiving the communication in this regard from the Superintendent, SCBMCH, Cuttack, necessary work that has to be performed by respective departments would be concluded.

The learned Addl. Govt. Advocate for the State was called upon to instruct the GED Department to do the needful and produce the instruction regarding completion of the construction of the toilets.

Learned counsel for the State has produced a letter dated 17.12.2025 of the Medical Superintendent, SCBMCH, Cuttack regarding this issue, which is taken on record. In the letter, it is stated that as follows:



(i) In each and every department, the facility of toilets for staff and patients are available;

(ii) Near RDC (Regional Diagnostic Centre), two numbers of toilets meant for patient attendants (1 for male and 1 for female) have been constructed;

(iii) Near the Super Specialist OPD, 4 toilets meant for male and 4 toilets for female attendants have been made available;

(iv) All the broken doors of toilets have been repaired and/or replaced with new ones;

(v) The sitting arrangements for outdoor patients and attendants have also been made by fixing new chairs;

(vi) So far as the facilities for patients and attendants in the O & G Department are concerned, as communicated by the Prof & HOD, O & G Department vide letter No.2567 dated 03.11.2025, there are 5 toilets in the Labour Room and 3 number of toilets for patient attendants;

(vii) For attendants outside the Labour room, there are toilets and bathrooms which are cleaned regularly. Rest area for female and male attendants are also made available;

(viii) There are adequate numbers of Nursing Officers in the Labour Room. A copy of letter No.2567 dated 03.11.2025 of the Prof & HOD, O& G Department



has been annexed to the letter as Annexure-A;

(ix) The General Manager, WATCO, Division-I, Cuttack vide letter No.26849 dated 20.11.2025 has been requested to inspect the rooms which could be renovated as washrooms near the O & G Department, SCMCH, Cuttack and take necessary steps in this regard for renovating additional 04 nos. of toilets/bathroom units i.e. 02 for male and 02 for female attendants. A copy of office letter No.26849 dated 20.11.2025 has been annexed to the letter as Annexure-B;

(x) In this connection, the General Manager, WATCO, Division-I, Cuttack vide letter No.20788 dated 16.12.2025 has communicated that the renovation work of the toilet block near attendant rest shed in the premises of O & G Department, SCBMCH, Cuttack has already been undertaken and the whole exercise is scheduled to be completed by **30.12.2025**. A copy of letter No.20788 dated 16.12.2025 of the WATCO has been annexed to the letter as Annexure-C;

(xi) The security agency has been instructed vide office letter No.24940 dated 29.10.2025 to strictly adhere to the security protocols inside the medical premises to restrain the occurrence of theft of Govt. articles failing which pecuniary caused will be recovered from the agency. A copy of the letter no.24940 dated 29.10.2025 has been annexed to the letter as Annexure-



D.

Er. Md. Shahbaz, Superintending Engineer, R & B, Division No.I, Cuttack is present through virtual mode and has assured this Court that after handing over of the site by WATCO, a week's time thereafter will be necessary for other ancillary works to be completed by the GED Department and by 17.01.2026, the toilet facilities will be operational.

Taking into account the same, this Court requested the learned Advocates' Committee to visit the premises on 31.01.2026 with prior intimation to the Medical Superintendent I/c, SCBMCH, Cuttack.

List this matter on 12.02.2026.

Learned counsel for the State shall apprise this Court about the completion of the remaining works by way of a written instruction.

(S.K. Sahoo)
Judge

(V. Narasingh)
Judge

**ISSUES RELATING TO SARDAR VALLABHBHAI
PATEL POST GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF
PAEDIATRICS - SHISHU BHAWAN**

(i) OPEN DRAIN IN SHISHU BHAWAN

373-A.
18.12.2025

When this issue was taken up on 20.11.2025,



learned counsel for the CMC filed the compliance report of the CMC, wherein it was stated that the tender process for construction of internal drainage system in the premises of Sishu Bhawan has already been completed and the selected bidders have been issued letters for depositing of APS (Additional Performance Security) amount and EMD before 30.11.2025. After that, work order would be issued to them within the 1st week of December, 2025 and the execution of drainage work would be started by the 2nd weeks of December, 2025.

Learned counsel for the CMC was called upon to apprise this Court about the execution of drainage work inside the Sishu Bhawan.

Learned counsel for the CMC has produced the compliance report of the CMC, wherein it is stated that work order for construction of five nos. of drains inside the Sishu Bhawan have been issued to different agencies and in the meantime, three agencies have started the work and rest two nos. of agencies will start work within three days.

List this matter on 12.03.2026.

To monitor the progress of the work, the learned Advocates' Committee shall visit the premises on 07.02.2026 with prior intimation to the Superintendent, Sishu Bhawan.



Learned counsel for the CMC shall apprise this Court about the completion of work of the open drain inside the Sishu Bhawan by the next date.

(S.K. Sahoo)
Judge

(V. Narasingh)
Judge

(ii) BEAUTIFICATION OF OPEN POND IN SISHU BHAWAN

373-B.
18.12.2025

When this issue was taken up on 20.11.2025, learned counsel for the State produced the written instruction dated 18.11.2025 received from the Superintending Engineer, Cuttack (R & B) Division No.I, Cuttack, wherein it was stated that work order has been issued to the agency for the work "S/R to beautification of pond in front of (G+6) Multiutility Building at SVPPGIP, Cuttack such as fixing of stainless steel grills around the pond Sishubhawan". Excavation work was completed and the agency has ordered for procurement of materials. It was further stated in the written instruction that the work would be completed by 15.12.2025.

Learned counsel for the State was called upon to apprise this Court about the status of completion of



beautification work of open pond in Sishu Bhawan by the next date.

Learned counsel for the State has produced the written instruction dated 16.12.2025 of the Superintending Engineer, Cuttack (R & B), Division No.I, wherein it is stated that the work "S/R to beautification on pond in front of (G+6) Multiutility Building at SVPPGIP, Cuttack such as fixing of stainless steel grills around the pond Sishubhawan" is in progress and the work would be completed by 10.01.2026.

List this matter on 12.03.2026.

To monitor the progress of the work, the learned Advocates' Committee shall visit the premises on 07.02.2026 with prior intimation to the Superintendent, Sishu Bhawan.

Learned counsel for the State shall apprise this Court about the status of completion of beautification work of open pond in Sishu Bhawan by the next date.

(S.K. Sahoo)
Judge

(V. Narasingh)
Judge



(iii) CONSTRUCTION OF HIGH BOUNDARY WALL AROUND SVPPGIP, CUTTACK CAMPUS

373-C.
18.12.2025

When this issue was taken up on 20.11.2025, learned counsel for the State produced the written instruction dated 18.11.2025 of the Superintending Engineer, Cuttack (R & B), Division No.I, wherein it was stated that tender for the work "Construction of High Boundary Wall around SVPPGIP Campus" has been received by the Chief Construction Engineer, Cuttack (R&B) Circle, Cuttack and the technical evaluation of the tender was under process. It is further stated in the written instruction that the work would be started by 10.12.2025 and it would be completed by 31.03.2026.

