



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

W.P.(C) No.25035 of 2022

M/s Power Planners and Engineers (P) Ltd. Angul ***Petitioner***

Ms. Soma Patnaik, Advocate

-versus-

Employees' State Insurance Corporation, New Delhi and others ***Opp. Parties***

Mr. Amarendra Prasad Ray, Advocate

CORAM:
JUSTICE MRUGANKA SEKHAR SAHOO

ORDER
25.03.2026
(Hybrid Mode)

W.P.(C) No.25035 of 2022 & I.A. No.4827 of 2026

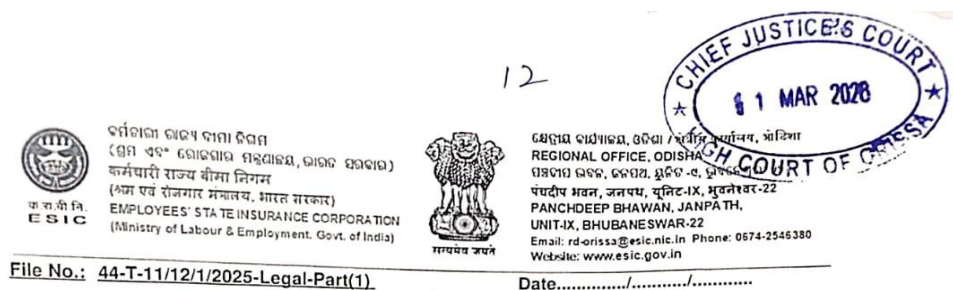
Order No.
05.

- 1.** The matter being in the list is mentioned by Ms. Patnaik, learned counsel for the petitioner and Mr. Ray, learned counsel for the opposite parties.
- 2.** I.A. No.4827 of 2026 has been filed for granting leave to the parties to avail the benefit of the 'Amnesty Scheme 2025' promulgated by the opposite parties during pendency of the writ application.
- 3.** Annexed to the I.A. are letters dated 24.07.2025 issued by the Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), Headquarters, New Delhi issued to all Regional Directors of ESI Corporation and dated 14.10.2025



issued by the Regional Director, Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

Office letter dated 14.10.2025 issued to the petitioner by the Regional Director, Employees' State Insurance Corporation (Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India), Regional Office, Odisha, Bhubaneswar. The said letter is scanned and reproduced herein:



File No.: 44-T-11/12/1/2025-Legal-Part(1)

Date.....

To

M/s

Sub:- Amnesty Scheme, 2025 for withdrawal of the Criminal Cases filed against Insured Persons and Employers and settlement of cases filed by Employers u/s 75 and 82 of ESI Act, 1948-regarding.

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) in its 196th meeting held on 27th June 2025, has approved the Amnesty Scheme 2025 which is a progressive step towards compliance with compassion. We aim to minimize litigation, restore employer confidence, and uphold the dignity of insured persons through this Scheme, which is aimed at significantly reducing litigation and building stronger trust with stakeholders. The scheme will be operational from 01st October 2025 to 30th September 2026. This one-time opportunity is available to employers and insured persons to settle pending disputes and prosecution cases under various sections of the ESI Act, 1948.

Scope of the Scheme:

A. Settlement of Disputed Cases (u/s 75, 82, & Article 226):

- . Applicable to disputes regarding coverage, contribution including damages.
- . Closed and running units can settle based on actual or alternate records.

B. Disputed Damages:

- . Employers disputing damages after paying contribution and interest can opt to pay only 10% of the damages.
- . Cases at higher courts can also be settled under this provision.

C. Withdrawal of Criminal Cases (u/s 84, 85, 85A):

- . Insured Persons can settle by refunding excess payments without interest.
- . Employers can settle prosecutions by paying due contribution and interest, based on available or alternative records.
- . No damages will be claimed in these cases.

You are requested to avail the benefits under the Amnesty Scheme and for any further query, you may visit the Regional Office, ESIC, Bhubaneswar or you can visit the website of ESIC: www.esic.gov.in.

Yours Faithfully

Digitally signed by
Rudradeep Dutta

REGIONAL DIRECTOR
10-2025
09:52:45



4. The learned counsel for the opposite parties endorses the submissions made in the I.A. and made at the bar by the learned counsel for the petitioner.

5. In view of the above developments, it is expected that the parties shall work out amicable settlement as per the Amnesty Scheme acceptable to both the parties and this Court in no uncertain terms encourages such settlement in view of the Amnesty Scheme dated 14.10.2025.

6. The I.A. is favoured and disposed of.

The parties shall work on the Amnesty Scheme dated 01.12.2025 and arrive at a settlement.

7. It is further clarified that contentions raised in the writ application shall not be bar in any manner whatsoever for the parties to work out amicable settlement in terms of the 'Amnesty Scheme'.

Interim order, if any, passed earlier by this Court shall merge with the order passed today. Any order passed earlier shall not in any manner come in the way of the parties to arrive at a settlement.

8. The writ petition is disposed of with the observations as made above.

(Mruganka Sekhar Sahoo)
Judge

Rajesh