

Date of Decision: March 28, 2023

..... Petitioner

..... Respondents

It is submitted that mining contract of Gumthala South Block/YNR/B-17 measuring 49.67 hectares area was awarded to the petitioner for a period of nine years. Letter of Intent was issued to the petitioner on 30.11.2015. Mining operations commenced on 26.04.2017. Show cause notice dated 08.05.2020 was issued by the State Pollution Control Board and mining operations were closed by the State Pollution Control Board vide order dated 22.06.2020. In appeal filed by the petitioner, Appellate Authority vide order dated 30.10.2020 directed

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operation of order dated 22.06.2020 to be kept in abeyance. Mining operations remained closed w.e.f. 23.06.2020 to 30.10.2020. Ultimately appeal/s filed by the petitioner were allowed vide order dated 13.11.2020 (Annexure P13). It is submitted that petitioner requested that contract money from 23.06.2020 to 30.10.2020 be refunded or adjusted against future instalments. Representation dated 27.01.2022 (Annexure P14) in this respect was submitted.

Notice of motion was issued in this writ petition on 26.05.2020. However, reply to the same is not forthcoming neither does learned counsel for the State has any instructions in this regard.

Keeping in view the facts and circumstances as above, this writ petition is disposed of at this stage, without any expression of opinion on the merits of the matter with a direction to respondent No. 1 to look into representation dated 27.01.2022 (Annexure P14) and decide the same in accordance with law, expeditiously and definitely within a period of six weeks, after affording opportunity of hearing to the petitioner.

(LISA GILL)
JUDGE

(RITU TAGORE)
JUDGE

March 28, 2023
Rts

Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No
Whether reportable: Yes/No