**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI**

**L.P.A. No. 529 of 2026**

Manoj Kumar, son of Late Hukum Lal Teli, aged about 27 years, Resident of 4 No. Bermo South, Near Durga Mandap Ghutuwali, PO and PS- Gandhi Nagar, District-Bokaro, Jharkhand. ….. … Appellant

Versus

1. Central Coalfields Limited through its Chairman cum Managing Director at Darbhanga House, P.O. GPO P.S. Kotwali, District Ranchi.
2. The Director Personnel, Central Coalfields Limited through its Chairman cum Managing Director at Darbhanga House, P.O. - GPO, P.S. Kotwali, District Ranchi.
3. The General Manager (P & IR) Central Coalfields Limited at Darbhanga House, P.O. GPO P.S. Kotwali, District Ranchi.
4. The Chief General Manager (B & K), Central Coalfields Limited, at Kargali, P.O. & P.S. Phusro, District Bokaro.
5. The Project Officer, Central Coalfields Limited, at Kargali, P.O. and P.S. Phusro, District Bokaro.

….. … Respondents

---

**CORAM : HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE**
**HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJESH SHANKAR**

---

For the Appellant : Ms Kavisha Goenka, Advocate
For the Respondents : Mr Shivam Utkarsh Sahay, Advocate

---

**02 /Dated: 21.09.2026**

***Per M.S. Sonak, C.J.:-***

1. Heard Ms Kavisha Goenka, learned counsel for the appellant and Mr Shivam Utkarsh Sahay, learned counsel for the respondents.

2. This appeal challenges the learned Single Judge's order dated 04.08.2026 dismissing the appellant's W.P.(S) No. 4362 of 2026, seeking compassionate appointment from the respondents on account of the demise of his father on 03.12.2001.

3. The records show that Saraswati Devi, wife of the deceased and mother of the present appellant, had applied for compassionate appointment by invoking the provisions of National Coal Wage Agreement (NCWA). Since her application was not disposed of, the respondents were directed, by an order dated 20.09.2004 in W.P.(S) No. 4721 of 2004, to decide her claim within three months.

4. Upon due consideration, vide communication dated 10/12.02.2007, the respondents rejected her claim for compassionate appointment by pointing out that her son Mritunjay Kumar, who was 21 years old on the date of death of the deceased employee, was in fact offered employment vide letter dated 21.07.2006, but the same was declined by her.

5. The above-referred communication clearly stated that no further claims for compassionate appointment would be considered. Therefore, Saraswati Devi filed W.P.(S) No. 3031 of 2022 seeking release of monetary compensation in lieu of compassionate appointment within a specified timeline. This petition was disposed of on 13.09.2024, directing the respondents to release the monetary compensation to Saraswati Devi in lieu of compassionate appointment within the specified time frame.

6. Learned counsel for the respondents states that monetary compensation has already been paid to Saraswati Devi in lieu of compassionate appointment.

7. Now, on 05.04.2026, the present appellant submitted a fresh representation to the respondents seeking compassionate appointment for himself, claiming that he has now attained majority. In fact, the appellant was almost 27 years old when he made this fresh representation for compassionate appointment on 05.04.2026.

8. The learned Single Judge, having taken into account the above-referred facts and circumstances, has correctly held that this fresh claim by the appellant was barred by inordinate and unexplained delay and laches. We see no good ground to interfere with the learned Single Judge’s order.

9. In fact, entertaining such a claim after so much delay, and that too, when the compassionate appointment offer to his elder brother in 2006 was

declined by his mother, Saraswati Devi, who was content with receiving financial benefits in lieu of a compassionate appointment, would amount to defeating the purposes of the compassionate appointment scheme.

10. Having regard to all the above circumstances and since we find no error in the view taken by the learned Single Judge, we dismiss this Letters Patent Appeal without any order for costs.

**(M.S. Sonak, C.J.)**

**(Rajesh Shankar, J.)**

September 21, 2026
Ranjeet / R.Kr.
NAFR
Uploaded on 24.09.2026