IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI
W.P.(C) No.7023 of 2026

Manoj Kumar, son of Late Rohan Ram, resident of Shanti Nagar, Chatakpur, P.O. Kamre, P.S. Ratu, District Ranchi.

... ... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand.
2. Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Ramgarh, P.O. + P.S. and District Ramgarh.

... ... Respondents

CORAM : SRI ANANDA SEN, J.

For the Petitioner : Mr. Sanjay Kumar Pandey, Advocate

For the Respondents : Mr. Ashok Kumar, AAG-IV
Mr. Shishir Suman, AC to AAG-IV

03/ 10.09.2026

By filing this writ petition, the petitioner has prayed for the following reliefs:-

> *"for issuance of an appropriate writ/writs, order/orders, direction/directions or a writ in the nature of Mandamus commanding upon the respondents particularly the respondents no.2 to release the commercial vehicles Tata 407 of the petitioner bearing Registration No.JH-01S-9375, Chassis No.357514MT2834010, Engine No.497SPTC35MT2921216 which is seized in connection with Mandu P.S. Case No.59 of 2023, registered under Sections 414/34 of the Indian Penal Code, under Section 30(ii) of the Coalmines Act and under Section 33 of the Indian Forest Act.*
>
> *AND*
>
> *Further direct the respondent no.2 to release the commercial vehicle of the petitioner which is parked in open place as Confiscation Case No.95 of 2023 initiated by the learned Court of the respondent no.2 on 05.07.2023."*

2. Heard learned counsel representing the petitioner and learned counsel representing the respondents.

3. The petitioner in this writ petition has prayed to release the vehicle, which is the subject matter of the confiscation proceeding being Confiscation Case No.95/2023.

4. Admittedly, the aforesaid Confiscation Case is pending before the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Ramgarh.

5. Since the Confiscation Proceeding is still pending, I am not inclined to release the vehicle by way of an interim measure.

5.1. However, considering that the vehicle is kept in open space, I direct the Confiscating Officer to dispose of the Confiscation Case No.95 of 2023, within a period of six weeks, from the date of receipt of copy of this order.

5.2. It is made clear that the petitioner will cooperate in the confiscation proceeding.

5.3. If the petitioner does not cooperate, it will be open to the Confiscating Officer to pass an ex-parte order.

6. With the aforesaid observations and directions, this writ petition stands **disposed of**.

(ANANDA SEN, J.)

10th September, 2026
Prashant.Cp-2

Uploaded on 14.09.2026