



HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

WP227 No. 220 of 2026

SADHUWA SONWANI **versus** MANOJ KUMAR @ MANARAM SAHU

Order Sheet

24/02/2026	Mr. Ajit Kumar Singh, learned counsel for the petitioner/s. Heard on admission. Issue notice to the respondents on payment of PF as per rules. Also heard on IA No. 01 – application for grant of interim relief. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner is the grandfather of the deceased Shanu Kumar, who died in a motor accident that occurred on 26.08.2023 at about 4:00 PM on the National Highway at Bango, Katghora, District Korba, Chhattisgarh. It is submitted that respondent Nos. 4 to 6 filed a claim application under Section 166 of the Motor Vehicles Act,

	1988 (for short, MV Act, 1988) before the 6th Additional Motor Accident Claims Tribunal, which was registered as Claim Case No. 1258 of 2023, seeking compensation on account of the death of the deceased Shanu Kumar. Respondent No. 4 claimed herself to be the wife of the deceased, respondent No. 5 claimed himself to be the stepfather of the deceased and respondent No. 6 claimed himself to be the maternal uncle of the deceased. Learned counsel submits that the marriage between respondent No. 4 and the deceased had already been dissolved and therefore, there is no relationship between them. It is further submitted that respondent No. 5 claiming to be the stepfather does not fall within the definition of legal representative and respondent No. 6 being the maternal uncle, also has no legal right to receive compensation on account of the death of the deceased. It is further submitted that the petitioner being the legal representative of the deceased had independently filed a claim application under Section 166 of the MV Act before the Motor Accident Claims Tribunal which was registered as Motor Accident Claims Case No. 392 of 2023. However, respondent Nos. 4 to 6 filed the claim application without arraying the petitioner as a party and
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Pawan	subsequently entered into a settlement before the National Lok Adalat held on 21.09.2024 pursuant to which a compensation amount of ₹19,00,000/- was awarded in their favour. In compliance of the said award, the insurance company / respondent No. 3 has deposited the awarded amount before the Claims Tribunal, out of which a portion has already been disbursed to respondent Nos. 4 to 6 and the remaining amount has been invested in a fixed deposit. Learned counsel submits that the impugned order deserves to be set aside as the same has been obtained by playing fraud upon the petitioner and prays that the remaining amount which has not yet been disbursed may be stayed. Taking into consideration the submissions made herein-above, it is ordered that the learned MACT shall not disburse any further amount to respondent Nos. 4 to 6. The operation and effect of the award dated 21.09.2024 passed by the National Lok Adalat in MACT Case No. 1258 of 2023 shall remain stayed till the next date of hearing. List the case in the week commencing 20.04.2026. Sd/- (Sachin Singh Rajput) Judge
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