

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI
W.P.(S) No. 6512 of 2026

.....
Subhash Murmu & Ors.

.... **Petitioner(s)**

-VERSUS-

State of Jharkhand through the Chief Secretary,
Government of Jharkhand & Ors.

.....**Respondent (s)**

.....
CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DEEPAK ROSHAN

For the Petitioner(s)

: Mr. Rajiv Ranjan, Sr. Adv
Mr. Indrajit Sinha, Adv
Mr. Amritansh Vats, Adv
Ms. Prerna Jhunjhunwala, Adv
Mr. Deepankar, Adv
Mr. Shray Mishra, Adv
Mr. Rahul Ranjan, Adv
Mr. Arpan Manjash Ekka, Adv
Mr. Kumar Abhishek, Adv
Mr. P.A.S.Pati, Adv

For the Respondent (s)

: Ms. Meenakshi Arora, Sr. Adv
Through V.C.)
Mr. Shri Rohitashya Roy, AG
Mr. Jai Prakash, AAG-IA
Mr. Achyut Keshav, Sr. AAG
Mr. Vibhour Mayank, A.C. to A. G
Mr. Sanjoy Piprawall, Adv
Mr. Prince Kumar, Adv
Mr. Jay Prakash, Adv

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03/15.09.2026

1. Heard learned counsel for the parties at length.
2. The case was heard at length in the first half. On the pretext of submitting a progress report in the criminal investigation, the case has now been taken up in the second half. The status report/progress report on investigation has been submitted by learned A.G. in a sealed cover, which has been opened and perused by this Court; however, the same has been sealed again.
3. The Status report which has been produced is taken-on record. For the obvious reasons, the said status report submitted in sealed cover, has not been shared with the petitioners' counsel.

4. Learned counsels for the respondents submits that since counter affidavit has not been filed; as such at least four weeks' time be granted. It has been contended by learned senior counsel, who is appearing through V.C. on behalf of the respondent-State, and also the learned Advocate General, that since investigation in this case is going on, filing of counter-affidavit is a bit difficult.

5. This Court wants to make it very clear that the writ Court is only to examine the legality/illegality of the impugned order; whereby the appointment of more than 2500 candidates has been cancelled. As a matter of fact, the advertisement itself has been cancelled, and pursuant thereto, the appointments automatically stand cancelled.

It is true that there is an allegation of mass bungling; at the same time, it is also true that an investigation is going on, of which the status report has been placed before this Court in sealed cover. Therefore, admittedly, it cannot be said that all the persons who have been appointed have indulged in malpractice. At the same time, it also cannot be denied that several candidates are genuine and have not been appointed due to malpractice and for that very same reason, investigation is going on.

6. But at this stage, the Court has to examine the legality/illegality of the order. So far as status report of the criminal case is concerned; this Court can only observe that in this case and in such type of serious cases, the investigation should be fast; not only fast, but in a good pace. It is also observed that from the status report it is seen that initially, the progress of investigation was very fast, but subsequently, its pace has decreased.

7. Be that as it may; as it is observed in the preceding paragraph that this Court is concerned only with

legality/illegality of the notification; whereby the appointment of the several candidates; about more than 2500 has been affected, accordingly, list this case on 18.09.2026 at 11.30 P.M for further hearing along with W.P.(S) Nos. 6450 of 2026, 6514 of 2026, 7137 of 2026, 6521 of 2026, 7106 of 2026, 7133 of 2026, 7134 of 2026, 7135 of 2026, 7136 of 2026, 6451 of 2026, 6452 of 2026, 6515 of 2026 and 6513 of 2026.

8. It is made clear that if till that time, proper instructions is not received, then learned Advocate General will assist this Court on the point of law because ultimately, this Court has to decide the legality/illegality of the notification; whereby the career of more than 2500 candidates is at stake.

9. The interim relief granted earlier shall continue till further orders.

(Deepak Roshan, J)

15.09.2026

Amardeep/

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