

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

CM No.2285 of 2015 and
CWP No. 10954 of 2014

Date of Decision: 22.4.2015

Budhi Ram and another

....Petitioners.

Versus

State of Haryana and others

...Respondents.

**CORAM:- HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AJAY KUMAR MITTAL.
HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE REKHA MITTAL.**

PRESENT: Mr. Sandeep Sharma, Advocate for the petitioners.

Ms. Palika Monga, Deputy Advocate General, Haryana.

AJAY KUMAR MITTAL, J.

1. By way of instant petition filed under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India, the petitioners have prayed for issuance of a writ in the nature of mandamus directing the respondents to release their land in view of Section 24(2) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (hereinafter referred to as “2013 Act”).

2. The petitioners are owners of the land, as detailed in para 3 of the writ petition, situated within the revenue estate of village Ghata, Tehsil and District Gurgaon. Government of Haryana vide notification dated 24.8.2000 (Annexure P-1) issued under Section 4 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 (in short “the Act”) followed by notification dated 22.8.2001 (Annexure P-3) under Section 6 of the Act, acquired the land

of the petitioners. The award was passed on 21.7.2003 (Annexure P-4). Petitioner No.1 filed CWP No. 14638 of 2003 for quashing the notifications issued under Sections 4 and 6 of the Act which was dismissed by this Court vide order dated 24.5.2004 (Annexure P-7). Petitioner No.1 challenged the said order before the Supreme Court by filing SLP No. 22206 of 2004 which was also dismissed vide order dated 5.11.2004 (Annexure P-8). The petitioners are still in physical possession of the land in dispute and no compensation has been paid to them. According to the petitioners, the acquisition proceedings have lapsed in view of Section 24(2) of the 2013 Act. Hence, the present writ petition.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioners submitted that the petitioners are in physical possession of the land in dispute and no compensation has been paid to them. It was claimed that in such circumstances, in view of Section 24(2) of the 2013 Act, the notifications under Sections 4 and 6 of the Act had lapsed. It was further submitted that since no demand notice claiming the relief as claimed in respect of lapse of notifications has been filed with the respondents, liberty be granted to the petitioners to file a detailed and comprehensive representation before the appropriate authority by incorporating the grievance as raised in the present writ petition, however, direction be issued to the authority concerned to decide the representation expeditiously in a time bound manner in accordance with law.

4. After hearing learned counsel for the parties, perusing the present petition and without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, we dispose of the present petition by granting liberty to the petitioners to file a detailed and comprehensive representation raising all

the pleas as raised in the present writ petition before the appropriate authority. It is directed that in the event of a representation being filed by the petitioners within a period of two months from today, the same shall be decided in accordance with law by passing a speaking order and after affording an opportunity of hearing to them within a period of four months from the date of receipt of representation. The petitioners shall be entitled to lead any evidence to substantiate their claim before the concerned authority. Till the matter is decided by the said authority, status quo shall be maintained by the parties.

5. An application bearing CM No. 2285 of 2015 has been filed under Order 1 Rule 10 read with Section 151 of the Code of Civil Procedure for impleading applicant Sada Nand Thakral as respondent No.4 in the present writ petition.

6. In view of disposal of the writ petition whereby the petitioners have been granted liberty to file a detailed and comprehensive representation, the present application has been rendered infructuous and is disposed of as such.

(AJAY KUMAR MITTAL)
JUDGE

April 22, 2015
gbs

(REKHA MITTAL)
JUDGE