



HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

WPPIL No. 17 of 2025

IN THE MATTER OF SUO MOTO PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION
versus STATE OF CHHATTISGARH

22/08/2025	This is an office reference. Heard Mr. Shashank Thakur, Dy. Advocate General for State as well as Mr. T.K. Jha, learned counsel for the Intervener. Though this public interest litigation was originally directed to be listed on 26.08.2025, in view of the news report published in <i>Bilaspur Bhaskar</i> dated 22.08.2025, the matter has been taken up for hearing today. The said news item, titled 'डीजे का पार्ट गिरने से बच्ची की मौत, 7 दिन बाद FIR', brings to light the incident in question. Perusal of the news would show that a three-year-old

child, Muskan, sustained grievous head injury when an iron pipe, kept along with other DJ equipment unlawfully dumped within the Anganwadi premises at Talapara, fell upon her while she was playing. She was initially taken to the District Hospital and later referred to CIMS, where she succumbed during the course of treatment.

The news item further indicates that the matter was initially suppressed by the authorities of the Women and Child Development Department as well as the local police, and it was only after seven days, upon receipt of the postmortem report confirming head injury as the cause of death, that an FIR was registered against the concerned DJ operator under the relevant penal provisions.

Learned counsel for the State submits that the mishap occurred as the DJ equipment had been placed inside the Anganwadi premises by a relative of one of its employees. It is urged that such impermissible act became the proximate cause of the unfortunate accident resulting in the death of the child, and that appropriate criminal proceedings have since been instituted against the individual concerned.

Accordingly, the District Magistrate, Bilaspur, is directed to file a personal affidavit before this Court by the next date of hearing, clearly indicating the steps taken in respect of the aforesaid incident, the responsibility of the officials concerned, and the action proposed or initiated against those found at fault. The affidavit shall further disclose whether any compensation has been paid to the family of the deceased child, and if not, the stage at which such consideration presently stands, along with the measures being put in place to prevent recurrence of such incidents in Anganwadi Centres.

Learned State Counsel is directed to forthwith apprise the District Magistrate, Bilaspur, of this order so as to ensure timely compliance and filing of the personal affidavit within the stipulated period.

List this case on **26/08/2025**.

Sd/-

(Bibhu Datta Guru)
Judge

Sd/-

(Ramesh Sinha)
Chief Justice