

**HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR****WPPIL No. 76 of 2024**

In the matter of Suo Moto Public Interest Litigation

versus

State of Chhattisgarh & Others

Order Sheet

23/09/2024	<p>This is an office reference.</p> <p>Heard Mr. Prafull N. Bharat, learned Advocate General, assisted by Mr. Shashank Thakur, learned Deputy Advocate General, appearing for the State and Mr. Trivikram Nayak, learned counsel, appearing for respondent No. 8.</p> <p>This suo moto public interest litigation has been registered on the basis of news item published in Haribhoomi, Bilaspur dated 23rd September, 2024 with a heading "जिला अस्पताल : आक्सीजन प्लांट पर करोड़ों खर्च, तीन में से दो बंद and another with a heading हेल्थ सेंटरों के</p>

डॉक्टर करते हैं ऑन कॉल ड्यूटी, चिकित्सकीय स्टाफ के भरोसे इमरजेंसी – रविवार की छुट्टी यानी नियमित इलाज बंद, जांच तो दूर, मरीजों को जरूरी दवा मिलनी भी मुश्किल”

The aforesaid news goes to show that the oxygen plants built at the cost of crores of rupees in the District Hospital, Bilaspur, are lying closed. Because of the said condition, supply of oxygen in NICU, ICU and other wards is stopped, but despite this situation, the hospital management keeps claiming that everything is fine. During the covid pandemic period, three Oxygen plants were installed in the District Hospital but no employees have been deployed for its upkeep and maintenance and furthermore, it is being operated by untrained employees and computer operators because of which two Oxygen Plants have stopped working. At present, oxygen supply is being made from the oxygen cylinders which are brought from outside. Despite various authorities inspecting the Hospital, no heed is being paid for restarting the closed Oxygen plants.

It has been alleged that if the oxygen plants are in

operation, the officers and employees are deprived of the commission that they would be getting when the oxygen cylinders are purchased from outside and approximately 30 to 50 oxygen cylinders are required daily and the payment is made for it on monthly basis. The Hospital Management has been making various excuses but have not attempted to restart the Oxygen Plants which were installed after incurring huge expenses.

The second news relates to Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Memorial Hospital, Raipur. The news report states that on Sunday, the OPD remains closed and for emergency situations, Doctors are doing their duties only on calls. The Hospital is made to run with the help of Medical Staff only. Whenever there is holiday, the health centers are left on emergency mode and no medicine is available for the outpatients even for minor diseases. In the District Hospital, there were locks in the OPD rooms. The patients are made to suffer on account of such conduct.

Learned Advocate General seeks short time to take necessary instructions in the matter.

In view of the above facts and circumstances, the Additional Chief Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department, Mahanadi Bhawan, Atal Nagar, Nawa Raipur (C.G.) is directed to file his personal affidavit in this regard.

Let the matter be listed again alongwith the report/affidavit of the authority as aforesaid, on 30.09.2024.

**Sd/-
(Bibhu Datta Guru)
Judge**

**Sd/-
(Ramesh Sinha)
Chief Justice**