

**HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR****WPIL No. 94 of 2025**

In The Matter Of Suo Moto Public Interest Litigation Based On News Item Published On Daily News Paper Dainik Bhaskar, Bilaspur Bhaskar, Dated 23.10.2025 Ye Sharmanak Hai- Photo Share Kar Khiladi Ne Likha- Khiladi Jis Boxing Ki Puja Karte Hai, Use Khel Adhikariyo Ne Maykhana Bana Diya. Khel Adhikariyo Ne Boxing Ring Me Manaya Birthday, Sharab-Nonvej Ki Party Viral.

... Petitioner(s)**versus**

- 1** - The Union Of India Through The Secretary, Ministry Of Railway, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi
- 2** - South Eastern Central Railway Through General Manager,(GM/SECR) New Gm Building Bilaspur Zone, Bilaspur (C.G.)
- 3** - Assistant General Manager South Eastern Central Railway Bilaspur (C.G.)
- 4** - Divisional Railway Manager Bilaspur Division, Bilaspur (C.G.)
- 5** - Incharge, Sport Cell South Eastern Central Railway Zone, Bilaspur (C.G.)
- 6** - Coach Sports Cell South Eastern Central Railway Zone, Bilaspur (C.G.)

... Respondent(s)

Order Sheet

23/10/2025	This is an office reference. This suo-moto public interest litigation petition has been registered on the basis of a news item published today in Hindi Daily, Dainik Bhaskar, with a heading “खेल अधिकारियों ने बाक्सिंग रिंग में मनाया बर्थ-डे, शराब नानवेज की पार्टी वायरल” and sub-heading “ये शर्मनाक है, फोटो शेयर कर खिलाड़ी ने लिखा-खिलाड़ी जिस बाक्सिंग रिंग की पूजा करते हैं, उसे खेल अधिकारियों ने मयखाना बना दिया”. Heard Mr. Ramakant Mishra, learned Deputy Solicitor General assisted by Mr. Rishabh Deo Singh, learned Standing Counsel for the Union of India/respondents (through Video Conferencing). Mr. Tarun Prakash, General Manager, South East Central Railway (<i>for short, the SECR</i>), is also present (through Video Conferencing). The aforesaid news report goes to state that a picture of the officials of the Railway Department has gone viral in the social media in which it can be seen that in the boxing ring of the SECR, the Zone's Sports Cell in-charge celebrated his and his colleague's birthday. After consuming alcohol while sitting in the ring, they ate non-vegetarian food. Viral photos show everyone holding bottles

and glasses filled with alcohol.

According to the news report, the aforesaid picture of this party of sports officials has gone viral on social media. The SECR Zone's Sports Cell in-charge, along with Coaches, Assistant Coaches, and players from various sports, are seen sipping drinks. Some time ago, Shrikant Pahadi, Sports Cell in-charge of SECR Zone, celebrated his and fellow coach Devendra Yadav's birthday at the boxing club. Both of them had invited their fellow coaches and players to the party. They cooked fish fry and chicken on the spot, after which they drank a lot of beer and liquor. During this, they also got some pictures clicked, which some people shared on social media.

A Railway player shared the photo with Dainik Bhaskar. He wrote in the message that "*The boxing ring which players worship, has been turned into a bar by the sports officials. After drinking liquor, they ate non-veg on the spot.*" However, Railway officials have talked about taking action after investigation in the matter. During the party, sports officials used the players' mats as tables. They were set up around the perimeter, and the centerpiece served as a center table. Glasses, beer bottles, and snacks were placed on top, and the party continued for hours.

The news report further goes to state that the Boxing Coach,

Amit	also attended the party in the boxing ring with other members. The version of the Senior DCM, Anurag Kumar Singh has also been published who has stated that the boxing ring is for the players to practice. Drinking alcohol is prohibited here. Any such incident will certainly be investigated. Prima facie, such conduct reflects gross misconduct and disregard for the sanctity of a place meant for sports training and practice. When confronted with the aforesaid news item, Mr. Tarun Prakash, General Manager, SECR sought time to made a detailed enquiry into the matter and to submit a report in the form of the affidavit. The General Manager, SECR, shall submit a report in the form of a duly sworn personal affidavit before the next date of hearing indicating the outcome of such enquiry and the action, if any, proposed or taken against the erring officials. Let this matter be listed again on 31.10.2025. Sd/- (Bibhu Datta Guru) JUDGE Sd/- (Ramesh Sinha) CHIEF JUSTICE
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