IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI

First Appeal No. 52 of 2007

Gautam Mahanty --- --- Appellant

Versus

Smt. Jayshree Mahanty --- --- Respondent

CORAM: **Hon'ble Mr. Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh**
Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Anubha Rawat Choudhary

Through: Video Conferencing

For the Appellant: In person
For the Respondent: Mr. Atanu Banerjee, Advocate

30/ 24.06.2020 Mr. Gautam Mahanty, appellant in person and Mr. Atanu Banerjee, learned counsel for the Respondent-wife are present through Video Conferencing.

2. It seems that the appellant has not been able to meet his daughter as per the schedule indicated in the order dated 11.02.2020 for some or the other reason. He however submits that he is in constant touch with his daughter over cell phone and has regular exchange of messages through whatsapp. Communication is congenial and healthy relationship is building up between the father and daughter. He has already purchased a laptop but could not hand over to his daughter because of lockdown as she stays in West Bengal while appellant is at Dhanbad in Jharkhand.

3. Learned counsel for the Respondent-wife submits that final semester exam of their daughter Ms. Shreeya Mahanty could not be held because of pandemic. She is staying in village Manbazar in Purulia district in West Bengal along with her mother. There has been restriction on the movement. However, he has vouched that the father and daughter are communicating with each other.

4. It seems that because of pandemic and may be for health reason, appellant has not been able to visit his daughter Shreeya in the Engineering College at Asansole, as per the order dated 11.02.2020. However, they are keeping in touch with each other. It further appears that there are difficulties in inter-state movement due to Covid-19 situation. This resumption of interaction between the father and daughter is on positive line and it seems that they have given due deference to the observation of the Court that nothing of unsavory past should be discussed amongst them. However, since physical contact may yet not be possible in near future, we expect the appellant to maintain regular healthy interaction through cell phone or digital mode with his daughter till conducive atmosphere prevails for their physical meeting.

5. Accordingly, matter is adjourned to 23rd July 2020. Separate link be also sent to the daughter Ms. Shreeya Mahanty and Respondent together to enable them to join through video conferencing from their locations at their own facilities on the next date.

(**Aparesh Kumar Singh, J)**

(Anubha Rawat Choudhary, J)

Ranjeet/