

ITEM NO.1

COURT NO.2

SECTION X

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Writ Petition(s)(Criminal) No(s).169/2025

PILA PAHAN @ PEELA PAHAN & ORS.

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

THE STATE OF JHARKHAND & ANR.

Respondent(s)

(IA No. 100925/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T., IA No.100927/2025 - GRANT OF BAIL, IA No. 100926/2025 - GRANT OF BAIL, IA No.100929/2025 - GRANT OF BAIL, IA No. 100928/2025 - GRANT OF BAIL)

WITH

W.P.(Crl.) No.252/2025 (X)

(IA No. 148410/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T., IA No.148413/2025 - SUSPENSION OF SENTENCE, IA No. 148412/2025 - SUSPENSION OF SENTENCE, IA No. 148420/2025 - SUSPENSION OF SENTENCE, IA No.148419/2025 - SUSPENSION OF SENTENCE, IA No. 148418/2025 - SUSPENSION OF SENTENCE, IA No. 148417/2025 - SUSPENSION OF SENTENCE, IA No. 148416/2025 - SUSPENSION OF SENTENCE, IA No.148415/2025 - SUSPENSION OF SENTENCE, IA No. 148414/2025 - SUSPENSION OF SENTENCE)

Date : 12-11-2025 These matters were called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SURYA KANT
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JOYMALYA BAGCHI

For Petitioner(s) :Ms. Fauzia Shakil, AOR (A.C.)
Ms. Tasmiya Taleha, Adv.
Ms. Mallika Aggarwal, Adv.

For Respondent(s) :Ms. Pallavi Langar, AOR
Mr. P.S. Sudheer, Adv.
Mr. Sujeet Kumar Chaubey, Adv.

Mr. Ajit Kumar Sinha, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Ambhoj Kumar Sinha, AOR

Mr. Arjun Garg, AOR
Ms. Muskan Bensla, Adv.

Mr. Kunal Chatterji, AOR
Ms. Maitrayee Banerjee, Adv.
Mr. Rohit Bansal, Adv.
Mr. Varij Nayan Mishra, Adv.

Mr. Amit Sharma, AOR
Mr. Dipesh Sinha, Adv.
Ms. Pallavi Barua, Adv.
Ms. Aparna Singh, Adv.

Mr. Gopal Jha, AOR
Mr. Umesh Kumar Yadav, Adv.
Ms. Shrieesha Sharma, Adv.
Mr. Sawan Datta, Adv.

Ms. K. V. Bharathi Upadhyaya, AOR
Ms. Pritama, Adv.
Ms. Shaivani Gupta, Adv.
Dr. Sunita, Adv.
Ms. D Poornima, Adv.
Ms. Hema Malik, Adv.
Mr. Sufyan Hasan, Adv.

Mr. Deepayan Mandal, AOR
Mr. Naman Varma, Adv.
Mr. Mridul Bansal, Adv.
Mr. Aryan Ahmed, Adv.

Mr. Sanjai Kumar Pathak, AOR
Mrs. Shashi Pathak, Adv.
Mr. Arvind Kumar Tripathi, Adv.
Ms. Shweta Jayshankar Dwivedi, Adv.
Ms. Smriti Singh, Adv.

Ms. Nidhi Mittal, AOR
Mr. Gurjas Singh Narula, Adv.
Ms. Jaya Choudhary, Adv.

Mr. Ahanthem Henry, Adv.
Mr. Ahanthem Rohen Singh, Adv.
Mr. Mohan Singh, Adv.
Mr. Aniket Rajput, Adv.
Ms. Khoisnam Nirmala Devi, Adv.
Mr. Yesu Mehta, Adv.
Mr. Tanay Hegde, Adv.
Mr. Harshal Kumar, Adv.
Mr. Kumar Mihir, AOR

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following
O R D E R

1. A writ petition, filed by some convicts, whose criminal

appeals against conviction had been heard but the judgments were awaited for a long time, prompted this Court firstly to obtain a status report from the concerned High Courts. Upon perusal thereof, a direction was passed to the Registrar Generals of all the High Courts to submit reports in respect of the cases where judgments were reserved on or before 31.01.2025 and which were awaiting pronouncement as on the date of the order, i.e., 05.05.2025. The Registry was directed to inform all High Courts, along with a copy of the order, and to submit compliance reports.

2. In deference thereto, the High Courts of Karnataka, Bombay, Orissa, Jharkhand, Meghalaya, Manipur, Sikkim, Tripura, Himachal Pradesh, Madras, Rajasthan and Calcutta have submitted their respective reports.

3. The Registry informs that, meanwhile, the High Courts of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab & Haryana, Kerala and Gauhati have also submitted their reports. These reports, complete in all respects, are yet to be received by the learned *amicus curiae*. She has, however, collated the information obtained from the first 10 High Courts, whose reports were received between 06.10.2025 to 17.10.2025. Some of the High Courts have sent reports only a few days back to the Registry of this Court.

4. Unfortunately, the High Courts of Allahabad, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Patna, and Telangana have neither submitted their reports nor sought any extension of time. They are not coming forward even to assist this Court, as no one has entered an appearance on their behalf.

5. In such circumstances, we direct the Registrar Generals of the above-mentioned High Courts to make the necessary compliance within two weeks, failing which they shall remain present in Court on the next date of hearing. The Registry is directed to communicate a copy of this order to the Registrar Generals of all these High Courts.

6. As may be seen from the order dated 05.05.2025, the information was sought to be gathered from the High Courts randomly in respect of the judgments which were not pronounced till 05.05.2025. Since it may not be advisable for this Court to undertake continuous monitoring, we direct all the High Courts through their Registrar Generals to submit:

(i) The existing mechanism evolved by them to bring into the public domain, the date when the judgment is reserved; the date of its pronouncement and the date when it is actually uploaded on the website.

(ii) The details of the judgments reserved after 31.01.2025 and the dates of their respective pronouncement till 31.10.2025, along with the dates when they were uploaded on the website.

7. The High Courts may also give their suggestions for improvement and for a uniform pattern of disclosure of information to the general public in respect of the 'subject issue' and the difficulties or adverse consequences, if any, which the High Courts might apprehend to experience in the event of such information being brought to the public domain.

8. All the High Courts are directed to do the needful within four weeks. The Registry is directed to hand over the reports received

from the High Courts from time to time to the learned *amicus curiae* for necessary action.

9. Post the matters for further consideration on 28.01.2026.

(ARJUN BISHT)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(PREETHI T.C.)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR