

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI
W.P. (C) No. 3338 of 2025

M/s Binod Kumar Lal, having its office at Khutabandh, P.O. Dumka, P.S. Dumka, District Dumka (Jharkhand) through its Proprietor Binod Kumar Lal, aged 58 years, son of Madhusudan Lal, resident of Khutabandh, P.O. Dumka, P.S. Dumka, District Dumka (Jharkhand).

... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand represented through its Secretary, Drinking Water and Sanitation Department, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Nepal House, Doranda P.O. Doranda, P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
2. The Chief Engineer, Drinking Water and Sanitation Department, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. Doranda, P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
3. The Superintending Engineer, Drinking Water and Sanitation Department, Dumka Zone, having its office at Dumka, P.O. Dumka, P.S. Dumka, District Dumka (Jharkhand).
4. The Executive Engineer, Drinking Water and Sanitation Division, Pakur, having its office at Pakur, P.O. Pakur, P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand).

... Respondents

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

For the Petitioner: Mr. Indrajit Sinha, Advocate
Mr. Rishabh Kumar, Advocate
For the Respondents: Mr. Ankit Kumar, A.C. to S.C.-I

02/Dated: 11.07.2025

M.S. Ramachandra Rao, C.J.(Oral)

1. Notice to the respondents.
2. Mr. Ankit Kumar, A.C. to learned S.C.-I, accepts notice for all respondents.
3. Counsel for the petitioner contends that on 30.10.2024, a show-cause notice was issued to the petitioner by Respondent 4 asking the petitioner to show cause why the contract to the petitioner should not be terminated, and on the same date, vide Annexure-9, the said

Official wrote to the Engineer-in-Chief saying that the contract with the petitioner must be terminated and, thus, there is a predetermination of mind which resulted in the final order passed on 06.12.2024.

4. *Prima facie* we find force in the said contention. Therefore, there shall be stay of further recovery from the petitioner pursuant to the said termination of the contract, till further orders.

5. List on 07.11.2025.

6. Counter affidavit be filed in the meantime.

(M.S. Ramachandra Rao, C.J.)

(Rajesh Shankar, J.)

Manoj/Pramanik/Cp.2