

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI
W.P. (C) No. 2360 of 2022**

GRANDS MINING, (A Partnership firm), having its office at GE/16, City Centre, Sector-4, Bokaro Steel City, P.O. and P.S. Bokaro, District Bokaro; through its Partner Bhupendra Kumar Singh, aged about 47 years, son of Ram Janam Singh, resident of Bhagwati Colony, Jodhadih More, Chas, P.O. and P.S. Chas, District Bokaro (Jharkhand).

... **Petitioner**

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834002.
3. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

... **Respondents.**

**with
W.P. (C) No. 3652 of 2020**

1. Ramashish Singh, aged about 50 years, S/o Heera Prasad Singh, R/o Village, Mahuari, P.O.- Gulabjhari, P.S.- Naudiha Bazar, District- Palamu.
2. Umakant Prasad Jaiswal, aged about 48 years, S/o Mahendra Prasad Jaiswal, Village- Chattarpur, P.O. & P.S.- Chattarpur, District- Palamu.
3. Anup Kumar Singh, aged about 48 years, S/o Dharmjeet Singh, R/o 10A, Ravindrapuri Colony, Bhelupur, P.O. & P.S.- Bhelupur, District- Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh).

... **Petitioners**

Versus

1. State of Jharkhand through its Secretary- Mines and Geology Department, Government of Jharkhand, Nepal House, P.O. & P.S. – Doranda, District- Ranchi.

2. District Mining Officer- Palamu, P.O. & P.S.- Palamu, District- Medininagar.
3. The Director, Mines, Gov. of Jharkhand, at Nepal House, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi.
4. The Deputy Director, Mines, Palamau Circle, P.O. & P.S. Medninagar, Dist. Palamau.

...Respondents

**with
W.P. (C) No. 2362 of 2022**

Grands Mining, (A Partnership firm), having its office at GE/16, City Centre, Sector-4, Bokaro Steel City, P.O. and P.S. Bokaro, District Bokaro; through its Partner Bhupendra Kumar Singh, aged about 47 years, son of Ram Janam Singh, resident of Bhagwati Colony, Jodhadih More, Chas, P.O. and P.S. Chas, District Bokaro (Jharkhand).

.....Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
3. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

... Respondents

**with
W.P. (C) No. 2363 of 2022**

Grands Mining, (A Partnership firm), having its office at GE/16, City Centre, Sector-4, Bokaro Steel City, P.O. and P.S. Bokaro, District Bokaro; through its Partner Bhupendra Kumar Singh, aged about 47 years, son of Ram Janam Singh, resident of Bhagwati Colony, Jodhadih More, Chas, P.O. and P.S. Chas, District Bokaro (Jharkhand).

.....Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department

of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

- 2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).
- 4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

... **Respondents**

with

W.P. (C) No. 2395 of 2022

M/s Mahadev Stone Product, a Partnership Firm through one of its Partner Shri Sanjay Kumar Tibrewal, aged about 52 years, S/o Shri Liladhar Tibrewal, resident of House No. 83, Ward No. 13, Near Shitla Mandir, Marwari Tola, Pakur, P.O., P.S. & District- Pakur, PIN – 816107.

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand through its Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. - Doranda, District- Ranchi.
2. Secretary Department of Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. – Doranda, District – Ranchi.
- 3.Director, Departmnt of Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S.- Doranda, District – Ranchi.
4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, PO, PS & Dist. – Pakur.

... **Respondents**

with

W.P. (C) No. 2498 of 2022

Grands Mining, (A Partnership firm), having its office at GE/16, City Centre, Sector-4, Bokaro Steel City, P.O. and P.S. Bokaro, District Bokaro; through its Partner Bhupendra Kumar Singh, aged about 47 years, son of Ram Janam Singh, resident of Bhagwati Colony, Jodhadih More, Chas, P.O. and P.S. Chas, District Bokaro (Jharkhand).

.... **Petitioner**

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
3. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand) ...

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 2499 of 2022

Grands Mining, (A Partnership firm), having its office at GE/16, City Centre, Sector-4, Bokaro Steel City, P.O. and P.S. Bokaro, District Bokaro; through its Partner Bhupendra Kumar Singh, aged about 47 years, son of Ram Janam Singh, resident of Bhagwati Colony, Jodhadih More, Chas, P.O. and P.S. Chas, District Bokaro (Jharkhand).

.....Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
3. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand) ...

...Respondents.

with

W.P. (C) No. 2500 of 2022

M/s. Master Sunder Das & Sons, (a Partnership Firm), having its office at Sindhipara, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Partner Sanjay Kumar, aged about 45 years, son of M. Sunder Das, resident of Rajveena, 50-A, Block-C, New Alipore, P.O. and P.S. New Alipore, District Kolkata, PIN 700053(West Bengal).

.... **Petitioner**

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
3. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

.... **Respondents**

with

W.P. (C) No. 2501 of 2022

MS Ebadat Stone Works Prop Ishaque Shaikh, (a Proprietorship Firm), having its office at Janki Nagar, P.O. Prithwi Nagar P.S. Pakur (M), District Pakur PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Proprietor Ishaque Shaikh, aged about 39 years, son of Sabdul Shaikh, resident of Janki Nagar, P.O. Prithwi Nagar, P.S. Pakur (M), District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand).

.... **Petitioner**

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at

Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 2502 of 2022

CTS Industries LTD., (a company registered under the Companies Act), having its office at 37, Shakespeare Sarani, 3rd Floor, P.O. and P.S. Shakespeare Sarani, District Kolkata, PIN 700017 (West Bengal), through its Authorised Signatory, namely, Navin Kumar, aged about 45 years, son of Shri Shivji Prasad, resident of Parsaman, Parsawan, Patna, P.O. Parsawa, P.S. Parsawa, District Patna, PIN 803214 (Bihar).

... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
3. Deputy Commissioner, Sahebganj, having its office at District Collectorate, Sahebganj, P.O. & P.S. Sahebganj, District Sahebganj (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, Sahebganj, having its office at District Collectorate, Sahebganj, P.O. & P.S. Sahebganj, District Sahebganj, (Jharkhand).

... Respondents.

with

W.P. (C) No. 2503 of 2022

M/s. CHABRIA ENGG. CO., (a Partnership Firm), having its office at Sindhipara, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District

Pakur PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Partner, Naresh Kumar Mandhyan, aged about 58 years, son of Namdev Mandhyan, resident of Merlin Cambridge, 5th Floor, Flat 5C, 24 Princ Anwar Shah Road, Tollygunge, P.O. and P.S. Tollygunge, District Kolkata, PIN 700033 (West Bengal).

... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
3. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 2504 of 2022

M/s JIAL DAS & CO., (a Partnership Firm), having its office at Sindhipara, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, District PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Partner Sumit Sandhwani, aged about 35 years, son of Late Subhash Ch. Sadhwani, resident of Sindhipara, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand).

.... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at

Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 2505 of 2022

M/s. CHABRIA ENGG. CO., (a Partnership Firm), having its office at Sindhipara, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Partner, Naresh Kumar Mandhyan,, aged about 58 years, son of Namdev Mandhyan, resident of Merlin Cambridge, 5th Floor, Flat 5C, 24 Princ Anwar Shah Road, Tollygunge, P.O. and P.S. Tollygunge, District Kolkata, PIN 700033 (West Bengal).

...Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
3. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 2506 of 2022

M/s. CHABRIA ENGG. CO., (a Partnership Firm), having its office at Sindhipara, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District

Pakur PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Partner, Naresh Kumar Mandhyan, aged about 58 years, son of Namdev Mandhyan, resident of Merlin Cambridge, 5th Floor, Flat 5C, 24 Princ Anwar Shah Road, Tollygunge, P.O. and P.S. Tollygunge, District Kolkata, PIN 700033 (West Bengal).

.... **Petitioner**

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
3. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

...**Respondents**

with

W.P. (C) No. 2507 of 2022

M/s. Master Sunder Das & Sons, (a Partnership Firm), having its office at Sindhipara, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Partner Sanjay Kumar, aged about 45 years, son of M. Sunder Das, resident of Rajveena, 50-A, Block-C, New Alipore, P.O. and P.S. New Alipore, District Kolkata, PIN 700053(West Bengal).

.... **Petitioner**

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
3. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District

Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 2508 of 2022

M/s. SAURAV STONE PRODUCT, (A proprietorship concern), having its office at Sindhi Para, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Proprietor Aurn Lakhmani, aged about 56 years, son of Late Sundar Das Lakhmani, resident of Sindhi Para, Pakur, P.O. Pakur, P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand).

.... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
3. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 2546 of 2022

1. Gopal Kumar, aged about 55 years, son of Vimal Prasad, resident of Giridih Road, Tripurari Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Kodarma, District Kodarma, PIN 825410 (Jharkhand).
2. Ramchandra Mehta, aged about 54 years, son of Chhotelal Mehta, resident of Bigha, P.O. Phulwariya, P.S. Nawalshahi, District Kodarma, PIN 825418 (Jharkhand).
3. Amitabh Kumar, aged about 55 years, son of K.K.

Choudhary, resident of 105, Ranchi-Patna Road, Coltex Muhalla, Kodarma, P.O. and P.S. Kodarma, District Kodarma, PIN 825410.

.... Petitioners

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
3. Deputy Commissioner, Kodarma, having its office at District Collectorate, Kodarma, P.O. & P.S. Kodarma, District Kodarma, PIN 825409 (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, Kodarma, having its office at District Collectorate, Kodarma, P.O. & P.S. Kodarma, District Kodarma, PIN 825409 (Jharkhand).

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 2549 of 2022

JIVLAL YADAV, aged about 55 years, son of Late Guli Yadav, resident of Jhumri Tilaiya, P.O. Kodarma P.S. Tilaiya, District Kodarma, PIN 825409 (Jharkhand).

.... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
3. Deputy Commissioner, Kodarma, having its office at District Collectorate, Kodarma, P.O. & P.S. Kodarma, District Kodarma, PIN 825409 (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, Kodarma, having its office at District Collectorate, Kodarma, P.O. & P.S. Kodarma, District Kodarma, PIN 825409 (Jharkhand).

Kodarma, PIN 825409 (Jharkhand).

....**Respondents**

with

W.P. (C) No. 2606 of 2022

CTS INDUSTRIES LTD., (a company registered under the Companies Act), having its office at S.B. Tower, 3rd Floor, 37, Shakespeare Sarani, 3rd Floor, P.O. and P.S. Shakespeare Sarani, District Kolkata, PIN 700017 (West Bengal), through its Director, namely, Sanjay Choudhary, aged about 54 years, son of Vijay Kumar Choudhary, resident of Flat No. 16-A, Belair, Alipore Park Palace, Alipore, P.O. and P.S. Alipore, District Kolkata, PIN 700027 (West Bengal).

....**Petitioner**

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
3. Deputy Commissioner, West Singhbhum, having its office at District Collectorate, Chaibasa, P.O. & P.S. Chaibasa, District Chaibasa, District West Singhbhum (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, West Singhbhum, having its office at District Collectorate, Chaibasa, P.O. & P.S. Chaibasa, District Chaibasa, District West Singhbhum (Jharkhand).

....**Respondents**

with

W.P. (C) No. 2610 of 2022

Prem Shankar Kumar Singh, aged about 31 years, son of Shri Jitendra Prasad Singh, resident of Village Andharibagh Khurd, P.O. Pipra, P.S. Pipra, District Palamau.

....**Petitioner**

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through Secretary, Mines & Geology Department, Government of Jharkhand, at Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. Doranda, P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna

Bhawan, P.O. Doranda, P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi-834 002 (Jharkhand).

3. Deputy Commissioner, Palamau, at Medininagar, P.O. Medini Nagar, P.S. Medini Nagar, District Palamau.

4. District Mining Officer, Medini Nagar, P.O. Medini Nagar, P.S. Medini Nagar, District Palamau.

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 2613 of 2022

CTS INDUSTRIES LTD., (a company registered under the Companies Act), having its office at S.B. Tower, 3rd Floor, 37, Shakespeare Sarani, P.O. and P.S. Shakespeare Sarani, District Kolkata, PIN 700017 (West Bengal), through its Director, namely, Sanjay Choudhary, aged about 54 years, son of Vijay Kumar Choudhary, resident of Flat No. 16-A, Belair, Alipore Park Palace, Alipore, P.O. and P.S. Alipore, District Kolkata, PIN 700027 (West Bengal).

.... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3. Deputy Commissioner, West Singhbhum, having its office at District Collectorate, Chaibasa, P.O. & P.S. Chaibasa, District Chaibasa, District West Singhbhum (Jharkhand).

4. District Mining Officer, West Singhbhum, having its office at District Collectorate, Chaibasa, P.O. & P.S. Chaibasa, District Chaibasa, District West Singhbhum (Jharkhand).

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 2615 of 2022

CTS INDUSTRIES LTD., (a company registered under the Companies Act), having its office at S.B. Tower, 3rd Floor, 37, Shakespeare Sarani, 3rd Floor, P.O. and P.S. Shakespeare Sarani, District Kolkata, PIN 700017 (West Bengal), through its Director, namely, Sanjay Choudhary, aged about 54 years,

son of Vijay Kumar Choudhary, resident of Flat No. 16-A, Belair, Alipore Park Palace, Alipore, P.O. and P.S. Alipore, District Kolkata, PIN 700027 (West Bengal).

.... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
3. Deputy Commissioner, West Singhbhum, having its office at District Collectorate, Chaibasa, P.O. & P.S. Chaibasa, District Chaibasa, District West Singhbhum (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, West Singhbhum, having its office at District Collectorate, Chaibasa, P.O. & P.S. Chaibasa, District Chaibasa, District West Singhbhum (Jharkhand).

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 2766 of 2022

M/S SUNDAR STONE PRODUCTS, (a Proprietorship concern), having its office at Sindhipara, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand), PIN 816107, through its Proprietor, Satish Kumar Lakhmani, aged about 58 years, son of Late Sundar Das Lakhmani, resident of 638, Block-O, New Alipore, P.O. and P.S. New Alipore S.O., District Kolkata (West Bengal) PIN 700053.

.... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
3. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District

Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

...Respondents.

with

W.P. (C) No. 2778 of 2022

M/s. AZHAR ISLAM, (a Proprietorship concern), having its office at Janki Nagar, P.O. Prithwinagar, P.S. Pakur(M), District Pakur (Jharkhand) PIN 816107, through its proprietor Azhar Islam, aged about 36 years, son of Ali Akbar, resident of Janki Nagar, P.O. Prithwinagar, P.S. Pakur(M), District Pakur (Jharkhand) PIN 816107.

.... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 2781 of 2022

M/s. AZHAR ISLAM, (a Proprietorship concern), having its office at Janki Nagar, P.O. Prithwinagar, P.S. Pakur(M), District Pakur (Jharkhand) PIN 816107, through its proprietor Azhar Islam, aged about 36 years, son of Ali Akbar, resident of Janki Nagar, P.O. Prithwinagar, P.S. Pakur(M), District Pakur (Jharkhand) PIN 816107.

.... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna

Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 2782 of 2022

M/s. SUNDAR DAS LAKHMANI, (a Partnership firm), having its office at Sindhipara, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand), PIN 816107, through its Partner, Sanjay Kumar Lakhmani, aged about 54 years, son of Late Sundar Das Lakhmani, resident of 5/7 BL 5, Bangur Complex, B.S.T. Main Road, Sahapur P.O. and P.S. Sahapur, District Kolkata (West Bengal) PIN 700038.

.... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

...Respondents.

with

W.P. (C) No. 2783 of 2022

M/s JITENDRA KUMAR BELLANI, (a Proprietorship concern), having its office at Sindhipara, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand), PIN 816107, through its Proprietor, Jitendra Kumar Bellani, aged about 53 years, son of Parsuram Bellani, resident of Tower-2, Flat-BE, Diamond City West, 18, HO Chi Minh Sarani, Behala, P.O. and P.S. Behala, District South 24 Pargana, (West Bengal) PIN 700061.

... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

... Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 2787 of 2022

M/s. BASANT STONE WORKS, (a Partnership firm), having its office at Sindhipara, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand), PIN 816107, through its Partner, Dinanath Eahalani, aged about 62 years, son of Late Basant Mal, resident of Sindhipara, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand), PIN 816107.

... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi

(Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 2807 of 2022

M/s. RANI STONE WORKS, (a Proprietorship concern), having its office at Janki Nagar, P.O. Prithwi Nagar, P.S. Pakur (M), District Pakur (Jharkhand), PIN 816107, through its Proprietor Ishaque Shaikh, aged about 40 years, son of Sabdul Shaikh, resident of Janki Nagar, P.O. Prithwi Nagar, P.S. Pakur (M), District Pakur (Jharkhand), PIN 816107.

... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 2815 of 2022

HITESH SADHWANI, (A Proprietorship firm), having its office at Sindhipara, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand), PIN 816107, through its Proprietor Hitesh Sadhwani, aged about 34 years, son of Late Mahesh Kumar Sadhwani, resident of Sindhipara, P.O. and P.S. Pakur,

District Pakur (Jharkhand), PIN 816107.

. . . . Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 2816 of 2022

CHAMAN TULSYAN, (a Proprietorship concern), having its office at Jagir Mohalla, P.O. Begusarai, P.S. Begusarai, District Begusarai (Bihar), PIN 851101, through its Authorized Signatory, namely, Navin Kumar, aged about 45 years, son of Shivji Prasad, resident of Parsawa, Parsaman, P.O. and P.S. Parsawa, District Patna (Bihar), PIN 803214.

. . . . Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3. Deputy Commissioner, Sahebganj, having its office at District Collectorate, Sahebganj, P.O. & P.S. Sahebganj, District Sahebganj (Jharkhand).

4. District Mining Officer, Sahebganj, having its office at

District Collectorate, Sahebganj, P.O. & P.S. Sahebganj,
District Sahebganj, (Jharkhand).

... Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 2963 of 2022

M/s Lakhmani Stone Products, a Partnership Firm having its Office at Sindhipara, Malgodam Road, Pakur, PO, PS & Dist. – Pakur, through one of its Partner Shri Ritin Lakhmani, aged about 40 years, S/o Shri Devanand Lakhmani, resident of Station Road, Sidhipara, Pakur, PO, PS & Dist. – Pakur, PIN – 816107.

... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. - Doranda, District – Ranchi.
2. Secretary Department of Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. – Doranda, District – Ranchi.
3. Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. – Doranda, District - Ranchi.
4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, PO, PS & Dist. Pakur.

... Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 2973 of 2022

M/s Black Diamond Stone Works, a Partnership Firm having its Office at Harindanga Bazar, PO, PS & Dist. – Pakur through one of its Partner Ajay Kumar Tebriwal, aged about 53 years, S/o Shri Leladhar Tebriwal, R/o House No. 83, Ward No. 13, near Shitla Mandir, Marwari Tola, Pakur, PO, PS & Dist. – Pakur, PIN – 816107

... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. - Doranda, District – Ranchi.
2. Secretary Department of Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. – Doranda, District – Ranchi.
3. Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. – Doranda, District - Ranchi.

4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, PO, PS & Dist.- Pakur.

... Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 2974 of 2022

M/s Mandhan Minerals Corporation, a Partnership Firm having its Office at Sindhipara, Malpahadi, Pakur, PO, PS & Dist. – Pakur through one of its Partner Anil Kumar Tanwani @ Anil Kumar, aged about 51 years, S/o Late Sadhan Lal Tanwani, R/o Sindhipara, Malpahadi, Pakur, PO, PS & Dist. – Pakur, PIN - 816107

... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. - Doranda, District – Ranchi.
2. Secretary Department of Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. – Doranda, District – Ranchi.
3. Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. – Doranda, District - Ranchi.
4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, PO, PS & Dist. - Pakur.

... Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 3048 of 2022

RAJA STONE WORKS, (a Proprietorship concern), having its office at Balra, P.O. Babhandi, P.S. Hariharganj, District Palamau (Jharkhand), PIN 822113, through its Proprietor Chandan, aged about 43 years, son of Vindeshwari Prasad Singh, resident of Village Balra, P.O. Babhandi, P.S. Hariharganj, District Palamau (Jharkhand), PIN 822113.

... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna

Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3. Deputy Commissioner, Palamau, having its office at District Collectorate, Medininagar, P.O. and P.S. Medininagar, District Palamau (Jharkhand), PIN 822101.

4. District Mining Officer, Palamau, having its office at District Collectorate, Medininagar, P.O. and P.S. Medininagar, District Palamau, (Jharkhand), PIN 822101.

... Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 3089 of 2022

Deepak Kumar Makhija, alias, Dipak Kumar Makhija, aged about 57 years, son of Late Kanhaiya Lal, resident of Mal Godam Road, Sindhipara, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand), PIN 816107.

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

... Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 3090 of 2022

M/s. JITESH STONE WORKS (a Proprietorship concern), having its office at Sindhipara, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand), PIN 816107, through its Proprietor Sanjay Kumar, alias, Sanjay Kumar Makhija, aged about 57

years, son of Late Hasmat Makhija, Dhadka Road, Asansol, P.O. and P.S. Asansol, District West Burdhaman (West Bengal), PIN 713302.

.... **Petitioner**

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

...**Respondents**

with

W.P. (C) No. 3091 of 2022

M/S. HASSANAND (a Partnership firm), having its office at Sindhipara, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand), PIN 816107, through its Partner, Hassanand, aged about 86 years, son of Late Jial Das Sadhwani, resident of Sindhipara, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand), PIN 816107.

.... **Petitioner**

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur,

(Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 3100 of 2022

M/s. JITESH STONE WORKS (a Proprietorship concern), having its office at Sindhipara, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand), PIN 816107, through its Proprietor Sanjay Kumar, alias, Sanjay Kumar Makhija, aged about 57 years, son of Late Hasmat Makhija, Dhadka Road, Asansol, P.O. and P.S. Asansol, District West Burdhaman (West Bengal), PIN 713302.

... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 3110 of 2022

Manohar Lal Sadhwani (a Proprietorship concern), having its office at Sindhipara, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand), PIN 816107, through its Proprietor, Manohar Lal, aged about 62 years, son of Hassanand Sadhwani, resident of 105G, Block-F, 1st Floor, Humayun Kabir Sarani,

P.O. and P.S. New Alipore, District Kolkata (West Bengal), PIN-700053.

....**Petitioner**

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
3. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

... **Respondents**

with

W.P. (C) No. 3112 of 2022

Deepak Kumar Makhija, alias, Dipak Kumar Makhija, aged about 57 years, son of Late Kanhaiya Lal, resident of Mal Godam Road, Sindhipara, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand), PIN 816107.

....**Petitioner**

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
3. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District

Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 3348 of 2022

M/s. New Muskan Stone Works, (a Partnership firm) having its office at Sitapahari, P.O. and P.S. Sitapahari, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Partner, Mahubul Shaikh, aged about 57 years, son of Almesh Shaikh, resident of Sitapahari, P.O. and P.S. Sitapahari, District Pakur-816107 (Jharkhand).

.... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 3376 of 2022

M/s Tara Stone Works, a Partnership Firm having its Office at Sindhipara, PO, PS & Dist. – Pakur through its Proprietor Tara Chand Kirrimchandani, aged about 54 years, S/o Late Master Sundar Das, R/o Sindhipara, Ward No. 15, Pakur, PO, PS & Dist. – Pakur, PIN – 816107

...Petitioner

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S.- Doranda, District- Ranchi.
2. Secretary Departmet of Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S.- Doranda, District – Ranchi.
3. Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. – Doranda, District- Ranchi.
4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, PO, PS & Dist. – Pakur.

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 3377 of 2022

M/s Mandhan Minerals Corporation, a Partnership Firm having its Office at Sindhipara, Malpahadi, Pakur, PO, PS & Dist. – Pakur through one of its Partner Anil Kumar Tanwani @Anil Kumar, aged about 51 years, S/o Late Sadhan Lal Tanwani, R/o Sindhipara, Malpahadi, Pakur, PO, PS & Dist. – Pakur, PIN - 816107

... Petitioner

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. - Doranda, District – Ranchi.
- 2.Secretary Department of Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. – Doranda, District – Ranchi.
- 3.Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. – Doranda, District - Ranchi.
- 4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, PO, PS & Dist.- Pakur.

... Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 3378 of 2022

M/s Satya Laghu Udyog, a Proprietorship Firm having its Office at Village – Sindhipara, PO, PS & Dist. – Pakur through its Proprietor Shri Kishore Kumar Khemai, aged about 60 years, S/O Late Kanhaiya Lal Khemani, R/o Mission Road, Sindhipara, PO, PS & Dist. – Pakur, PIN – 816107

...Petitioner

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. -

- Doranda, District – Ranchi.
2. Secretary Department of Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. – Doranda, District – Ranchi.
 3. Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. – Doranda, District - Ranchi.
 4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, PO, PS & Dist.- Pakur.

... Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 3379 of 2022

M/s Sunita Ganguly, a Proprietorship Firm having its Office at Baliharpur, PO, PS & Dist. – Pakur through its Proprietor Smt. Sunita Ganguly, aged about 56 years, W/o Shri Ardhendu Ganguly, R/o Baliharpur, PO, PS & Dist. – Pakur, PIN – 816107

... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. - Doranda, District – Ranchi.
2. Secretary Department of Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. – Doranda, District – Ranchi.
3. Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. – Doranda, District - Ranchi.
4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, PO, PS & Dist. Pakur.

... Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 3380 of 2022

M/s Mandhan Minerals Corporation, a Partnership Firm having its Office at Sindhipara, Malpahadi, Pakur, PO, PS & Dist. – Pakur through one of its Partner Anil Kumar Tanwani @Anil Kumar, aged about 51 years, S/o Late Sadhan Lal Tanwani, R/o Sindhipara, Malpahadi, Pakur, PO, PS & Dist. – Pakur, PIN - 816107

... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. -

- Doranda, District – Ranchi.
2. Secretary Department of Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. – Doranda, District – Ranchi.
 3. Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. & P.S. – Doranda, District - Ranchi.
 4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, PO, PS & Dist.- Pakur.

... **Respondents**

with

W.P. (C) No. 3448 of 2022

M/s. NJP STONE WORKS, (a Partnership firm) having its office at Mouza Siulidanga, P.O. Hiranpur, P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Partner, Md. Noorujjaman Shekh, aged about 33 years, son of Manjur Shekh, resident of Village-Rahaspur, P.O. Rahaspur, P.S. Pakur, District Pakur- 816107 (Jharkhand).

.... **Petitioner**

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).
- 4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

...**Respondents**

with

W.P. (C) No. 3545 of 2022

M/s A.B. COMPANY, (a Proprietorship firm) having its Office at Sahagram, Mouza Simaldhab, P.S. Hiranpur, District Pakur, PIN 816106 (Jharkhand), through its Proprietor, Avinash Ranjan, aged about 28 years, son of Banarsi Singh

Yadav, resident of Annapurna Colony, Ward No. 10, P.O. Pakur, P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand).

.... **Petitioner**

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

.... **Respondents**

with

W.P. (C) No. 3676 of 2022

Mukhleshur Alam, aged about 52 years Son of Sabir Ali, Resident of Janki Nagar, P.O.-Prithvinagar, P.S.-Pakur(M), Dist- Pakur.

.... **Petitioner**

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, Dist- Ranchi.

3. The District Mining Officer, Pakur, P.O. & P.S.-Pakur, Dist- Pakur.

.... **Respondents**

with

W.P. (C) No. 3707 of 2022

M/s Salboni Stone Works, through its Partner Bimal Kumar

Pandey, aged about 61 years, Son of Late Bijan Kumar Pandey, Resident of Village-Rajapara, P.O.-Pakur, P.S.-Pakur, District- Pakur.

.... **Petitioner**

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 2.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, Dist-Ranchi.
3. The District Mining Officer, Pakur, P.O. & P.S.-Pakur, Dist-Pakur.

with

W.P. (C) No. 3720 of 2022

Shailesh Kumar, aged about 42 years, son of Saryu Singh, resident of House No. 09, Ward No. 15, Sundarlal Mishra Road, Near Kali Mandir, Castair Town, Deoghar, P.O. and P.S. Deoghar, District Deoghar- 814112 (Jharkhand).

....**Petitioner**

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 3.Deputy Commissioner, Deoghar, having its office at District Collectorate, Deoghar, P.O. & P.S. Deoghar District Deoghar- 814112 (Jharkhand).
- 4.District Mining Officer, Deoghar, having its office at District Collectorate, Deoghar, P.O. & P.S. Deoghar, District Deoghar- 814112 (Jharkhand).

....**Respondents**

with

W.P. (C) No. 3790 of 2022

M/s. Mahadev Stone Works, (a Proprietorship firm) having its Office at Tantipara, P.O. Pakur, P.S. Pakur, District Pakur- 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Proprietor Lalan Singh, aged about 66 years, son of Late Baleshwar Singh, resident of Kalpara, Ward No. 09, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur- 816107 (Jharkhand).

...Petitioner

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).
- 4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 3826 of 2022

M/s. Sukhi Stone Works, (a Proprietorship concern) having its Office at Village Anguthia, Hiranpur, P.O. & P.S. Hiranpur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Proprietor Rajoo Sheikh, aged about 31 years, son of Santu Sheikh, resident of Village Bikrampur, P.O. Nagarnabi, P.S. Bikrampur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand).

...Petitioner

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi

(Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

...Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 3989 of 2022

M/s Soura Constructions Pvt. Ltd. through its Director Sourajit Dutta, Aged- about 66 years, Sex- Male, S/o Late Santosh Kumar Dutta, By Caste- Bengali, Occupation- Business, Having its registered office at Haridanga Bazar, P.O. + P.S.- Pakur Dist- Pakur (Jharkhand) and Permanent Resident of 4 Andul Raj Road, P.O. Southern Market, P.S. Kalighat, Kolkata- 700026, West Bengal

... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. + P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi PIN 834 002.

2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, Doranda, Ranchi 834 002.

3. The Deputy Collector, Pakur P.O. + P.S. Pakur 816107, (Jharkhand).

4. The District Mining Officer, Pakur, P.O. + P.S. Pakur, Jharkhand- 816107

...Respondents

With

W.P.(C) No. 3990 of 2022

M/s Bansi Stone Works through its authorized representative Sourajit Dutta, aged about 66 years, Sex- Male, S/o Late Santosh Kumar Dutta, By Caste- Bengali, Occupation- Business, Having its registered office at Haridanga Bazar, Dist- Pakur (Jharkhand) and permanent Resident of 4 Andul Raj Road, Kolkata- 700026, West Bengal

... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand

- 2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Govt. of Jharkhand, Yojna Bhawan, Doranda, Ranchi
- 3.The Deputy Collector, Pakur, PO + PS Pakur, Jharkhand
- 4.The District Mining Officer, Pakur, PO + PS Pakur, Jharkhand

.... Respondents

**With
W.P.(C) No. 4108 of 2022**

M/s Ganga Stone Works, (a Proprietorship concern), having its office at 1, Main Road, Ratanpur, P.O. and P.S. Barharwa, District Sahibganj, PIN 816101 (Jharkhand), through its Proprietor, Arun Kumar Choudhary, aged about 52 years, son of Late Ganga Prasad Choudhary, resident of Main Road, Ratanpur, P.O. and P.S. Barharwa, District Sahibganj, PIN 816101 (Jharkhand).

... Petitioner

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 3.Deputy Commissioner, Sahibganj, having its office at District Collectorate, Sahibganj, P.O. & P.S. Sahibganj, District Sahibganj, (Jharkhand).
- 4.District Mining Officer, Sahibganj, having its office at District Collectorate, Sahibganj, P.O. & P.S. Sahibganj, District Sahibganj, (Jharkhand)

**... Respondents
With
W.P.(C) No. 4117 of 2022**

M/s Maa Durga Stone Works, (a Proprietorship firm) having its Office at Raj High School Road, Maa Durga Colony, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Proprietor, namely, Soumitro Ghosh, aged about 47 years, son of Shri Chittaranjan Ghosh, resident of Raj High School Road, Maa Durga Colony, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand).

... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

... Respondents

**With
W.P.(C) No. 4118 of 2022**

M/s Maa Durga Stone Works, (a Proprietorship firm) having its Office at Raj High School Road, Maa Durga Colony, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Proprietor, namely, Soumitro Ghosh, aged about 47 years, son of Shri Chittaranjan Ghosh, resident of Raj High School Road, Maa Durga Colony, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand).

... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna

Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

...Respondents

**With
W.P.(C) No. 4130 of 2022**

M/s Maa Durga Stone Works, (a Proprietorship firm) having its Office at Raj High School Road, Maa Durga Colony, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Proprietor, namely, Soumitro Ghosh, aged about 47 years, son of Shri Chittaranjan Ghosh, resident of Raj High School Road, Maa Durga Colony, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand).

... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

...Respondents

**With
W.P.(C) No. 4131 of 2022**

M/s Maa Durga Stone Works, (a Proprietorship firm) having its Office at Raj High School Road, Maa Durga Colony, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Proprietor, namely, Soumitro Ghosh, aged about 47 years, son of Shri Chittaranjan Ghosh, resident of Raj High School

Road, Maa Durga Colony, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand).

... Petitioner

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).
- 4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

... Respondents

**With
W.P.(C) No. 4132 of 2022**

Abdul Basir, (A Proprietorship firm) having its Office at Village Sitapahari, P.O. Sitapahari, P.S. Malpahari, District Pakur, PIN-816107 (Jharkhand), through its Proprietor, namely, Abdul Basir, aged about 55 years, son of Late Dharmuj Shaikh, resident of village Sitapahari, P.O. Sitapahari, P.S. Malpahari, District Pakur, PIN- 816107 (Jharkhand).

... Petitioner

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur,

(Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

...Respondents

With

W.P.(C) No. 4133 of 2022

M/s Maa Durga Stone Works, (a Proprietorship firm) having its Office at Raj High School Road, Maa Durga Colony, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Proprietor, namely Soumitro Ghosh, aged about 47 years, son of Shri Chittaranjan Ghosh, resident of Raj High School Road, Maa Durga Colony, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand).

... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

...Respondents

With

W.P.(C) No. 4414 of 2022

M/s. Raj Kumar Khurana, a proprietorship concern, having its office at Munkeri, Chhattarpur, Palamu, P.O. & P.S. Chhattarpur, District Palamu, PIN 822131, (Jharkhand) through its Authorized Signatory namely, Shri Shailendra Kumar, aged about, 46 years, son of Shri Baijnath Singh, resident of Village-Bara, Chhattarpur, Palamu, P.O. & P.S. Chhattarpur, District Palamu, PIN 822131, (Jharkhand).

...Petitioner

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 3.Deputy Commissioner, Palamu, having its office at District Collectorate, Medininagar, P.O. & P.S. Medininagar, District Palamu, (Jharkhand), PIN 822 101
- 4.District Mining Officer, Palamu, having its office at District Collectorate, Medininagar, P.O. & P.S. Medininagar, District Palamu, (Jharkhand) 822 101.

...Respondents

with

W.P.(C) No. 4513 of 2022

MCC Mahadeo Constructions Private Limited (Earlier, M/S. Mahadeo Construction Co.). a Company registered under the Companies Act, 2013, having its office at Plot No. 47, Mashihani, Opposite Chhattarpur Block, P.O and P.S. Chhattarpur, District Palamau, PIN 822113, (Jharkhand), through its Director namely, Anil Kumar Singh, aged about 55 years, son of Late Chitranjan Singh, resident of B-2/259, Flat No. 301, Sadhubela Apartment, Bhadainiansh, B-2 Lane No. 14, Rabindrapuri Colony, P.O. and P.S. Varanasi, District Varanasi, PIN 221001, (Uttar Pradesh).

... Petitioner

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834002.
- 2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834002.
- 3.Deputy Commissioner, Palamu, having its office at District Collectorate, Medininagar, P.O. & P.S. Medininagar, District

Palamau, (Jharkhand) PIN 822 101

4.District Mining Officer, Palamau, having its office at District Collectorate, Medininagar, P.O. and P.S. Medininagar District Palamu, (Jharkhand) PIN 822 101

...Respondent.

**With
W.P.(C) No. 4558 of 2022**

DINESH STONE WORKS (a Proprietorship concern), having its office at Village Khaksa, P.O. Khaksa, P.S. Pakuria, District Pakur, (Jharkhand), PIN 816107, through its Proprietor, Dinesh Murmu, aged about 51 years, son of Kalidas Murmu, resident of Village Khaksa, P.O. Khaksa P.S. Pakuria, District Pakur (Jharkhand), PIN 816107.

.... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

...Respondents.

With

W.P.(C) No. 4991 of 2022

M/s Vidyarthi Stone Works, a Proprietorship concer, having its Works at Mouza -Godwa, Taljhari, P.O. Sakrigali, P.S. Taljhari, District Sahibganj-816115, through its Proprietor, namely, Prashant Pandey, aged about 30 years, son of Late Parmanand Pandey, resident of Village-Refugee Colony, Saint Joseph, Sahibganj, P.O. and P.S. Sahibganj, District

Sahibganj, PIN 816109 (Jharkhand).

... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Sahibganj, having its office at District Collectorate, Sahibganj, P.O. & P.S. Sahibganj, District Sahibganj District Sahibganj-816109 (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Sahibganj, having its office at District Collectorate, Sahibganj, P.O. & P.S. Sahibganj, District Sahibganj, District Sahibganj-816109, (Jharkhand).

...Respondents

With

W.P.(C) No. 4992 of 2022

Madan Kant, aged about 66 years, son of late Dudhnath Choudhary, resident of Netaji Subhash Colony, P.S. Jirwabadi, P.O. & District Sahibganj, (Jharkhand), PIN-816109

... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Sahibganj, having its office at District Collectorate, Sahibganj, P.O. & P.S. Sahibganj, District Sahibganj District Sahibganj (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Sahibganj, having its office at District Collectorate, Sahibganj, P.O. & P.S. Sahibganj, District Sahibganj, District Sahibganj (Jharkhand).

...Respondent

With

W.P.(C) No. 5025 of 2022

Atanu Sinha, aged about 53 years, son of Sri Amal Kumar Sinha Resident of Village- 151, Abdul Samad Road, Gora Bazar, P.O.& P.S.- Barhampur, Distt.- Murshidabad (W.B.)

... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)

2.The Director of Mines, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)

3. The Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, Distt.-Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4. The District Mining Officer, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, Distt.-Pakur, (Jharkhand)

...Respondents

With

W.P.(C) No. 5026 of 2022

Goutam Singh, aged 48 years, son of Sri Shambhu Bhagat Resident of- Nichubazar, P.O. & P.S.- Nalhati, Distt.- Birbhum (W.B.)

... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)

2.The Director of Mines, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)

3. The Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, Distt.-Pakur, (Jharkhand).
4. The District Mining Officer, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, Distt.-Pakur, (Jharkhand)

**...Respondents
With**

W.P.(C) No. 5029 of 2022

M/S D.S. Stone Works, Prop:- Dina Nath Bhagat alias Dina Nath Prasad Bhagat, aged about 52 years Son of Sri Sitaram Pd. Bhagat Resident of- Harindanga Bazar, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, Distt.- Pakur (Jharkhand)

.. Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi
2. The Director of Mines, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
3. The Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, Distt.-Pakur, (Jharkhand).
4. The District Mining Officer, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, Distt.-Pakur, (Jharkhand)

**...Respondents
With**

W.P.(C) No. 5032 of 2022

Ali Reza, age about 42 years, son of Gulam Mustafa Resident of Village-Gangadda, P.O. – Raddipur & P.S. Maheshpur, Distt.- Pakur (Jharkhand)

.. Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through the Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
2. The Director of Mines, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
3. The Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, District Collectorate,

Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, Distt.-Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4. The District Mining Officer, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, Distt.-Pakur, (Jharkhand)

**...Respondents
With**

W.P.(C) No. 5069 of 2022

Md Riyajuddin, age 71 years, son of Md. Giyasuddin Resident of Village- Bohra, P.O.- Raddipur & P.S. Maheshpur, Distt.- Pakur (Jharkhand)

... Petitioner

Versus

1. That State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)

2. The Director of Mines, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3. The Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, Distt.-Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4. The District Mining Officer, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, Distt.-Pakur, (Jharkhand)

**...Respondents
With**

W.P.(C) No. 5088 of 2022

Madan Kant, aged about 66 years, son of late Dudhnath Choudhary, resident of Netaji Subhash Colony, P.S. Jirwabadi, P.O. & District Sahibganj, (Jharkhand), PIN- 816109

... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi

(Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Sahibganj, having its office at District Collectorate, Sahibganj, P.O. & P.S. Sahibganj, District Sahibganj District Sahibganj (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Sahibganj, having its office at District Collectorate, Sahibganj, P.O. & P.S. Sahibganj, District Sahibganj, District Sahibganj (Jharkhand).

...Respondent

With

W.P.(C) No. 5162 of 2022

M/s. National Stone Works. Proprietor- Jawaharlal Singh, aged 82 years, Son of late Siteshwar Singh Resident of Village, &P.O. & P.S.- Chatra, Distt.- Birbhum (W.B.

... Petittioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)

2.The Director of Mines, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)

3. The Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, Distt.-Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4. The District Mining Officer, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, Distt.-Pakur, (Jharkhand)

...Respondents

With

W.P.(C) No. 5199 of 2022

Maharo Mineral Development Corporation Through its Proprietor namely, Anup Sinha Biswas, Aged about 65 years, Son of Late Balram Sinha @ Baldev Bishwas R/o Mohalla-Baliharpur, P.O.-Pakur, P.S.- Pakur(T), District- Pakur (Jharkhand)

... Petittioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department

of Industries, Mines and Geology, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)

2.The Director of Mines, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)

3. The Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, Distt.-Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4. The District Mining Officer, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, Distt.-Pakur, (Jharkhand)

...Respondents

With

W.P.(C) No. 5969 of 2022

Rohit Rajdev, aged about 35 years, Son of Late Bhagwan Das Rajdev, Resident of Village-Tantipara, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District-Pakur.

... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi PIN-834002.

2. The Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District-Pakur.

3. The District Mining Officer, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District- Pakur.

...Respondents

With

W.P.(C) No. 6277 of 2022

M/s Suraj Stone Works, (a Proprietorship firm) having its works at Mouza Pipaljori, P.O. Nagarnavi, P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, through its Proprietor, namely, Pankaj Bhagat, aged about 30 years, son of Pradip Bhagat, resident of Bhagat Para, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand).

... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna

Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand) ...**Respondents.**

With

W.P.(C) No. 6337 of 2022

M/s Nirmal Kumar Tibrewal, (a Proprietorship firm) having its works at office at Harindanga Bazar, P.O. & P.S. Harindanga Bazar, District Pakur, PIN- 816107, through its Proprietor, namely, Nirmal Kumar Tibrewal, aged about 52 years, son of Jita Ram Tebriwal, resident of House No. 83, Ward No. 13, Marwari Tola, Harindanga Bazar, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand).

...**Petitioner**

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand) ...**Respondents.**

With

W.P.(C) No. 6338 of 2022

M/s Chacha Bhatija Stone Works, (a Partnership firm), having its office at village Kadamsar, P.O. & P.S. Jhikarhatti, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Partner, namely, Faizuddin Shaikh, aged about 59 years, son of Hasumudin Shekh, resident of village Kismat Kadamsar, P.O. & P.S. Jhikarhatti, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand).

... Petitioner

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).
- 4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

... Respondents.

**With
W.P.(C) No. 6348 of 2022**

Nazrul SK & Others, (a Partnership firm), having its office at village Kadamsar, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Partner, namely, Nazrul Shekh, aged about 57 years, son of Late Subhan Shekh, resident of Gram Panchyat-Sismat Dadamsar, P.O. & P.S. Kismat Kadamsar, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand).

... Petitioner

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and

Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

...Respondents

**With
W.P.(C) No. 145 of 2023**

Om Stone Works, (a Proprietorship firm) having its works at Mouza Pipaljori, P.O. Raj Mahal, P.S. Kotal Pokhar, District Sahibganj, through its Proprietor, namely, Gyan Prakash Singh, aged about 51 years, son of Ram Narayan Prasad Singh, resident of Shiv Durgalay Lane, Sultanganj, Jay Mangal Complex, Sampatchak, P.O. & P.S. Sultanganj, District Sultanganj, Patna, PIN 800006, (Bihar).

... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Sahibganj, having its office at District Collectorate, Sahibganj, P.O. & P.S. Sahibganj, District Sahibganj, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Sahibganj, having its office at District Collectorate, Sahibganj, P.O. & P.S. Sahibganj, District Sahibganj, (Jharkhand)

...Respondents

**With
W.P.(C) No. 146 of 2023**

M/s Hiralal Bhagat, (a Proprietorship concern) having its works at Mouza Kanupur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur,

PIN 816107, (Jharkhand), through its Proprietor, namely, Hiralal Bhagat @ Hiralal Bhakat aged about 67 years, son of Late Jagannath Bhagat, resident of Village Rajgram, P.O. Rajgram, P.S. Muraroi, District Birbhum, PIN 731222 (West Bengal).

... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

... Respondents

**With
W.P.(C) No. 202 of 2023**

M/s. Cygnet Stone Works, (A Partnership firm) having its works at Mouza Jiyajori, P.O. & P.S. Hiranpur, District Pakur, PIN 816107, (Jharkhand), through its Partner, namely, Sanjay Kumar Singh, aged about 49 years, son of Raj Kishore Prasad Singh, resident of Ward No. 3, Raj High School Road, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107, (Jharkhand).

... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi

(Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand) ... **Respondents**

**With
W.P.(C) No. 209 of 2023**

M/s. Cygnet Stone Works, (A Proprietorship concern) having its works at Mouza Jiyajori, P.O. & P.S. Hiranpur, District Pakur, PIN 816107, (Jharkhand), through its Proprietor, namely, Sanjay Kumar Singh, aged about 49 years, son of Raj Kishore Prasad Singh, resident of Ward No. 3, Raj High School Road, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107, (Jharkhand). ... **Petitioner**

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand) ... **Respondents**

**With
W.P.(C) No. 461 of 2023**

M/s. Jharkhand Stone Works, (A Partnership Firm), having its works at Mouza Leba. P.O. & P.S. Tinpahar, District Sahibganj, through its Partner, namely Md. Irshad Ali, aged about 45 years, son of Hafijulla Ansari, resident of Bada Madansahi, P.O. & P.S. Bada Madansahi, District Sahibganj,

PIN-816109, Jharkhand.

... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2. The Secretary, Road Construction Department, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Jharkhand Mantralaya (Project Building), PO. Dhurwa, P.S. Jagannathpur, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 004.

3.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

4.Deputy Commissioner, Sahibganj, having its office at Collectorate Building, Sahibganj, P.O. and P.S. Sahibganj, District Sahibganj, PIN 816109

5.District Mining Officer, Sahibganj, having its office at Collectorate Building, Sahibganj, P.O. and P.S. Sahibganj, District Sahibganj, PIN 816109.

... Respondents

**With
W.P.(C) No. 466 of 2023**

M/s Mira Pahar Stone Mines, (A Partnership Firm), having its works at Mouza Mirapara, P.O. & P.S. Zirwabari, District Sahibganj, through its Partner, namely, Md. Rabbul Ansari, aged about 37 years, son of Md. Abushama Ansari, resident of Chota Pangro, P.O. & P.S. Bada Madansahi, District Sahibganj PIN- 816109, Jharkhand.

.... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2. The Secretary, Road Construction Department, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Jharkhand Mantralaya (Project Building), PO. Dhurwa, P.S.

Jagannathpur, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 004.

3.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

4.Deputy Commissioner, Sahibganj, having its office at Collectorate Building, Sahibganj, P.O. and P.S. Sahibganj, District Sahibganj, PIN 816109

5.District Mining Officer, Sahibganj, having its office at Collectorate Building, Sahibganj, P.O. and P.S. Sahibganj, District Sahibganj, PIN 816109.

...Respondents

**with
W.P. (C) No. 580 of 2023**

Lutfal Haque, Aged about- 44 years, Son of Abdul Rajjak, Resident of Village- Adityanagar, P.O. Bhasaipaikar, P.S. Samserganj, District- Mursidabad (West Bengal)

.....Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand)

... Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 1547 of 2023

M/s. Baleshwar Stone Works Through its Proprietor namely, Lalan Singh, Aged about 66 years, son of Late Baleshwar Singh Resident of Kalpara, Pakur, Ward Number-09, P.S.-Pakur, P.O.-Pakur, District- Pakur (Jharkhand)

...Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through the Secretary, Deptt. of Industries, Mines & Geology, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
2. The Director of Mines, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Jharkhand, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S.-Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
3. The Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand).
4. The District Mining Officer, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand)

... Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 1548 of 2023

Tridev Engicon Pvt. Ltd. Through its Director namely, Ravi Shankar Kumar, Aged about 43 Years, son of Sri Upendra Prasad Singh Resident of Krishnapuri Colony, Wiliums Town P.O. & P.S. & District- Deoghar (Jharkhand)

...Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through the Secretary, Deptt. of Industries, Mines & Geology, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
2. The Director of Mines, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Jharkhand, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S.-Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
3. The Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand).
4. The District Mining Officer, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand)

... Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 1549 of 2023

Ravi Shankar Kumar, aged about 43 years, S/o Sri Upendra Prasad Singh R/o Krishnapuri Colony, Wiliums Town P.O. & P.S. & District- Deoghar (Jharkhand)

...Petitioner

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand, through the Secretary, Deptt. of Industries, Mines & Geology, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
- 2.The Director of Mines, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Jharkhand,Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S.-Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
3. The Deputy Commissioner, Deoghar, District Collectorate, Deoghar, P.O. & P.S. Deoghar, Distt.- Deoghar (Jharkhand).
- 4.District Mining Officer, Deoghar, District Collectorate, Deoghar, P.O. & P.S. Deoghar, Distt.- Deoghar (Jharkhand)

... Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 1585 of 2023

Purushottam Sharan Prashant, aged about 43 Years, S/o Late Kamala Sharan R/o Krishnapuri, Wiliums Town P.O. & P.S. & District- Deoghar (Jharkhand)

...Petitioner

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand, through the Secretary, Deptt. of Industries, Mines & Geology, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
- 2.The Director of Mines, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Jharkhand,Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S.-Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
3. The Deputy Commissioner, Deoghar, District Collectorate, Deoghar, P.O. & P.S. Deoghar, Distt.- Deoghar (Jharkhand).
- 4.The District Mining Officer, Deoghar, District Collectorate, Deoghar, P.O. & P.S. Deoghar, Distt.- Deoghar (Jharkhand)

... Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 1588 of 2023

Ravi Shankar Kumar, aged about 43 years, S/o Sri Upendra Prasad Singh R/o Krishnapuri Colony, Wiliums Town P.O. & P.S. & District- Deoghar (Jharkhand)

...Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through the Secretary, Deptt. of Industries, Mines & Geology, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
2. The Director of Mines, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Jharkhand, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S.-Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
3. The Deputy Commissioner, Deoghar, District Collectorate, Deoghar, P.O. & P.S. Deoghar, Distt.- Deoghar (Jharkhand).
4. The District Mining Officer, Deoghar, District Collectorate, Deoghar, P.O. & P.S. Deoghar, Distt.- Deoghar (Jharkhand)

... Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 1683 of 2023

Tridev Engicon Pvt. Ltd. Through its Director namely, Ravi Shankar Kumar, Aged about 43 Years, son of Sri Upendra Prasad Singh Resident of Krishnapuri Colony, Wiliums Town P.O. & P.S. & District- Deoghar (Jharkhand)

... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through the Secretary, Deptt. of Industries, Mines & Geology, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
2. The Director of Mines, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Jharkhand, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S.-Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
3. The Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand).
4. The District Mining Officer, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand)

... Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 3658 of 2023

Amit Kumar Sinha, aged about 49 years, son of Arun Kumar Sinha, resident of Near Police Line, Shantipuri, Ward No. 20, Daltonganj, P.O. & P.S. Palamu, District Palamu, PIN 822101, Jharkhand.

... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

2.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3.Deputy Commissioner, Palamu, having its office at District Collectorate, Palamu, P.O. & P.S. Palamu, District Palamu District Palamu (Jharkhand).

4.District Mining Officer, Palamu, having its office at District Collectorate, Palamu, P.O. & P.S. Palamu, District Palamu, District Palamu (Jharkhand).

... Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 3715 of 2023

M/s Radheshyam Stone Works through its Partner Pankaj Kumar Tebriwal, aged about 41 years Son of Late Sumer Kumar Tebriwal, resident of Harindanga Bazar, Baganpur, Post Office-Pakur, Police Station-Pakur, District- Pakur (Jharkhand).

... Petitioner

Versus

1.The State of Jharkhand through The Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, Yojna Bhawan, Post Office and Police Station-Doranda, District-Ranchi (Jharkhand).

2.The Director of Mines, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, Yojna Bhawan, Post Office and Police Station- Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand).

3.The Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, Post Office and Police Station-Pakur, District-Pakur, Jharkhand.

4.The District Mining Officer, Pakur, Post Office and Police Station- Pakur, District- Pakur, Jharkhand.

... Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 4132 of 2023

Ali Mohammad, aged about 46 Years, son of Late Manwar Ali Resident of Gangadda, P.O.-Khapur, P.S.- Maheshpur, District-Pakur (Jharkhand)

...Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through the Secretary, Deptt. of Industries, Mines & Geology, Government of Jharkhand, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
2. The Director of Mines, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Jharkhand, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S.-Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
3. The Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand).
4. The District Mining Officer, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand)

... Respondents

With

W.P.(C) No. 5868 of 2023

Binit Kumar Gupta, aged about 38 years, son of Bishwanath Gupta, resident of Village Mahadevbaran, P.O. & P.S. Mirachauki, District Sahebganj, PIN 813208, (Jharkhand).

... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Secretary, Road Construction Department, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Jharkhand Mantralaya (Project Building), PO. Dhurwa, P.S. Jagannathpur, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 004.
3. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at

Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

- 4.Deputy Commissioner, Sahibganj, having its office at Collectorate Building, Sahibganj, P.O. and P.S. Sahibganj, District Sahibganj, PIN 816109
- 5.District Mining Officer, Sahibganj, having its office at Collectorate Building, Sahibganj, P.O. and P.S. Sahibganj, District Sahibganj, PIN 816109.

...Respondents

With

W.P.(C) No. 272 of 2024

Sibu Sarkar @ Shiv Ratan Sarkar, aged about 57 years, son of Late Samar Sarkar, resident of Village Mahuadanga, Hiranandpur, P.O. & P.S. Mahuadanga, District Pakur, PIN- 816107, (Jharkhand).

...Petitioner

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 2.The Secretary, Road Construction Department, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Jharkhand Mantralaya (Project Building), P.O. Dhurwa, P.S. Jagannathpur, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 004.
- 3.The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
- 4.Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at Collectorate Building, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107.
- 5.District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at Collectorate Building, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107.
- 6.Certificate Officer cum Deputy Director of Mines, S.P. Circle, Dumka, having its office at Collectorate Building, Dumka, P.O. and P.S. Dumka, District Dumka, PIN- 814101.

... Respondents

With

W.P.(C) No. 1698 of 2024

Pankaj Kumar, aged about 50 years, son of Late Gaurkishore Singh, resident of village Bhavangama , P.O. Bhavangama, P.S. Sarath, District Deoghar (Jharkhand).

...Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District-Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District- Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834002.
3. Deputy Commissioner, Deoghar, having its office at District Collectorate, Deoghar, P.O. & P.S. Deoghar, District- Deoghar (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, Deoghar, having its office at District Collectorate, Deoghar, P.O. & P.S. Deoghar, District- Deoghar (Jharkhand).

... Respondents

With

W.P.(C) No. 1809 of 2024

Ezhar Karim, aged about 55 years, son of Abdul Karim, resident of Plot No. 2901, Mauza Padapahar, Noamundi, P.O. and P.S. Noamundi, District- West Singhbhum, Jharkhand.

... Petitioner

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand through its Chief Secretary, having its office at Project Bhawan, Dhurwa, P.O. and P.S. Dhurwa, District- Ranchi, Jharkhand.
- 2.The principal Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology, at Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. Doranda, P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi, Jharkhand.

- 3.The Director of Mines, Department of Mines and Geology, having its office at Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. Doranda, P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi, Jharkhand.
- 4.The Deputy Commissioner, Chaibasa, P.O. and P.S. Chaibasa, District West Singhbhum, Jharkhand.
- 5.The District Mining Officer, West Singhbhum, Chaibasa, P.O. and P.S. Chaibasa, District West Singhbhum, Jharkhand.

... Respondents

With

W.P.(C) No. 1819 of 2024

M/s Trustline Dealers Private Limtied having its office at Plot No. 116 and 1, Khata No. 175, Mouza- Mugadighiya, Block Jagannathpur, Dangwaposi, P.O. and P.S. Dangwaposi, District- West Singhbhum through its authorized signatory namely Rashid Ahmed, son of Late Ali Ahmed, resident of Ward No. 6, Dam Road, Barbil Basti, near Dam Barbil, P.O. and P.S. Barbil, District- Kendujhar, Odisha.

... Petitioner

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand through its Chief Secretary, having its office at Project Bhawan, Dhurwa, P.O. and P.S. Dhurwa, District- Ranchi
- 2.The principal Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology, at Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. Doranda, P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi
- 3.The Director of Mines, Department of Mines and Geology, having its office at Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. Doranda, P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi
- 4.The Deputy Commissioner, Chaibasa, P.O. and P.S. Chaibasa, District West Singhbhum
- 5.The District Mining Officer, West Singhbhum, Chaibasa, P.O. and P.S. Chaibasa, District West Singhbhum

... Respondents

With

W.P.(C) No. 1821 of 2024

M/s Trustline Dealers Private Limtied having its office at Plot No. 116 and 1, Khata No. 175, Mouza- Mugadighiya, Block Jagnnathpur, Dangwaposi, P.O. and P.S. Dangwaposi, District- West Singhbhumi through its authorized signatory namely Rashid Ahmed, son of Late Ali Ahmed, resident of Ward No. 6, Dam Road, Barbil Basti, near Dam Barbil, P.O. and P.S. Barbil, District- Kendujhar, Odisha.

... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand through its Chief Secretary, having its office at Project Bhawan, Dhurwa, P.O. and P.S. Dhurwa, District- Ranchi, Jharkhand.
2. The principal Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology, at Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. Doranda, P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi, Jharkhand.
3. The Director of Mines, Department of Mines and Geology, having its office at Nepal House, Doranda, P.O. Doranda, P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi, Jharkhand.
4. The Deputy Commissioner, Chaibasa, P.O. and P.S. Chaibasa, District West Singhbhumi, Jharkhand.
5. The District Mining Officer, West Singhbhumi, Chaibasa, P.O. and P.S. Chaibasa, District West Singhbhumi, Jharkhand.

... Respondents

With

W.P.(C) No. 3288 of 2024

M/s Laxmi Ganesh Stone Works, (A Partnership Firm), having its office at Anandpuri Colony, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through one of its Partner, namely, Ajay Kumar, aged about 48 years, son of Awadh Bihari Bhagat, resident of House No. 63, Ajay Bhawan, Ward No. 03, Near Raj High School Road, Anandpuri Colony Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand).

.... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan (Nepal House), P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834002.
2. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, Jharkhand, PIN 816107.
3. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, Jharkhand, PIN 816107.

... **Respondents**

With

W.P.(C) No. 3289 of 2024

Daulat Momin, aged about 62 years, Son of Late Yusuf Momin, resident of Village Rampur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand).

.... **Petitioner**

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan (Nepal House), P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834002.
2. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, Jharkhand, PIN 816107.
3. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, Jharkhand, PIN 816107.

... **Respondents**

With

W.P.(C) No. 3293 of 2024

M/s. Three Star Stone Works, (A Partnership Firm), having its office at Village Janki Nagar, Madpara, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through one of its Partners, namely, Jiyaul Shekh, aged about 46 years, Son of Ali Hussain, resident of Gram Jankinagar, P.O. Prithvinagar, P.S. Pakur (Mufassil), District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand).

.... **Petitioner**

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan (Nepal House), P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834002.
2. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, Jharkhand, PIN 816107.
3. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, Jharkhand, PIN 816107.

... **Respondents**

With

W.P.(C) No. 3297 of 2024

M/s. Dada Bhai Stone Works, (A Partnership Firm), having its office at Taranagar, P.O. Ilami, P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through one of its Partner, namely, Mesbahul Alam, aged about 55 years, son of Late Abubakkar Saikh, resident of Gram Taranagar, P.O. Ilami, P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand).

.... **Petitioner**

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834002.
2. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, Jharkhand, PIN 816107.
3. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, Jharkhand, PIN 816107.

... **Respondents**

With

W.P.(C) No. 3346 of 2024

M/s. Jai Guru Stone Works, (A Partnership Firm), having its office at Village Janki Nagar, Madpara, Pakur, P.O. and P.S.

Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through one of its Partners, namely, Jiyaul Shekh, aged about 46 years, Son of Ali Hussain, resident of Gram Jankinagar, P.O. Prithvinagar, P.S. Pakur (Mufassil), District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand).

.... **Petitioner**

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834002.
2. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, Jharkhand, PIN 816107.
3. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, Jharkhand, PIN 816107.

... **Respondents**

With

W.P.(C) No. 3352 of 2024

M/s National Black Stone Works, (A Proprietorship Firm), having its office at Tantipara, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Proprietor, namely, Rehana Sultana, aged about 50 years, wife of Abdul Wahab Ansari, resident of Tantipara, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN 816107 (Jharkhand).

.... **Petitioner**

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan (Nepal House), P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834002.
2. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, Jharkhand, PIN 816107.
3. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, Jharkhand, PIN 816107.

... **Respondents**
With

W.P.(C) No. 3501 of 2024

Bibeka Nand Tiwary @ Vivekanand Tiwari, aged about 58 years, Son of Late Jagdish Prasad Tiwari, resident of Hat Para, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, PIN-816107 (Jharkhand).
.... **Petitioner**

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan (Nepal House), P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834002.
2. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, Jharkhand, PIN 816107.
3. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, Jharkhand, PIN 816107.

... **Respondents**
With

W.P.(C) No. 3568 of 2024

K.C.C. Buildcon Private Limited, (A Company), having its Corporate office at 5th Floor, JMD Empire, Golf Course, Extension Road, Sector-62, Gurugram, P.O. & P.S. Gurugram, District Gurugram, PIN-122102, through its Authorized Signatory, namely, Rajesh Kaushik, aged about 41 years, son of Jai Prakash, resident of 201/34, Janta Colony, Rohtak, P.O. & P.S. Rohtak, District Rohtak, PIN-124001 (Haryana).
.... **Petitioner**

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan (Nepal House), P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834002.
2. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, Jharkhand, PIN 816107.
3. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, Jharkhand, PIN 816107.

... **Respondents**

with

W.P. (C) No. 3621 of 2024

Tridev Engicon Pvt. Ltd. Through its Director namely, Ravi Shankar Kumar, Aged about 44 Years, son of Sri Upendra Prasad Singh Resident of Krishnapuri Colony, Wiliums Town P.O. & P.S. & District- Deoghar (Jharkhand)

...**Petitioner**

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through the Secretary, Deptt. of Industries, Mines & Geology, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S.- Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
2. The Director of Mines, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Jharkhand, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S.-Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
3. The Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, Distt. Pakur (Jharkhand).
4. The District Mining Officer, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, Distt. Pakur (Jharkhand)

... **Respondents**

with

W.P. (C) No. 3626 of 2024

Tridev Engicon Pvt. Ltd. Through its Director namely, Ravi Shankar Kumar, Aged about 44 Years, son of Sri Upendra Prasad Singh Resident of Krishnapuri Colony, Wiliums Town P.O. & P.S. & District- Deoghar (Jharkhand)

...**Petitioner**

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand through the Secretary, Deptt. of Industries, Mines & Geology, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S.- Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
2. The Director of Mines, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Jharkhand, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S.-Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
3. The Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, Distt. Pakur (Jharkhand).

4.The District Mining Officer, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, Distt. Pakur (Jharkhand)

... **Respondents**

with

W.P. (C) No. 3629 of 2024

M/s. Shivam Stone Works Through its Partner namely, Bimlendra Kumar, Aged about 55 years, son of Sri Fuldev Prasad Singh Resident of Village- Rajapara, P.O.-Pakur, P.S.- Pakur (T), District- Pakur (Jharkhand).

...**Petitioner**

Versus

- 1.That State of Jharkhand, through the Secretary, Deptt. of Industries, Mines & Geology, Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S. Doranda, District-Ranchi (Jharkhand)
- 2.The Director of Mines, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Jharkhand,Yojna Bhawan, P.O. & P.S.-Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand)
- 3.The Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, Distt. Pakur (Jharkhand).
- 4.The District Mining Officer, Pakur, District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S.-Pakur, Distt.-Pakur (Jharkhand)

... **Respondents**

with

W.P. (C) No. 3783 of 2024

M/s. N.S. & Co., (a Partnership Firm), having its office at Sindhipara, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Partner Arti Mandhyan, aged about 62 years, wife of Late jai Kishan Mandhyan, resident of 18 C Bipin Pal Road, Kalighat, Circus Avenue Kolkata, P.O. and P.S. Circus Avenue, District Kolkata, PIN 700026 (West Bengal).

...**Petitioner**

Versus

- 1.The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi

- (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
 3. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand).
 4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand).

... **Respondents**

with

W.P. (C) No. 3794 of 2024

M/s. N.S. & Co., (a Partnership Firm), having its office at Sindhipara, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Partner Arti Mandhyan, aged about 62 years, wife of Late jai Kishan Mandhyan, resident of 18 C Bipin Pal Road, Kalighat, Circus Avenue Kolkata, P.O. and P.S. Circus Avenue, District Kolkata, PIN 700026 (West Bengal).

... **Petitioner**

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
3. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand).

... **Respondents**

with

W.P. (C) No. 3797 of 2024

M/s. N.S. & Co., (a Partnership Firm), having its office at Sindhipara, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Partner Arti Mandhyan, aged about 62 years, wife of Late jai Kishan Mandhyan, resident of 18 C Bipin Pal Road, Kalighat, Circus Avenue Kolkata, P.O. and P.S. Circus Avenue, District Kolkata, PIN 700026 (West Bengal).

...Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
3. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur, (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand).

... Respondents

with

W.P. (C) No. 3800 of 2024

M/s. N.S. & Co., (a Partnership Firm), having its office at Sindhipara, Pakur, P.O. and P.S. Pakur, District Pakur PIN 816107 (Jharkhand), through its Partner Arti Mandhyan, aged about 62 years, wife of Late jai Kishan Mandhyan, resident of 18 C Bipin Pal Road, Kalighat, Circus Avenue Kolkata, P.O. and P.S. Circus Avenue, District Kolkata, PIN 700026 (West Bengal).

...Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at

Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.

3. Deputy Commissioner, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand).
4. District Mining Officer, Pakur, having its office at District Collectorate, Pakur, P.O. & P.S. Pakur, District Pakur (Jharkhand).

... **Respondents**

with

W.P. (C) No. 3814 of 2024

Chandan Kumar, aged about 46, Son of Chandeshwari Prasad, resident of House No. 49, Station Road, Gadikhana, P.O. & P.S. Chaibasa, District West-Singhbhum, PIN-833201 (Jharkhand).

... **Petitioner**

Versus

1. The State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines and Geology, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
2. The Secretary, Road Construction Department, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Jharkhand Mantralaya (Project Building), PO. Dhurwa, P.S. Jagannathpur, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 004.
3. The Director, Mines Directorate, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand, having its office at Yojna Bhawan, P.O. and P.S. Doranda, District Ranchi (Jharkhand), PIN 834 002.
4. Deputy Commissioner, West-Singhbhum, Chaibasa having its office at Collectorate Building, Chaibasa, P.O. and P.S. Chaibasa, District West Singhbhum, PIN 833201.
5. District Mining Officer, Sahibganj, West-Singhbhum, Chaibasa having its office at Collectorate Building, Chaibasa, P.O. and P.S. Chaibasa, District West-Singhbhum, PIN 833201.

... **Respondents**

**CORAM: HON'BLE THE ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR RAI**

For the Petitioner(s) : Mr. Sumeet Gadodia, Advocate
Mr. Ritesh Kumar Gupta, Advocate
Mr. Prakhar Harit, Advocate
Mr. Shruti Shekhar, Advocate
Mr. Nilohit Choubey, Advocate
Ms. Shilpi Sandil Gadodia, Advocate
Mr. K.K. Ojha, Advocate
Mr. Sahja Nand Saraswati, Advocate

Mr. Indrajit Sinha, Advocate
Mr. Ankit Vishal, Advocate
Mr. Rahul Kumar, Advcoate
Mr. Sudhanshu Kumar Singh, Advocate
Mr. S.N. Das, Advocate
Ms. Saman Ahmad, Advocate
Mr. Om Prakash Singh, Advocate
Mr. Anoop Kumar Mehta, Advocate
Mr. Manish Kumar, Advocate
Mr. Pratyush, Advocate
Mr. Sahay Gaurav Piyush, Advocate
Mr. Nitish Parth Sarthi, Advocate
Mr. Haider Ali, Advocate
Mr. Shailendra Kumar Singh, Advocate

For the State : Mr. Rajiv Ranjan, Advocate General
Mr. Mohan Kumar Dubey, AC to AG
Mr. Sachin Kumar, AAG-II
Mrs. Surabhi, AC to AAG-II
Ms. Sweta Shukla, AC to AAG-II
Mr. Ravi Prakash Mishra, AC to AAG-II

Mr. Ashutosh Anand, AAG III
Mr. Sahbaj Akhtar, AC to AAG III

Ms. Divya, AC to SC III

Mr. Aditya Kumar, AC to Sr. SC I
Mrs. Nirupama, AC to Sr. SC I

Mr. Suresh Kumar, SC (L&C)II
Mr. Rakesh Kumar Singh, AC to SC (L&C) II
Mr. Rahul Saboo, GP II
Mr. Gaurang Jagodia, AC to GP II
Mr. Kunal Chanda Suman, AC to GP II
Mrs. Chaitali C. Sinha, Act o AAG IA
Mr. Jayant Franklin Toppo, GA V
Mr. Raunak Sahay, AC to GP V

Mr. Sarvendra Kumar, AC to SC (L&C) III
Ms. Sunita Kumari, AC to Sr. SC. II
Mr. Rajesh Kumar Singh, AC to SC (L&C)-II
Mr. Rakesh Kumar Shahi, AC
Mr. Rakesh Ranjan, AC to GA I

CAV on 12/08/2024 **Pronounced on 23/09/2024**
Per Sujit Narayan Prasad, ACJ:

1. Since the issues involved in the instant batch of writ petitions are identical, as such with the consent of learned counsel for the parties, the same were heard together and are being disposed of by this common order.

Common Prayer made in the writ petitions:

2. These writ petitions have been filed, under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, with the common prayer for quashing of different impugned order(s), as contained in different memo numbers and on different dates. For the sake of brevity, the prayer as made in first case of the batch case i.e., W.P.(C) No. 2360 of 2022, is quoted as under:

(II).For issuance of appropriate writ/order/direction for quashing/setting aside Memo No. 829/M dated 06.05.2022 (Annexure-9) wherein petitioner has been directed to make payment of the amount of differential Royalty, D.M.F.T., Environmental Cess and Income Tax on the sole ground that Stone Boulder excavated from the mines of the petitioner has been transported to a Stone Crusher for production of stone chips, as being wholly illegal, arbitrary and beyond the scope of the Jharkhand Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2004.

(II). For issuance of further appropriate writ/order/direction for quashing/setting aside Notification dated 16th September, 2019 (Annexure-4) by which Schedule-2 of the Jharkhand Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2004 has been amended to the extent a higher rate of royalty @ Rs. 250/- per cubic meter has been prescribed for 'Boulder, Gravel, Shingle which is used for making chips'.

(III). In alternative to prayer (2) above, petitioner prays for issuance of an appropriate writ/order/direction, including writ of declaration, declaring that the rate of royalty fixed @ Rs. 250/- cubic meter in respect of mineral for making stone chips cannot be applied to such mining lessees who are not having Processing Unit/Crusher Plant within their leasehold area."

Facts of the case:

- 3.** Brief facts of the case, as per the pleadings made in the writ petitions, reads as under:
- 4.** The petitioners are primarily engaged in the business of mining and have been allotted various mining leases mainly with respect to Stone Boulders within the territory of the State of Jharkhand.
- 5.** The State of Jharkhand, in exercise of power conferred under Section 23-C(1) and 23-C(2) of the 'Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957', framed rule, namely, 'The Jharkhand Mineral (Prevention of Illegal Mining,

Transportation and Storage) Rules, 2017 [hereinafter referred to as ‘Jharkhand Minerals Rules, 2017’]. Under the said Rules, the State of Jharkhand provided, *inter alia*, that no transportation or otherwise removal of any mineral from any place would be undertaken without obtaining a Transport Challan duly generated through ‘Jharkhand Integrated Mines and Minerals Management System Portal [in short ‘JIMMS Portal’], which has been recognized under Rule 2(k) of the Jharkhand Minerals Rules, 2017.

6. It is the case of the petitioners that in some of the cases, leases are subsisting whereas in some of the cases the leases have expired. However, the petitioners, who have subsisting mining lease stated to have separately registered under JIMMS Portal.

7. Further, the State of Jharkhand, in exercise of power conferred under Section 15 of the Minor Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 [in short ‘MMDR Act, 1957’] framed a rule, namely, ‘Jharkhand Minor Mineral Concessions Rules, 2004’ [in short JMMC Rules, 2004] in respect of matters pertaining to minor mineral including levy of royalty.

8. It has been stated that under Section 9 (2) of the MMDR Act, there is provision of royalty in respect of mining lease, which says that the holder of a mining lease granted on

or after the commencement of this Act shall pay royalty in respect of any mineral removed or consumed by him or his agent, manager, employee, contractor or sub-lessee from the leased area at rate for the time being specified in the Second Schedule in respect of that mineral.

9. The Section 15(3) of the MMDR Act contains enabling provisions enabling the State Government to levy royalty or dead-rent in respect of minor minerals removed or consumed at the rate prescribed for the time being in the Rules framed by the State Government in respect of minor minerals.

10. It has been stated that from bare perusal of Section 9(2) read with Section 15(3) of the MMDR Act, it would be evident that the said Act contains enabling provisions towards payment of royalty and the said Sections clearly provide, *inter alia*, that payment of royalty would be made by a holder of mining lease in respect of ‘mineral removed or consumed in the leased area’ to be specified in the Schedule.

11. Further, from bare perusal of provision, as contained under Section 9(2) and 15(3) of the MMDR Act, it is evident that payment of royalty is upon removal of mineral and/or consumption of mineral from the leased area. Thus, the incidence of levy of royalty is at the stage of removal of mineral from the leased area and/or consumption of mineral in the leased area.

12. In exercise of power conferred under Section 15 of the MMDR Act, the State of Jharkhand has promulgated 'Jharkhand Minor Mineral Concessions Rules, 2004' containing therein rules and regulations of minor minerals including Boulder.

13. Rule 29 of the JMMC Rules provides for levy of royalty and Rule 29(1)(kh) of the said Rules provides, *inter alia*, that royalty would be payable as per Schedule 2 of the said Rules. It is stated that original Schedule 2 of the JMMC Rules determined the rate of royalty to be paid and, under the said Schedule 2 royalty was payable at the same rate in respect of Boulder, Gravel, Shingle and/or Boulder, Gravel, Shingle, which is used for making chips.

14. The State of Jharkhand vide notification dated 16th September, 2019 revised the rate of royalty in Schedule 2 in the following manner:

Sl. No.	Minerals name	Rate of revised ownership (Per Cubic Meter)
1.	Boulder, Gravel, Shingle	132/-
2.	Boulder, Gravel, Shingle, which is used for making chips	250/-

15. However, later on, the Deputy Director, Mines in exercise of power conferred under provisions of the JMMC Rules issued a clarification vide letter no. 32 dated 24.03.2022 wherein it was stated that royalty @ Rs. 250/-

per cubic meter would be charged irrespective of the fact that a mining lessee is having crusher unit or not within its mining lease area, if, ultimately, minerals are transported through Transport Challan to a Crusher Unit.

16. In the backdrop of aforesaid fact, impugned demand notices were issued to mining lessees stating that mining lessees transported certain quantity of stone boulders from their mining leases through Transport Challans to Crusher Unit have paid royalty @ Rs. 132/- per cubic meter equivalent to 374 cubic ft. whereas rate of royalty payable on such boulders were Rs. 250/- per cubic meter equivalent to 708 cubic feet and, accordingly, difference of Rs. 118/- per cubic meter equivalent to 334 cubic feet of royalty was demanded along with DMFT Charges, Environmental Charges and Income Tax.

17. The said notices issued to the petitioners-lessees are the subject matter of instant writ petitions as also the petitioners have questioned the notification dated 16th September, 2019 by which Schedule 2 of the Jharkhand Minor Mineral Concessions Rules has been amended to the extent a higher rate of royalty @ Rs. 250/- cubic meter for boulder, gravel, shingle, which is used for making chips, has been charged.

Arguments on behalf of the Petitioner(s):

18. Mr. Sumeet Gadodia, Learned counsel for the petitioners has submitted that in terms of provisions of Section 15(3) of the MMDR Act read with Rule 29(1)(kh) and 29(4) of the JMMC Rules, 2004 royalty is levied only upon execution and removal of minerals from mining lease area i.e., the incidence of levy of royalty is the extraction and/or removal of minor mineral. In the instant case, the petitioners have removed only ‘stone-boulders’ from their mining lease, which was leivable to royalty, even as per the amended notification dated 16th September, 2019 @ 132/- per cubic, but, instead of that impugned notice has been issued demanding differential royalty from the petitioners on a future event of crushing stone-boulders and converting the same into chips, which is beyond the incidence of levy of royalty under the MMDR Act read with JMMC Rules.

19. In support of this limb of argument, learned counsel for the petitioner has relied upon the judgment rendered by Hon'ble Apex Court in the case of **Tata Steel Ltd. Vs. Union of India & Ors [2015] 6 SCC 193]**.

20. Learned counsel for the petitioner has further submitted that ‘minor mineral’, as defined under section 3(e) of the MMDR Act reveals that ‘minor mineral’ means any mineral which the Central Government may by notification in the Official Gazette declares to be ‘minor mineral’. Showing the

example of ‘Sand’, submission has been made that it is for the Central Government to declare a ‘minor mineral’ and only mineral i.e., Sand has been declared as both a minor mineral and major mineral, depending upon its use for prescribed purpose.

21. It has been submitted that in the case at hand, the respondent-State has not come out with a case that stone-boulder has also been notified as a separate minor mineral enabling the State Government to prescribe a separate royalty in respect of the same. Therefore, levy of royalty at different rate of stone-boulders used for making chips is beyond the competence of the State Government.

22. Learned counsel for the petitioner has further submitted that the issue as to whether the stone-boulders, which are crushed into stone grits, stone chips and stone dust etc. could result into transformation into a new commodity or would remain as the same mineral, has been answered by Hon'ble Apex Court in the case of ***State of Uttar Pradesh & Ors Vs. Kumaon Crusher [(2018) 14 SCC 53]*** holding that the nature and character of stone remains the same even after crushing the boulder into small stone, stone-chips, stone-dust etc.

23. In addition to the aforesaid argument, Mr. Indrajit Sinha, learned counsel for the petitioners has submitted that

issue of ‘nature of royalty’ fell for consideration before nine-Judge Bench of Hon’ble Supreme Court in the case of

Mineral Area Development Authority Vs. Steel Authority of India Limited & Others [2024 SCC OnLine 1796]

wherein by majority of 8:1, it has been held that royalty is not a tax but is the consideration paid to the State Government.

In support of his argument, he has relied upon paragraphs 64, 65, 67, 96, 177 and 342 of the said judgment.

24. Referring to the judgment rendered in ***Mineral Area Development Authority Vs. Steel Authority of India Limited (supra)***, in particular paragraph 124, submission has been submitted that Section 9 of the MMDR Act statutorily regulates the right of a lessor to receive consideration in the form of royalty from the lessee for removing or carrying away minerals from the leasehold area. The said interpretation will apply with equal force to Section 15(3) of the MMDR Act. Therefore, the royalty is payable by the lessee, which in this case is the petitioners, to the lessor, the State of Jharkhand for removing or carrying away minerals from the leasehold area.

25. Thus, the statute as well as the judgment of the Hon’ble Supreme Court unequivocally and unambiguously indicate that royalty is payable when the “mineral” is removed outside the leasehold area or is consumed inside the leasehold area.

The natural corollary of the above is that the royalty is paid on the mineral in the form in which it leaves the leasehold boundaries and not which it possibly can be converted at a later point of time. Therefore, the royalty is payable on mineral in *praesentia* and not in *futuro*.

26. It has further been submitted that by virtue of Section 15(3) of the MMDR Act, the State Governments have been empowered to prescribe the rates of royalty, the delegation is specific. Neither expressly nor impliedly, the Parliament has conferred on the State Government the power to create a new mineral as a minor mineral or to empower the State Government to defer the point of charging of royalty on the mineral. But, the State Government, by amending Entry 2 of Schedule 2 of the JMMC Rules vide notification dated 16th September, 2019 overreaches the restrictions imposed by the Parliament. Therefore, it has not only brought into existence a new mineral in the form of boulder, gravel, shingle, which is used for making chips but has also levy royalty on a product which will come into existence at a later point of time and thereby has deferred the point of chargeability. Therefore, submission has been made that entry 2 of Schedule 2 of the JMMC Rules, which provides for boulder, gravel, shingle, used for making chips, is completely illegal and beyond jurisdiction.

27. It has further been submitted that as a matter of fact, the entry 2 of schedule 2 of JMMC Rules is not in consonance with the terms and conditions of the statutory lease. In terms of the lease, the lessor (State) is not entitled to levy royalty on an event which may happen to future after the mineral travels beyond the lease hold area and any inconsistency between the above would have to make a way for the terms and conditions set out in the statutory lease.

28. Relying upon the judgment rendered by Hon'ble Apex Court in the case of ***Naresh Chandra Agarwal Vs. Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and others [2024 SCC OnLine 114]*** submission has been made that if a subordinate legislation breaches the limitation imposed by the parent statute then the courts would not hesitate to struck down the same and in the case at hand, applying the said legal principles it is evident that State of Jharkhand has travelled beyond the parent statute i.e., MMDR Act, therefore, the impugned notification to the extent of Entry 2 Schedule 2 of the Jharkhand Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2004 is liable to be struck down, as the State of Jharkhand has no authority or competence to provide for a separate and higher rate of royalty on boulder, gravel, shingle, which is used for making chips and the same rate of royalty which is payable on boulder, gravel, shingle be charged.

29. Mr. Anoop Kumar Mehta, adding to the argument advanced by other counsel, submitted that there cannot be two rates of royalty for the same mineral based upon the use of mineral dispatched as Run of Mine (RoM) from leasehold area in absence of any ***intelligible differentia***.

30. It has further been submitted that mineral ‘boulder’ having not been subjected to processing and converting it to chips within the leasehold area, petitioners would only be liable to pay royalty on boulders @ Rs. 132/cum and not at the rate of Rs. 250/Cum.

31. It has further been submitted that had the mineral ‘boulder’ been processed within leasehold area and then dispatched outside the leasehold area after value addition the respondents-State would have been entitled to higher rate of royalty upon conversion of ‘boulder’ to ‘stone chips’.

32. Taking the ground of principles of natural justice, submission has been made that before issuance of impugned demand notice, no proper opportunity of hearing has been afforded to the writ petitioners and even the respondents had not considered the replies so submitted by the petitioners.

33. It has been submitted that fixation of rates of royalty at different rates in respect of the same mineral at the stage of dispatch or consumption does not appear to be legally justified. By such course of action, the lessor subjected the

writ petitioners-lessee to the dual test of arbitrariness and discrimination while determining different rates of royalty in respect of the same mineral i.e., ‘boulder’.

34. It has further been submitted that the petitioners, who are mining lessees in respect of minor mineral ‘boulder’ have been raising invoices to the buyers/consumers irrespective of the nature of use.