Learned counsel for the State was called upon to apprise this Court about the completion of construction of high boundary wall around SVPPGIP Campus.

Learned counsel for the State has produced the written instruction dated 16.12.2025 of the Superintending Engineer, Cuttack (R & B) Division No.I, wherein it is stated that tender for the work "Construction of High Boundary wall around SVPPGIP Campus" has been received by the Chief Construction Engineer, Cuttack (R & B) Circle, Cuttack and the technical evaluation of the tender has been completed.



The financial bid is scheduled to be opened on 20.12.2025 and the work would be completed by 30.04.2026.

During the course of hearing, the learned Advocates' Committee brought to the notice of this Court that in spite of the letter of the Superintendent, SVPPGIP, Cuttack dated 13.09.2025 addressed to the Tahasildar (Sadar), Cuttack requiring him to demarcate the areas for construction of high boundary wall, but unfortunately, it is stated that no follow up steps are taken.

Mr. Shibo Toppo, ADM-cum-Nodal Officer, Cuttack, who is present through virtual mode has assured this Court that he will pass on necessary instruction to the Tahasildar (Sadar), Cuttack and apprise this Court the steps taken in this regard which shall be considered on the next sitting i.e. 08.01.2026.

Learned counsel for the State shall apprise this Court about the progress of construction of high boundary wall around SVPPGIP Campus.

(S.K. Sahoo)
Judge

(V. Narasingh)
Judge



ISSUE RELATING TO DIFFERENTLY ABLED GIRLS STUDENTS IN SHAILABALA WOMEN'S AUTONOMOUS COLLEGE, CUTTACK

374.
18.12.2025

During the previous deliberation on 30.10.2025, learned counsel for the State produced the decisions taken report on the joint meeting held on 25.10.2025 in the Office Chamber of the Director, Higher Education, Odisha regarding the issues relating to differently abled girls students in Sailabala Women's Autonomous College, Cuttack.

On that day, learned counsel for the State also produced a written instruction dated 28.10.2025 of the Superintending Engineer, Cuttack (R & B) Division No.I, Cuttack.

After perusing the documents/instruction, this Court asked the Director of Higher Education to ensure that issues faced by the differently-abled are addressed uniformly across all institutes in the State so that they are not deprived from pursuing their studies for lack of facilities to which they are constitutionally entitled.

In this connection, three reports have been produced before us by the learned counsel for the State.

Report of ADM, Cuttack:

Learned counsel for the State has produced the enquiry report dated 26.11.2025 of the Addl. District Magistrate, Cuttack, which is taken on record.



Mr. Shibo Toppo, ADM, Cuttack is present through virtual mode.

In the enquiry report, it is stated that the Additional District Magistrate, Cuttack and the Nodal officer on behalf of the District Administration and Ms. Padmalaya Mohapatra, Joint Secretary, Orissa Bar Association and member of the Advocates' Committee have jointly visited Shailabala Women's Autonomous College on dtd.21.11.2025 at 10 a.m. accompanied by Sri Pritiranjana Panda, Jr. Engineer, Cuttack R & B Dvn.I, Mrs. Sagarika Das Asst. Manager, WATCO Section, Cantonment Road Cuttack and Sri Bijaya Behera, representative of R & B Agency and conducted a detailed enquiry to take stock of the measures which have been put in place in S.B. Women's Autonomous College, in presence of the College Authorities like Principal, faculty members, Hostel Warden and Superintendents of different Hostels of Shailabala Women's Autonomous College. During enquiry two nos. of Social Workers who are working with the issues of PWDs namely Mantu Das and Manoj Kumar Sahoo were also present.

The members of the committee taking the stock of the measures also interacted with the students to find out their genuine requirements in order to ease the challenges the PwD students are facing, the details of which are as follows:



ACCESSIBLE FACILITIES

A. Special pathways:-

1. Construction of tactile pathways both inside the college and hostel premises have yet to be started. However, an agency/Contractor namely One Bijay Behera has already been engaged by R & B Division-I.

B. Disable Friendly Toilets:-

1. As per order of this Court, the Superintending Engineer, PWD (R & B), Division – I, Cuttack has engaged the agency for construction of two disable friendly toilets in front of G+4 Academic Building where most of the classes are being held and inside the premises of M.S. Old Hostel where PwD students are residing at present, basing on the submission of PwD students keeping in view the guidelines of NEP 2020 policy, which aims to bring parity for students with disabilities through a comprehensive framework that emphasizes inclusive and equitable education to integrate them into main stream inclusive education for which this Court has given liberty to stay in their choice of hostels.

2. One disable friendly toilet already exists inside the Madhusudan old Hostel and two nos. of additional toilets are under construction but ramps and steel railings along with tiles have not yet been placed



on the existing one.

3. One No. of modified toilet has been constructed in Madhusudan PH Hostel with widened door for easy access of orthopedically handicapped persons.

4. One no. of lower sink is placed in Madhusudan PH hostel for orthopedically handicapped and dwarf students.

C. Inaccessible Class Rooms & Library:-

1. Tactile Pathways inside the class room:- Construction of tactile pathways both inside the class room is yet to start.

2. Vertical Lift facility:- Tender has already been floated for installation of a new lift vide T.C. No 46 of 2025-26 dtd.27.10.2025 and the work is going on. It's said that the work will be completed by 18.02.2026 as per the letter of the Superintending Engineer, PWD (R & B), Division-I, Cuttack vide no16348/WE, dtd.28.10.2025.

3. Ramps:- Ramps are under construction at different places like academic blocks, library class rooms etc.

4. Railings:- Railings have already been installed in the PH Hostel (exclusively meant for PwD students) and the said work is in progress in the G+4 Academic Building. But steel railings have not yet been placed.



D. Assistive Technology:-

1. For the procurement of certain specialized equipments like Duxbury Braille Translator Software, audio-visual aids, screen reader, braille displays, magnifying software, adaptive key-boards, speech-tap-text software, e-book and audio book etc., SSEPD Department have sought the requirement from all Collectors of the State vide letter no.12411/SSEPD, dtd.30.10.2025. A copy of the letter has been enclosed to the enquiry report as Annexure-I. Accordingly, the Principal has furnished the list of specialized equipments/appliances as required for PwD students vide letter No.5122 dtd. 13.11.2025. The said requisition has been forwarded to SS&EPD Deptt. vide letter No.4241 dtd.25.11.2025 by DSSO, Cuttack for necessary action. Copies of the letter dated 13.11.2025 and 25.11.2025 have been annexed to the enquiry report as Annexure-II & III respectively.

