

**IN THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA
AT HYDERABAD**

**TUESDAY, THE SEVENTEENTH DAY OF FEBRUARY
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX**

PRESENT

**THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE APARESH KUMAR SINGH
AND**

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE G.M. MOHIUDDIN

WRIT APPEAL NO: 196 OF 2026

Writ Appeal under clause 15 of the Letters Patent preferred against the order dated 21/11/2025 W.P.No.29390 of 2024 on the file of the High Court.

Between:

Pothu Anvesh, S/o.PothuParushuram, Aged 35 years, Occu. Graduate, R/o.H No. 7-6-42, MedaraBasti, KothagudemTown, and Mandal BadradriKothagudem District, Telangana -507101.

.....APPELLANT

AND

1. The Singareni Collieries Company Limited, A Government Company Kothagudem Collieries BhadradiKothagudem District, Rep.by its Chairman and Managing Director Head office Kothagudem - 507101 State of Telangana.
2. The Director PAW, The personnel Administration head office, Singareni Collieries Company Limited, BhadradiKothagudem District- 507101.
3. The General Manager Welfare and Recruitment Cell, Corporate head office Kothagudem, Singareni Collieries Company Limited, BhadradiKothagudem District- 507101.

.....RESPONDENTS

Counsel for Appellant : SRI D.KULASHEKHAR

**Counsel for Respondents : SRI P.SRI HARSHA REDDY, SC FOR SINGARENI
COLLIERIES CO. LTD**

The Court made the following JUDGMENT : -

IN THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA
AT HYDERABAD

THE HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE SRI APARESH KUMAR SINGH
AND
THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE G.M.MOHIUDDIN

WRIT APPEAL No. 196 of 2026

DATED : 17.02.2026

Between:

Pothu Anvesh

... Appellant

AND

The Singareni Collieries Company Limited
and two others

... Respondents

JUDGMENT:

Sri D. Kulashekar, learned counsel appears for
appellant/writ petitioner.

Sri P. Sri Harsha Reddy, learned Standing Counsel for
Singareni Collieries Company Limited appears for
respondents.

2. The grievance of the writ petitioner was in relation to the
non-evaluation of question Nos.67, 97, 100 and 109 and not
referring the disputed answers to the subject experts. He also
prayed to direct the respondents to award correct marks to the
petitioner and revise the answer key and include his name in

the select list for appointment to the post of Executive Cadre Serial No.1, Management Trainee (E and M), E-2 Grade.

3. It appears from perusal of the records that pursuant to the impugned Notification No.2 of 2024 dated 15.05.2024, the petitioner appeared for the computer based test held on 07.08.2024. The response sheet for the said test was displayed on 13.08.2024 and the candidates were given an opportunity to submit objections regarding the preliminary answer key up to 15.08.2024. A total of 441 objections were received for the post of Management Trainee (E & M), E-2 Grade, which includes Question Nos.67, 97, 100 and 109.

4. The respondent employer constituted a subject Expert Committee to examine the objections raised by the candidates. The Expert Committee reviewed the preliminary answer key with reference to such objections and relevant materials. After considering the corrections and recommendations made by such Expert Committee, the final answer key was published with reference to the disputed questions. On 08.10.2024, the provisional merit list was published. The petitioner reiterated

his request for reevaluation and revision of the merit list again. After that, candidates within the zone of selection were called for certificate verification on 05.11.2024. Appointment orders were issued to the selected candidates on 06.11.2024. The petitioner was not selected due to insufficient marks. Therefore, he submitted representations seeking further reevaluation. However, no action has been taken by the respondents so far. Therefore, he approached this Court in the impugned Writ Petition, W.P.No.29717 of 2024, challenging the final answer key and the provisional merit list.

