## **HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA: HYDERABAD**

## **MAIN CASE NO:** W.P.No.4112 of 2006

## PROCEEDING SHEET

| SL.<br>NO | DATE       | ORDER                                   | OFFICE<br>NOTE                    |
|-----------|------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 08.       | 30.12.2022 | HCJ & CVBRJ                             |                                   |
|           |            | <u>I.A.Nos.1, 2 &amp; 3 of 2022</u>     |                                   |
|           |            | Heard Ms. Manasa, learned counsel       |                                   |
|           |            | representing Mr. Challa Gunaranjan,     | Transferred to i/o folder, before |
|           |            | learned counsel for the petitioner;     | corrections, if any.              |
|           |            | Ms. Premalatha Sheri, learned Assistant |                                   |
|           |            | Government Pleader for Industries and   |                                   |
|           |            | Commerce Department for respondent      |                                   |
|           |            | Nos.1 & 2; and Ms. Kommineni Mani       |                                   |
|           |            | Deepika, learned counsel for respondent |                                   |
|           |            | No.3.                                   |                                   |
|           |            | The related writ petition was filed     |                                   |
|           |            | questioning the constitutionality of    |                                   |
|           |            | Andhra Pradesh Mineral bearing Land     |                                   |
|           |            | (Infrastructure) Cess Act, 2005 being   |                                   |
|           |            | violative of the provisions of the      |                                   |
|           |            | Constitution of India and as well as    |                                   |
|           |            | provisions of the Mines and Minerals    |                                   |
|           |            | (Regulation and Development) Act,       |                                   |
|           |            | 1957.                                   |                                   |
|           |            | By order dated 20.02.2017, the          |                                   |
|           |            | writ petition was dismissed for non-    |                                   |
|           |            | prosecution.                            |                                   |
|           |            | We find from the materials on           |                                   |

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|-----------|------|---|----------------|
|           |      | record that the related writ petition was |                |
|           |      | posted for hearing on 16.02.2017. As      |                |
|           |      | there was no representation on behalf of  |                |
|           |      | the petitioner, the case was deferred to  |                |
|           |      | 20.02.2017. On that day also, there       |                |
|           |      | was no representation on behalf of the    |                |
|           |      | petitioner. Therefore, on 20.02.2017,     |                |
|           |      | the writ petition was dismissed for non-  |                |
|           |      | prosecution.                              |                |
|           |      | The application for restoration has       |                |
|           |      | been filed after 2097 days, which would   |                |
|           |      | be about six years. Reason given for      |                |
|           |      | such delay is that petitioner was under   |                |
|           |      | the impression that the matter was        |                |
|           |      | pending adjudication. After coming to     |                |
|           |      | know about the dismissal, the related     |                |
|           |      | restoration petition has been filed.      |                |
|           |      | Paragraph 6 of I.A.No.1 of 2022 reads as  |                |
|           |      | follows:                                  |                |
|           |      | "6. It is respectfully submitted          |                |
|           |      | that we were under the impression         |                |
|           |      | that the matter is pending                |                |
|           |      | adjudication. However on learning         |                |
|           |      | about the dismissal, immediately the      |                |
|           |      | present restoration petition has been     |                |
|           |      | filed. As the cess paid is subject to     |                |
|           |      | the final outcome of the writ petition,   |                |
|           |      | it is imperative that the matter be       |                |
|           |      | decided on merits. If not the             |                |
|           |      | petitioner will suffer severe hardship.   |                |

| SL. | DATE | ORDER                                     | OFFICE<br>NOTE |
|-----|------|---|----------------|
|     |      | Further no prejudice or harm would        |                |
|     |      | be caused to the Respondents', if the     |                |
|     |      | present application is allowed. Non       |                |
|     |      | prosecution of the matter was neither     |                |
|     |      | wilful nor wanton."                       |                |
|     |      | We are afraid on such bald and            |                |
|     |      | vague averments, we cannot consider       |                |
|     |      | condoning delay of more than 2000         |                |
|     |      | days. The bench while dismissing the      |                |
|     |      | writ petition on 20.02.2017 had rightly   |                |
|     |      | observed that at the distant point of     |                |
|     |      | time there was no question of entering    |                |
|     |      | into the validity of the impugned         |                |
|     |      | enactment. The point of time has          |                |
|     |      | become more distant now.                  |                |
|     |      | We are therefore not inclined to          |                |
|     |      | condone the delay. However, it would      |                |
|     |      | be open to any aggrieved person to raise  |                |
|     |      | the challenge in an appropriate           |                |
|     |      | proceeding, if any cause arises.          |                |
|     |      | Subject to the above, all the             |                |
|     |      | interlocutory applications are dismissed. |                |
|     |      |   |                |
|     |      |   |                |
|     |      | НСЈ                                       |                |
|     |      |   |                |
|     |      | CVBRJ                                     |                |
|     |      | KL  |                |