

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

W.P.(C) NO. 34647 of 2022

Birendra Panda

....

Petitioner

Mr. Banidhara Satapathy, Advocate

-versus-

State of Odisha and another

....

Opp. Parties

Mr. Pravakar Behera,
Standing Counsel for Transport

CORAM:

JUSTICE K.R. MOHAPATRA

ORDER

22.12.2022

Order No.

1. This matter is taken up through hybrid mode.
2. Petitioner in this writ petition prays for a direction to send the Challan/VCR dated 15th November, 2022 in respect of the vehicle bearing registration No.OR-04-L-6585 (Truck) to the jurisdictional Magistrate for appropriate relief. He further prays for a direction to the Regional Transport Officer, Jajpur to consider his case for issuance of fitness certificate and permit.
3. Mr. Behera, learned Standing Counsel for Transport Department submits that in view of Section 194 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, the Petitioner is required to appear before the Authority, who has issued the VCR and pray for transmission of the record to the jurisdictional Magistrate, if he wants to contest the case. The Petitioner has not yet appeared before the authority and made such prayer. After amendment of the MV Act, 1988, overloading is being treated rigidly. Since the Challan/VCR amount is Rs.42,360/-, the Petitioner may be directed to deposit 50% of the same and contest the case before the jurisdictional Magistrate. Mr. Behera, learned Standing Counsel for Transport further submits

that in view of the Road Safety Committee constituted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the driving license of the driver of the offending vehicle is liable to be suspended. Hence, he prays that the Petitioner is required to produce the driving license in original of the driver of the offending vehicle for taking appropriate action.

4. Taking into consideration the submissions of learned counsel for the parties, this Court directs that without prejudice to the case of either parties, in the event the Petitioner deposits a sum of Rs.21,180/- (rupees twenty-one thousand one hundred eight only) before the R.T.O., Jajpur-Opposite Party No.2 along with driving license of the driver of the offending vehicle and on deposit being made, the Challan/VCR shall be transmitted to the jurisdictional Magistrate for adjudication in accordance with law, if not already transmitted. It is made clear that such deposit, if made, as directed above, shall be subject to the result of the adjudication to be made by the jurisdictional Magistrate.

5. So far as issuance of fitness certificate and permit is concerned, the Petitioner may apply for the same to the R.T.O., Jajpur-Opposite Party No.2 by filing necessary application, which shall be considered in accordance with law.

6. With the aforesaid observation and direction, the writ petition is disposed of.

7. A copy of the writ petition along with a copy of this order shall be served on Mr. Behera, learned Standing Counsel for Transport Department for onward communication to the Opposite Party.

Urgent certified copy of this order be granted on proper application.

(K.R. Mohapatra)
Judge