



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

W.P.(C) NO.10030 of 2026

Prasanna Kumar Pradhan

Petitioner

Mr. R.C. Behera, Adv.

-versus-

Union of India & Others

Opposite Parties

*Mr. A.K. Roy, Sr. Panel
Counsel*

*(for O.P. NO.1)
Mr. P.R. Patnaik, Adv.
(for O.P. Nos.2 to 5)*

COROM:

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE BIRAJA PRASANNA SATAPATHY

ORDER

08.05.2026

Order No

- 3.** 1. This matter is taken up through Hybrid Mode.
2. Heard learned counsel appearing for the parties
3. Mr. P.R. Patnaik, learned counsel appearing for the MCL on instruction contended that the appeal in question under Annexure-12 has been filed on the face of the liberty granted by this Court on 22.08.2019, on 28.01.2025 with delay of more than 5 years. Not only that, even though the order of dismissal has been passed since 17.03.1999 and this Court granted liberty to move the appellate authority on 22.08.2019 while disposing OJC No.6197 of 2000, the appeal should have been filed within the period of limitation. It is accordingly contended that the appeal since has been filed beyond 5 years of the liberty granted by this Court, the same is not to be entertained.



4. Mr. R.C. Behera, learned counsel appearing for the Petitioner contended that challenging the order of dismissal, Petitioner was before this Court in OJC No.6197 of 2000. Even though this Court vide order dt.22.08.2019, granted liberty to the Petitioner to move the appellate authority, but because of the prevailing situation at that point of time arising out of COVID-19, Petitioner could not file the same within the period of limitation. It is also contended that since the issue in question is an order of dismissal passed against the Petitioner, by taking a liberal view, the appellate authority be directed to dispose of the appeal, so filed by the Petitioner under Annexure-12.

5. Having heard learned Counsel appearing for the parties and considering the submission made, this Court taking into account the fact that challenging the order of dismissal, Petitioner was before this Court in OJC No.6197 of 2000 and this Court vide order dt.22.08.2019 though granted liberty to the Petitioner to move the appellate authority, but the same could not be filed because of the prevailing situation arising out of COVID-19.

5.1. Since the issue is with regard to dismissal of the appellant from his services, this Court by taking a lenient view of the matter, directs Opp. party No.2 to dispose of the appeal so filed by the Petitioner under Annexure-12, in accordance with law, as expeditiously as possible, preferably within a period of 3(three) months from the date of receipt of this order with due communication to the Petitioner.

6. The Writ Petition accordingly stands disposed of.



Vakalatnama filed by Mr. P.R. Pattanaik, learned counsel appearing for the MCL in Court be kept on record.

(Biraja Prasanna Satapathy)
Judge

sangita