COURT NO.13

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

SPECIAL LEAVE PETITION (CIVIL) Diary No(s). 27790/2025

[Arising out of impugned judgment and order dated 23-07-2024 in LPA No. 1220/2019 passed by the High Court of Judicature at Patna]

THE STATE OF BIHAR & ORS.

Petitioner(s)

Respondent(s)

VERSUS

SURENDRA PRASAD SINGH

(IA No. 145126/2025 - CONDONATION OF DELAY IN FILING, IA No. 145125/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT AND IA No. 145124/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.)

Date : 27-06-2025 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANDEEP MEHTA HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JOYMALYA BAGCHI

(PARTIAL COURT WORKING DAYS BENCH)

For Petitioner(s) : Mr. Kumar Sourav, Adv. Mr. Manish Kumar, AOR

For Respondent(s) :

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following

ORDER

1. Delay condoned.

2. The High Court quashed the order of penalty imposed on the respondent on the ground that the inquiry proceedings suffered from lacuna and infirmities. We find from the material placed on record that the State did not examine a single witness in support of the charges. Thus, the issue involved is squarely covered by the decision of this Court in the case of *Roop Singh Negi* v. *Punjab National Bank & Ors.* reported in (2009) 2 SCC 570. The Division Bench, while quashing the order of punishment has given liberty to

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the State to hold a fresh inquiry as per law. Thus, we are of the firm opinion that the impugned order does not suffer from any infirmity warranting interference. The Special Leave Petition, being bereft of merit, is dismissed.

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

(NITIN TALREJA) ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS (ANJU KAPOOR) ASSISTANT REGISTRAR