Miss Rajani Jani, Special Secretary, SSEPD Department is present through virtual mode and informed this Court that as per the requirements submitted by the Principal, Shailabala Women's (Auto.) College, Cuttack, fund to the tune of Rs.1,70,05,470/- (rupees one crore seventy lakhs five thousand four hundred seventy) have been placed at the disposal of the College.



At this stage, Mr. Shibo Toppo, ADM -cum- Nodal Officer, Cuttack intervened and stated that taking into account the huge expenditure involved and the fund placed, a Committee will be formed at the District level with the Principal being a member of such Committee to take steps as per the established procedure to procure the specialized equipments.

Mr. Kali Prasanna Mahapatra, Director of Higher Education is present through virtual mode and intimated this Court that in the meanwhile, information regarding differently abled has been collated across the State relating to the colleges, which comes under the Higher Education Departments, steps are being taken. He further informed that the matter shall be taken up with SSEPD Department so that steps which are taken in respect of Shailabala Women's (Auto.) College, Cuttack shall be replicated throughout the State.

Responding to the query of this Court regarding steps taken relating to differently abled students in the schools across the State, Mr. Mahapatra, Director of Higher Education assured this Court that they will convey the concern of this Court to the concerned department and concerted effort shall also be made to see that wherever education is imparted through Govt. machinery, provisions shall be made for them.



Steps taken in this regard shall be considered on the next sitting.

E. Braille Books:-

1. On verification, it is ascertained that the college has an adequate no. of Braille Books numbering around 324 which caters to the needs of 34 students of +2 Arts stream.

2. For UG & PG students, though the college has decided to procure adequate number of Braille Books for the visually challenged students of the institution by utilizing the amount of Rs.1,60,000/- (Rupees One lakh sixty thousand) only, allotted under the materials and supplies head, as approved by the Higher Education Department for the session 2025-26, it's not practically feasible to arrange Braille Books for them owing to the reason that such books are not available in Berhampur and even Dehradun where Braille press are usually available. It is further stated that for UG & PG, there are prescribed and reference books of different authors available as per syllabus for general students, but as there are no specific books exclusively prescribed for visually challenged students, it's a genuine constraint for different Braille press to print the books for visually challenged students.

F. Interaction with Students:-

During the course of enquiry, interaction was



made with some students. During interaction, most of the students stated that, they need laptop and smart phone like devices to ease out their challenges they used to face in their daily affairs.

Report of Principal, Shailabala Women's (Auto.) College, Cuttack:

Learned counsel for the State has also produced a letter no.5437 dated 26.11.2025 of the Principal, Shailabala Women's (Auto.) College, Cuttack regarding this issue, which is taken on record.

In the said letter, it is stated as follows:

"A. As per order of this Court, the Superintending Engineer, PWD (R& B), Division - 1, Cuttack has engaged the agency for construction of two disable-friendly toilets in front of G+4 Academic Building, where most of the classes are being held and inside the premises of M.S. Old Hostel where PwD students are residing at present, basing on the submission of PwD students keeping in view the guidelines of NEP 2020 policy, which aims to bring parity for students with disabilities through a comprehensive frame work that emphasizes inclusive and equitable education to bring them towards main stream inclusive education for which this Court has given liberty to stay in their choice of hostels.



B. The two disable-friendly toilets are under construction, ramps have been constructed at different portions wherever possible and tiles have been placed without steel railings, construction of tactile pathways both inside the college and hostel premises are yet to be started, even though tender has already been floated for installation of a new lift vide T.C. No.46 of 2025-26 dtd.27.10.2025 and the work will be completed by 18.02.2026 as is evident from the letter of the Superintending Engineer, PWD (R & B), Division-1, Cuttack vide no.16348/WE, dtd.28.10.2025. Railings have already been installed in the PH Hostel (exclusively meant for PwD students) and the said work is in progress in the G+4 Academic Building.

C. As per direction of this Court, WATCO has already been started work through its agency in the M.S. PH Hostel and Old Hostel where PwD students are staying. However, WATCO related work will take time for completion.

D. The college has an adequate no. of Braille Books numbering around 324 which caters to the needs of 34 students of +2 Arts stream. For UG & PG students though the college has decided to procure adequate number of Braille Books for the visually-challenged students of the institution by utilizing the amount of Rs.1,60,000/- (Rupees One lakh sixty thousand) allotted



under the materials and supplies head, as approved by the Higher Education Department for the session 2025-26, it's not practically feasible to arrange Braille Books for them owing to the reason that such books are not available in Berhampur and even Dehradun where Braille press are available. It is further stated that for UG & PG, there are prescribed and reference books of different authors available as per syllabus for general students, but as there are no specific books exclusively prescribed for visually-challenged students it's a genuine constraint for different Braille press to print the books for visually-challenged students. As an alternative if Braille writer machine, required software, computer, printing papers and trained personnel will be provided to each and every institution it will be easier on the part of the institution to provide required no. of books as per the choice of the visually challenged students. That, apart e-book, audio book (from IGNOU), audio visual aids, screen reader, Braille displays magnification, speech-tap-text software and other allied components will be provided, to some extent we will be able to redress their issues at institution level or else other suitable possibilities may be explored to redress the issues.

E. As per direction of this Court, a joint inspection report of District Social Security Officer, Cuttack and Principal, Shailabala Women's (Auto.)



College, Cuttack, though submitted to the Under Secretary to Govt., Department of SSEPD, Odisha, Bhubaneswar vide letter no.3911/SS dtd.25.10.2025, still that is under active consideration of the concerned department as is evident from the joint meeting report on dtd.25.10.2025 of the Director Higher Education and Chairman of the meeting. Further, as per letter of SSEPD Department vide no. 12411/SSEPD, dtd.30.10.2025 and letter of office of the Collector and District Magistrate, Cuttack, vide no.4035/SS, dtd.31.10.2025, the College has already submitted the requirements of PwD students after obtaining information through Google Form vide letter no.5123 dtd.13.11.2025, which is still pending for disposal.

F. As per demand of PwD students and in particular students with locomotor disability if a battery-operated vehicle be provided to the institution, the accessibility of those students will be easier to attend their classes and back to their irrespective hostels. Moreover, if the number of wheelchairs and sticks meant for visually-challenged students be increased as per requirement taking into the ratio of the students, to some extent we will be able to redress their issues.

G. As the Department of Higher Education, Govt. of Odisha, is providing emphasis to obtain Administrative Approval prior to commencement of any



infrastructural work, the executive agencies like, PWD (R & B) and WATCO to submit the estimates for accordance of administrative approval and placement of funds by the Administrative Department at the earliest possible.

Report of the Deputy Secy., Dept. of Higher Education, Govt. of Odisha:

Learned counsel for the State has produced a report dated 11.12.2025 of the Deputy Secretary to Govt., Department of Higher Education, Govt. of Odisha, wherein it is stated that in compliance of this Court order, a joint meeting was convened on 09.12.2025 at 3.30 p.m. under the chairpersonship of Commissioner -cum- Secretary to Govt., SSEPD Department. Various issues concerning PwD students, schemes available for PwD etc. were thoroughly discussed. It is also stated therein that strategy is being chalked out for extending such facilities to all HEIs.

It is further mentioned that as per the direction of this Court, a committee was constituted by the district administration to visit Shailabala Women's Autonomous College, Cuttack to check the ground reality and to submit report. In pursuant to the report submitted by the said Committee, a compliance report of the Department has also been enclosed to this letter.

In the compliance report, it is stated that pursuant to this Court direction, a joint meeting was



convened on 09.12.2025 at 3.30 p.m. under the chairpersonship of Commissioner -cum- Secretary to Government, SSEPD Department. Various issues concerning PwD students, schemes available for PwD etc. were thoroughly discussed and accordingly, decisions taken in the meeting are outlines below in brief:

"A. Construction of disabled friendly toilets in all Higher Education Institutions (HEIs):

A standard model plan and estimate (cost: ₹6 lakh) for construction of two disability-friendly toilets (one male & one female) has been finalized by the SSEPD Department. The model drawing, estimate, and specifications will be uploaded on the SSEPD Department website. Universities/Colleges will be instructed to download and follow the standard design for construction of the same at the required hostels and academic buildings. The construction will be undertaken by the University/College Construction Committee. After submission of completion photographs, UC and completion report, funds will be released accordingly as per procedure.

B. Accessible infrastructure such as ramp, railings etc.:

Financial assistance will be provided to the HEIs according to their student strength for making the



campus accessible for PwD students. Execution shall be made through PwD or eligible PSUs selected as per OGFR and CVC guidelines.

C. Assistive Technology for visually impaired students:

Institutions shall identify students with visual impairment and submit requirement lists for:

- Laptops with screen-reader software;
- Braille displays;
- Screen magnification devices;
- Audiobook and e-book access tools.

The SSEPD Department has assured to provide support towards supply of all assistive technology and gadgets.

D. Audio/Braille Books:

The Department of Higher Education shall provide textbooks and academic material of Under Graduate (UG) and Post Graduate (PG) courses to SSEPD Department for provision of the same in audio/Braille formats.

E. Mobility Aids:

HEIs will be instructed to identify the disability of every PwD student and accordingly coordinate with the District Social Security Officer (DSSO) for provision of:



- Wheelchairs
- Crutches
- Walking sticks
- Other orthopedic aids

F. Issue of Unique Disability ID of every student:

All the University and Colleges shall assist the PwD students to acquire UDID card (if not already), for easier access to Government benefits, services, and tracking progress. The admission portal of Higher Education Department will be modified for inclusion of UDID number of every PwD student for easier access to Government benefits, services, and tracking progress.

G. Collection of data of all PwD students:

The Institutions will be requested to provide student wise disability details to the Department along with requirement of assistive devices, mobility aids and plan & estimate for modification of infrastructure to make it disabled friendly. Accordingly, necessary action shall be taken in collaboration with the SSEPD Department.

Compliance report on the issues of Shailabala Women's Autonomous College, Cuttack:

A. Disabled friendly toilet:

Administrative approval has been accorded vide Higher Education Department order no.66322



Dt.04.12.2025 (Annexure-A) for repair renovation of toilets of hostels and academic buildings of Shailabala Women's Autonomous College, Cuttack to make it disable friendly.

B. Special pathways/Ramps/Railings:

The Superintending Engineer, R & B Division No.I, Cuttack and GM, WATCO Division, Cuttack were requested vide Department letter no.67634 dt.10.12.2025 (Annexure-B) to submit plan and estimate for construction of tactile pathways, ramps etc. for accessibility of PwD students.

It has been gathered from the District Administration that the works have already been initiated. Administrative approval and placement of funds will be accorded after receipt of detailed project report.

C. Availability of assistive technology, mobility Aids:

The SSEPD Department has sought the requirement from all the Collectors of the State vide Department letter no.12411 dt:30.10.2025. The Principal, Shailabala Women's Autonomous College has submitted such requirement.

The matter has been discussed in the joint meeting held on 09.12.2025 and the Department of SSEPD has extended complete support towards funding/supply of all assistive technology like laptop with



screen-reader software, braille. displays, screen magnification devises, audiobooks etc.

The letter dated 11.12.2025 of the Deputy Secretary to Govt., Department of Higher Education, Govt. of Odisha along with the compliance report is taken on record.

Learned counsel for the State has also produced a letter dated 04.12.2025 of the Superintending Engineer, R & B Division No.I, Cuttack regarding progress report for the work construction of ramps with railings, tactile path both inside the College and Hostel premises and other allied facilities to S.B. Women's (Auto) College, Cuttack to make the campus disabled friendly submitted by the Jr. Engineer, R.P. Line (R&B) Section and Asst. Executive Engineer, Cuttack (R&B) Sub-Division No.III, Cuttack, which is taken on record.

For convenience of ready reference, the Status Report is culled out hereunder:



As on 03.12.2025

Sl. No.	Buildings	Status of work	
		Completed	Ongoing
1	Psychology Deptt.	* Ramp & tactile path complete.	
2	Principal Office Back side :-	* Ramp & tactile path complete.	
3	Utkal Sammilani hall :-	* Ramp & tactile path complete.	
4	Open Pandal :-	* Ramp & tactile path complete.	* Railing work to be started.
5	Controller of Examination Science Section :-	* 6 Nos. Ramp & tactile path completed.	
6	New Academic Block :-	* Ramp & tactile path completed. Railing of ground floor completed.	
7	Hall 1 & 2 :-	* Ramp & tactile path completed.	
8	P.H. Hostel :-	* Railing all floor completed. (G+1)	
9	P.G. Hostel :-	* Ramp & tactile path completed.	
10	S.C. & S.T. Hostel :-	* Ramp & tactile path completed.	
11	Auditorium :-	* Ramp completed. ✓	
12	Field side toilet :-	* Ramp completed.	
13	4 Nos. Toilet block in front of New Academic building :-	* Brick work upto lintel <i>level</i> completed.	* Reinforcement binding work for lintel work is in progress.
14	2 Nos. Toilet block inside Madhusudan Old Hostel :-	* Brick work upto lintel <i>level</i> completed.	* Column Reinforcement binding & shuttering work is in progress.

List this matter on 26.02.2026.

The learned counsel for the State shall apprise this Court about the development made in the meantime.

On the said date, the Director of Higher Education as well as the Special Secretary, SSPED Department are called upon to be present either virtually or in person.

