

IN THE HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA
[CIRCUIT BENCH AT PORT BLAIR]

WPA/126/2026
IA No: CAN/1/2026

Smti. Krishna Halder & Anr.

Vs

The Lt. Governor & Ors.

Mr. Adarsh Ilango
Ms. Shohini Biswas ... for the petitioner

Mr. Rakesh Kumar ... for the Respondents

March 23, 2026
[AKB]
Item No.3

Re CAN/1/2026:

1. This application is filed for an interim order directing the respondent authorities not to disturb the petitioners from performing their duties and further directing respondent authorities to permit the petitioners to continue with their duties till the disposal of the writ petition.
2. Copy of the application has been served upon the learned advocate for the respondents.
3. Learned advocate representing the petitioners submits that a representation has been filed on 19.03.2026 before the Division Forest Officer whereby also they have raised the issue of regularisation of their service in terms of Uma Devi's case which was subsequently decided in WPA/547/2024 whereby 7520 DRMs were entitled to the scheme of regularisation.
4. It is further submitted initially challenging the Draft Notice as published this writ petition was filed and direction was passed to exchange Affidavits. Subsequently a vacancy

notice dated 14.03.2026 has been published in the local Daily News Paper and it appears that the post, in which he is currently working is about to be filled up. Accordingly files this application.

5. The learned advocate representing the respondent authorities on the other hand submits that the petitioner was engaged pursuant to an office order dated 21.10.2025 for a period till 31.03.2026 for attending the seasonal nature of work. Therefore as a matter of right they cannot claimed to be regularized when a notice to fill up the vacancy has been published. The tenure of the employment is otherwise going to be completed on 31.03.2026. More so this petitioners are not similarly situated as of DRMs as the present petitioners are seasonal worker.

6. In this regard the decision the Learned advocate of the petitioner relied upon an order passed by the Coordinate Bench of this Court affirmed by the Division Bench of this Court. On perusal of the same it transpires that the initial appointment order did not contain the word 'seasonal'.

7. However, affidavits are already called for in this case. And this court is not inclined to pass interim order as prayed for at this stage since in absence of materials to suggests that any disturbances are created to the petitioners from performing their duties by the respondents . However the respondents authorities are also granted liberty to file affidavit in opposition to this application within two weeks from this date along with the earlier direction to file the affidavit-in-opposition.

8. However as a representation is pending which pertains to extension of the contractual period, it is expected that the respondent authority will dispose of the representation made by them on 19.3.2026 at an earliest preferably within the period of seven days i.e. within last date mentioned in their engagement order.

9. Matter to be listed before the next Circuit Bench.

(Chaitali Chatterjee (Das), J.)