

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

Sita Ram Lakshmanji

Vs.

Dipnarain Mandal

C.A.Nos.2369 and 2370 of 1968

(Y. V. Chandrachud, P. K. Goswami and P. N. Shinghal, JJ.)

30.03.1977

JUDGEMENT

CHANDRACHUD, J. :-

1. In view of Section 6 of the Bihar Land Reforms Act, 1950, the appellants cannot obtain a decree for possession of the suit properties, those properties having vested in the State Government on January 1, 1956. Mr. Desai has, therefore, not been able to challenge the decree passed by the High Court dismissing the appellant's suit for possession. Mr. Desai has also not been able to press his claim for past mesne profits in view of the concurrent finding on that question against him. He, however, argues that the appellants are entitled to mesne profits from January 25, 1952 when the suit was filed until January 1, 1956, the date of vesting. Since the respondents were wrongfully in possession of the suit properties during this period, we are of the opinion that the appellants are entitled to a decree for mesne profits limited to that period.

2. We, therefore, confirm the judgment dated May 7, 1965 passed by the High Court in the Letters Patent Appeal, with the modification that there shall be an enquiry into mesne profits for the period

January 25, 1952 till January 1, 1956. Appellants shall pay half the costs of these appeals to the respondents in one set.

3. The stay of proceedings is vacated.

Order accordingly.