35. Referring to the judgment rendered by Co-ordinate Division Bench of this Court in the case of **M/s Master Sunder Das & Sons Vs. The State of Jharkhand & Ors** in **WPC No. 601 of 2024**, further submission has been made that the writ petitioners therein were held liable to pay royalty for boulder and not for boulders to be used for stone-chips.

36. The other counsel appearing for the petitioners in rest cases have adopted the argument so advanced.

Submission of the Respondents State

37. Mr. Sachin Kumar, learned AAG-II appearing for the respondents-State of Jharkhand has led the argument in the instant batch of cases.

38. Learned counsel for the respondents-State has submitted that Section 15 of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957, provides power to the State Government to make rules by notification in official gazette for regulating the grant of quarry leases, mining or

other mineral concession, fixing and collection of rent, royalty, fees, dead rent, fines or other charges and the time within which and the manner in which these shall be payable in respect of minor mineral and for purposes connected therewith.

39. The State, in exercise of power conferred under Section 15 of the MMDR Act, 1957, made Jharkhand Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2004 and as per Rule 29(1)(kh) thereof, royalty is chargeable as per rate notified from time to time in Schedule 2 of the Rules.

40. It has been submitted that at paragraph 1 of Schedule 2 of the JMMC Rules, 2004, it has been mentioned that the royalty for mineral Boulder, Gravel, Shingle is chargeable at the rate of Rs. 132 per cubic meter w.e.f. 19.09.2019 and royalty for mineral Boulder, Gravel, Shingle, which is used for making chips will be chargeable at the rate of Rs. 250 per cubic meter w.e.f. 19.09.2019.

41. So far power of the State Government to amend/revise the rate of royalty is concerned, submission has been made that as per Section 15 of the MMDR Act, 1957 the State Government can amend/revise the royalty rate in three years and the last amendment in the rate of royalty was made in the year 2015 [29.04.2015] and thereafter, after a gap of four years, the schedule rate has been notified vide impugned

Notification No. 1509/M dated 16.09.2019, which cannot be said to be without jurisdiction rather the notification was published as per provision of Section 15 of the MMDR Act, 1957.

42. Therefore, the lessee is duty-bound to pay the rent as per the provisions of Rule 29 of the JMMC Rules and conditions stipulated in the lease deed duly executed and registered under Rule 22 of the JMMC Rules, 2004.

43. It has been submitted that the some of the petitioners have stone crushers inside the mining lease areas and some have outside, however, in some of the cases, the petitioners have both inside and outside the stone crushers.

44. But the only question is that if the petitioner uses/sells the boulders for making chips, irrespective of the fact whether it is made inside or outside the lease hold area rather it depends upon its uses, and accordingly, the petitioner(s) has to pay royalty @ 250/- per cubic meter, as per provisions of Rule 29 of the JMMC Rules and conditions stipulated in the lease deed duly executed and registered under Rule 22 of the JMMC Rules, 2004.

45. Further, in some of the cases, the petitioner is presently paying royalty @ Rs. 250/- per cubic meter on boulder, which is used for making chips as per provision of the schedule rate notified vide notification dated 16.09.2019, as would be

evident from Annexure D to the counter affidavit filed in W.P.(C) No. 2360 of 2022.

46. So far contention of the petitioners that since they are remediless, as such they have approached this Court by filing series of writ petitions, submission has been made that it is incorrect and misleading statement rather as per the provision of Rule 65(1) of the JMMC Rules, the petitioners can approach the Deputy Director, Mines, of concerned district and file appeal before the appellate authority i.e., the Director of Mines against the assessment/demand raised by the District Mining Officer.

47. Further, royalty on the basis of use of mineral is not a new incident and in the case of major minerals (coal) different rate of royalty has been fixed based upon their use. Different price for different consumers (Power Plant, other than power plant) based on use has been notified by the Ministry of Coal, Government of India of same grade of coal raised from mines site, and royalty on coal is chargeable @ 14% of the above notified price of coal.

48. Therefore, prescription of two different rates of royalty on the same mineral, on the basis of their use, is not an arbitrary classification.

49. In the case of Major Mineral, as per the Second Schedule (Section 9) different rate of royalty has been notified for the same mineral on the basis of their use.

50. It has further been submitted that as per Rule 29(1)(kh) the royalty is chargeable as per the rate provided in Schedule 2 of the Rules and hence, while using Boulder for making chips, whether it is being used outside of the lease or inside of the lease, royalty will be chargeable @ Rs. 250 per cubic meter, as per notification dated 16.09.2019.

51. Further, in the case at hand, since there is no denial of the fact that the petitioners are not using the boulder for making chips, therefore, it is self-admitted fact that the lessee/petitioner uses the boulder for making chips.

52. It has further been submitted that in mining challan generated in the lease, the consignee name and destination is clearly mentioned and in the lease area and it is known about the use of boulder for making chips or not, hence, if boulder is used for making chips royalty is chargeable @ 250/- per cubic meter. It has further been submitted that up-till now, the quantity of mineral applied for generating transporting challan has been provided to the petitioner, and in the light of notification dated 19.09.2019, at present the lessee-petitioners are paying royalty @ Rs.250/- per cubic meter on boulder which is dispatched in crusher for making chips.

53. Hence, it is clear that while using Boulder for making chips whether it is being used outside of the lease or inside of the lease, royalty will be chargeable @ Rs. 250 per cubic meter w.e.f. 19.09.2019.

54. So far rule making power of the State Government under Section 15 of the Minor Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 is concerned, the same has been considered by Hon'ble Apex Court in the case of **D.K. Trivedi & Sons and Ors versus State of Gujarat and Others**. [1986 (supp) SCC 20], in particular at paragraph 66 of the aforesaid judgment.

55. The issue of principles of estoppels/waiver has also been raised by learned State counsel since some of the petitioners are paying the Royalty amount as per the notification dated 16.09.2019.

56. Referring to part V of the lease deed, copy of which was produced in course of hearing, submission has been made by the learned counsel for the State that part V of the lease deed provides that the royalty shall be paid at the rate mentioned from time to time in Schedule 2 of the JMMC Rules, 2004 wherein under the heading 'Rate of Royalty', the rate of royalty has been prescribed @ Rs. 105 and Rs. 65 per cubic meter on building stone including stone chips, boulders road metal, ballast and chilly, stone sets and stone bricks as the

case may be. Therefore, it is evident that rates have been prescribed in the agreement also on different variety of building stone.

57. Learned counsel for the State also referred to Rule 41 of the JMMC Rules, 2004 which provides for payment of royalty as provided in the lease deed. Therefore, otherwise also, the petitioners are bound by the terms and conditions of the lease deed and are also bound as per Schedule 2 of the Rule, as amended from time to time.

58. It has been contended that the petitioners were aware of these classification and different rates, however, they never challenged this classification, therefore, they have neither any right to wriggle out of the agreements nor they are entitled to challenge the validity of rules, which constitute the terms of the contract/agreement.

59. Reference, in this regard has been made to the judgment rendered by Hon'ble Apex Court in the case of ***State of Orissa Vs. Narain Prasad & ors [(1996) 5 SCC 740]***, in particular paragraph 36, wherein it has been observed that if any licensees having entered into agreements voluntarily, containing the conditions aforesaid and having done the business under the licences obtained by them, cannot be allowed to either wriggle out of the agreements nor

can they be allowed to challenge the validity of the Rules which constitute the terms of the contract.

60. In this regard, further reference has been made to the recent judgment rendered by Hon'ble Apex Court in the case of ***Mineral Area Development Authority Vs. M/s Steel Authority*** of India Limited & (supra), in particular paragraph 331, 342(a), 342(b).

61. In view of aforesaid facts, submission has been made the demand notice served upon the petitioners requires no interference by this Court as the same has been issued with the due competence of the State Government.

Analysis

62. This Court having heard learned counsel for the parties, perused the documents available on record, as also the relevant Rules/Act, is of the view that following issues are required to be answered for adjudication of the *lis*:

Issues framed:

I. *Whether levy of royalty at different rate for stone-boulders used for making chips is beyond the competence of the State Government?*

II. *Whether the State Government, by amending Entry 2 of Schedule 2 of the JMMC Rules vide notification dated 16th September, 2019 overreaches the restrictions imposed upon by the Parliament?*

III. *Whether the State of Jharkhand has authority or competence to provide for a separate rate of royalty on boulder, gravel, shingle, which is used for making chips?*

IV. *Whether, as per Section 9(2) and 15(3) of the MMDR Act, the incidence of levy of royalty is at the stage of removal of mineral from the leased area and/or consumption of mineral in the leased area **or** as per its use?*

V. *Whether the royalty is to be paid on the mineral in the form in which it leaves the leasehold boundaries and not which it possibly can be converted to at a later point of time?*

VI. *Whether prescription of two different rate of royalty on the same mineral, on the basis of their use, is not reasonable classification?*

VII. *Whether if the petitioners were aware of these classification and different rates before entering into agreement, at later stage they have right to wriggle out of the agreements or they are entitled to challenge the validity of rules, which constitute the terms of the contract/agreement?*

63. Since all the issues are interlinked, the same are being taken up together.

64. This Court, before delving upon the issues, considers it fit and proper to refer herein the relevant provisions of law, which are necessary for deciding the issues involved herein.

65. The Entry 50 of List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India deals with taxes on mineral rights subject to “*any limitations imposed by Parliament by law relating to mineral development.*” So far as regulation of mines and mineral development is concerned, it is enumerated both under the Union List (Entry 54 of List I) and the State List (Entry 23 of List II) of the Seventh Schedule. The entrustment of the subject to the State legislatures under Entry 23 of List II is made subject to the provisions of Entry 54 of List I. Parliament enacted the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 in exercise of its legislative powers under Article 246 of the Constitution. The MMDR Act is a comprehensive code for the regulation of mines and development of minerals.

66. Under Articles 245 and 246(3) of the Constitution of India, the State has the power to make laws in respect to any matters enumerated in List-II of the 7th Schedule of the Constitution. Further, the State can make regulations for mines and mineral as per Entry 23.

67. By virtue of Section 2 of MMRD Act, 1957, it had been declared that it is expedient in the public interest that the Union should take under its control the regulation of mines and development of mineral to the extent hereinafter provided. The Section imposes an additional restriction on

the ambit of Entry- 54 by limiting it to the provisions of MMRD Act, 1957.

68. For ready reference, the provisions of Section (3) of the MMRD Act, is quoted as under:-

- "(ad) "minerals includes all minerals except mineral oils;*
- (ae) "mineral concession" means either a reconnaissance permit prospecting licence, mining lease, composite license or a combination of any of these and the expression "concession" shall be construed accordingly;*
- (b) "mineral oils" includes natural gas and petroleum;*
- (e) "minor minerals" means building stones, gravel, ordinary clay, ordinary sand other than sand used for prescribed purpose and any other mineral which the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, declare to be a minor mineral;*
- (ea) "notified minerals" means any mineral specified in the Fourth Schedule." Section 4 provides the General Restrictions on undertaking prospecting and mining operations.*

69. Section 3(i) of MMRD Act, 1957 the word 'Mine' has the same meaning as defined in Mines Act, 1952. However, "minor minerals" is defined under Section 3 (e) of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.

70. Likewise, Section 4A provides for termination of prospecting license or mining leases also places the State Government in an important regulatory role with respect to minerals over which Central Government exercises control.

71. Further, Section 9 of the MMDR Act deals with the royalties in respect of mining lease and in Section 9 (2)

thereof there is provision of royalty in respect of mining leases, which says that the holder of a mining lease granted on or after the commencement of this Act shall pay royalty in respect of any mineral removed or consumed by him or his agent, manager, employee, contractor or sub-lessee from the leased area at rate for the time being specified in the Second Schedule in respect of that mineral.

72. For ready reference, Section 9 of the MMDR Act is quoted as under:

9. Royalties in respect of mining leases.—

(1) *The holder of a mining lease granted before the commencement of this Act shall, notwithstanding anything contained in the instrument of lease or in any law in force at such commencement, pay royalty in respect of any [mineral removed or consumed by him or by his agent, manager, employee, contractor or sub-lessee] from the leased area after such commencement, at the rate for the time being specified in the Second Schedule in respect of that mineral.*

(2) The holder of a mining lease granted on or after the commencement of this Act shall pay royalty in respect of any [mineral removed or consumed by him or by his agent, manager, employee, contractor or sub-lessee] from the leased area at the rate for the time being specified in the Second Schedule in respect of that mineral.

[(2A) The holder of a mining lease, whether granted before or after the commencement of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Amendment Act, 1972 (56 of 1972) shall not be liable to pay any royalty in respect of any coal consumed by a workman engaged in a colliery provided that such consumption by the workman does not exceed one-third of a tonne per month.]

(3) The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, amend the Second Schedule so as to enhance or reduce

the rate at which royalty shall be payable in respect of any mineral with effect from such date as may be specified in the notification: [Provided that the Central Government shall not enhance the rate of royalty in respect of any mineral more than once during any period of 3 [three years].]

73. Section 9(1) of the Act contemplates the levy of royalty on the mineral consumed by the holder of a mining lease in the leased area. It further contemplates that the holder of a mining lease granted on or after the commencement of this Act shall pay royalty in respect of any [mineral removed or consumed by him or by his agent, manager, employee, contractor or sub-lessee] from the leased area at the rate for the time being specified in the Second Schedule in respect of that mineral.

74. The Hon'ble Apex Court in the case of **National Mineral Development Corp. Ltd. v. State of M.P., (2004) 6 SCC 281** has categorically stated that Section 9 is not the beginning and end of the levy of royalty. The royalty has to be quantified for the purpose of levy and that cannot be done unless the provisions of the Second Schedule are taken into consideration.

75. For ready reference the relevant paragraph of the aforesaid judgment is being quoted as under:

"23. Section 9 is not the beginning and end of the levy of royalty. The royalty has to be quantified for purpose of levy and that cannot be done unless the provisions of the Second Schedule are taken into consideration. For the purpose of

levying any charge, not only has the charge to be authorised by law, it has also to be computed. The charging provision and the computation provision may be found at one place or at two different places depending on the draftsman's art of drafting and methodology employed. In the latter case, the charging provision and the computation provision, though placed in two parts of the enactment, shall have to be read together as constituting one integrated provision. The charging provision and the computation provision do differ qualitatively. In case of conflict, the computation provision shall give way to the charging provision. In case of doubt or ambiguity the computing provision shall be so interpreted as to act in aid of charging provision. If the two can be read together homogeneously then both shall be given effect to, more so, when it is clear from the computation provision that it is meant to supplement the charging provision and is, on its own, a substantive provision in the sense that but for the computation provision the charging provision alone would not work. The computing provision cannot be treated as mere surplusage or of no significance; what necessarily flows therefrom shall also have to be given effect to.

24. *Applying the abovestated principle, it is clear that Section 9 neither prescribes the rate of royalty nor does it lay down how the royalty shall be computed. The rate of royalty and its computation methodology are to be found in the Second Schedule and therefore the reading of Section 9 which authorises charging of royalty cannot be complete unless what is specified in the Second Schedule is also read as part and parcel of Section 9. “*

76. Thus, it is evident that Section 9 of the MMDR Act is in conjunction with the Second Schedule to the MMDR Act. It was held that there is no conflict between the two and that Section 9 of the MMDR Act cannot be read in isolation but

that the Second Schedule to the MMDR Act must be read as a part and parcel of Section 9 of the MMDR Act.

77. Further in the case of **Tata Steel Ltd. v. Union of India, (2015) 6 SCC 193** while reiterating the aforesaid view the Hon'ble Apex Court has observed that the scheme of the levy of royalty cannot be straitjacketed in view of the variety of minerals to which the MMDR Act applies and for the extraction of which royalty has to be paid.

78. For ready reference the relevant paragraph of the aforesaid judgment is being quoted as under:

“56. It is clear therefore that Section 9 of the MMDR Act has to be read and understood in conjunction with the Second Schedule to the MMDR Act. There is a good reason for it, which is that the scheme of the levy of royalty cannot be straitjacketed in view of the variety of minerals to which the MMDR Act applies and for the extraction of which royalty has to be paid.”

79. It needs to refer herein that the parliament enacted MMRD Act, 1957 wherein it was declared that it is expedient in the public interest that the Union should take under its control the regulation of mines and the development of minerals.

80. Whereas, Section 13 of the MMRD Act, 1957 gives power to the Central Government to make Rules in respect of major minerals for regulating the grant of reconnaissance permits,

prospecting licenses and mining leases with respect to minerals.

81. Section 13 further empowers the Central Government to make Rules for regulating the grant of mineral concession in respect of minerals and for purposes connected therewith. Section 14 of the Act excludes quarry leases, mining leases and other mineral concessions in respect of minor minerals and for purposes connected therewith from the application of Section 5 to 13 of the Act.

82. Section 15 of the MMRD Act gives the same power to the State Government to make rules in respect of minor minerals, and the State Government by way of notification in the official gazette, may make Rules for, regulating the grant of quarry leases and mining leases or other minerals concession in respect to minor minerals and “for purposes connected therewith”.