(S.K. Sahoo)
Judge

(V. Narasingh)
Judge



STATUS OF ROAD WORKS UNDERTAKEN BY THE CMC AMOUNTING TO RS.2 LAKHS OR LESS

375.
18.12.2025

The C.M.C. was directed *vide* order No.337-A dated 09.10.2025 to file an affidavit, *inter alia*, relating to road works amounting to Rs.2 lakh rupees or less in value. For convenience of ready reference, the relevant paragraph of the said Order is culled out hereunder:

"The affidavit shall also state, for the period between 1st January 2025 to 30th September 2025, in every ward, how many road works amounting to Rs.2 Lakhs or less in value, if any, were initiated for roads in that ward and whether such road works of Rs 2 Lakhs or less in value were initiated for a single road or a for a section of such road. If separate road works, each amounting to Rs.2 Lakhs or less in value have been initiated for a single road, then the affidavit must explain the rationale for doing so "

Since the affidavit in this regard has not been filed on previous occasion and learned counsel for the CMC seeking an adjournment in this regard, it was directed that the affidavit in terms of the earlier order relating to the paragraph extracted hereinabove be filed on or before 10.12.2025.



Learned counsel for the CMC has filed 12 nos. of affidavits sworn by different engineering personnel of CMC, which are taken on record.

1. Ms. Sujata Gochhayat, Asst. Engineer, CMC has filed an affidavit dated 16.12.2025 wherein it is stated she is in charge of 5 nos. of wards under CMC, viz., Ward Nos. 31, 32, 34, 35 and 36 of the CMC in respect of road works and other civil works.

In the aforesaid wards, 04, 16, 05, 05 and 01 numbers of roads respectively totalling **31 numbers of roads** were taken up for repair/reconstruction between 01.01.2025 and 30.09.2025 where the amount was less than two (2) lakh rupees for each road.

The number of roads in each ward for which the roadwork was split up into multiple files, each less than 2 lakh rupees is given below:

a. **Ward No.36 – 1 single road was split up creating 3 files**

Except Ward No.36, such splitting up of road works creating multiple files for a single road was not required in the rest of the four Wards under her charge.

The abstract of the aforesaid road works in tabular form has been annexed to the affidavit as ANNEXURE-A/2.

The aforesaid road works were first proposed by the Corporators of the respective Wards and



approved by the Works Standing Committee of the CMC in their Resolution No.26th dated 17.05.2025. Thereafter, necessary administrative and technical sanctions for undertaking such works from concerned higher authorities were granted and subsequently, the aforesaid works were undertaken and supervised by her. A copy of the aforesaid Resolution has been annexed to the affidavit as ANNEXURE-B/2.

The split up of 1 single road into three files in Ward No.36 was undertaken by the ex-JE, Sri. Ratan Hembrum who had clarified that the aforesaid splitting up was done for expeditious completion of road repair work due to several phone calls and requests from the public for restoration of the road for immediate relief.

2. Sri. Purusottam Mallick, Assistant Engineer, Cuttack Municipal Corporation has filed an affidavit dated 16.12.2025, wherein it is stated that he is in charge of 5 numbers of Wards under Cuttack Municipal Corporation, viz., Ward Nos.22, 23, 25, 26 and 37 of the CMC in respect of road works and other civil works.

In the aforesaid Wards, 16, 10, 08, 28 and 35 numbers of roads respectively totalling **97 numbers of roads** were taken up for repair/reconstruction between 01.01.2025 and 30.09.2025 where the amount was less than two (2) lakh rupees for each road.



The number of roads in each ward for which the roadwork was split up into multiple files, each less than 2 lakh rupees is given below:

- a. **Ward No. 22 – 1 single road was split up creating 2 files**
- b. **Ward No. 37 – 1 single road was split up creating 5 files**

Except Ward Nos.22 and 37, such splitting up of road-works into multiple files was not required in the rest of the wards under his supervision. The abstract of the aforesaid road works in tabular form has been annexed to the affidavit as ANNEXURE-A/2.

The aforesaid road works were first proposed by the Corporators of the respective Wards and approved by the Works Standing Committee of the CMC in their Resolution Nos.29th and 23rd dated 12.08.2025 and 21.01.2025. Thereafter, necessary administrative and technical sanctions for undertaking such works from concerned higher authorities were granted and subsequently, the aforesaid works were undertaken and supervised by him. Copies of the aforesaid Resolutions dated 12.08.2025 and 21.01.2025 have been annexed to the affidavit as ANNEXURE-B/2-Series.

The aforesaid splitting up of single roads into multiple files was initiated in Ward No.22 for expeditious



completion of the work as repeated grievances were being made by the Ward residents for repair of the road. In Ward No.37, due to request of Matrubhaban School Management to expedite the road work for benefit of more than a 1000 students studying there as well as for immediate cleaning of the MSWC-1, the roadwork was split into multiple files so that the road could be restored without delay.

3. Smt. Punyatoya Badu, Asst. Engineer, CMC has filed an affidavit dated 16.12.2025 wherein it is stated that she in charge of 03 numbers of Wards under Cuttack Municipal Corporation, viz., Ward Nos.33, 42 and 47 of the CMC in respect of road works and other civil works.

In the aforesaid Wards, 23, 13 and 03 numbers of roads respectively totalling **39 numbers of roads** were taken up for repair/reconstruction between 01.01.2025 and 30.09.2025 where the amount was less than two (2) lakh rupees for each road.

The number of roads in each ward for which the roadwork was split up into multiple files, each less than 2 lakh rupees is given below:

a. **Ward No. 33 – 1 single road was split up creating 2 files**

Except Ward No.33, such splitting up of road works creating multiple files for a single road was not



required in Ward No.47. The abstract of the aforesaid road works in tabular form has been annexed to the affidavit as ANNEXURE-A/2.

The aforesaid road works were first proposed by the Corporators of the respective Wards and approved by the Works Standing Committee of the CMC in their Resolution No.23rd dated 21.01.2025. Thereafter, necessary administrative and technical sanctions for undertaking such works from concerned higher authorities were granted and subsequently, the aforesaid works were undertaken and supervised by him. A copy of the aforesaid Resolution has been annexed to the affidavit as ANNEXURE – B/2.

The split up of 1 single road into two files in Ward No.33 was necessary as the road was badly damaged by WATCO digging up the road for underground lying of pipes and the public was facing huge inconvenience and there were many grievances for quick restoration of the road.

4. Smt. Parbati Sahoo, Junior Engineer, CMC has filed an affidavit dated 16.12.2025 wherein it is stated that she is in charge of 5 numbers of Wards under Cuttack Municipal Corporation, viz., Ward Nos.12, 13, 14, 17 and 18 of the CMC in respect of road works and other civil works.



In the aforesaid Wards, 09, 16, 08, 14 and 16 numbers of roads respectively totalling **63 numbers of roads** were taken up for repair/reconstruction between 01.01.2025 and 30.09.2025 where the amount was less than two (2) lakh rupees for each road.

The number of roads in each ward for which the roadwork was split up into multiple files, each less than 2 lakh rupees is given below:

a. **Ward No. 13 – 1 single road was split up creating 4 files**

Except Ward No.13, such splitting up of road works into multiple files was not required in the rest of the wards under my supervision. The abstract of the aforesaid road works in tabular form has annexed to the affidavit as ANNEXURE-A/2.

