

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

W.P.(C) Nos.1429, 1316, 1836 & 6653 of 2022

W.P.(C) No.1429 of 2022

Kshirod Kumar Rout and others ***Petitioners***

-versus-

State of Odisha and others ***Opposite Parties***

W.P.(C) No.1316 of 2022

Kuni Mallick and others ***Petitioners***

-versus-

State of Odisha and others ***Opposite Parties***

W.P.(C) No.1836 of 2022

Pratap Rudra Samantaray and others ***Petitioners***

-versus-

State of Odisha and others ***Opposite Parties***

W.P.(C) No.6653 of 2022

Dhananjaya Behera and others ***Petitioners***

-versus-

State of Odisha and others ***Opposite Parties***

Advocates appeared in these cases:

For the Petitioner(s):

Mr. Sukanta Kr. Dalai, Advocate
Mr. Omkar Devdas, Advocate
Mr. Prasanta Ku. Jena, Advocate
Mr. Sarbeswar Lenka, Advocate

For the Opposite Parties:

Mr. Ashok Parija, Advocate General
Mr. Debakanta Mohanty, AGA
Mr. J. Katikia, AGA
Mr. P.K. Parhi, ASG
Mr. Ashok Mohanty, Sr. Advocate

**CORAM:
THE CHIEF JUSTICE
JUSTICE R. K. PATTANAIK**

**ORDER
07.04.2022**

Order No.

07.

1. The Collector, Jagatsinghpur is present through virtual mode. The I.I.C. Abhaychandpur P.S. and Additional S.P. Paradeep are present in Court.

2. An affidavit has been filed by Superintendent of Police Jagatsinghpur, in terms of para 8 of the Court's order dated 11th March 2022, placing on record as Annexure A to the affidavit, the details of the criminal cases involving the four persons (out of the list of 85 provided by Mr. Jena earlier) who were not found in the village. He has also furnished the details of criminal cases involving the 30 persons, the list of whom was provided by Mr. Jena and which finds mention in para 9 of the aforementioned order of this Court. The details of the persons arrested on or after 14th January, 2022 and the cases in which they have been arrested have also been set out in Annexure C to the affidavit.

3. Mr. Devdas says that apart from the affidavits already provided to Mr. Mohanty, learned AGA, he will by 4 pm today furnish 300 more affidavits of the villagers opposed to the project. Meanwhile, there are three intervention applications bearing I.A. Nos.4598 of 2022, 4599 of 2022 and 4581 of 2022. The affidavits filed with the said applications, purportedly supporting the project, have already been handed over to Mr. Mohanty.

4. It is made clear that there will be no further extension of time for filing any further affidavits.

5. Mr. Mohanty states that all these affidavits be examined and handed over immediately to the Collector, Jagatsinghpur, who will in turn forward them without delay to the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India for appropriate action.

6. The purpose of the Court entertaining the present petitions has been somewhat served with the complete details emerging and persons who were apprehensive that their voices may not be heard having been afforded an adequate opportunity either in the form of oral hearing at the site itself or by way of affidavits. Further, the details of the cases involving the persons who have either been arrested or who are apprehending arrest are available now to the concerned persons through their respective counsel. The Court would not like to comment one way or the other or any of the said cases as they would be pending at different stages before the concerned courts. The law will take its course in all such cases.

7. The petitions are accordingly disposed of.

(Dr. S. Muralidhar)
Chief Justice

(R. K. Pattanaik)
Judge