



available in the records of the Writ Court and it does not appear that such stand was taken by the CCL, however, since the issue of delay in filing of the application has been raised by the CCL itself and we are questioning the delay made by the CCL in deciding the matter, we are inclined to grant further time for that purpose.

Let instructions be sought and affidavit be filed informing us when the decision was taken on the application filed by the writ petitioner for his appointment under the National Coal Wages Agreement and a copy of the order be appended with the counter affidavit. The respondents - CCL will further state on affidavit that in what manner, under what mode and on what date that order was communicated to the writ petitioner.

Let the respondents - CCL also explain, that in case no order was passed and the matter, after filing of the application, remained pending before the authority for about 15 years and a decision could only be taken after the direction of the learned Single Bench of this Court, why not exemplary cost should be imposed upon the concerned officers of the respondents – CCL, as the writ petitioner was made to suffer for more than a decade and half.

It is made clear that since we have almost concluded the hearing of the matter, we will not be inclined to extend the date for filing such affidavit. It is expected that no adjournment would be sought by the parties on the next date of hearing. It is further indicated that a copy of the affidavit should be served upon the writ petitioner-appellant well in advance.

Let this matter be listed on 21.09.2021.

**(Dr. Ravi Ranjan, C.J.)**

**(Sujit Narayan Prasad, J.)**