IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

W.P.(C) No.33383 of 2026

CNR No. ODHC010798032026

Prasanta Kumar Jena …. **Petitioner**

Represented by Adv.–
Mr. Milan Kanungo, Senior Advocate
Mr. Sidhartha Dash, Advocate

-Versus-

State of Odisha and others …. **Opposite Parties**

Represented by Adv.–
Mr. Sanjay Kumar Rath, Addl. Govt. Advocate

CORAM:
HON' BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
AND
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE GOURISHANKAR SATAPATHY

ORDER

Order No. **27.10.2026**

01. 1. During the course of hearing, learned Senior Counsel appearing on behalf of the writ petitioner seeks a direction upon opposite party No.1-Principal Secretary to Government, Steel and Mines Department for disposal of the representation dated 05.06.2026 (Annexure-12) within a stipulated period of time.

2. The background of facts as involved in this case is that the petitioner had earlier approached this Court by filing a writ petition bearing W.P.(C) No.17380 of 2026 seeking certain relief and this Court after making a threadbare analysis and hearing the parties, disposed of the said writ petition on 02.06.2026 by granting liberty to the writ

petitioner to approach the Government-competent authority with a comprehensive representation within a period of fifteen (15) days and on such eventuality, the competent authority was directed to consider the representation within a period of six weeks from the date of receipt of certified copy of the order along with the representation without being influenced by any of the observations made therein. Accordingly, the petitioner submitted a representation, vide Annexure-12, dated 05.06.2026 before the authority concerned, but the said representation is still to be decided and disposed of.

3. At this juncture, it is worthwhile to reiterate the submission advanced by Mr. Kanungo, learned Senior Advocate for the petitioner that in terms of the order passed by this Court, the writ petitioner had approached the authority concerned but the authority concerned without interpreting Rule 64 of the Odisha Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016 (OMMC Rules, 2016) disposed of such representation by holding that the petitioner is not entitled to the relief thereof. The said order was again assailed before this Court and this Court passed a fresh direction to consider the representation of the petitioner by applying Rule 64 of the OMMC Rules, 2016. It is now prayed by the petitioner for disposal of the representation, which has been filed under Annexure-12 within a stipulated time.

4. In this eventuality, on consideration of the materials and documents placed on record and taking into account the fact that the representation of the petitioner is still pending before the authority concerned, it is hereby directed to the concerned authority i.e. opposite party No.1-Principal Secretary to Government, Steel and Mines Department to dispose of the representation of the writ petitioner under Annexure-12 within a period of 30 days from the date of communication of this order.

5. It is, however, made clear that this Court has not observed anything on merit and any observation made herein shall not be construed as an expression of any opinion of this Court on merit and the authority concerned is free to pass any order in accordance with law and rules made applicable in the instant case.

6. With the above observation and direction, the writ petition stands disposed of.

(Harish Tandon)
Chief Justice

(G. Satapathy)
Judge

Signature Not Verified
S.K. Jena/Sr. Secy.
Digitally Signed
Signed by: SANJAY KUMAR JENA
Designation: Asst. Registrar-cum-Sr. Secretary
Reason: Authentication
Location: High Court of Orissa, Cuttack.
Date: 30-Oct-2026 10:52:15