

**WP(C) 19827/2017-SMT.JAYANTI DAS V/S STATE & ORS-ban animal sacrifice on public road in bhawanipatna kalahandi Orissa**

**NEW LINK**

**Plea against sacrifice**

**LALMOHAN PATNAIK**

**Orissa High Court**

**Cuttack, Sept. 14 2017 : An animal rights activist has approached Orissa High Court again for intervention to stop bird and animal sacrifice during chhatar yatra at Bhawanipatna in Kalahandi district.**

**Jayanti Das had moved the high court in 2010 for issuing of direction to stop the practice in religious places in the state. Disposing of the petition on November 12, 2010, the high court had observed: "This court cannot issue the direction as prayed for at this stage. It is open to petitioner to make a representation to the district collector ventilating its grievance which shall be considered and disposed of by the collector in accordance with law."**

**In March, 2011, Das, a resident of Mahamadia Bazar in Cuttack, filed another petition, seeking judicial intervention to stop sacrifice of birds and animals during bada yatra in Malkangiri district. But, the court expressed disinclination to pass any order, expecting her to reach out to the Malkangiri collector, who was the "competent authority" to take a decision on it.**

**Bada yatra is the major festival of Malkangiri district celebrated by tribal people every alternate year in February-March on a stretch of 90km from Maryamkunda under Kalimela tehsil and Malkangiri with offerings in the form of animal sacrifices at various places along the route every day during this period.**

**Now, Das filed a petition, seeking intervention against inaction of the Kalahandi district administration against the "mass butchery of animals and birds during chhatar yatra at Bhawanipatna".**

**The petition, filed by way of a PIL, has sought direction to the Kalahandi district administration to stop slaughter of animals and birds in the coming chhatar yatra on the Ashtami day at Bhawanipatna on public road and in public place.**

**In the petition, Das, said she submitted a representation to the Kalahandi collector and police superintendent on September 6, 2016 for stopping butchery on road in public view during chhatar yatra in 2017.**

**According to the petition, the Kalahandi police superintendent replied to the representation on January 13, 2017, saying, "since there is no specific place for animal sacrifice during chhatar yatra.**

the animals and birds are sacrificed by the people on the way from Jenakhole to the Manikeswari Temple, which is about 3km".

The PIL was filed today by advocate B.K. Ragada, on behalf of Das, invoking the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1980.

Chhatar yatra is a traditional festival celebrated by the people of Kalahandi involving the Manikeswari Temple at Bhawanipatna. Though the government has strictly banned animal and bird sacrifice, people in Kalahandi do not follow the rule. About 50,000 animals and birds are sacrificed on the Ashtami day of Dussehra.

### **PIL Filed In HC To Ban Animal Sacrifice During 'Chhatar Jatra'**

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**Bhawanipatna:** A public interest litigation (PIL) has been filed in Orissa High Court seeking a ban on animal sacrifice during the famous 'Chhatar Jatra' of Maa Manikeswari at Bhawanipatna in Kalahandi district.

The PIL filed by social activist Jayanti Das urged the court to instruct Kalahandi district administration to check mass sacrifice of animals including goats, hens and roosters.

Odisha Chief Secretary Aditya Prasad Padhi, Home Secretary Asit Kumar Tripathy, DGP RP Sharma, Kalahandi Collector Anjan Kumar Manik, Kalahandi SP Madkar Sandeep Sampat along with Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF) Secretary Ajay Narayan Jha have been made parties in the petition.

As per the petition, during Dussehra hundreds of animals are sacrificed on the three kilometre-main road stretching from Jenakhala to Manikeswari temple in Bhawanipatna and is a gross violation of Article 21 of the Indian Constitution.

Animal sacrifice was carried out during the festival last year despite a ban clamped under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and different sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

Earlier today, Kalahandi Collector Anjan Kumar Manik chaired a preparatory meeting on the upcoming Chhatar Jatra, to be held on September 28. The meeting was attended by Additional SP, district level officials and locals.

### **PIL FILED TO BAN ANIMAL SACRIFICE DURING CHHATAR JATRA**

*written by Kalahandi Info September 15, 2017*

[\*\*Bhawanipatna: Social activist Jayanti Das today filed a public interest litigation \(PIL\) in Orissa High Court seeking a ban on animal sacrifice during the famous 'Chhatar Jatra' at Bhawanipatna in\*\*](#)

Kalahandi district.

The activist has urged the court to instruct the district administration to check mass sacrifice of animals during the festival of Maa Manikeswari.

Odisha Chief Secretary Aditya Prasad Padhi, Home Secretary Asit Kumar Tripathy, DGP RP Sharma, Kalahandi Collector Anjan Kumar Manik, Kalahandi SP Madkar Sandeep Sampat and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Government of India have been made parties in the petition.

Source: <http://pragativadi.com/pil-filed-ban-animal-sacrifice-chhatar-jatra/>