



Suchitra

IN THE HIGH COURT OF BOMBAY AT GOA

SUO MOTO WRIT PETITION NO.2/2026

IN RE COMPLIANCE WITH THE
DIRECTIONS ISSUED BY THE
SUPREME COURT IN SMWP
NOS. 5 OF 2025 STRAY DOGS

... PETITIONER

Versus

THE STATE OF GOA THR
CHIEF SECRETARY AND 30 ORS.

... RESPONDENTS

Mr. Terence Sequeira, Advocate-Amicus Curiae.

Mr. Deep Shirodkar, Additional Government Advocate for
Respondent Nos.1 to 7 and 27 to 31.

Mr. Anand Shirodkar h/f Mr Somnath Karpe, Advocate for
Respondent Nos.8, 9 and 34.

Mr Vivek Rodrigues, Advocate for Respondent No.10 with Adv. Mr
Naresh Chandwani (thr VC).

Ms Maria Correia, Additional Government Advocate for
Respondent Nos.11, 12 and 13.

Mr. Parag Rao with Ms. D. Korgaonkar, Advocates for Respondent
No.14.

Mr. Ravi Anand, Advocate for Respondent No.15.

Ms. Kalpa Govenkar, Advocate for Respondent No.17.

Mr Pranav Vaze, Advocate for Respondent No.19 (thr VC).

Mr Kishan Kavlekar, Advocate for Respondent No.20.

Mr Prayash Shirodkar, Advocate for Respondent Nos.16, 18 & 21.

Mr. Tushar Karmalkar, Advocate for Respondent No.22.

Ms Marie Rosette Pereira h/f Mr Laxman Pednekar, Advocate for Respondent No.23.

Mr. Aniket Tari (thr VC), Advocate for Respondent Nos.24 and 26.

Mr Shane Coutinho and Ms Dishanka Vernecar, Advocates for Respondent No.32.

Mr. S. G. Bhobe, Advocate for Respondent No.33.

**CORAM: VALMIKI MENEZES &
AMIT S. JAMSANDEKAR, JJ.**

DATED: 6th OCTOBER 2026

P.C. :

1. Despite several of our directions to the Chief Officer of Quepem Municipal Council – Respondent No.20, no affidavit has been filed till date. We seriously deprecate this conduct of the Chief Officer, and expect the affidavit to be filed within a week from today with a detailed explanation therein as to the delay in filing the same.
2. Insofar as the animal rescue shelter of the CCP at Curca, Mr Deep Shirodkar submits that the Town Planner, Tiswadi has inspected the site and a decision of the Town Planning Department would be communicated to the CCP within a week from today i.e. by 15.10.2026.
3. **Stray dogs:** With respect to our order dated 10.09.2026, the Director of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services has issued

a public notice dated 18.09.2026 informing the general public of the drive/survey to collect data on the number of stray dogs and pet dogs across the State, as also on the stray cattle that are found near highways/roads. The Director of Panchayats, in compliance with the direction has also issued emails to all the Panchayats to the similar effect. All Municipalities and the CCP to place on record public notices issued by them, and if such notices are not yet issued, they shall be issued within a week from today. All Chief Officers and the Commissioner of CCP shall take note of this direction.

4. We had issued specific directions in paragraph 7 of our order dated 10.09.2026 on the issue of data collection with regard to stray dogs within the jurisdiction of each of the local bodies. The direction reads as follows:-

“The data should also include the gender and whether the dogs have been sterilised or not. Such exercise shall be completed by 15.10.2026. The Secretary/Chief Officer/Commissioner of the respective local body shall then compile the data of all wards in that local body and forward the same to the Director of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services, latest by 22.10.2026.”

5. None of the Panchayat Secretaries/Chief Officers of Municipal Councils/Commissioner of the CCP till date have complied with this part of the order and sent its compilation of data to the Director of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services. These directions were to be complied with latest by

22.10.2026. Since there are hardly two weeks left for this date to reach the Director of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, we direct all the Panchayat Secretaries/Chief Officers of Municipal Councils/Commissioner of the CCP to comply with these directions by 22.10.2026. Copy of all reports/compilation of date shall also be filed before this Court by 22.10.2026 with a copy to the learned Amicus Curiae and to the Respondent No.33 and the Additional Government Advocate.

6. Domesticated/pet dogs: Till date, collection of data on identifying the number of domesticated/pet dogs in the ward, their gender and whether they have been sterilised or not is also not made available by the Panchayat Secretaries/Chief Officers of Municipal Councils/Commissioner of the CCP. There is also no material placed by them as to the door-to-door campaigns to promote the large-scale sterilization of pet dogs being undertaken by the local bodies, and raise awareness about vaccination, immunisation, deworming, waste management, responsible feeding, and adoption of stray dogs. In compliance with the direction given in paragraph 10 of our earlier order which is reproduced for benefit of the Panchayat Secretaries/Chief Officers of Municipal Councils/Commissioner of the CCP:

“10. The Secretary/Chief Officer/Commissioner of the respective local body shall also compile the data of all wards of that local body and forward a separate list of the same to the Director of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services, latest by 22.10.2026.”

We expect them to comply with these directions by the next date of hearing and place on record the action taken by them in this regard.

7. **Stray Cattle:** We have issued directions in paragraph 12 of our order to the Panchayat Secretaries/Chief Officers of Municipal Councils/Commissioner of the CCP to compile data in relation to stray cattle of all wards of that local body and forward a separate list of the same to the Director of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services, latest by 22.10.2026. The direction is reproduced hereinbelow:

“12. The Secretary/Chief Officer/Commissioner of the respective local body shall also compile the data in relation to stray cattle of all wards of that local body and forward a separate list of the same to the Director of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services, latest by 22.10.2026.”

No action is reported on our directions. We expect a complete compilation of data in this behalf to be filed before the Court record on the next date of hearing.

8. Since there is clear remiss on the part of the Panchayat Secretaries/Chief Officers of Municipal Councils/Commissioner of the CCP in complying with our directions recorded in our order dated 10.09.2026, and we have reiterated these directions in this order, we make it clear that if these directions are not complied with or followed by the next date of hearing, we would have no option but to proceed to take contempt proceedings

against each of these Panchayat Secretaries/Chief Officers of Municipal Councils/Commissioner of the CCP who have indulged in refusal to comply with the direction or remiss with their duties. This matter has been registered as Suo Moto Writ Petition pursuant to order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *City Hounded by Strays, Kids Pay Price – Suo Moto Writ Petition (Civil) No.5 of 2025* dated *19.05.2026* and the Secretaries/Chief Officers/Commissioner of each of these local authorities must treat these directions with all seriousness and ensure that the are complied with.

9. Temporary Shelters: Direction issued by us to the Panchayat Secretaries/Chief Officers of Municipal Councils/Commissioner of the CCP was to create temporary shelter within three weeks of our order of 10.09.2026 which has also not been complied with. The directions are quoted below:-

“Every municipality shall identify the number of existing shelters and file its report within two weeks. In cases where there are no existing shelters, the concerned municipality shall, on a war footing, identify an area for setting up the shelter(s). Pending the setting up of the shelter(s), the Municipality shall set up temporary shelter(s) within three weeks, i.e. by 03.10.2026 for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court regarding shifting of certain stray dogs to the animal shelters.”

10. We expect these directions to be complied with by the next date of hearing.

11. List on 26.10.2026.

AMIT S. JAMSANDEKAR, J.

VALMIKI MENEZES, J.