83. The power of Central Government and the State Government are identical in these two Sections i.e. Section 13 and 15 of the MMRD Act, 1957. Section 13, 14 and 15 which forms a group, have to be read together. Section 15 (1) is *pari materia* to Section 13 (1), each conferring power to make rules for ‘regulating’.

84. In view of the dictionary meaning of the word ‘regulate’, the power to regulate by rules given by Section 13 (1) and 15

(1) is a power to control, govern, and direct by rules, the grant of prospecting licences and mining leases in respect of minerals other than minor minerals and for purposes connected therewith in the case of Section 13 (1) and the grant of quarry leases, mining leases and other mineral concessions in respect of minor minerals and for purposes connected therewith in the case of Section 15 (1) and to subject such grant to restrictions and to adapt them to the circumstances of the case and the surroundings with reference to which such power is exercised.

85. The power to regulate conferred by Section 13 (1) and 15 (1) is not only with respect to the grant of licences and leases mentioned in those sub-sections but is also with respect to “purposes connected therewith”. This phrase gives government a wider power to frame Rules with regard to all tasks which are incidental to the minor minerals.

86. A plain reading of Section 15 shows that the State Government is bestowed with the power to make rules, and such rules would provide power, to fix, collect rent, fees and other charges. Further such rules may be made for any other matter, which is to be or may be prescribed.

87. Section 15 (1) of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, provides general power to States to frame rules for regulating the grant of query leases and

mining leases and other mineral concession in respect of minor minerals and for purposes connected therewith. However, Section 15(1-A), which was inserted in statute book vide Act No.37 of 1986 w.e.f. 10.02.1987, sets out that the State Government may make rules, without prejudice to generality of powers conferred under Section 15(1).

88. Section 15 thereof deals with power to the State Governments to make rules in respect of minor minerals.

89. The State of Jharkhand, in exercise of powers conferred under section 15 of the Minor Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 [in short ‘MMDR Act, 1957’] framed a rule, namely, ‘Jharkhand Minor Mineral Concessions Rules, 2004’ [in short JMMC Rules, 2004] in respect of matters pertaining to minor mineral including levy of royalty.

90. For ready reference, the Rule 15 of the MMDR Act, 1957 is quoted as under:

15. Power of State Governments to make rules in respect of minor minerals.—

(1) The State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for, regulating the grant of [quarry leases, mining leases or other mineral concessions] in respect of minor minerals and for purposes connected therewith.

[(1A) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:—

(a) the person by whom and the manner in which, applications for quarry leases, mining leases or other mineral concessions may be made and the fees to be paid therefor;

- (b) the time within which, and the form in which, acknowledgement of the receipt of any such applications may be sent;
- (c) the matters which may be considered where applications in respect of the same land are received within the same day;
- (d) the terms on which, and the conditions subject to which and the authority by which quarry leases, mining leases or other mineral concessions may be granted or renewed;
- (e) the procedure for obtaining quarry leases, mining leases or other mineral concessions;
- (f) the facilities to be afforded by holders of quarry leases, mining leases or other mineral concessions to persons deputed by the Government for the purpose of undertaking research or training in matters relating to mining operations;
- (g) the fixing and collection of rent, royalty, fees, dead rent, fines or other charges and the time within which and the manner in which these shall be payable;
- (h) the manner in which rights of third parties may be protected (whether by way of payment of compensation or otherwise) in cases where any such party is prejudicially affected by reason of any prospecting or mining operations;
- (i) the manner in which rehabilitation of flora and other vegetation such as trees, shrubs and the like destroyed by reason of any quarrying or mining operations shall be made in the same area or in any other area selected by the State Government (whether by way of reimbursement of the cost of rehabilitation or otherwise) by the person holding the quarrying or mining lease;
- (j) the manner in which and the conditions subject to which, a quarry lease, mining lease or other mineral concession may be transferred;
- (k) the construction, maintenance and use of roads power transmission lines, tramways, railways, serial rope ways, pipelines and the making of passage for water for mining purposes on any land comprised in a quarry or mining lease or other mineral concession;

- (l) the form of registers to be maintained under this Act;
- (m) the reports and statements to be submitted by holders of quarry or mining leases or other mineral concessions and the authority to which such reports and statements shall be submitted;
- (n) the period within which and the manner in which and the authority to which applications for revision of any order passed by any authority under these rules may be made, the fees to be paid therefore, and the powers of the revisional authority; and
- (o) any other matter which is to be, or may be, prescribed.]
- (2)** Until rules are made under sub-section (1), any rules made by a state Government regulating the grant of 1 [quarry leases, mining leases or other mineral concessions] in respect of minor minerals which are in force immediately before the commencement of these Act shall continue in force.
- (3)** **The holder of a mining lease or any other mineral concession granted under any rule made under sub-section (1) shall pay [royalty or dead rent, whichever is more] in respect of minor minerals removed or consumed by him or by his agent, manager, employee, contractor or sub-lessee at the rate prescribed for the time being in the rules framed by the State Government in respect of minor minerals:**
- Provided that the State Government shall not enhance the rate of [royalty or dead rent] in respect of any minor mineral for more than once during any period of 4 [three] years.]**
- [**(4)** Without prejudice to sub-sections (1), (2) and sub-section (3), the State Government may, by notification, make rules for regulating the provisions of this Act for the following, namely:—
- (a) the manner in which the District Mineral Foundation shall work for the interest and benefit of persons and areas affected by mining under sub-section (2) of section 9B;
- (b) the composition and functions of the District Mineral Foundation under sub-section (3) of section 9B; and

(c) the amount of payment to be made to the District Mineral Foundation by concession holders of minor minerals under section 15A.]

91. It is evident that the Section 15 of the MMDR Act, confers power upon the State Governments to make rules in respect of minor minerals, as such the State framed rule, namely, 'Jharkhand Minor Mineral Concessions Rules, 2004' in respect of matters pertaining to minor mineral including levy of royalty.

92. It is further evident that Rule 15(3) of the MMDR Act contains enabling provisions which enables the State Government to levy royalty or dead-rent in respect of minor minerals removed or consumed at the rate prescribed for the time being in the Rules framed by the State Government in respect of minor minerals.

93. It is also stipulated under Section 15(3) of the Act 1957 that the holder of a mining lease or any other mineral concession granted under any rule made under sub-section (1) of Section 15 shall pay [royalty or dead rent, whichever is more] in respect of minor minerals removed or consumed by him or by his agent, manager, employee, contractor or sub-lessee at the rate prescribed for the time being in the rules framed by the State Government in respect of minor minerals.

94. Further the proviso to sub-Section 3 of Section 15 of the Act 1957 prescribes the rider upon the state government that the State Government shall not enhance the rate of royalty or dead rent in respect of any minor mineral for more than once during any period of three years.

95. Thus, from the aforesaid discussion it is evident that the State Government has power to make rules to enhance the rate of royalty under Section 15(1) read with 15(3) in respect of a minor mineral.

96. It is evident from the aforesaid discussion that State, by virtue of the constitutional mandate as well as statutory provision of Act 1957 which has been discussed herein above, has ample power to make the rule for determining the rate of royalty.

97. Further, it needs to refer herein the word “mineral” has specifically not been defined in the Act but has been judiciously interpreted. While considering the meaning of the term “mineral”, in **V.P. Pithupitchai v. Special Secretary to the Govt. of T.N., (2003) 9 SCC 534**, in paras 10 and 12 the Hon'ble Supreme Court held as under: -

“**10.** According to this Court's view **in State of M.P. v. Mahalaxmi Fabric Mills Ltd.:**

“Mineral in ordinary and common meaning is a comprehensive term including every description of stone and rock deposit whether containing metallic or non-

metallic substance. The word mineral in popular sense means those inorganic constituents of the earth's crust which are commonly obtained by mining or other process for bringing them to the surface for profit."

*12. Therefore, a mineral as judicially defined would mean an inorganic substance found either on or in the earth which may be garnered and **exploited for profit.**".*

98. On the basis of aforesaid settled proposition of law, it is apparently clear that the minerals can be classified in two types; first are those that are directly extracted, obtained from the earth and others are those minerals that are produced after the extraction through the process of crushing or refinery and these types of minerals are used separately by the company to earn profit in large scale.

99. In the instant case, boulders are first mineral that is extracted directly by mining and stone chips are the other minerals that is produced after extraction through the process of crushing and is used separately by the company to earn profit.

100. Now coming to the Rule 29 of the JMMC Rules which has been enacted by the State of Jharkhand by the dint of Section 15(3) of the Act 1957 as well as constitutional mandate wherein it has been provided, *inter alia*, that Royalty would be payable as per Schedule 2 of the said Rules.

101. For ready reference, the same is quoted as under:

29. लगान एवं स्वामिस्व / जब खनन पट्टा स्वीकृत अथवा नवीकृत किया जाता है-

(क) अनुसूची-1 एवं (क) में उल्लेखित दर से नियत लगान लिया जाएगा।

(ख) अनुसूची-2 में उल्लेखित दर से स्वामिस्व लिया जाएगा।

(ग) लघु खनिज के पट्टेधारियों द्वारा जिला खनिज (न्यास) नियमावली (DMFT) के प्रावधानों के तहत देय राशि का भुगतान करना होगा।

(घ) पट्टधारी द्वारा उपयोग में लाये गये दखल किए गये भूतल क्षेत्र का भूतल लगान उस दर से देय होगा जो उस क्षेत्र के भू-राजस्व दर से अधिक न हो।

(2) इन नियमों के लागू होने की तिथि से पूर्व में स्वीकृत अथवा नवीकृत खनन पट्टों जिनका अस्तित्व उक्त तिथि को है, पर भी उप नियन (1) का प्रावधान लागू होगा।

(3) यदि खनन पट्टाधारी द्वारा एक से अधिक खनिजों के दोहन की अनुमति एक ही क्षेत्र में दी गयी है तो प्रत्येक खनिज के मामले में अलग-अलग स्वामिस्व अथवा नियत लगान देना होगा। परन्तु यह कि पट्टाधारी को प्रत्येक खनिज की स्थिति में जो भी अधिक राशि होगी, नियत लगान अथवा स्वामिस्व का भुगतान करना होगा।

102. For ready reference, relevant portion of Schedule 2 is also quoted as under:

Sl. No.	Minerals name	Rate of revised ownership (Per Cubic Meter)
1.	Boulder, Gravel, Shingle	132/-
2.	Boulder, Gravel, Shingle, which is used for making chips	250/-

103. Thus, it is evident that in para-2 of the Schedule 2 of the JMMC Rules, 2004 read with all the amendments till date, it is mentioned that royalty for Mineral Boulder, Gravel, Shingle which is used for making chips will be chargeable at

the rate of Rs. 250 per cubic meter with effect from 19.09.2019.

104. As per Rule 29(1) (kh), royalty is chargeable as per rate notified from time to time in Schedule-2 of the Jharkhand Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2004.

105. As per Rule 29(1) (kh) of the JMMC Rules, 2004, the Lessee shall have to pay fixed rent and royalty on quarterly basis and the account of this rent and royalty shall be adjusted on actual basis in such a way that the higher of fixed rent or royalty shall be recovered in any year.

106. Now advertiring to the facts of the case, it is evident that the State of Jharkhand vide notification dated 16th September, 2019 amended the Schedule 2 of the said rules, which is impugned in these batch of writ petitions.

107. It is contended by the petitioners that on the basis of amendment in Schedule 2 of the JMMC Rules, 2004, demand notice has been raised whereby the petitioners have been directed to make payment of the amount of differential Royalty, D.M.F.T., Environmental Cases and Income Tax on the sole ground that Stone Boulder excavated from the mines of the petitioner has been transported to a Stone Crusher for production of stone chips, as being wholly illegal, arbitrary and beyond the scope of the Jharkhand Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2004.

108. In the backdrop of aforesaid facts and the relevant provision of law, the first and foremost question which is to be decided is as to:

“I.Whether the State Government is competent enough to levy royalty at different rate of stone-boulders used for making chips? and;

II.Whether the State Government, by amending Entry 2 of Schedule 2 of the JMMC Rules vide notification dated 16th September, 2019 overreaches the restrictions imposed upon by the Parliament?”

109. We have discussed in preceding paragraphs that under Section 15 of the MMDR Act, the State Government is empowered to make rules by notification in the official gazette for regulating the grant of quarry leases, mining, or other mineral concession, fixing and collection of rent, royalty, fees, dead rent, fines or other charges and the time within which the manner in which these shall be payable in respect of minor mineral and for purposes connected therewith.

110. Further, the State having exclusive power under Article 246 schedule 7 entry list 23 as well as under section 15 MMDR Act, to formulate the Rules and accordingly State have formulated JMMC Rules to regulate the uses and taxes of Minerals, as such there is no *iota* of doubt about the competency of the State in making such Rules.

111. It needs to refer herein that in the case of ***State of Haryana and Anr. vs. Chanana Mal [(1977) 1 SCC 340]*** the constitutional validity of the State enactment framed under the provisions of the MMRD Act, 1957 was under challenge before the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The Constitution Bench of the Hon'ble Apex Court held that subject to the overall supervision of the Central Government, the State Government has a sphere of its own power and can take legally specified action under the Central Act and rules made thereunder. Thus, the whole field of control and regulation under the provisions of the Central Act of 1957 cannot be said to be reserved for the Central Government.

112. Further the vires of Section 15(1) of the MMRD Act was challenged in ***D.K. Trivedi and others vs. State of Gujarat and others (supra)*** on the ground that it provided excessive delegation of legislative power to the executive. The Hon'ble Apex Court has held as under:

“76. To summarize our conclusions : (1) Sub-section (1) of section 15 of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957, is constitutional and valid and the rule-making power conferred thereunder upon the State Governments does not amount to excessive delegation of legislative power to the executive. (2) There are sufficient guidelines provided in the 1957 Act for the exercise of the rule-making power of the State Governments under section 15(1) of the 1957 Act. These guidelines are to be found in the object for which such power is conferred, namely, "for regulating the grant of quarry leases, mining leases or other mineral

concessions in respect of minor minerals and for purposes connected therewith; the meaning of the word 'regulating'; the scope of the phrase "for purposes connected therewith"; the illustrative matters set out in sub-section (2) of section and the restrictions and other matters contained in sections 4 to 12 of the 1957 Act. The power to make rules conferred by section 15(1) includes the power to make rules charging dead rent and royalty. The power to make rules under section 15(1) includes the power to amend the rules so made, including the power to amend the rules so as to enhance the rates of royalty and dead rent. A State Government is entitled to amend the rules under section 15(1) enhancing the rates of royalty and dead rent even as regards leases subsisting at the date of such amendment. Sub-section (3) of section 15 does not confer upon the State Governments the power to make rules charging royalty or to enhance the rate of royalty so charged from time to time. The sole repository of the power of the State Governments to make rules and amendments thereto, including amendments enhancing the rates of royalty and dead rent, is sub-section (1) of section 15. A State Government is not required to give an opportunity of a hearing or of making a representation to the lessees who would be affected by any amendments of the rules before making such amendments.

113. Thus, in the aforesaid judgment it is evident that the sole repository of the power of the State Governments to make rules and amendments thereto, including amendments enhancing the rates of royalty and dead rent, is sub-section (1) of section 15. The State Government is not required to give an opportunity of hearing or of making a representation to the lessees who would be affected by any amendments of the rules before making such amendments.

114. As discussed above, it is clearly given in the Rule under Rule 29 (1) (kh) that royalty is chargeable as per rate notified from time to time in Schedule-2 of the Jharkhand Minor Mineral Concession Rules.

115. In the instant case, since, the State Government has power to make rules to enhance the rate of royalty under Section 15(1) read with 15(3) in respect of a minor mineral, the State Government can amend/revise the royalty rate in three years.

116. It appears that the last amendment in royalty rate was made in the year 2015 (29.04.2015). Thereafter, after a gap of four years, the schedule rate has been revised vide Notification No.-1509/M, dated 16.09.2019, published in the State Gazette on 19.09.2019, thus the aforesaid notification is within the ambit of the rule as stipulated in the Rules which has been framed by the State as per the power conferred by section 15(3) of the Act 1957 and also as per the mandate of Article 246 Entry 23.

117. As per Rule 29(1) (kh), royalty is chargeable as per rate notified from time to time in Schedule-2 of the Jharkhand Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2004. In para-2 of the Schedule 2 of the JMMC Rules, 2004 read with all the amendments till date, it is mentioned that royalty for Mineral Boulder, Gravel, Shingle which is used for making chips will

be chargeable at the rate of Rs. 250 per cubic meter with effect from 19.09.2019.

118. The issues raised by the petitioners regarding differential royalty can be understand only after understanding the actual meaning of minerals. As discussed above the word “mineral” is not defined in the Act; but has been judiciously interpreted by the Hon’ble Apex Court in the case of **V.P. Pithupitchai v. Special Secretary to the Govt. of T.N., (supra)** wherein it has been observed that the word mineral in popular sense means those inorganic constituents of the earth's crust which are commonly obtained by mining or other process for bringing them to the surface for profit. Therefore, a mineral as judicially defined would mean an inorganic substance found either on or in the earth which may be garnered and exploited for profit.

