

**HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR****CRMP No. 1437 of 2026**Aruna Patel **versus** State of Chhattisgarh & Another**Order Sheet**

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| <b>16/06/2026</b> | <p>Heard Mr. C. Jayant K. Rao, learned counsel for the petitioner. Also heard Mr. Ashish Shukla, learned Additional Advocate General, appearing for the State/respondent No. 1.</p> <p>Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner had applied for the post of Data Entry Operator in the Water Resources Department in the year 2011 and participated in the skill test examination, wherein she secured 66.79 marks. On the basis of her merit position, she was duly selected and appointed to the post of Data Entry Operator under the OBC (Female) category and was posted in the Office of the Executive Engineer, T.D.P.P., Water</p> |

Resources Department, Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh, vide appointment order dated 26.03.2011.

It is further submitted by learned counsel for the petitioner that the wife of respondent No. 2, namely Smt. Parmeshwari Sinha, was also a candidate for the said post. After her non-selection, repeated complaints were made alleging irregularities in the evaluation process. The said complaints were thoroughly examined by a four-member Enquiry Committee as well as by the State Backward Class Commission. Upon such enquiry, no mala fide conduct, criminality, or wrongdoing was found against the petitioner. At the highest, the enquiries indicated certain minor clerical discrepancies in the evaluation of a large number of answer sheets, which did not disclose any criminal offence on the part of the petitioner.

Learned counsel for the petitioner further contends that despite the matter having been examined and closed by the competent authorities,

and despite considerable delay and repeated unsuccessful attempts before various forums, respondent No. 2 succeeded in getting the impugned FIR registered without any proper application of mind and without conducting any meaningful preliminary enquiry. It is further contended that the FIR is founded solely on allegations which had already been investigated and found to be devoid of any criminal element.

It is further submitted that the candidate whose non-selection had given rise to the complaints, namely Smt. Parmeshwari Sinha, has subsequently been granted appointment, which itself demonstrates the personal and motivated nature of the dispute. Learned counsel submits that the criminal proceedings have been initiated not for vindication of any public wrong but on account of personal grievances arising out of the selection process.

Learned counsel for the petitioner further submits that a similarly situated person, namely

Sanjay Kumar Trivedi, against whom identical allegations arising out of the same transaction were levelled, has already been granted relief by this Court in CRMP No. 858 of 2023 vide order dated 17.09.2025. It is argued that the case of the present petitioner stands on the same footing and is entitled to similar consideration. He further submits that another co-accused, namely Varun Pandey, has also approached this Court by filing CRMP No. 1390 of 2026, wherein this Court, vide order dated 15.05.2026, has been pleased to issue notice to respondent No. 2.

Having heard learned counsel for the petitioner and upon consideration of the submissions made, a prima facie case for issuance of notice is made out.

Accordingly, issue notice to the respondents.

Learned State counsel appears and accepts notice on behalf of respondent No. 1; therefore, issuance of notice to respondent No. 1 is dispensed

with.

Process fee be paid within one week for issuance of notice to respondent No. 2 by speed post.

Notice be made returnable within four weeks.

Learned State counsel as well as respondent No. 2 are granted two weeks' time from the date of service of notice to file their respective reply-affidavits. Thereafter, learned counsel for the petitioner shall have two weeks' time to file rejoinder-affidavit(s), if any.

List this matter thereafter along with CRMP No. 1390 of 2026.

**Sd/-  
(Ravindra Kumar Agrawal)  
Judge**

**Sd/-  
(Ramesh Sinha)  
Chief Justice**