



HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH, BILASPUR

Order Sheet

WPPIL No. 37 of 2024

In the matter of Suo Moto Public Interest Litigation

Versus

The State of Chhattisgarh & Others

30.07.2024	<p>Heard Mr. Prafull N. Bharat, learned Advocate General along with Mr. Sangharsh Pandey, learned Government Advocate, appearing for the State/respondent Nos.1 to 9, Mr. Ramakant Mishra, learned Deputy Solicitor General, appearing for Union of India/respondent No.10 and Mr. Dhiraj Wankhede, learned counsel, appearing for respondent Nos.11 & 12/NHAI.</p> <p>In compliance of the order dated 25.06.2024, the State/respondent Nos.1 to 9 has filed its reply on 29.07.2024 wherein several steps have been taken to curb the road accidents on the National Highway as well as other Districts of the State.</p> <p>The affidavit is taken on record.</p> <p>The operative portions of the reply dated 29.07.2024 filed by the Secretary-Transport Commissioner, Department of Transport, Government of Chhattisgarh, Nawa Raipur, District Raipur (C.G.) read as follows :</p> <p><i>“3. It is most humbly submitted by the answering respondents that in the month of July 2024, total 15 Interceptor Vehicles have</i></p>



been allocated to the Districts of the State and the actions are being taken against the over speed vehicles, drunk and drive, high sound, high brightness heed light vehicles. The Interceptor vehicles are equipped with 360 degree surveillance, PA System, Alcometer (breath inhaler), Speed Radar Gun, Sound Meter, etc. Copy of report regarding action taken through Interceptor Vehicle is filed herewith as ANNEXURE A/1.

4. It is respectfully submitted that in the year 2024 for assessment of implementation of directions issued in the earlier meetings regarding smooth traffic and to curb the accidents, total 55 meetings of the District Road Committees of the different Districts of the State have been held. Copy of report regarding meetings of District Road Committees is filed herewith as ANNEXURE A/2.

5. It is submitted that in the year 2024 for Road Safety Awareness, total 7963 programmes (Training Programme in Schools and Colleges, Janjagrukta Raily, Driver Trainings, Health Checkup, Nukkad Natak) have been organized by the State authroities in which total 30,32,658 beneficiaries were present. Copy of reports regarding Road Safety Awareness Programme is filed herewith as ANNEXURE A/3.

6. It is humbly submitted that from January





2024 to June 2024 the Police Department took actions against total 2,94,179 vehicles for violation of Motor Vehicle Act and imposed fine of Rs. 13,45,61,458/- and the actions are being taken continuously.

7. It is submitted that from the Black Spots marked in the month of January 2024, total 36 Black Spots along with earlier marked 682 Black Spots have been rectified. It is further submitted that the rectification of 166 Black Spots is under progress. That, from 3801 marked junctions, in total 2487 junctions correctionals measures have been taken and in rest of the junctions the proceeding are under progress.

8. It is further submitted that the main roads for vehicle drivers, 22 Truck Lay By, 341 Bus Lay By and 7 Rest Area have been constructed.

9. It is humbly submitted that in the main National Highways 107 Rumble Strip, 3129 Speed Breaker, 13,130 Warning/Indication Board, 67 Hezard Marker, 981 Road Marking have been installed and other safety measures have also been taken for road safety.

10. It is respectfully submitted that Chief Secretary, Government of Chhattisgarh convened meeting through Video Conferencing with the Secretrary of all the Departments, Director General of Police Chhattisgarh, Divisional Commissioners, Collectors, Superintendent of Police for assessment of the





actions with regard to road accidents along with other matters. Copy of proceedings of the meeting of the Chief Secretary, Government of Chhattisgarh is filed herewith as ANNEXURE A/4. In the meeting the Chief Secretary, Government of Chhattisgarh has also directed the Collector of the Districts that at least one of the road of the District should be cattle free.

11. It is submitted that in the month of July, 2024, Flying Squad, Transport Department has taken action against the vehicles, which are standing near the Dhabas in National Highway, State Highways, and other roads and imposed fine of Rs. 2,13,900/- upon total 287 vehicles. Copy of report regarding action taken by the Flying Squad, Transport Department is filed herewith as ANNEXURE A/5.

12. It is respectfully submitted that the office of Flying Squad, Transport Department, Bilaspur imposed penalty of Rs. 24,49,900/- upon the vehicles, which are being used without Tarpaulin. Copy of report of office of Flying Squad, Transport Department, Bilaspur is filed herewith as ANNEXURE A/6.

13. It is further submitted that the Transport Checkpost / Flying Squad has taken action against the overloading vehicles and upon the vehicles involved in violation of Motor Vehicle Act and imposed fine. Copy of reports of action taken against the vehicles in the month of April, May, June & July, 2024 are filed collectively as





ANNEXURE A/7.

14. It is submitted that total 21 weighbridges have been installed, by which the proceeding of E-challan will be initiated against the overloading vehicles.

15. That, from January 2023 to March 2024, Speed Governors have been fixed in total 1,05,038 vehicles, by which the speed of the vehicles will be controlled.

16. It is humbly submitted that for driving test the proceedings of establishing the E-Track in the State is under progress, by which the driving test will be conducted through modern technology through which the Driving License will only be issued to the skilled drivers.

17. That, on behalf of the deponent, it is respectfully submitted that the State is taking all necessary steps towards minimizing the accidents on road and further every care and precaution is taken to remove all the possibilities which may lead to any casualty in a road accident.

18. That, the deponent most respectfully submitted that being welfare State every possible steps and measures would be taken in future to minimize the road accidents.”

In order to verify the contents of the affidavit, we request Mr. Ravindra Sharma and Mr. Pranjal Agrawal, Advocates, who are present in the Court, to assist in the present petition styled as “Public





Interest Litigation” and appoint them as Court Commissioners.

Mr. Ravindra Sharma and Mr. Pranjal Agrawal, learned counsel, have given their consent for the same.

We further request the Court Commissioners to verify the averments made in the reply-affidavit as well as steps taken and submit their report, for which we require the NHAI and State to assist the Court Commissioners for the same and they shall be paid Rs.10,000/- each.

The copy of the affidavit filed by the State shall be supplied to the Court Commissioners.

Mr. Wankhede submits that due to unavoidable reasons, NHAI could not file its reply-affidavit in compliance of the Court order dated 25.06.2024 and prays for one week time to file the same.

Mr. Wankhede is directed to supply the copy of the reply-affidavit to the Court Commissioner so that the contents may also be verified.

Time, as prayed for, is granted.

List this case on **18th September, 2024.**

Registry is directed to reflect the names of Mr. Ravindra Sharma and Mr. Pranjal Agrawal, Advocates in the future cause-list.

Sd/-
(Ravindra Kumar Agrawal)
Judge

Sd/-
(Ramesh Sinha)
Chief Justice