

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION**

CIVIL APPEAL NO. 10072/2016

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (PERSONNEL) LIFE
INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA,
CHENNAI**

APPELLANT

VERSUS

P. JAYAPRAKASH AND ANR.

RESPONDENTS

ORDER

1. We have heard Mr. Gautam Narayan, learned senior counsel appearing for the appellant and Mr. Jayanth Muth Raj, learned senior counsel appearing for the first respondent.
2. We need not refer to the multiple rounds of litigation which have preceded the present appeal under consideration by us.
3. Suffice it to note, a writ petition¹ is pending on the file of the High Court where the first respondent has challenged the determination made by the Committee in its decision dated 03rd January, 2020 that the first respondent does not belong to a Scheduled Tribe and such petition is due to be heard by the High Court shortly.
4. Insofar as the impugned judgment and order is concerned, the

1 WP.3350/2020

same directs the appellant to treat the respondent as a general candidate and to retain him in service.

5. Such a direction, however, is unsustainable, having regard to the fact that not only was the respondent's claim of belonging to a Scheduled Tribe not accepted earlier by the Scrutiny Committee but the same has also not been accepted in the decision under challenge in the writ petition referred to above.

6. We are of the considered opinion that interest of justice would be best served, if the following order is made. We, therefore, order that :

(a) The impugned judgment and order is set aside.

(b) Since the first respondent has only a year's service left if he were to continue in service, the High Court is requested to decide WP.3350/2020 in accordance with law, as expeditiously as possible.

(c) All contentions and points on merits are left open to be urged before the High Court by the parties and decided by it.

(d) Should the High Court be of the opinion that the first respondent's claim of belonging to a Scheduled Tribe is genuine and that the Committee arrived at an erroneous finding, it shall be open to the High Court to make appropriate orders on the first respondent's claim, including a direction for his reinstatement in

service but upon hearing the appellant.

(e) In such an event, the respondent shall be entitled to all benefits pertaining to the post.

(f) On the contrary, if the claim of the respondent is found to be not genuine and unacceptable, and the Committee's finding is upheld, the first respondent shall not be entitled to any further benefit arising out of his service till 2004.

7. The civil appeal is disposed of on the above terms.

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

.....J.
(DIPANKAR DATTA)

.....J.
(SHEEL NAGU)

**NEW DELHI;
AUGUST 04, 2026.**

ITEM NO.115

COURT NO.7

SECTION XII-B

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Civil Appeal No.10072/2016

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (PERSONNEL) LIFE
INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA, CHENNAI

Appellant

VERSUS

P. JAYAPRAKASH AND ANR.

Respondents

Date : 04-08-2026 This appeal was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DIPANKAR DATTA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SHEEL NAGU

For Appellant(s) : Mr. Gautam Narayan, Sr. Adv.
Ms. Asmita Singh, AOR

For Respondent(s) : Mr. Jayanth Muth Raj, Sr. Adv.
Mrs. Malavika Jayanth, AOR
Ms. Nivedita Rani, Adv.

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following
O R D E R

1. The appeal stands disposed of in terms of the signed order.
2. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

(RASHMI DHYANI PANT)
ASST. REGISTRAR-CUM-PS

(SUDHIR KUMAR SHARMA)
COURT MASTER (NSH)

(signed order is placed on the file)