

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI
W.P.(C) No.3188 of 2026

Deepika Hembram & Ors.

... ... **Petitioners**

Versus

State of Jharkhand & Ors.

... ... **Respondents**

CORAM : SRI ANANDA SEN, J.

For the Petitioner(s) : Md. Shadab Ansari, Advocate

For the Respondent(s) : Mr. Rajiv Ranjan, Advocate General
Mr. Ratnesh Kumar, Advocate

[Deputy Commissioner,
West Singhbhum at Chaibasa.

Superintendent of Police, West
Singhbhum at Chaibasa.

Civil Surgeon-cum-Chief Medical
Officer, Chaibasa.

The Secretary, DLSA], Through V.C.

02/ 05.05.2026

The office has pointed out the defect that the Court fee has not been filed in this case.

2. Learned counsel representing the petitioners submits that the petitioners are minor and belong to a very poor downtrodden family and due to the additional trauma, which they are suffering, they are not in a position to deposit the Court fee.

3. After hearing the petitioners' counsel and going through the records, I find that the five petitioners of this writ petition before me are from the family of very disadvantaged group of the Society. They are aged between 05 to 07 years. Further, these petitioners are suffering from Thalassemia disorder, which needs regular blood transmission. In course of blood

transmission, they have been infected with H.I.V. These petitioners, now need regular treatment and since they are from the financially backward class, they need special care and attention, thus the petitioners are exempted from filing of the Court fee.

4. The defect pointed out by the office with regard to payment of the Court fee, stands ignored.

5. On the request of this Court, the Deputy Commissioner, West Singhbhum at Chaibasa, the Superintendent of Police, West Singhbhum at Chaibasa, the Civil Surgeon-cum-Chief Medical Officer, Chaibasa, and the Secretary, DLSA are present through virtual mode. There is no complaint with regard to clarity and quality in audio or video.

6. It has been alleged that there has been a social outcasting of some of the petitioners and their families.

7. This aspect should be looked into not only by the District Administration of West Singhbhum at Chaibasa, but also by the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), West Singhbhum at Chaibasa, who being a Statutory Body established under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, is designed to provide free legal services and is obligated to promote legal literacy and to support vulnerable groups of the Society.

7.1. The DLSA, through its paralegal volunteers of that area should ensure that none of the petitioners or their family members face any social stigma or boycott because of the most unfortunate incident of the infection of H.I.V.

7.2. If necessary, the people of the locality where these families are residing, should be sensitized by the District Administration and the DLSA. They should undertake several programmes of sensitization.

7.3. Further, the headman of that area should be given some responsibility to ensure that these people do not face any social stigma. In this context, DLSA, West Singhbhum at Chaibasa, should work in coordination with the District Administration to ensure constant sensitization of the people of that area where the petitioners, their family and other similarly situated person are residing.

8. Learned Advocate General has addressed this Court and shown his personal concern on this issue. He submits that the State is also taking this matter very seriously. He submits that there are several proposals to benefit the petitioners and the State will file an affidavit bringing on record the benefits which can be extended to the petitioners and their family members. He submits that Rs.2,00,000/-, per family was given on 26.10.2025; counseling is continuing; antiretroviral therapy is being given to the infected children who are the petitioners in this writ petition; and continued monthly support for Thalassemia has also been extended to them.

9. Considering the said submission, it is expected that the State will file a counter affidavit and come up with a concrete plan of support to these petitioners and their family members.

10. The Deputy Commissioner of the District and all the

other stakeholders including the DLSA of the District will ensure that the education of these children should not be hampered or effected because of this incident.

11. Name of Mr. Rajiv Ranjan, learned Advocate General, shall henceforth be reflected in the cause list, as counsel representing the respondents.

12. List this case on 15th June, 2026, under the heading "**Orders**".

(ANANDA SEN, J.)

*05th May, 2026
Prashant. Cp-2*