

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

SUO MOTO WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO. 03 OF 2025

(Under Article 32 of the Constitution of India)

WITH

Interlocutory Application No. 93543/2025

(Application for Intervention)

IN RE: KANCHA GACHIBOWLI FOREST, STATE OF TELANGANA

OFFICE REPORT

The matter above mentioned was listed before the Hon'ble Court on 03.04.2025, when the Hon'ble Court was pleased to inter-alia pass the following order:-

“1. On a mentioning made by Mr. K. Parameshwar, learned Amicus Curiae in the morning, we had taken suo moto cognizance of the deforestation activities being undertaken in the Kancha Gachibowli Forest, State of Telangana. We had directed the Registrar (Judicial) of the High Court of Telangana to immediately go to the spot and submit his interim report by 03:30 p.m. today.

2. The Registrar (Judicial) of the High Court of Telangana has, in pursuance to our order, immediately went to the spot and found the following position:-

“The shrubs, bushes; small, medium size trees are being felled for the past few days. Big boulders and rocks were removed with the help of machineries. Some peacocks, some deers and some birds are seen in the said area. A large number of small, medium size trees and some big trees are being destroyed. Nearly, 100 acres of the said area was destroyed. A lake is there beside the deforested area. Deers are seen beside the lake. Adjacent to the said deforested area, HCU administrative building is located. Near the said administrative block of HCU, three (3) helipads are seen.”

3. The said report is taken on record.

4. The perusal of the aforesaid would reveal that a huge development activity is being undertaken on the said Kancha Gachibowli Forest area.

xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx
xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx

11. In this premise, we find it appropriate to direct the present proceedings to be registered as a Suo Moto Writ Petition under the heading of In Re:- Kancha Gachibowli Forest, State of Telangana.

12. The Chief Secretary of the State of Telangana would be one of the party respondent(s).

13. We request the learned Amicus Curiae to prepare a proper writ petition, highlighting all the aspects of the matter.

14. We direct the respondent-Chief Secretary, State of Telangana to answer the following queries of the Court:

(i) What was the compelling urgency to undertake the developmental activities, including removal of trees from the said alleged forest area.

(ii) As to whether for such developmental activities, the State has obtained the Environmental Impact Assessment Certificate.

(iii) As to whether for felling the trees, the requisite permission from the forest authorities or any other local statutes has been obtained or not.

(iv) As to what is the necessity of having officers at Sr. No. 3,4,5,6 and 10 in the Committee constituted under the order dated 15.03.2025 of the State of Telangana, inasmuch as we are, prima facie, of the opinion that these officers have nothing to do with the identification of the forest.

(v) As to what has been done by the State with the trees that have been felled and timber obtained therefrom.

15. We also request the Central Empowered Committee to personally visit the site in question and submit its report prior to 16.04.2025.

16. We direct that until further orders, no activity of any sort, except the protection of the trees already existing shall be undertaken by the State or any of the authorities subordinate to it.

17. In case, we find that any of the directions issued by this Court are not complied with in true letter and spirit, the Chief Secretary of the State of Telangana would be held personally responsible for the same and proceeded further against.

18. List on 16.04.2025.”

It is submitted that certified copy of the Record of Proceedings dated 03.04.2025 forwarded to the Chief Secretary, State of Telanagana and Member Secretary, Central Empowered Committee (CEC) on 04.04.2025 through e-mail and speed post as well.

It is further submitted that the following documents have been filed, so far:-

S. No.	Document	Filed on	Filed by/Adv. Name
1	Writ Petition	09.04.2025	Mr. Dilip Landge on b/o Mr. K. Parameshwar, Ld. Amicus Curiae
2	Compliance Affidavit on b/o State of Telangana	15.04.2025	Mr. Sravan Kumar Karnam
3	I.A. No. 93543/2025 (Application for Intervention on b/o the applicant viz. Vata Foundation)	15.04.2025	Mr. Naveen Hegde

All the documents / application/s above-mentioned are being circulated for kind perusal of the Hon'ble Court.

The Suo Moto Writ Petition along with the application above-mentioned is listed before the Hon'ble Court with this Office Report for Orders.

Dated this the 15th day of April, 2025.

sd/-
Assistant Registrar