

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT PATNA
Civil Writ Jurisdiction Case No.22741 of 2019

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Rangnath Singh S/o Satrudhan Singh Resident of Village- Hasanpur, P.s.-
Mahnar, Distt.- Vaishali ex Mukhiya, Gram Panchayat Raj Hasanpur, Block-
Mahnar, Distt.- Vaishali

... .. Petitioner/s

Versus

1. The State of Bihar through Collector, Vaishali
2. District Magistrate cum Collector Vaishali
3. District Certificate Officer Vaishali at Hajipur
4. Block Development Officer Mahnar Block, Distt.- Vaishali

... .. Respondent/s

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Appearance :

For the Petitioner/s : Mr.Naresh Chandra Verma, Advocate
For the Respondent/s : Mr.Sanjeet Kumar Singh, AC to AAG 6

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CORAM: HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
and
HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE PARTHA SARTHY
ORAL ORDER

(Per: HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE)

2 13-12-2022 Petitioner has prayed for the following relief(s):-

“For quashing the order dated 6.10.2014
and the order dated 18.6.2019 passed by District
Certificate Officer, Vaishali at Hajipur in Certificate
Case No. 129 of 2014-15 as contained in Annexure- 1
and the certificate as contained in Annexure 2.”

It is not in dispute that petition under Section 9 of
the Bihar & Orissa Public Demands Recovery Act, 1914
(hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) is pending
consideration/petitioner intends to file before the appropriate



authority.

Learned counsel for the parties jointly pray that the instant petition be disposed of with direction to the appropriate authority to consider and decide the same expeditiously.

Learned counsel for the State states that the appropriate authority shall consider and decide the petition to be filed by the petitioner under Section 9/16 of the Act positively within a period of two months from the date of appearance of the petitioner before him along with a copy of this order and the issue of limitation shall not come in the way of decision on merits.

Statement accepted and taken on record.

As such, petition stands disposed of in the following terms:-

(a) Petitioner shall appear in the office of the appropriate authority on 09.01.2023 along with a copy of this order, on which date documents in support of the petition shall be filed, or else file a fresh petition under Section 9/16 of the Act.

(b) The appropriate authority shall consider and dispose of the petitioner's petition expeditiously, by a reasoned and speaking order, preferably within a period of two months



from the date of appearance of the petitioner before him and till then no coercive steps be taken against the petitioner;

(c) The authority shall also examine as to whether the amount in question falls within the definition of public demand or not;

(d) Needless to add, while considering such petition, principles of natural justice shall be followed and due opportunity of hearing afforded to the parties;

(e) Order assigning reasons shall be supplied to the parties;

(f) Equally, liberty is reserved to the petitioner to take recourse to such alternative remedies as are otherwise available in accordance with law;

(g) We are hopeful that as and when petitioner takes recourse to such remedies, as are otherwise available in law, before the appropriate forum, the same shall be dealt with, in accordance with law and with reasonable dispatch;

(h) Liberty reserved to the petitioner to challenge the order passed by the appropriate authority, before the appropriate forum, if so required and desired.

(i) We have not expressed any opinion on merits. All issues are left open;



The petition stands disposed of in the aforesaid terms.

Interlocutory Application(s), if any, stands disposed
of.

(Sanjay Karol, CJ)

(Partha Sarthy, J)

K.C.Jha/-

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