The aforesaid road works were first proposed by the Corporators of the respective Wards and approved by the Works Standing Committee of the CMC in their Resolution No.23rd dated 21.01.2025. Thereafter, necessary administrative and technical sanctions for undertaking such works from concerned higher authorities were granted and subsequently, the aforesaid works were undertaken and supervised by him. A copy of the aforesaid Resolution has been annexed to the affidavit as ANNEXURE – B/2.



The aforesaid splitting up of single roads into four files was initiated in Ward No.13 for expeditious completion of the work as repeated grievances were being made by the residents of that Ward for repair of the road. It is further stated that the splitting of the work into different files was initiated during the tenure of Sri. Dilip Swain, ex-JE of the Ward.

5. Smt. Niharika Dhar, Junior Engineer, CMC has filed an affidavit dated 16.12.2025 wherein it is stated that she is in charge of 5 numbers of Wards under Cuttack Municipal Corporation, viz., Ward Nos.10, 15, 19, 39 and 44 of the CMC in respect of road works and other civil works.

In Ward Nos.10, 15, 19, 39 and 44 of the CMC, 17, 11, 11, 01 and 19 numbers of roads totalling **59 roads** were taken up for repair/reconstruction respectively between 01.01.2025 and 30.09.2025 where the amount was less than two (2) lakh rupees for each road.

The number of roads in each ward for which the roadwork was split up into multiple files, each less than 2 lakh rupees is given below:

- a. **Ward No.10 – 4 single roads were split up creating 8 files**
- b. **Ward No. 44 – 1 single road was split up creating 15 files**



Except Ward No.10 and 44 as stated above, such splitting up of road works creating multiple files for a single road was not required in the rest of the three Wards under her charge. The abstract of the aforesaid road works in tabular form has been annexed to the affidavit as ANNEXURE-A/2.

The aforesaid road works were first proposed by the Corporators of the respective Wards and approved by the Works Standing Committee of the CMC in their Resolution No.26th and 20th dated 17.05.2025 and 05.09.2024 respectively. Thereafter, necessary administrative and technical sanctions for undertaking such works from concerned higher authorities were granted and subsequently, the aforesaid works were undertaken and supervised by her. Copies of the aforesaid Resolutions dated 17.05.2025 and 05.09.2024 have been annexed to the affidavit as ANNEXURE – B/2-Series.

The split up of 4 single roads into eight files in Ward No.10 was undertaken for urgency due to several phone calls and requests from the public for restoration of the road due to which immediate repair work became necessary. In Ward No.44, the single road is the only access route to the CMC Office. Hundreds of vehicles ply on the said road to access public services. Due to deterioration of the road, numerous potholes led to



accidents everyday requiring urgent repair work and the work could be taken up only on public holidays to ensure that there is no traffic congestion or public inconvenience. The work was initiated during the tenure of ex-JE of the Ward, Sri. Dayananidhi Panda.

6. Sri Nayeem Ahmad Khan, Junior Engineer, CMC has filed an affidavit dated 16.12.2025 wherein it is stated that he is in charge of 05 numbers of Wards under Cuttack Municipal Corporation, viz., Ward Nos.21, 24, 28, 29 and 30 of the CMC in respect of road works and other civil works.

In the aforesaid Wards, 08, 08, 09, 31 and 22 numbers of roads respectively totalling **78 numbers of roads** were taken up for repair/reconstruction between 01.01.2025 and 30.09.2025 where the amount was less than two (2) lakh rupees for each road.

The number of roads in each ward for which the roadwork was split up into multiple files, each less than 2 lakh rupees is given below:

- a. Ward No. 21 – 1 single road was split up creating 4 files**
- b. Ward No. 29 – 11 single roads were split up creating 36 files**

Except Ward Nos. 21 and 29, such splitting up of road-works was not required in the rest of the wards under his supervision. The abstract of the aforesaid road



works in tabular form has been annexed to this affidavit as ANNEXURE-A/2.

The aforesaid road works were first proposed by the Corporators of the respective Wards and approved by the Works Standing Committee of the CMC in their Resolution Nos.27th and 22nd dated 20.06.2025 and 18.12.2024. Thereafter, necessary administrative and technical sanctions for undertaking such works from concerned higher authorities were granted and subsequently, the aforesaid works were undertaken and supervised by him. Copies of the aforesaid Resolutions dated 20.06.2025 and 18.12.2024 have been annexed to the affidavit as ANNEXURE – B/2-Series.

The aforesaid splitting up of single roads into multiple files was initiated during the tenure of Smt. Abhipsa Patnaik (she was working as Implementation Expert under MUKTA Scheme and assigned the work of JE of the said Ward), due to urgency for Durga Puja in Ward No.21. In Ward No.29, due to pressing public demand, as school, bank and temple are in close proximity, for immediate repair of the road, the work was split up into multiple files as communicated by the ex-AE, Sri. Ashok Kumar Rout (Retd.).

7. Sri Madhabi Das, Junior Engineer, CMC has filed an affidavit dated 16.12.2025 wherein it is stated



that she is in charge of 4 numbers of Wards under Cuttack Municipal Corporation, viz., Ward Nos.50, 51, 52 and 55 of the CMC in respect of road works and other civil works.

In the aforesaid Wards, 19, 18, 09 and 05 numbers of roads respectively were taken up for repair/reconstruction totalling **51 roads** between 01.01.2025 and 30.09.2025 where the amount was less than two (2) lakh rupees for each road.

The number of roads in each ward for which the roadwork was split up into multiple files, each less than 2 lakh rupees is given below:

a. Ward No.50 – 1 single road work was split up creating 15 files

Except Ward No.50 as stated above, such splitting up of road works creating multiple files for a single road was not required in the rest of the three Wards under her charge. The abstract of the aforesaid road works in tabular form has been to the affidavit as ANNEXURE-A/2.

The aforesaid road works were first proposed by the Corporators of the respective Wards and approved by the Works Standing Committee of the CMC in their Resolution No.23rd dated 21.01.2025. Thereafter, necessary administrative and technical sanctions for undertaking such works from concerned higher



authorities were granted and subsequently, the aforesaid works were undertaken and supervised by the Ex-JE of the above wards. A copy of the aforesaid Resolution dated 21.01.2025 has been annexed to the affidavit as ANNEXURE – B/2.

The split up of a single road into 15 (fifteen) files in Ward No.50 was done on an emergency basis to comply with the OHRC Order concerning the said Ward for undertaking immediate repair of the road & drain. It is further stated that the splitting of files for the single road in Ward No. 50 was initiated by Ex-JE Sri. Ratan Hembrum, who has been transferred.

