

31.03.2022.
Court No. 13
Item No. 55
ap

**W.P.A. No. 53 of 2022
(Through Video Conference)**

**Ajabul Box
Versus
The District Magistrate & Collector, South 24
Parganas & Ors.**

Mr. Satyajit Senapati.

...For the petitioner.

Despite service, the respondents are not represented. Affidavit-of-service filed in Court today be taken on record.

The writ petitioner is an existing lessee for running a ferry service from Baliara to Patibunia Ferry Ghat under Fraserganj Coastal Police Station. The lease is expiring today.

Counsel for the petitioner submits that his client has a legitimate expectation of the lease being renewed in his favour for this year as well. He further submits that since his client has suffered huge losses due to the Pandemic during the previous year, and that the petitioner has made a representation dated 27th October, 2021, to this effect.

This Court is not inclined to pass any order to extend the lease in favour of the petitioner.

However, the respondent no.4 shall consider the petitioner's representation dated 27th October, 2021 in accordance with law, as expeditiously as possible.

Needless to mention, the petitioner shall be entitled to participate in any fresh bidding process that might take place, for the lease in question.

With the aforesaid directions, the instant writ petition shall stand disposed of.

There will be no order as to costs.

All parties are directed to act on a server copy of this order duly downloaded from the official website of this Court.

(Rajasekhar Mantha, J.)