119. In the instant case, the petitioners by way of beneficiation converted the boulder into chips which has more commercial value than the boulder. Further, the State government by virtue of amendment in schedule 2 of JMMC Rule has only categorized two group i.e. royalty for Mineral Boulder, Gravel, Shingle which is used for making chips will be chargeable at the rate of Rs. 250 per cubic meter with effect from 19.09.2019 whereas the royalty for Mineral Boulder which is at the rate of Rs. 132 per cubic meter.

120. On the basis of aforesaid discussion, it is apparently clear that the minerals can be classified in two types first are those that are directly extracted, obtained from the earth and other are those minerals that are produced after the extraction through the process of crushing or refinery and these types of minerals are used separately by the company to earn profit in large scale.

121. In the instant case, boulders are first mineral that is extracted directly by mining; and the stone chips are the other minerals that are produced after extraction through the process of crushing and it is used separately by the company to earn profit and that's why State charges separate royalty on boulder and separate on stone chips. Therefore it is neither arbitrary nor unreasonable, reason being that as per amendment in schedule 2 of JMMC rule the State has charged the differential rate of royalty, which is well under the purview of the statutory provisions, as discussed above.

122. The collection of higher rates of royalty i.e. Rs 250/- per cubic meter on removal and transportation of stone boulders through the mechanism of JIMMS Portal especially because the petitioners are removing only stone boulders from their mines and not stone chips and the incidence of levy of royalty is at the stage of removal of mineral from the mines is fair

and reasonable as per Section 9(1) and (2) of the Mines and Mineral Development and Regulation Act, 1957.

123. The moot question arises here that the Stone Boulder excavated from the mines of the petitioner which has been beneficiated by the petitioners in to stone chips either inside the lease area or outside lease area upon which different rate of royalty is charged by the State is just, fair and reasonable and come within a 'Reasonable Classification' and thus is in consonance with Article 14 of the Constitution of India and the Mineral Concession Rules, 2004.

124. It needs to refer herein that while class legislation is prohibited under Article 14, but the legislature is nonetheless permitted to classify people, objects, and transactions fairly to achieve goals. However, categorization cannot be "arbitrary, artificial, or evasive." It must always be based on a distinction that is both just and reasonable in respect of the goal that the legislation is trying to accomplish.

125. As per settled position of law that there are two conditions which need to be fulfilled for a reasonable classification: -

- A) It should be on the basis of *intelligible differentia*.
- B) Rational relation of the *differentia* with the object.

126. The reasonable classification is permitted by law on valid grounds as it discriminates one group from another on

the basis of circumstances or characteristics. Therefore, distinction on the basis of reasonable classification is rational and logical, whereas distinction on the basis of reasonable classification or class legislation is improper and violates Article 14 of the Constitution of India. Article 14 forbids hostile discrimination but not reasonable classification. Article 14 certainly applies where equals are treated differently without any reasonable basis.

127. The Hon'ble Apex Court in the case of ***Kathi Raning Rawat v. State of Saurashtra, (1952) 1 SCC 215*** has observed that a distinction should be drawn between 'discrimination without reason' and 'discrimination with reason'. The whole doctrine of classification is based on this distinction and on the well-known fact that the circumstances which govern one set of persons or objects may not necessarily be the same as those governing another set of persons or objects, so that the question of unequal treatment does not really arise as between persons governed by different conditions and different sets of circumstances.

128. Further, the Hon'ble Apex Court in ***Western U.P. Electric Power & Supply Co. Ltd. v. State of U.P., (1969) 1 SCC 817*** while observing that Article 14 does not operate against rational classification, has held as under:

“Article 14 of the Constitution ensures equality among equals : its aim is to protect persons similarly placed against discriminatory treatment. It does not however operate against rational classification. A person setting up a grievance of denial of equal treatment by law must establish that between persons similarly circumstanced, some were treated to their prejudice and the differential treatment had no reasonable relation to the object sought to be achieved by the law.”

129. Further, the Hon'ble Apex Court in the case of **Air India v. Nergesh Meerza, (1981) 4 SCC 335** has observed that Article 14 forbids hostile discrimination but not reasonable classification and Article 14 certainly applies where equals are treated differently without any reasonable basis.

130. Further, as discussed above the State having exclusive power under Article 246 Schedule 7 Entry list 23 as well as under section 15(3) MMDR Act, to formulate the Rules and accordingly, State has formulated JMMC Rules to regulate the uses and taxes of Minerals wherein under Rule 29 (1) (kh) royalty is chargeable as per rate notified from time to time in Schedule-2 of the Jharkhand Minor Mineral Concession Rules.

131. Thus, the State is entitled to charge differential royalty on the stone boulder used for making chips whether it is being used outside or inside of the leased area at the rate prescribed under paragraph -2 of the Second Schedule of the Jharkhand Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2004.

132. Therefore, under Rule 29(1)(kh) royalty is chargeable as per rate notified from time to time in Schedule-2 Of the Jharkhand Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2004 and neither do the rules appear to violate the equality clause as provided under Article 14 of the Constitution of India.

133. Thus, the prescription of rate as per schedule 2 by the State is a reasonable classification and is just, fair and reasonable and is a Reasonable Classification within the class and thus in consonance with the ideals and principles of Article 14 of the Constitution and the Jharkhand Mineral Concession Rules, 2004.

134. At this juncture this Court would like to refer Rule 41 of the JMMC Rules, 2004 which provides for payment of royalty as provided in the lease deed, therefore, otherwise also, the petitioners are bound by the terms and conditions of the lease deed and are also bound as per Schedule 2 of the Rule, as amended from time to time.

135. It requires to refer herein the settled position of law that once the parties have accepted the terms and conditions of lease or any agreement, it binds the parties and there cannot be any breach of terms and conditions.

136. Reference in this regard be made to the judgment rendered by Hon'ble Apex Court in the case of **Tamil Nadu Electricity Board and Another v. N. Raju Reddiar and**

Another, (1996) 4 SCC 551 wherein at paragraph 7 it has been held as under :-

"7. At the outset it must be borne in mind that the agreement between the parties was a written agreement and therefore the parties are bound by the terms and conditions of the agreement. Once a contract is reduced to writing, by operation of Section 91 of the Evidence Act, 1872 it is not open to any of the parties to seek to prove the terms of the contract with reference to some oral or other documentary evidence to find out the intention of the parties. "

137. Further, the law is well settled that once the terms and conditions of the agreement have been accepted by the parties, it is not available to them to assail the same, reference in this regard be made to the judgment rendered by Hon'ble Apex Court in the case of **Panna Lal and Others v.**

State of Rajasthan and Others reported in **(1975) 2 SCC 633** wherein at paragraph 21 it has been held that the licensee having voluntarily accepted the contract and after having fully exploited to its advantage the contract to the exclusion of other, cannot resile from the contract and cannot challenge the terms either on the ground of inconvenient.

138. For ready reference, paragraph 21 of the aforesaid judgment is quoted hereunder as

"21. The licenses in the present case are contracts between the parties. The licensees voluntarily accepted the contracts. "They fully exploited to their advantage the contracts to the exclusion of others. The High Court rightly said that it was not open to the appellants to resile from

the contracts on the ground that the terms of payment were onerous. The reasons given by the High Court were that the licensees accepted the license by excluding their competitors and it would not be open to the licensees to challenge the terms either on the ground of inconvenient consequence of terms or of harshness of terms.”

139. Thus, in the instant case by virtue of Rules, 2004 the parties are bound by the terms and conditions of the lease deed as such both the parties have bounden duty to follow the terms and conditions of the of the lease deed.

140. The core issue which has been agitated on behalf of learned counsel for the petitioners is that the notification, which has been issued in the year 2019 i.e., notification dated 16th September, 2019 is without jurisdiction reason being that the State is having no authority to come out with such notification in absence of any power delegated by the Central Government or under the authority of the Central Government.

141. The said argument is not acceptable to this Court for the reason that Section 15 has been inserted under the MMDR Act, 1957 wherein provision has been made as under Section 15(3) whereby the State Government has been conferred power to make out rules.

142. It is not in dispute and it cannot be disputed that the Jharkhand Mine and Minerals concession Rule (JMMC Rule) has been enacted by the State of the Jharkhand under the

authority of Section 15(3) of the MMDR Act, 1957. Under JMMC Rules, 2004, a provision has been made under Rule 29 conferring power upon the State to issue notification regarding the rates of royalty of one or other minor mineral(s).

143. The moment the State has come out with a Rule under the authority as conferred under Section 15(3) of the MMDR Act, based upon which the statutory provision has been enacted by virtue of Rule 29 under which the notification dated 16th September, 2019 has been issued, therefore, it is incorrect on the part of the writ petitioners to say that the State Government is having no authority to revise the rates of minor minerals.

144. If the contention of the petitioner will be accepted then for what purpose the power has been conferred upon the State and further the question would be that what is the meaning of keeping the major minerals under list I under Entry 54 and minor mineral under List II under Entry 23.

145. The aforesaid bifurcation of power is the basic structure of the Constitution of India and there cannot be overlapping otherwise, the result would be that in each and every circumstance, the State Government will have to depend upon the Central Government.

146. Therefore, the Constitution makers have bifurcated the allocation of power in three lists i.e., List I, List II and List III.

The subject matter of List I is the exclusive domain of Central Government; the subject matter of List II have exclusive domain of State Government whereas on the subject matter mentioned in List III i.e, the Concurrent List, will have power to make rule both by the Central Government and the State Government, depending upon the situation.

147. It needs to refer herein that the validity of Rule 29 of 2004 has not been questioned herein. Therefore, once the validity of Rule 29, by which it is provided that royalty will be as per the mandate schedule-2, is accepted then how can it be argued that impugned notification is not as per Rule.

148. Accordingly, all the issues framed by this Court are answered.

149. The factual aspect can also be considered on the different angles, which is the global concern. The reason for creating DMFT is only for the purpose of creating a fund so as to compensate the loss occurred to the environment due to the mining operation. The mines and minerals are natural resources and the State is the custodian in addition to that it is the accountability and duty of each and every citizen across the world to maintain the environment so as to maintain the sustainable development.

150. The issue since is global and as such if an area will be allowed to be affected the balance across the globe will be

affected, which we have seen due to imbalance in the environment.

151. The same is the basic underlying object of creation for the purpose of DMFT fund. The concept is that if the natural resources are being utilized then the mines operators are obliged to pay something to the society and for the purpose the concept of royalty has come as also has been taken note of by the Constitution Bench of Hon'ble Apex Court in the case of ***Mineral Area Development Authority & Anr. Vs. M/S Steel Authority of India & Anr. (Supra).***

152. Further, Section 9B of Act 1957 provides for establishment of the District Mineral Foundation [“DMF”] in any district to work for the interest and benefit of persons and areas affected by mining related operations. The purpose of Section 9-B and the object of the DMF is to further the cause of social justice for those affected by mining related operations, such as tribals who may be dislocated or displaced from their habitat. Section 9B(5) provides that the holder of a mining lease shall pay, in addition to the royalty paid under Section 9, an amount which is equivalent to such percentage of the royalty as may be prescribed by the Central Government.

153. It needs to refer herein that in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 15(4) and Section 15 A of the Mines and

Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (as amended in 2015), the Government of Jharkhand has made the Jharkhand District Mineral Foundation (Trust) Rules, 2016 and as per Rule 2016, “District Mineral Foundation” means a statutory trust established as a non-profit body by the Government in all districts affected by mining or mining related operations, in accordance with Section 9B of the Act 1957.

154. At this juncture this Court would like to discuss the social responsibilities of the companies which has been categorized as “*Corporate Social Responsibility*”. It is a concept where businesses are mandated to integrate social and environmental concerns in their business activities. It has mainly been considered as a moral and normative responsibility that corporates can voluntarily pursue. But, in the event of conflict or serious harm to the environment, animals or people, where corporate irresponsibility is occurring, it is manifestly illogical to leave to the corporation the task of self-regulating.

155. This shows that Corporate Social Responsibility as a concept lacks legal accountability for non-performance of social obligations by companies. Therefore, there should be a shift in focus towards legally mandated accountability.

156. Thus, we must move from “Corporate Social

Responsibility” to “Corporate Legal Responsibility”. In this regard, we need to reiterate our commitment to climate action and the concrete mandatory steps to be taken even in the case of corporations.

157. CSR is envisaged as a commitment to meet its social obligations by playing an active role to improve the quality of life to the communities and stakeholders on a sustainable basis, preferably, in the project area where it is operating. Reference in this regard may be taken from **G. Sundararajan v. Union of India, (2013) 6 SCC 620** wherein at paragraph 119 the Hon'ble Apex Court has observed as under:

“119. Sustainable development and corporate social responsibility (CSR) are inseparable twins, integrated into the principles of inter- and intra-generational equity, not merely human-centric, but ecocentric. CSR is much more when the project proponent sets up NPPs, thermal power plants, since every step taken for generation of energy from such hazardous substances, is bound to have some impact on human beings and environment, even though it is marginal. The Department of Public Enterprises (DPE), recently, issued the Comprehensive Guidelines on CSR for Central Public Sector Enterprises, which includes Npcil, to create, through the Board resolution, a CSR budget as a specific percentage of net profit of the previous year. CSR is envisaged as a commitment to meet its social obligations by playing an active role to improve the quality of life to the communities and stakeholders on a sustainable basis, preferably, in the project area where it is operating. CSR strategy has to be put in practice in line with the millennium development goals as lodged by the United Nations and adopted by the Government of India in the

11th Five-Year Plan i.e. 2007-2012, which could cover the areas of education, health, drinking water/sanitation, environment, solar lighting system, infrastructure for backward areas, community development and social empowerment, promotion of sports and traditional forms of arts and culture, generation of employment opportunities and livelihood to be a part of the national/local initiatives to provide reliefs/rehabilitation in terms of natural disaster, calamities, etc.

158. Further, the role of private companies in environmental protection was more extensively discussed at the UN Conference on Environment and Development in *Rio de Janeiro* in 1992. An action plan was accepted in the form of Agenda 21. The website of the United Nations defines Agenda 21 as a daring program of action calling for new strategies to invest in the future to achieve overall sustainable development in the 21st century.

159. Agenda 21 suggested that the “industry should incorporate cleaner production policies in its operations and investments, taking also into account its influence on suppliers and consumers”. It was further suggested that “industry and business associations should encourage individual companies to undertake programmes for improved environmental awareness and responsibility at all levels to make these enterprises dedicated to the task of improving”.

160. India has always adopted measures in line with its commitment to tackling climate changes. There are catena of

judgments that have shaped the legal landscape surrounding corporate responsibility on climate change in India. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has highlighted the duty of corporations to protect the environment and contribute to the remediation of environmental damage caused by their activities. Various judgments have led to the strengthening of environmental regulations, expanded corporate liability for environmental damage, and increased transparency and public participation in environmental decision-making processes.

161. In case of environmental damage caused by corporations, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has adopted the principles of “polluter pays”, “precautionary principle”, and “sustainable development”. The principle of “Polluters Pays” demands that the financial costs of preventing or remedying damage caused by pollution lies with the undertakings which caused such pollution in the first place. The “Precautionary Principle” mandates action to avert risks that could cause serious and irreversible damage to the environment and human health.

162. Furthermore, the Companies Act, 2013 introduced a significant provision, Section 135, as part of its Corporate Social responsibility. This includes initiatives related to environmental sustainability and climate change mitigation.

Corporations are now required to allocate a portion of their profits towards activities that benefits society and the environment, driving investments in projects aimed at addressing climate change.

163. Thus, Legal and moral responsibilities should be taken together as a bundle of obligations for businesses to effectively discharge their functions with accountability inevitably linked to moral responsibility.

164. This Court in the purport of the aforesaid underlying object and adverting to the factual aspect involved in the present matter, it is admitted that the boulders, which has been taken out by the mines operators admittedly is lesser in cost to that of chips. The petitioners' case is that they extract boulder for which the rate of royalty is less i.e., Rs. 132 per cubic meter but outside the lease-hold area the same is being converted into chips and hence, the royalty which has been earmarked for Chips i.e., @ Rs. 250 per cubic meter is not liable to be paid by one or the other petitioners.

165. But this Court is of the view that whether it is inside the leasehold area or outside the leasehold area, when the very concept is pay to the society due to extraction of the mining operation to compensate the nature then it is the obligation on the part of the petitioners to pay the royalty on the basis

of ultimate use of mines product, here it is from boulder to chips.

166. In the light of aforesaid discussions and observations made hereinabove, the writ petitions sans merit and accordingly are dismissed.

167. Pending Interlocutory Applications, if any, stand dispose of.

I Agree

(Sujit Narayan Prasad, A.C.J.)

(Arun Kumar Rai, J.)

(Arun Kumar Rai, J.)

Alankar/-Samarth/-

A.F.R