

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT PATNA
Civil Writ Jurisdiction Case No.20071 of 2025

Rani @ Rani Tiwari

... .. Petitioner/s

Versus

The State of Bihar & Ors.

... .. Respondent/s

Appearance :

For the Petitioner/s	:	Mr. Vikash Kumar Pankaj, Advocate
For the Respondent/s	:	Mr. P.K. Verma, AAG-3
		Mr. Sanjay Kumar Ghosarvey, AC to AAG-3

CORAM: HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
and
HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE ALOK KUMAR SINHA
ORAL ORDER

(Per: HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE)

3 10-03-2026 This writ petition, in the nature of Public Interest Litigation, has been filed by the petitioner seeking for the following relief(s):

“a. To issue writ in nature of writ of mandamus or any writ order commanding Respondents particularly, Respondent No. 3 to 6 to issue clear & specific directions/ instructions regarding hearing & settlement of compounding cases related to traffic and motor vehicles including settlement of pending compoundable traffic challans issued to private motor vehicles and its owner, in the National Lok Adalats and Permanent Lok Adalats established and functioning under the Legal Service Authorities Act, 1987.

b. To issue consequential writ in nature of writ of mandamus or any writ order commanding Respondent No.2 to henceforth immediately, include and notify the settlement of aforesaid pending compounding traffic



challans in the list of types of cases taken up for settlement in the National Lok Adalats and Permanent Lok Adalats.”

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner has pointed out Annexure-P/5, which is a letter dated 10.09.2025 issued by the District Transport Officer, Patna, addressed to Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Patna, wherein it is mentioned that the traffic challan matter cannot be taken up in the National Lok Adalat.

3. Learned counsel submitted that in other States traffic challan matters are taken up in National Lok Adalat as per the instruction given by the National Legal Services Authority (hereafter ‘NALSA’). He placed reliance on the Manual for District Legal Services Authorities 2023, which is annexed to the writ petition as Annexure-P/4, wherein it is mentioned, *inter alia*, that in Special Lok Adalat, the Magistrates may be asked to dispose of petty matters under different Acts including traffic challan. Learned counsel submits that when in other States lakhs of traffic challan matters are being disposed of in every National Lok Adalat, there is no justification in not taking up such matters in the National Lok Adalat held in this State.

4. On 14th March, 2026, the National Lok Adalat is



going to be held.

5. We ask the learned counsel for the State to obtain necessary instruction as to how this problem can be sorted out and as per the instruction issued by the NALSA, the Magistrate can take up the traffic challan cases in the upcoming National Lok Adalat.

6. List this matter tomorrow i.e. 11th of March, 2026.

(Sangam Kumar Sahoo, CJ)

(Alok Kumar Sinha, J)

P.K.P./-

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