



**6<sup>TH</sup> WILDLIFE PROTECTION GOVERNMENT LAW COLLEGE  
NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION, 2024 – 25**

**9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2025**

**MOOT PROPOSITION**

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF LONG DISTANCES  
PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION NO. \_\_\_\_ OF 2024**

Unohu

**...Petitioner**

*Versus*

State Of Skyrabbit and Ors.

**...Respondents**

1. The Union of Long Distances (“**Long Distances**”) is an ecologically diverse country, with a primarily agrarian economy. As agriculture has expanded in Long Distances, there has been a gradual takeover of the rich forest land for use as farms. Agriculture is a focal policy point of the Government of Long Distances, with other matters ordinarily taking a backseat when it comes to the protection of agriculture and farmers.
2. One state in Long Distances where agriculture has led to major growth is the State of Skyrabbit (“**Skyrabbit**”). In Skyrabbit, once dense forests have given way to many small villages, where individual farmers have been cultivating farms in plots of land.
3. In July 2024, forest officials near Lightyears, a village in Skyrabbit, received a report of a child being fatally attacked by what was described by villagers as a wolf. The only wolf species in that area was the ‘**Ren Wolf**’, a Schedule I animal with approximately only 3000 wolves left in the wild. The forest officials enquired with the villagers whether the animal

could have been a coyote or a wild dog, which were also native to Skyrabbit. However, the villagers insisted that it was a wolf which had attacked the child.

4. Soon after, a post went viral on various social media and instant messaging services, which was apparently posted by one of the villagers of Lightyears. The post (translated into English) stated as follows:

*BEWARE OF MAN-EATING WOLVES*

*Ren wolves are attacking and eating infants and young children in Skyrabbit. In this month itself, multiple children have been eaten by these ferocious and bloodthirsty animals.*

*KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE!! #NOMOREWOLVES*

5. This post going viral coincided with more reports coming in from other villages of Ren Wolves fatally attacking infants and children. A total of eight more attacks were reported after the attack in Lightyears, over the period of two months.
6. While the reports of the deaths were verified by forest officials, there were only eyewitness reports to confirm that wolves were seen in the area around the time of the attacks. None of the villagers had any camera footage of the wolves, and the forest officials were unable to obtain any DNA evidence or paw marks in time, since they were only able to reach the isolated villages days after the attacks. Eyewitness reports of the wolves were largely similar across villages.
7. The villagers in Skyrabbit got increasingly impatient with the forest and wildlife officials' failure to take any steps to prevent further attacks. With the number of attacks climbing, more and more posts campaigning against the wolves went viral. Villagers started taking matters into their own hands. Any wild canine spotted near a village in Skyrabbit would be killed on sight by villagers. Villagers began forming makeshift hunting groups to hunt the so-called '**Killer Wolves**'. These groups would go out into the forest and kill any wild canine they could find. Dozens of wild dogs and coyotes were killed in September and October 2024 as a result.
8. **Unohu**, a non-profit organisation, stepped in to ease the situation due to the lack of action from the State Government. Unohu conducted educational programs in villages on a daily basis, educating people about the differences between wild dogs, wolves, and coyotes. Unohu

also educated people about the endangered nature of these animals and their importance to the ecosystem. Additionally, Unohu launched a counterblast on social media to combat misinformation and campaigns against hunting of wolves. This had a positive impact, and there was a considerable decrease in animal deaths in November 2024. However, another 3 deaths were reported in November 2024 resulting from wolf attacks.

9. The State Government, facing enormous pressure due to elections scheduled for 2025, undertook a slew of measures to address the issue.
10. Firstly, the Chief Minister's Office, in tandem with the Chief Wildlife Warden, passed an order on December 1, 2024 allowing the hunting of six wolves which were apparently spotted on drone footage near the site of one of the villages where an attack had taken place. The order detailed the identical eyewitness reports of the villagers from prior attacks, and concluded that the same pack of wolves was responsible for all attacks, since the villages where attacks were reported were all neighbouring each other.
11. Secondly, the Chief Minister's Office, in tandem with the State Home Secretary, issued an order on December 2, 2024 directing the shutdown of internet services in 4 districts in Skyrabbit where previous animal attacks had taken place, to prevent further killing of wild animals. This order was confirmed by the Review Committee constituted by the State Government.
12. Unohu sought to make a representation to the Chief Minister's Office prior to the issuance of the above orders. This request was denied.
13. The internet shutdown made it impossible for Unohu to continue both its educational programs in villages, as well as its counterblast messaging on social media. Unohu had a serious apprehension that the killing of wild animals would increase, especially in view of the order permitting the hunting of the pack of Ren Wolves. Additionally, Unohu believed that the order of December 1, 2024 was potentially harmful to the Ren Wolf since the State Government did not have the required evidence to order the hunting of the six Ren Wolves alleged to have committed the attacks.
14. After consulting its advocates on additional arguments to strengthen its case, Unohu filed a Public Interest Litigation before the Supreme Court of Long Distances, seeking quashing of the orders dated December 1, 2024, and December 2, 2024.

15. The State Government filed its counter-affidavit to the PIL on merits, and additionally contended that the PIL before the Supreme Court was not maintainable in the present facts.
16. The Supreme Court has settled the following issues to be heard in final hearing:
  - a. *Whether the PIL filed before the Supreme Court is maintainable?*
  - b. *Whether the order dated December 1, 2024, ordering the hunting of six identified Ren wolves, ought to be quashed; and if yes, on what grounds?*
  - c. *Whether the order dated December 2, 2024, ordering the shutdown of internet services in 4 districts in Skyrabbit, ought to be quashed; and if yes, on what grounds?*
  - d. *Assuming that the order dated December 1, 2024 is quashed, what alternative measures could the State Government employ in order to prevent the animal attacks and capture the wild animals responsible?*

**NOTE**

1. The laws of Long Distances are *pari materia* to the laws of India.
2. The Moot Proposition is purely a work of fiction and created solely for the purpose of the Moot Court Competition. The characters, institutions, organizations, and events depicted in this Moot Proposition are purely fictional. Any similarity or resemblance to actual persons or actual events is purely coincidental and unintentional. The Moot Proposition does not intend to defame/denigrate/hurt the sentiments of any person(s), institution, communities, groups or class of persons.