8. Smt. Gitarani Sahoo, Asst. Engineer, CMC has filed an affidavit dated 16.12.2025 wherein it is stated that she is in charge of 6 numbers of Wards under Cuttack Municipal Corporation, viz., Ward Nos.45, 53, 56, 57, 58 and 59 of the CMC in respect of road works and other civil works.

In the aforesaid Wards, 07, 07, 22, 10, 24 and 57 numbers of roads respectively totalling **127 roads** were taken up for repair/reconstruction between 01.01.2025 and 30.09.2025 where the amount was less than two (2) lakh rupees for each road.

The number of roads in each ward for which the roadwork was split up into multiple files, each less than 2 lakh rupees is given below:



- a. Ward No. 45 – 1 single road was split up creating 3 files**
- b. Ward No. 58 - 1 single road was split up creating 3 files**
- c. Ward No. 59 - 2 single roads were split up creating 4 files**

The abstract of the aforesaid road works in tabular form has been annexed to the affidavit as ANNEXURE-A/2.

The aforesaid road works were first proposed by the Corporators of the respective Wards and approved by the Works Standing Committee of the CMC in their Resolution Nos.25th, 26th, 20th and 21st dated 11.03.2025, 17.05.2025, 05.09.2024 and 28.10.2024. Thereafter, necessary administrative and technical sanctions for undertaking such works from concerned higher authorities were granted and subsequently, the aforesaid works were undertaken and supervised by her. Copies of the aforesaid Resolutions have been annexed to the affidavit as ANNEXURE – B/2-Series.

The aforesaid splitting up of single roads into three files was initiated in Ward No.45 by the ex-JE, Smt. Bibhulata Behera for expeditious completion of the work as repeated grievances were being made by the residents of the said Ward for restoration of the road. In Ward No. 58, due to urgent demand from the local public



to repair the road for festivities at the Dhakulei Pitha, the said work was split into multiple files for expeditious completion. In Ward No. 59, due to heavy rain, the road was badly damaged and in urgent need of repair as demanded by the local residents. An earthen road was also to be developed immediately. Therefore, the ex-JE of the Ward, Sri. Ekalabya Barik split up the works into multiple files for early completion.

9. Sri Ekalabya Barik, Junior Engineer, CMC has filed an affidavit dated 16.12.2025 wherein it is stated that he is in charge of 06 numbers of Wards under Cuttack Municipal Corporation, viz., Ward Nos.38, 40, 41, 43, 46 and 54 of the CMC in respect of road works and other civil works.

In the aforesaid Wards, 04, 04, 11, 06, 02 and 05 numbers of roads respectively totalling **32 roads** were taken up for repair/reconstruction between 01.01.2025 and 30.09.2025 where the amount was less than two (2) lakh rupees for each road.

It is further stated that no single road work in the aforesaid 06 Wards have been split up into multiple files of less than 2 lakh rupees each during the given period. The abstract of the aforesaid road works in tabular form has been annexed to the affidavit as ANNEXURE-A/2.



The aforesaid road works were first proposed by the Corporators of the respective Wards and approved by the Works Standing Committee of the CMC. Thereafter, necessary administrative and technical sanctions for undertaking such works from concerned higher authorities were granted and subsequently, the aforesaid works were undertaken and supervised by him.

10. Sri Dilip Kumar Swain, Junior Engineer, CMC has filed an affidavit dated 16.12.2025 wherein it is stated that he is in charge of 6 numbers of Wards under Cuttack Municipal Corporation, viz., Ward Nos.02, 03, 07, 08, 09 and 16 of the CMC in respect of road works and other civil works.

In the aforesaid Wards, 18, 16, 22, 13, 12 and 03 numbers of roads respectively totalling **84 numbers of roads** were taken up for repair/reconstruction between 01.01.2025 and 30.09.2025 where the amount was less than two (2) lakh rupees for each road.

The number of roads in each ward for which the roadwork was split up into multiple files, each less than 2 lakh rupees is given below:

- a. Ward No. 02 – 1 single road was split up creating 2 files**
- b. Ward No. 09 – 1 single road was split up creating 2 files**



Except Ward Nos.02 and 09, such splitting up of road works into multiple files was not required in the rest of the wards under his supervision. The abstract of the aforesaid road works in tabular form has been annexed to the affidavit as ANNEXURE-A/2.

The aforesaid road works were first proposed by the Corporators of the respective Wards and approved by the Works Standing Committee of the CMC in their Resolution Nos.-21st and 26th dated 28.10.2024 and 17.05.2025. Thereafter, necessary administrative and technical sanctions for undertaking such works from concerned higher authorities were granted and subsequently, the aforesaid works were undertaken and supervised by him. Copies of the aforesaid Resolutions have been annexed to the affidavit as ANNEXURE – B/2-Series.

The aforesaid splitting up of single roads into multiple files was initiated for expeditious completion of the work keeping in mind the repeated grievances of the local residents to take up and complete restoration of the damaged and pot hole filled roads in the aforesaid Wards for which accidents were occurring frequently.

11. Smt. Bibhulata Behera, Junior Engineer, CMC has filed an affidavit dated 16.12.2025 wherein it is stated that she is in charge of 05 numbers of Wards under Cuttack Municipal Corporation, viz., Ward Nos.1,



4, 5, 20 and 27 of the CMC in respect of road works and other civil works.

In Ward Nos.1, 4, 5, 20 and 27 of the CMC, 11, 20, 11, 05 and 21 numbers of roads respectively were taken up for repair/reconstruction totalling **68 roads** between 01.01.2025 and 30.09.2025 where the amount was less than two (2) lakh rupees for each road.

The number of roads in each ward for which the roadwork was split up into multiple files, each less than 2 lakh rupees is given below:

a. Ward No.27 – 1 single road work was split up creating 3 files

Except Ward No.27 as stated above, such splitting up of road works creating multiple files for a single road was not required in the rest of the four Wards under her charge.

The abstract of the aforesaid road works in tabular form has been annexed to the affidavit as ANNEXURE-A/2.

The aforesaid road works were first proposed by the Corporators of the respective Wards and approved by the Works Standing Committee of the CMC in their Resolution No.23rd dated 21.01.2025. Thereafter, necessary administrative and technical sanctions for undertaking such works from concerned higher authorities were granted and subsequently, the aforesaid



works were undertaken and supervised by her. Copy of the aforesaid Resolution has been annexed to the affidavit as ANNEXURE – B/2.

The split up of a single road into three files in Ward No.27 was done for undertaking the reconstruction of the road faster due to severe water logging for which there was public demand for immediate repair of the road.

12. Sri Arup Kumar Majhi, Junior Engineer, CMC has filed an affidavit dated 16.12.2025 wherein it is stated that he in charge of 4 numbers of Wards under Cuttack Municipal Corporation, viz., Ward Nos.6, 11, 48 and 49 of the CMC in respect of road works and other civil works.

