

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI

W.P.(PIL) No. 2254 of 2024

Ram Charan Mahto

..... Petitioner

Versus

State of Jharkhand & Others

..... Respondents

CORAM

HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJESH SHANKAR

For the Petitioner:

None

For the State:

Mr. Sahbaj Akhtar, A.C. to A.A.G.-III

For the Res. No. 9:

Ms. Priti Sinha, Advocate

06/21.11.2025

1. This Court is seized of this public interest litigation since the year 2024, which pertains to construction of Civil Court premises, residential quarters for the judicial officers etc. at Bundu, Ranchi.
2. In the counter affidavit filed on behalf of the Registrar General of this Court, it has been pointed out that after taking into consideration the representations dated 14.09.2022 & 10.04.2023 of the Secretary, Bar Association, Bundu, Ranchi for operationalisation of the Sub-Divisional Court at Bundu, Ranchi, the State Level Committee for monitoring infrastructure of subordinate judiciary in its meeting dated 23.08.2023, resolved to direct the Registrar General of this Court, Judicial Commissioner, Ranchi and the Chief Engineer, Building Construction Department, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi to visit the proposed site and submit a report about the feasibility of constructing Sub-Divisional Court and Gram Nyayalaya on the identified land at Bundu, Ranchi.
3. However, the respondents have been delaying the matter and have not been able to identify a "suitable land" on the pretext that the land as identified has been clarified as "raiya" in nature.

4. It is shocking to note that even in the counter affidavit that has been filed today in the open Court on behalf of the Circle Officer, Bundu, Ranchi, the same story has been repeated by annexing communications dated 23.08.2024 & 28.09.2024 respectively. What happened after 28.09.2024 i.e. after more than a year back is not forthcoming, which only indicates that the State and its functionaries are simply not interested in ensuring that the Court and other infrastructures come up at Bundu, Ranchi. We further fail to understand as to why the State cannot find suitable government land for the proposed construction so as to avoid the process and expenses of acquisition.
5. In the given facts and circumstances, we deem it appropriate to direct the Chief Secretary to constitute a committee comprising of himself, the Principal Secretary, Department of Revenue, Registration & Land Reforms and the Principal Secretary-cum-Legal Remembrancer, Department of Law, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi, which committee shall forthwith take up the issue and suggest a suitable place for the proposed construction by the next date of hearing.
6. List this case on 12.12.2025.

(TARLOK SINGH CHAUHAN, C.J.)

(RAJESH SHANKAR, J)