

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI

**W.P. (PIL) No. 1932 of 2021**

Khushilal Mahto and others ... .. Petitioners

Versus

1. State of Jharkhand
2. Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board, Ranchi
3. Deputy Commissioner, Ramgarh
4. Central Coalfields Limited, Darbhanga House, Ranchi
5. Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Darbhanga House, Ranchi
6. General Manager, Washery Division, CCL, Darbhanga House, Ranchi
7. General Manager, Hazaribagh Area, Central Coalfields Limited, Charhi, Hazaribagh

... .. Respondents

**CORAM: HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUJIT NARAYAN PRASAD**

For the Petitioners: Mr. Rajendra Krishna, Advocate  
Mr. Shubham Mayank, Advocate  
Mr. Pratyush Shounikya, Advocate  
Mr. Aayush Anant Srivastava, Advocate  
Mr. Jay Shankar Tiwari, Advocate  
Mr. Manish Kumar, Advocate  
For the State: Mr. Sachin Kumar, A.A.G.-II  
Mr. Gaurav Raj, A.C. to A.A.G.-II  
For the JSPCB: Mrs. Richa Sanchita, Advocate  
Ms. Suman Roy, Advocate  
For the CCL: Mr. Amit Kumar Das, Advocate  
Mr. Ujjal Chaudhary, Advocate  
Mr. Raunak Sahay, Advocate  
Mr. Shivam Utkarsh Sahay, Advocate  
Mr. Srikant Swaroop, Advocate

**06/Dated: 28.07.2025**

1. Even though the Secretary, DLSA had visited the spot to report on the two issues, i.e., (i) Whether there are adequate roads constructed on the site of the Coal Washery and, (ii) Whether the trucks carrying the coal are covered so as to ensure that no dust and other kind of pollution is caused thereby. However, on account of the strike of the truck operators, the Secretary could not report on the second issue.

2. So far as the first issue is concerned, it has been observed that during inspection it was found that the road connecting the Basantpur and said coal washery was damaged approximately 400 meters from the said coal washery. It has further been observed that due to damaged road conditions, villagers were facing fugitive dust problems and noises during plying of vehicles/dumping trucks.

3. In the given facts and circumstances, we deem it appropriate to issue the following directions –

- (i) The damaged road of 400 meters shall be repaired by the 4<sup>th</sup> respondent by making road to the village and the black-tops shall be raised only after the monsoon.
- (ii) It shall be ensured that all the trucks carrying coals to the coal washery would be covered with tarpaulin so as to ensure that no dust is spread during the transportation of coal.
- (iii) The Superintendent of Police, Ramgarh shall ensure that none of these trucks are fitted with pressure-horns or multi-tone horns or other ways caused any kind of noise pollution. In other words, the Superintendent of Police shall ensure that the provisions of Chapter V of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 are fully complied with in its letter and spirit.
- (iv) At the same time, the 2<sup>nd</sup> respondent along with the Member Secretary, Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board are directed to ensure that the provisions of Chapter V of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 and the provisions of the Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000 are

followed in the letter and spirit and it be ensured that apart from others, no vehicle fitted with pressure-horns or multi-tone horns or with extra lights, modifications, etc is permitted to be plied within the State of Jharkhand and extra lights, more particularly, Red and Blue colour, which gives semblance of emergency vehicles, be removed. They shall also ensure that there is no unauthorized use of flag rods and the provisions of the Flag Code are duly followed and all unauthorized Flags irrespective of the political parties, religious denomination etc are removed forthwith. The status report on behalf of on the personal affidavits of the Director General of Police and the Member Secretary, Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board be filed in compliance to these directions by the next date of hearing.

- (v) It also be ensured that no loudspeakers without permission be permitted to operate after 10:00 p.m. till 6:00 a.m.

4. Since the Secretary, DLSA, Ramgarh could not report on the 2<sup>nd</sup> issue, let a fresh report be submitted by him before the next date of hearing.

5. List on 11.08.2025.

**(Tarlok Singh Chauhan, C.J.)**

**(Sujit Narayan Prasad, J.)**