



HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR
WPPIL No. 17 of 2026

In the matter of Suo Moto Public Interest Litigation based on news item published in Daily News Paper Navbharat, Aaspaas, Bilaspur Dated 4th April, 2026 The News Items As Follows Vidambana Jankari Ke Bawjud Nigam Adhikari Kar Rahe Andekhi Bajbajati Naali Ke Bich Paani Bharne Ki Majburi, Beemariyon Ka Khatra

... **Petitioner**

versus

- 1 - State of Chhattisgarh Through Chief Secretary, Mahanadi Bhawan, Atal Nagar, Nawa Raipur, (C.G.)
- 2 - State of Chhattisgarh Through Secretary, Urban Administration And Development, Indrawati Bhawan Atal Nagar Nawa Raipur, (C.G.)
- 3 - State of Chhattisgarh Through Secretary, Public And Health Engineering Department, Atal Nagar Nawa Raipur (C.G.)
- 4 - The Collector Bilaspur, District Bilaspur (C.G.)
- 5 - Commissioner Municipal Corporation, Bilaspur District Bilaspur (C.G.)

... **Respondents**

Order Sheet

04/04/2026	<p style="text-align: center;">This is an office reference.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Heard Mr. Prasun Bhaduri, learned Deputy Advocate General, appearing for the State / respondent Nos. 1 to 4 and Mr. Anadi Sharma (through video conferencing) & Mr. Bharat Sharma, learned counsel,</p>
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appearing for respondent No.5 / Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Bilaspur.

Although today is a non-working day of the Court, but considering the seriousness of the news report published today in Hindi Daily, namely, Navbharat with a heading “बजबजाती नाली के बीच पानी भरने की मजबूरी, बीमारियों का खतरा” and with a sub-heading “महीनों से नहीं बनी नाली के चलते हो रहे हलाकान”, this Court has taken *suo moto* cognizance of the said new report and has assembled to hear the matter today itself.

The report highlights that, despite being fully aware of the prevailing situation, officials of the Municipal Corporation have deliberately ignored the issue, causing severe hardship to the residents. It specifically refers to the residents of Sirgitti, particularly those living in Ward No. 12 (Bannak locality), who have been facing acute difficulties due to the incomplete construction of a drainage system.

It is reported that approximately one and a half months ago, excavation work for the construction of a

drain was undertaken, extending from the residence of Ajay Yadav to that of Dattu Mishra. During this process, a trench approximately 10 feet deep was dug. However, the excavation has remained unattended and incomplete since then. Furthermore, the existing pipeline running alongside the road was completely damaged during the excavation.

Despite this, neither has the contractor proceeded with the construction of the drain, nor has any effort been made to repair or reconnect the damaged pipeline. As a result, the water supply to the residents has been severely disrupted.

The inaction and negligence on the part of the contractor, along with the failure of the concerned authorities to properly monitor and supervise the work, have caused immense inconvenience and hardship to the inhabitants of the area.

Additionally, due to the incomplete drainage system, wastewater from households is accumulating in the open trench, creating unhygienic and hazardous

conditions. Residents are compelled to fetch drinking water at great personal risk, as they must pass through filthy and stagnant water. The accumulation of stagnant water has also led to increased mosquito breeding, posing a serious threat of diseases such as dengue and other waterborne infections. Despite the gravity of the situation, the concerned authorities have failed to take prompt and effective action.

The above facts clearly demonstrate gross negligence, dereliction of duty, and a lack of accountability on the part of both the contractor and the municipal authorities, forcing residents to live under deplorable and hazardous conditions.

Respondent No.5 / Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Bilaspur is directed to immediately take cognizance of the issue and ensure that necessary remedial measures are undertaken without any further delay. He shall ensure that the construction of the drainage system in Ward No. 12 (Bannak locality), Sirgitti, is completed in a time-bound manner, preferably

within a period of **one week** from the date of this order. The damaged water pipeline shall be repaired and restored forthwith so as to ensure uninterrupted supply of potable water to the residents. Immediate steps shall be taken to clear the accumulated wastewater and to sanitize the affected area to prevent the outbreak of diseases. The Commissioner shall also ensure that responsibility is fixed upon the erring contractor and officials for the lapse, and appropriate action, in accordance with law, is initiated against them.

A personal affidavit shall be filed by respondent No.5 / Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Bilaspur before the next date of hearing, indicating the steps taken and the current status of the work and also place on record the date of NIT and the work order issued mentioning the time period which was proposed for construction of drain.

We hope and trust that the drain in question would be constructed within a period of one week whereby the pipeline is passing through so that no

contaminated water shall be used by the local residents apprehending their sickness because of the contaminated is found.

Post this matter again on **09.04.2026** for submission of the personal affidavit of respondent No.5 / Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Bilaspur.

Sd/-
(Ravindra Kumar Agrawal)
Judge

Sd/-
(Ramesh Sinha)
Chief Justice