

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI

M.A. No. 104 of 2017

The Oriental Insurance Company Ltd. & anr... ... Appellants
Versus
Ram Prasad Das and Others Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE

For the Appellants: Mr. Ganesh Chandra Jha, Advocate
For Resp. No.1: Mr. Ranjan Kumar Singh, Advocate
For Resp. No.3: Mr. Manoj Kumar Sah, Advocate

10/Dated: 20.02.2026

1. The accident in this case is of the year 2004. Till today, this appeal which was instituted in the year 2017 cannot be heard because the appellant-Insurance Company has not succeeded in serving the 2nd respondent, i.e., the owner of the insured vehicle. Learned counsel states that steps have been taken from time to time.
2. If this statement is correct, till date, no I.A. is filed seeking substitution of service after explaining why it is not possible to serve the 2nd respondent by the usual modes.
3. The claimants have received upto now only 50% of the compensation amount.
4. On account of delay on the part of the Insurance Company in serving the owner of the offending vehicle, the claimants cannot be made to wait indefinitely to receive the compensation with respect of an accident which took place in the year 2004.
5. Accordingly, as a last chance, four weeks' time is granted to effect service upon the unserved respondent no. 2 through usual modes.

6. If no steps are taken within four weeks, then, the appeal will stand dismissed without further reference to this Court, as against the respondent no.2.
7. Further the claimants, i.e. respondent no.1, is permitted to withdraw the balance compensation amount deposited in this Court, along with interest, if any, that shall have accrued on this amount.
8. Learned counsel for the 1st respondent to furnish documents of identity and bank details so that the Registry can transfer this amount into the 1st respondent's bank account.
9. If the matter is not dismissed in the meanwhile, list the matter on 10th of April 2026.

(M. S. Sonak, C.J.)

February 20, 2026

Manoj/ Sharda/Cp.2