



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

W.P.(C) Nos.19608 & 19625 of 2025

Arati Jena & Ors.

....

Petitioners

Mr. G.R. Sethi, Advocate

-versus-

State of Odisha & Ors.

....

Opposite Parties

Mr. P.K. Panda, ASC

CORAM:

JUSTICE BIRAJA PRASANNA SATAPATHY

ORDER

21.04.2026

Order No.

- 03.** 1. This matter is taken up through Hybrid Arrangement (Virtual/Physical) Mode.
2. Heard learned counsel appearing for the Parties.
3. The present Writ Petition has been filed *inter alia* challenging the order issued by Opposite Party No.2 on 04.07.2025 under Annexure-10.
4. It is contended that pursuant to advertisement issued under Annexure-1 even though Petitioners made their application for their engagement as Home Guards in the district of Keonjhar, but in view of the letter issued by the Government under Annexure-2, no further action was taken to fill up the posts pursuant to Annexure-1.



4.1. It is contended that ground on which Annexure-2 was issued is no more sustainable as in the meantime after lifting of the ban for engagement of the Home Guard in the State, various advertisements have been issued to fill up the posts of Home Guard in different districts. It is accordingly contended that the case of Petitioners requires a re-consideration by Opp. party No.1.

5. Learned counsel appearing for the State on the other hand contended that basing on the instruction provided by the Finance Department, Annexure-5 was issued by the State with a direction not to proceed with the selection process pursuant to Annexure-1.

6. Having heard learned counsel appearing of the parties, considering the submission made and the fact that ban with regard to engagement of Home Guard in the State has since been lifted vide notification dt.17.12.2024, this Court while disposing the Writ Petition permits the Petitioners to move a joint application before Opp. party No.1 for finalization of the selection process pursuant to Annexure-1.

6.1. It is observed that if such an application is filed before Opp. Party No.1 within a period of 2 (two) weeks hence, Opp. Party No.1 shall do well to take a lawful decision on the same within a period of 6 (six) weeks from the date of receipt of such application. The



order so passed by Opp. Party No.1 be communicated to one of the Petitioners.

7. With the aforesaid observation and direction, the Writ Petition stands disposed of.

8. Photocopy of the order be placed in the connected Writ Petition.

(Biraja Prasanna Satapathy)
Judge

Subrat