

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA  
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CIVIL APPEAL NO. 812 OF 2005

Superintending Engineer,  
U.B.D.C. Circle, Amritsar &  
ORS.

APPELLANT (S)

VERSUS

PARAMJIT SINGH (DEAD)  
THROUGH LRS.

RESPONDENT (S)

O R D E R

1. The deceased respondent (workman) was employed as a daily wager with the Irrigation Department, Punjab. He raised an industrial dispute claiming that his services had been unlawfully terminated in violation of Section 25-F of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. The Labour Court, by award dated 26.03.2002, ordered his reinstatement. The award was subsequently challenged by the appellants before the High Court, which dismissed the challenge through judgment and order dated 10.11.2003, upholding the Labour Court's decision. Aggrieved thereby, the appellants have preferred the instant appeal.

2. Heard Mr. Shadan Farasat, learned senior counsel appearing for the appellants and Ms. Sangeeta Bharti, learned counsel appearing on behalf of the legal heirs of the deceased respondent (workman).

3. Keeping the question open as to whether the Irrigation Department, State of Punjab, qualifies as an industry under Section 2(j) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, we note that the deceased workman was granted reinstatement by the Labour Court, which was upheld by the High Court. The operation of the said relief, however, was stayed by this Court vide order dated 05.11.2004, and during the pendency of the instant appeal, the workman unfortunately passed away on 25.12.2020, leaving behind his legal heirs, who apparently have no means of livelihood. In these circumstances, we find it a fit case to invoke and exercise our powers under Article 142 of the Constitution of India and award a lump sum of Rs. 10 lakhs to the legal heirs of the deceased workman to do complete justice to the parties. The amount shall be deposited with the Industrial Tribunal (Tribunal) within six weeks, and the Tribunal shall identify the legal heirs of the deceased and will disburse the amount proportionately to them.

4. The appeal is, accordingly, dismissed.

5. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand closed.

.....CJI  
(SURYA KANT)

.....J.  
(B.V. NAGARATHNA)

.....J.  
(PAMIDIGHANTAM SRI NARASIMHA)

.....J.  
(DIPANKAR DATTA)

.....J.  
(UJJAL BHUYAN)

.....J.  
(SATISH CHANDRA SHARMA)

.....J.  
(JOYMALYA BAGCHI)

.....J.  
(ALOK ARADHE)

.....J.  
(VIPUL M. PANCHOLI)

NEW DELHI;  
MARCH 19, 2026.

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A  
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGSCivil Appeal No(s). 897/2002

STATE OF U.P.

Appellant(s)

VERSUS

JAI BIR SINGH

Respondent(s)

[TO GO BEFORE NINE HON'BLE JUDGES ] [ FOR FURTHER HEARING ] [MR. J.P.. CAMA, LD. SENIOR COUNSEL (A.C.) AND MR. P.S. SENGUPTA, LD. SENIOR COUNSEL (A.C.)

(IA No. 76780/2026 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION, IA No. 71817/2026 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION, IA No. 65699/2026 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION, IA No. 79616/2026 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT and IA No. 75400/2026 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT)

WITH

C.A. No. 4646/2007 (IV)

C.A. No. 3647/2007 (IV)

SLP(C) No. 1112/2009 (IV-C)

C.A. No. 3920/2010 (III-A)

C.A. No. 3119/2011 (XV)

C.A. No. 6114/2001 (III-A)

C.A. No. 6108/2002 (III-A)

C.A. No. 1276/2001 (IV)

C.A. No. 1279/2001 (IV)

C.A. No. 1278/2001 (IV)

C.A. No. 6471/2002 (III)

C.A. No. 2506/2002 (III-A)

C.A. No. 8597/2001 (III-A)

C.A. No. 4569/2002 (III-B)

(IA No. 13146/2020 - CLARIFICATION/DIRECTION and IA No. 13147/2020 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.)

C.A. No. 5101/2002 (XII-B)

C.A. No. 2409/2002 (IV)  
SLP(C) No. 20982/2002 (XVII-B)  
C.A. No. 355-358/2003 (XII-A)  
SLP(C) No. 14085/2004 (IV-B)  
SLP(C) No. 11291/2004 (IV-B)  
SLP(C) No. 14127/2004 (IV-B)  
C.A. No. 812/2005 (IV)  
C.A. No. 7994/2004 (IV)  
SLP(C) No. 4139/2005 (IV-B)  
C.A. No. 1274/2007 (XII-B)  
C.A. No. 1273/2007 (XII-B)  
C.A. No. 1311-1312/2008 (III-A)  
SLP(C) No. 16301/2007 (XI)  
SLP(C) No. 3107/2008 (IV-C)  
SLP(C) No. 4327/2008 (IV-C)  
SLP(C) No. 4329/2008 (IV-C)  
SLP(C) No. 4328/2008 (IV-C)  
C.A. No. 296/2008 (III)  
SLP(C) No. 16276/2008 (IV-B)  
SLP(C) No. 17224/2008 (IX)  
C.A. No. 5519/2012 (XI-B)  
(IA No. 45076/2019 - STAY APPLICATION)  
C.A. No. 5681/2010 (III-A)  
S.L.P. (C) ...CC No. 7990/2009 (XI)  
C.A. No. 7757/2011 (III-B)  
C.A. No. 1131/2012 (III-A)  
C.A. No. 8149-8151/2012 (XII-A)

C.A. No. 4505-4506/2013 (XII-B)

C.A. No. 4507-4508/2013 (XII-B)

SLP(C) No. 12679-12682/2014 (XII)

SLP(C) No. 1857/2016 (IX)

SLP(C) No. 14156/2021 (XI-A)

Date : 19-03-2026 These matters were called on for hearing today.

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HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DIPANKAR DATTA  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE UJJAL BHUYAN  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SATISH CHANDRA SHARMA  
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Mr. Ram Narayan Mohanty, Adv.  
Mr. Pritam Singh, Adv.  
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Mr. Pradeep Kumar Rai, Sr. Adv.  
Ms. Modoyia Kayina, Adv.  
Ms. Rajshree Rai, Adv.  
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Mr. Gopal Sankaranarayanan, Sr. Adv.  
Mr. Vishal Sinha, Adv.  
Mr. Gaurav Kumar, Adv.  
Mr. Naman Sherstra, Adv.  
Mr. Akshay L., Adv.

For Intervenor: Mr. Jayesh K Unnikrishnan, AOR  
Ms. Sasmita Tripathy, Adv.  
Ms. Smriti Parija, Adv.

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following

O R D E R

C.A. No. 812/2005

The appeal is dismissed in terms of the signed order. Signed order is placed on the file.

Pending application(s), if any, shall stand closed.

Rest of the matters

Arguments concluded.

Judgment reserved.

Written submissions/notes be filed by the parties on or before  
06.04.2026.

(NITIN TALREJA)  
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(PREETHI T.C.)  
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR