

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

CWP No. 12096 of 2014

Date of Decision: 28.7.2015

Ramji Lal and others

....Petitioners.

Versus

State of Haryana and others

...Respondents.

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

PRESENT: Mr. S.S. Khurana, Advocate for the petitioners.

Ms. Palika Monga, Deputy Advocate General, Haryana.

Mr. Ajay Nara, Advocate for respondent No.2.

AJAY KUMAR MITTAL, J.

1. In this petition filed under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India, the petitioners have prayed for issuance of a writ in the nature of certiorari for quashing the acquisition proceedings qua their land situated in vilalge Rewari, Tehsil and District Rewari pursuant to the notifications dated 24.12.2002 (Annexure P-3) issued under Section 4 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 (in short "the Act") and dated 15.12.2003 (Annexure P-4) under Section 6 of the Act, 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 in possession of the land

situated in village Rewari, Tehsil and District Rewari. Government of Haryana issued a notification dated 24.12.2002 (Annexure P-3) under Section 4 of the Act followed by notification dated 15.12.2003 (Annexure P-4) under Section 6 of the Act for acquisition of land of the petitioners for residential and commercial, Sector 5 Part, Rewari. The petitioners filed objections under Section 5-A of the Act. They filed CWP Nos. 17733, and 17781 of 2005 for release of their respective constructed residential structures. The respondents vide letter dated 5.9.2007 (Annexure P-5) release some land of the petitioners. The award was passed on 29.9.2005. They are still in physical possession of the land in question. 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. 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. It is, however, made clear that in case no such representation is filed within the stipulated period as noticed above, the interim order shall cease to operate, thereafter.

(AJAY KUMAR MITTAL)
JUDGE

July 28, 2015
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(REKHA MITTAL)
JUDGE