IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI
W.P.(Cr.) No.717 of 2025

Ajay Singh --- Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand
2. Secretary, Home Department, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi.
3. The Director General of Police, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi.
4. The Senior Superintendent of Police, Dhanbad.
5. The Superintendent of Police (City), Dhanbad.
6. The Deputy Commissioner, Dhanbad. --- --- Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RONGON MUKHOPADHYAY

For the Petitioner : Mr. Soumitra Baroi, Adv.
For the State : Mr. Shubham Gautam, AC to Sr.A.A.G.

11/21.09.2026 Heard Mr. Soumitra Baroi, learned counsel for the petitioner and learned AC to Sr.A.A.G.

In this writ application the petitioner has prayed for a direction upon the respondents to provide round-the-clock armed protection to the petitioner by deputing bodyguards in rotation in conformity with duty-hour norms of police personnel at the cost of the State till the conclusion of the concerned trials arising out of Dhanbad P.S. Case No.994 of 2011. The petitioner has further prayed for a direction upon the respondents to accelerate proceedings regarding arrest of the main assailant Shashi Singh @ Animesh Singh who is absconding since the last 14 years.

It has been submitted by the learned counsel for the petitioner that the father of the petitioner was murdered in the year 2011 for which Dhanbad P.S. Case No.994 of 2011 was instituted and the petitioner was given round-the-clock security by the District Administration. However, despite the need of security since the petitioner is yet to give evidence in the said case in the year 2019 the committee had withdrawn the security provided to the petitioner. Learned counsel submits that the petitioner is under a constant threat from Shashi Singh @ Animesh Singh who is the main assailant and who is absconding for the last 14 years. Learned counsel submits that in fact in a writ application preferred by one Devendra

Singh being W.P.(Cr.) No.222/2013 the Superintendent of Police, Dhanbad who was present in Court had submitted that the search for Shashi Singh would be intensified and all efforts shall be made of his arrest, but till date nothing has been done in that regard. It has further been submitted that the security committee of the District Administration may carry out a fresh assessment in view of the subsequent developments.

Learned A.C. to Sr.A.A.G has opposed the prayer made in this application and has submitted that in the year 2019 the security cover granted to the petitioner was withdrawn on account of the fact that there was no threat perception to the petitioner and so far as the threat which the petitioner may encounter at the time of giving his evidence in Dhanbad P.S. Case No.994 of 2011, the necessary security shall be given to the petitioner in terms of the Witness Protection Scheme.

The petitioner was earlier granted security on account of the murder of his father which led to institution of Dhanbad P.S. Case No.994 of 2011. However, an assessment was made by the District Security Committee headed by the Deputy Commissioner, Dhanbad and the issue with respect to the petitioner was at serial no.24 of the minutes of the meeting dated 09.08.2019 from which it appears that since there was no threat perception for the present, the bodyguards provided to the petitioner was advised to be withdrawn. The minutes of the meeting dated 09.08.2019 has been brought on record by the learned A.C. to Sr.A.A.G through a supplementary counter affidavit filed on behalf of the respondent nos. 4 and 5.

It seems that from 2019 onwards after the bodyguards provided to the petitioner were withdrawn, the petitioner has approached this Court in the year 2025 with a prayer to provide round-the-clock armed protection to the petitioner at the cost of the State till the conclusion of the trials arising out of Dhanbad P.S. Case No.994 of 2011. There is nothing on record to suggest that the threat perception which the petitioner claims is still subsisting and there actually is a threat since from the year 2019 when the bodyguards to the petitioner were withdrawn, there has been nothing which

would be indicative of the fact that the petitioner needs to be provided with round-the-clock security. Nothing has been mentioned in the application preferred by the petitioner which would be suggestive of the fact that threat perception to the petitioner still subsists and on such consideration therefore, I am not inclined to accede to the prayer made by the writ petitioner to provide him round-the-clock armed protection. So far as the other prayer of the petitioner with respect to accelerating the proceedings regarding the arrest of the main assailant Shashi Singh @ Animesh Singh is concerned, the petitioner can very well approach the learned trial court for redressal of his grievance.

This writ application, in view of the aforesaid, stands disposed of.

(Rongon Mukhopadhyay, J.)

Dated: 21st September, 2026
Shamim/-
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