

IN THE HIGH COURT OF GUJARAT AT AHMEDABAD**R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 4137 of 2024**

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PEOPLES TRAINING AND RESEARCH CENTRE & ORS.

Versus

THE STATE OF GUJARAT & ORS.

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Appearance:

MR MEHUL DHONDE, ADVOCATE FOR MR AJ YAGNIK(1372) for the
 Petitioner(s) No. 1,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,3,4,5,6,7,8,9
 MS HETAL PATEL, AGP ADVANCE COPY SERVED TO GOVERNMENT
 PLEADER/PP for the Respondent(s) No. 1
 NOTICE SERVED for the Respondent(s) No.
 10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20

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**CORAM:HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MRS.
 JUSTICE SUNITA AGARWAL
 and
 HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE D.N.RAY**

Date : 26/09/2025

ORAL ORDER

(PER : HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MRS. JUSTICE SUNITA AGARWAL)

1. By means of the affidavit dated 25.09.2025, of the Principal Secretary, Labour, Skill Development and Employment Department, State of Gujarat, it is sought to be submitted that a Government Resolution dated 18.09.2025 has been issued, effective from 01.04.2025, significantly liberalizing the scheme. The time period for moving applications for grant of financial assistance from the date of death of the silicosis patients, by the next of kin or dependents of such persons is now extended up-till two years.

2. Assertion in the affidavit is that the resolution further provides that the application submitted beyond two years shall not be rejected mechanically, but shall be subjected to regular verification, and upon fulfillment of requisite provisions and recommendations, the cases may be considered by the Gujarat Rural Labour Welfare Department. The Member Secretary of the Board has been vested with the authority to decide such delayed applications on merits, having regard to the reasons for delay.

3. However, it is also stated that the resolution specifically records that the present petitioners before this Court will be treated as an exception and governed by the liberalized provisions.

4. However, there is requirement to indicate as to whether similarly situated claimants whose applications have been rejected on the ground of delay, without adverting to the merits of their cases, would be entitled to similar benefits or not, or being forward by the time period prescribed in the Government Resolution dated 18.09.2025.

5. Ms. Hetal Patel, learned Assistant Government Pleader

seeks time to get a clarification on this aspect.

6. For the grant of financial assistance to silicosis affected workers, it is stated that a scheme is presently under consideration at the highest level of the State Government. The decision of the State Government shall be brought before this Court on the next date fixed.

7. The copy of the affidavit filed today has been served upon Mr. Mehul Dhonde, learned advocate holding brief of Mr. A.J. Yagnik, learned advocate for the petitioners in the court today, who also seeks adjournment to go through the same and submit his response. The personal affidavit of the Principal Secretary, Labour, Skill Development and Employment Department, State of Gujarat shall be filed on the next date fixed.

8. For the above, the matter is posted on **13.11.2025 at 12:30 p.m.**

(SUNITA AGARWAL, CJ)

(D.N.RAY,J)

A. B. VAGHELA