5. The learned writ Court after considering the case of the parties and the materials on record and after taking note of the decisions rendered in **Ran Vijay Singh and others v. State of Uttar Pradesh and others**¹ and **Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission v. Rahul Singh**² held that the final answer key and provisional merit list were published only after careful scrutiny and correction by the Expert Committee, strictly in accordance with the rules and regulations governing the examination. The

¹ (2018) 2 SCC 357

² (2018) 7 SCC 254

petitioner having secured 85 marks in the computer based test was placed 140th rank in the provisional merit list which was insufficient for selection. Therefore, *vide* order dated 21.11.2025, the writ Court opined that the recruitment process was conducted following all the prescribed procedures and under expert scrutiny, ensuring fairness and transparency and also following the ratio rendered by the Apex Court in the above cited decisions that the Court must exercise restraint in interfering in the expert opinion in academic matters and should intervene only in the case of glaring or material errors which are not present in the instant case, and dismissed the impugned Writ Petition filed by the petitioner.

6. Learned counsel for the appellant has reiterated the submissions made before the writ Court.

7. Upon hearing the learned counsel for the parties on merits and on consideration of the materials on record, we are of the firm view that the reevaluation in such circumstances cannot be allowed. The learned writ Court has also placed

reliance upon the law laid down in the case of **Ran Vijay Singh** (supra) para 30 of which is extracted hereunder once again.

“30. The law on the subject is therefore, quite clear and we only propose to highlight a few significant conclusions. They are

30.1. If a statute, Rule or Regulation governing an examination permits the re-evaluation of an answer sheet or scrutiny of an answer sheet as a matter of right, then the authority conducting the examination may permit it;

30.2. If a statute, Rule or Regulation governing an examination does not permit re-evaluation or scrutiny of an answer sheet (as distinct from prohibiting it) then the court may permit re-evaluation or scrutiny only if it is demonstrated very clearly, without any “inferential process of reasoning or by a process of rationalization” and only in rare or exceptional cases that a material error has been committed;

30.3. The court should not at all re-evaluate or scrutinize the answer sheets of a candidate-it has no expertise in the matter and academic matters are best left to academics;

30.4. The court should presume the correctness of the key answers and proceed on that assumption; and

30.5. In the event of a doubt, the benefit should go to the examination authority rather than to the candidate.”

8. Once the provisional merit list was issued only after the key answers with reference to the disputed questions including

the questions which the petitioner pointed out, were examined by the Expert Committee, the petitioner is unable to show any perversity or glaring error in the answer key which requires interference in exercise of writ jurisdiction.

Therefore, we do not find any merit in this Writ Appeal, which is accordingly dismissed. There shall be no order as to costs.

Miscellaneous applications, if any pending, shall stand closed.

//TRUE COPY//

SD/-MOHD. ISMAIL
DEPUTY REGISTRAR

SECTION OFFICER

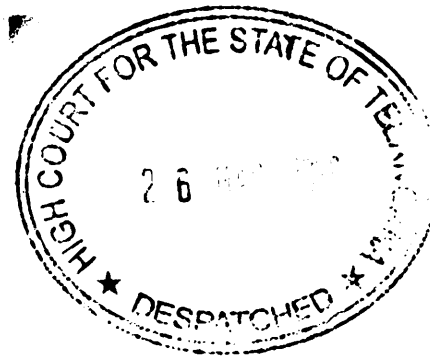
To

1. The Chairman and Managing Director, Singareni Collieries Company Limited, A Government Company Kothagudem Collieries BhadradiKothagudem District, Head office Kothagudem - 507101 State of Telangana.
2. The Director PAW, The personnel Administrationhead office, Singareni Collieries Company Limited, BhadradiKothagudem District- 507101.
3. The General Manager Welfare and Recruitment Cell, Corporate head office Kothagudem, Singareni Collieries Company Limited, BhadradiKothagudem District- 507101.
4. One CC to SRI D.KULASHEKHAR, Advocate [OPUC]
5. One CC to SRI P.SRI HARSHA REDDY, SC FOR SINGARENI COLLIERIES CO. LTD, Advocate [OPUC]
6. Two CD Copies

SA
BS
PMC.

HIGH COURT

DATED:17/02/2026



JUDGMENT

WA.No.196 of 2026

**DISMISSING THE W.A
WITHOUT COSTS.**

(8) PMG.
16/3/26.