In Ward Nos.6, 11, 48 and 49 of the CMC, 8, 12, 11 and 5 road works of roads respectively totalling **36 roads** were taken up for repair/reconstruction between 01.01.2025 and 30.09.2025 where the amount was less than two (2) lakh rupees for each road.

The number of roads in each ward for which the roadwork was split up into multiple files, each less than 2 lakh rupees is given below:

- a. Ward No.6 – 5 numbers of single roads were split up creating 42 files**
- b. Ward No.11 – 3 numbers of single roads were split up creating 13 files**



c. Ward No.49 – 1 single road was split up creating 7 files

No single road work was split up in Ward No.48. The abstract of the aforesaid road works in tabular form has been annexed to the affidavit as ANNEXURE-A/2.

The aforesaid road works were first approved by the Works Standing Committee of the CMC in their Resolution No.23rd, 25th and 26th dated 21.01.2025, 11.03.2025 and 17.05.2025. Thereafter, necessary administrative and technical sanctions for undertaking such works from concerned higher authorities were granted and subsequently, the aforesaid works were undertaken and supervised by him. Copies of the aforesaid Resolutions dated 21.01.2025, 11.03.2025 and 17.05.2025 have been annexed to the affidavit as ANNEXURE – B/2-Series.

It is further stated that the initiation for split up of the said road works for Ward Nos. 6 and 11 were undertaken when the aforesaid Wards were under the charge of Sri. Ashok Kumar Rout (Retd.), ex-AE and for Ward No.49 during the tenure of Sri. Nayeem Ahmed Khan, ex-JE of the Ward.

The split up of a single road into multiple files was done for undertaking the works faster due to pressing public grievance where road works had to be



undertaken on an emergency basis.

On consideration of the individual affidavits filed by the junior/assistant engineers of the CMC and the submissions made by Sri. Dilip Kumar Swain, Junior Engineer, CMC in charge of Ward Nos. 2,3,7,8,9 and 16 in Court that were strongly objected to by the learned Members of the Bar present in Court, this Court directs all the JEs whose affidavits are on record pursuant to the Order dated 09.10.2025 to individually place on record with respect to their respective Wards the following information:

1. The names of contractors who executed the road works below 2 lakh rupees including the roads for which the files were split up;
2. The dates on which the roadworks for each road mentioned in the affidavits were completed and the dates on which payment was made to the aforesaid contractors;
3. Copy of agreements executed with such contractors for repair/reconstruction of the aforesaid road works.

List this matter on 26.02.2026.

In the meantime, the learned Members of the Advocate's Committee will carry out an inspection of the aforesaid roads which are said to have been repaired/reconstructed along with the respective JEs of



the Wards concerned and submit a report to this Court on the condition of the said roads before the next date. Mr. Nayak, learned Counsel for the CMC shall coordinate the visit of the members of the learned Advocate's Committee for the aforesaid inspection with the respective JEs of each Ward.

(S.K. Sahoo)
Judge

(V. Narasingh)
Judge

CLEANLINESS OF THE GROUNDS POST BALIYATRA

376.
18.12.2025

When this issue was taken up on 11.12.2025, it was brought to the notice of this Court by the members of the Advocates' Committee that violating the directions of this Court with impunity, garbage was torched in the Baliyatra ground and was also dumped in the river. The Deputy Commissioner of Sanitation, who appeared through virtual mode stated that the fire that is being adverted to, was by the 'Banjaras' to ward off cold on account of onset of winter and the garbage that is found in the river is not due to the dumping as alleged.

Accordingly, the Commissioner, CMC was called upon to appear through virtual mode and clarify the position before contemplating action against the



errant.

So far as cleanliness of the grounds post Baliyatra is concerned the Commissioner, CMC appearing through virtual mode submits that she will look into the grievance of torching of garbage and dumping of waste and file an affidavit in this regard by the next date.

List this matter on 12.02.2026.

(S.K. Sahoo)
Judge

(V. Narasingh)
Judge

KRUSHAKA BAZAR

377.
18.12.2025

When this issue was taken up on 27.11.2025, concern was expressed that in spite of the direction of this Court, Krushaka Bazar and its surrounding areas continue to be unhygienic. The garbage accumulating in the area was also not regularly lifted by the CMC. The Additional Commissioner of CMC as well as the Deputy Commissioner (Sanitation) joined the proceeding on virtual mode and the Deputy Commissioner (Sanitation) stated that so far as the issue relating to providing basic amenities such as toilet and drinking water were concerned, it was the duty of the RMC to maintain cleanliness, since RMC was collecting user fees. But, so



far as removal of garbage was concerned, it was stated that directions have been given to remove the garbage from the designated identified spot inside Krushaka Bazar.

The City Engineer was called upon to submit a report regarding the state of the drains in and around the vicinity of the Krushaka Bazar and also the nature of the encroachments as alleged.

Learned counsel for the CMC has filed the compliance report of the CMC, wherein it is stated that after field inspection to Krushaka Bazar premises area by the Engineering personnel of CMC, it was observed that the existing internal drain inside the Krushaka Bazar is having lower level than the level of the outside drain of CMC. The said internal drain was previously constructed by RMC. Hence, it needs to be reconstructed with technically feasible depth and height, so that the storm water and drain water from the internal drain can easily flow to the outside main drain. Hence the issue of waterlogging in the premises area of Krushaka Bazar can be resolved. RMC may kindly be directed to do the needful in this regard.

It is further stated that as per the orders of this Court and as decided during a joint meeting among the officials of CMC and RMC, Kendupatna, Cuttack, the CMC has already taken up the sanitation work for the



upkeep of Krushaka Bazar by deploying manpower and resources from the sanitation agency already undertaking the sanitation work in the locality, i.e. M/s. Jagruti Welfare Organisation.

Learned counsel for the RMC, Mr. Mohanty and Mr. B.B. Choudhury member of the Advocates' Committee brought to the notice of this Court that there are heaps of garbage still lying within the vicinity of Krushaka Bazar which is creating an unhealthy atmosphere though, cleaning is done by the CMC, the same is done at a snail's pace.

The Commissioner, CMC who is present virtually has assured this Court that necessary instruction will be imparted to the cleaning agency to ensure that cleaning of the existing garbage from the designated place as well as from in and around Krushaka Bazar is done with alacrity.

Taking note of the street vending which is depriving the RMC of its precious revenue, the Additional DCP, who joined the proceeding virtually, is directed to issue necessary instruction to the IIC of Markat Nagar Police Station as well as Bidanasi to ensure that there is no selling of fruits/vegetables on the road. Adequate publicity intimating that suitable places are available in the Krushaka Bazar be made through PAC by RMC to encourage vendors to utilize the designated places inside



Krushaka Bazar.

Steps taken in this regard shall be accessed on
26.02.2026.

List this matter on 26.02.2026.

(S.K. Sahoo)
Judge

(V. Narasingh)
Judge

18th December, 2025
Santoshi/Sipun