

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI**  
**W.P.(PIL) No. 3764 of 2022**

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| Jharkhand State Bar Council through<br>its Secretary, Rajesh Pandey | ... | <b>Petitioner</b>  |
| <b>Versus</b>                                                       |     |                    |
| The State of Jharkhand & Others                                     | ... | <b>Respondents</b> |

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**CORAM : SRI SANJAYA KUMAR MISHRA, C.J.**  
**SRI ANANDA SEN, J.**

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| <b>For the Petitioner :</b>  | Mr. V.P. Singh, Sr. Advocate<br>Mr. Rajendra Krishna, Advocate<br>Ms. Rashmi Kumar, Advocate |
| <b>For the Respondents :</b> | Mr. Jay Prakash, AAG IA<br>Ms. Omiya Anusha, AC to AAG IA                                    |

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**14/ 13.09.2023** In course of hearing, learned counsel for the Jharkhand State Bar Council, Mr. V.P. Singh, Senior Advocate, would submit that the State Government has jurisdiction under Section 35 of the Court Fee Act 1870 to reduce Court Fee in appropriate cases. In this case, notification bearing No. SRO 575 of 1994 issued by the State of Odisha is also cited before us, wherein the State of Odisha has exempted certain persons like Schedule Castes, Schedule Tribes, women, minors, persons with disabilities, persons whose annual income does not exceed rupees one lakh, persons who are otherwise entitled to legal service under the Legal Service Authorities Act, 1987 from all fees mentioned in Schedules I and II for filing/instituting cases or proceeding in any Court in the State of Odisha.

In that view of the matter, we direct the State Government to take a decision whether to exercise its jurisdiction under Section 35 of the Court Fee Act within a period of 60 days hence and apprise this Court about such decision.

Let this matter be listed on 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2023.

**(Sanjaya Kumar Mishra, C.J.)**

**(Ananda Sen, J.)**