



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK
W.A. No.76 of 2019

Purusottam Behera

....

Appellant

Represented By Adv.-
Mr. Jayanta Kumar Rath, Sr. Advocate

-versus-

State of Odisha & Others

....

Respondents

Represented By Adv.-
Mr. Debaraj Mohanty, AGA
along with Mr. Jateswar Nayak, AGA
(for Respondent No.1)
Mr. Amit Pattnaik, Advocate
(for Respondent Nos.2 to 4)

CORAM:

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANASH RANJAN PATHAK
AND
THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SIBO SANKAR MISHRA

ORDER

20.03.2026

(Hybrid mode)

Order No.

23.

1. Heard Mr. Jayanta Kumar Rath, learned Senior Advocate appearing for the appellant. Also heard Mr. Debaraj Mohanty along with Mr Jateswar Nayak, learned Additional Government Advocates for the State-Respondent No.1, and Mr. Amit Pattnaik, learned counsel appearing for the Respondent Nos.2 to 4.
2. Mr. Amit Pattnaik, learned counsel for Respondent Nos.2 to 4 by placing its counter affidavit filed on 02.01.2025, submitted that, with effect from 04.07.2022, the Respondent No.2-Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited was merged with TATA



Steel Long Products Limited (TSLP), and in consequence, it has merged and amalgamated as TSLP into TATA Steel Limited, thereby the said Respondent has become a subsidiary of TATA Steel Limited and since then Respondent No.2 is no longer a State as envisaged in Article 12 of the Constitution.

3. As such, Mr. Pattnaik, learned counsel appearing for Respondent Nos.2 to 4, submits that this Writ Appeal, as on date, is not maintainable, as the writ itself is not maintainable. Though the appellant/writ petitioner filed his rejoinder on 03.08.2025, to the said counter affidavit of Respondent Nos.2 to 4, but he did not answer the said issue of those Respondents.

4. Mr. Rath, learned Senior Advocate appearing for the appellant, prays for some time to answer the maintainability of this Writ Appeal. Prayer is allowed.

5. List this appeal on 4th May, 2026.

***(Manash Ranjan Pathak),
Judge***

***(Sibo Sankar Mishra),
Judge***

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