

(2002) 05 CHH CK 0021
In the Chhattisgarh High Court
Case No : Writ Petition No. 1030 of 2002
In Re: Union of India (UOI)

Date of Decision : 30-05-2002

Acts Referred:

Citation : (2002) 3 CGLJ 400

Hon'ble Judges : Fakhruddin, J

Bench : Division Bench

Advocate : Manindra Shrivastava, Vinay Harit, Nirupama Bajpai, Amicus Curiae, Sanjay K. Agrawal, Deputy A.G. for State of Chhattisgarh and V.V.S. Murty, for the Appellant;

Judgement

Fakhruddin, J.—Heard.

2. The matter was heard in great detail on 20-5-2002, 27-5-2002 and also on 29-5-2002 and counsel for the parties including Shri Prashant Jaiswal, amicus curiae addressed on earlier dates.

3. Learned Counsel appearing as amicus curiae submits that the position is more or less the same, which has been reflected from the newspaper. There is no shade from old footover bridge to the RPF office, similar situation is on platforms No. 2, 3, 4 and 5 as there are partly provided shed. This creates lot of problem for the passengers waiting for trains under scorching heat, that standing on the uncovered platforms is great inconvenience for the passengers not only in summer heat, but in rainy season also, there is no proper facility of public toilet particularly for ladies/women. Miss Nirupam Bajpai, a lady Advocate further submits that she herself experienced the difficulties and the write up in Hitavada regarding facilities and amenities on the platform including public toilet is correct. It is said that Bilaspur Railway Station is an important station and highest earning division in the S.E. Railway Zone; it is strange that there is no proper coverage as required on the platforms. All the facilities are required to be provided. It is stated that although there are toilets in First Class and Second Class waiting rooms but that does not facilitate the general passengers and visitors. Even the employees working in various offices on the platforms have to

search places to release their bladder pressure and discharge their wastes. It is submitted that though the land is available proper scooter-cycle stand and rickshaw stand is not there. Shri Harit and Shri Murty on the other hand submitted that the authorities are doing well, they are conscious of the problem and know the importance of the area. Shri Murty submitted that he has apprised the concerned Department of the Govt, of India and Ministry of Railways and so far as submission of report is concerned it will be submitted after some time. It is good that the Railway authorities are taking keen interest in removing the problems and are providing facilities but much more is required to be done.

4. It is also stated that there are shortage G.R.P. force in the division and on various stations even they do not have police stations. This Court hopes that the Railways and State of Chhattisgarh would also look in this aspect.

5. Since the summer season is on and immediately rainy season would follow, learned Counsel for all the parties submits that the matter may be disposed of with certain directions.

6. In view of the facts and circumstances of the matter it is directed that General Manager or such other competent/responsible officer may be deputed by Union of India to make detailed inspection of Bilaspur Railway Station and such other prominent stations of South Eastern Railway Zone like Raipur, Raigarh, Durg etc. and immediately take all such redressal steps which are permissible for removing the difficulties highlighted and which have been experienced and reiterated by the counsel and amicus curi ae and also that which may be noted by visiting officer. The complete report regarding steps taken by the authorities including General Manager concerned shall be submitted to the Registrar (Judicial) of this Court within a period of two months from the date of receipt of copy of this order.

7. Shri Sanjay K. Agarwal, Deputy Advocate General submits that from the State side all helps, which permissible, shall be provided to the Union of India/ Railways. In this view it is directed that if co-operation of State is required it may be obtained in solving the problem.

8. Subject to the directions and observations made here in above the matter stands disposed of at this stage.

9. Before parting with the order this Court appreciates the valuable assistance rendered by learned Counsel for the parties. This Court also appreciates the CorRespondent and the Newspaper concerned for taking the matter in right perspective. Photocopy of this order be supplied to all the counsel appearing for the parties for compliance.

10. Certified copy as per Rules.

Direction Issued. Railway to report compliance within 2 months.