



HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

WPPIL No. 92 of 2025

In the matter of Suo Moto Public Interest Litigation based on News item published in Bilaspur Haribhoomi, dated 16th October, 2025 namely "40 Sal Purane Raste Ko Band Kar Likh Diya Gujarane Walon Ki Khoob Khatirdari Ki Jayegi"

... **Petitioner**

versus

1 - State of Chhattisgarh, Through Chief Secretary, Mahanadi Bhawan, Atal Nagar, Nawa Raipur, Chhattisgarh

2 - Secretary Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Nava Raipur Chhattisgarh

3 - Collector Bilaspur, District Bilaspur Chhattisgarh

4 - Superintendent of Police Bilaspur, District Bilaspur Chhattisgarh

5 - Commissioner Municipal Corporation Bilaspur, District Bilaspur Chhattisgarh

6 - Sub-Divisional Officer (Revenue) Bilaspur, District Bilaspur Chhattisgarh

... **Respondents**

Order Sheet

16/10/2025	This is an office reference. Heard Mr. Prafull N. Bharat, learned Advocate General assisted by Mr. Shashank Thakur, learned Deputy Advocate General, appearing for the State / respondents.

This Court has taken *suo moto* cognizance of the news report published today in Hindi Daily, namely, Hariboomi with a heading “40 साल पुराने रास्ते को बंद कर लिख दिया ‘गुजरने वालों की खूब खातिरदारी की जाएगी”

Aforesaid news goes to state that some people have blocked the passage of 15 families living under the Dayalband Bridge for 40 years. This is causing them problems. The situation is so dire that children have to be carried on shoulders to school and back again, crossing the river beneath the bridge. Furthermore, bikes and other vehicles have to parked on the main road or shops because the river makes it difficult to drive. The situation worsens in case of illness or an emergency.

After complaining the matter to the Collector, the site was demarcated, showing a footpath. Even after this, an iron gate was installed and a boundary wall has been erected, with a note on the wall stating that those passing through that path will be given proper treatment, meaning thereby that a threat has been

issued by the person who has block the said footpath.

More than 40 members of about 15 families have been living on their land for years under the Dayalband bridge on the way to Lingiyadih and for their coming and going there is a footpath also, which has been completely blocked. The entire land falls under Khasra numbers 175/1 to 175/9, and many people have land documents. Residents said that the people who have blocked the path wanted to buy the land and when they did not succeed, they are adopting the arm twisting method and are being harassed.

Following the complaint from these residents, a team of the Revenue Department conducted an inspection and prepared a panchnama, wherein it was found that all residents have been commuting through the said footpath for years. The inspection also revealed that in the Revenue records also the said footpath exits up to the Dayalband road.

Three photographs have also been published, out of which first photograph shows that the parents small

kids are constrained to carry their wards on their shoulders to take them to the school and the way is full of shrubs and even there is no proper road or path to go through the same. The second photograph shows that the women are forced to walk through the river along with their children and third photograph shows that the wall where the aforesaid message has been written, there is a gate which is locked and a woman is climbing on the said locked gate to go through the said way.

The message written on the wall is virtually a direct challenge to the authority of the State as no person is allowed to take law into their own hands.

The District Magistrate, Bilaspur is directed to file his personal affidavit in the matter before the next date of hearing as to the steps have been taken by the District Administration against the person who has raised the wall and blocked the footpath, which was being used for the last 40 years, as reported and written the aforesaid message in the said wall.

Post this matter on **28.10.2025**.

The Registrar (Judicial) as well as the learned State counsel are directed to communicate this order to the District Magistrate, Bilaspur for necessary information and compliance forthwith.

Sd/-
(Bibhu Datta Guru)
Judge

Sd/-
(Ramesh Sinha)
Chief Justice