



HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

WPC No. 5312 of 2025

Bangodai Producer Company Ltd. **Versus** Chhattisgarh State
Cooperative Fisheries Federation Limited

Order Sheet

10/10/2025	Heard Ms. Shalini Gera, learned counsel for the petitioner as well as Mr. Shashank Thakur, learned Deputy Additional General for the State/Respondent No. 2. Heard on admission as well as on I.A. No. 01, which is an application for grant of interim relief. Facts of the case are that the petitioner, a Farmer Producer Company consisting of tribal fisherfolk displaced by the construction of the Hasdeo-Bango Reservoir, participated in a tender floated by the CG State Cooperative Fisheries Federation Ltd. (Respondent No. 1) for leasing the Hasdeo-Bango

reservoir for fish farming, fishing, and fish sales for a 10-year period ending on 15.06.2035. Although the Petitioner was initially the third-highest bidder, they were entitled to a 10% concession under the New Fisheries Policy of 2022, which elevated their position to second highest. The highest bidder failed to execute the contract, making the Petitioner the best qualified bidder. However, instead of awarding the contract to the Petitioner, the Federation abruptly abandoned the ongoing tender process and re-issued a fresh tender notice on 08.09.2025 without any explanation, thereby allegedly acting arbitrarily and violating its duty to protect the interests of local fisherfolk. The Petitioner challenges this action and seeks cancellation of the new tender notice and a direction to execute the contract in their favor.

The Petitioner's counsel argued that the petitioner, being a Society incorporated under the Companies Act 2018, participated as the third-highest bidder in the tender process. Since the first-highest bidder failed to

Vishakha	turn up and execute the contract, the petitioner was rightly preferred over the second-highest bidder in accordance with the applicable rules. However, despite this, a fresh Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) has been issued. It is submitted that the petitioner's rights cannot be prejudiced or compromised on account of the issuance of this new tender notice. Upon this, learned State Counsel submits that the highest bidder was finalized on 09.10.2025. Considering the submission made by the parties, it is directed that the learned State Counsel shall inform Respondent No. 1 of the petition's pendency and ensure service of this order today itself. List the matter for hearing on 29.10.2025. In the meanwhile, it is directed that the status quo, as exists between the parties, shall be maintained till the next date of hearing. Sd/- (Amitendra Kishore Prasad) Judge sd/- (Ramesh Sinha) Chief Justice
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