

**HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH
AT JAMMU**

(Th. Virtual Mode)

PIL 13/2016

TH.CHHATTER SINGH

...Petitioner(s)

Through: Mr. G. S Thakur, Advocate

Vs.

**STATE TH.TOURISM AND
CULTURE AND ORS.**

...Respondent(s)

Through: Ms. Nisha Kangotra Advocate vice
Ms. Monika Kohli, Sr. AAG for R1-4
Mr. Vishal Sharma, DSGI
Mr. Karan Sharma, CGSC with
Mr. Sumant Sudan, Advocate

CORAM:

**HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (ACTING)
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MOHD YOUSUF WANI, JUDGE**

ORDER

21.07.2026

01. This is a petition filed by the petitioner in Public Interest seeking *inter alia* a direction to the respondents to preserve the ancient monuments i.e Dogra Royal Palace North Mubarak Mandi, Jammu by releasing sufficient funds for restoration of its pristine beauty and grandeur within some time frame.

02. The respondents have filed their objections and in the latest affidavit filed by the Surveyor Officer of Archaeological Survey of India Srinagar Circle Jammu, it is submitted that the conservation work of old High Court Building has been successfully completed in September 2012 and other buildings like

Baddi Deodi, Ghadvi Khana and Royal Court have been assigned to the ASI in the phased manner.

03. It is further submitted that the conservation work of phase-I comprising buildings like Baddi Deodi, Ghadvi Khana and part of Royal Court which was started in May 2014 has been completed upto 85%. In respect of phase -II, it is submitted that the work to the extent of 60% has been completed. This affidavit was filed in 03.01.2022 and four years have passed since then.

04. From reading of the affidavit of the responsible Officer of ASI and the other status reports filed by respondents from time to time, we are convinced that the respondents have taken the requisite steps for preservation and conservation of the Heritage Buildings situated at the Mubarak Mandi, Jammu.

05. We appreciate the concern of the petitioner who took imitative to ensure that the Heritage Buildings situated at Mubarak Mandi, Jammu are restored to their pristine glory.

06. It is in view of filing of this Public interest Litigation and the orders passed by this Court from time to time, the conservation work has picked up requisite pace.

07. We are sure that the respondents will continue with the pace which it has exhibited in respect of works of Phase-I and Phase-II and ensure that the preservation and conservation work in question is completed without any unnecessary waste of time.

08. We hope and trust that respondent Nos. 1 & 2 shall not allow conservation work to suffer for want of funds. With the aforesaid hope we do not wish to continue with this Public Interest Litigation. We, however, leave it open to the petitioner to seek the revival of this petition if he finds some laxity or slackness on the part of the respondents to undertake and complete the conservation works in question.

09. *Disposed of.*

(Mohd Yousuf Wani)
Judge

(Sanjeev Kumar)
Chief Justice (Acting)

SRINAGAR:

21.07.2026

"S. Nuzhat"