

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

CWP No. 16057 of 2015

Date of Decision: 6.8.2015

Mahender Singh

....Petitioner.

Versus

State of Haryana and others

...Respondents.

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

PRESENT: Mr. Piyush Gaur, Advocate for the petitioner.

AJAY KUMAR MITTAL, J.

1. In this petition filed under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India, the petitioner has prayed for issuance of a writ in the nature of mandamus declaring and holding that the acquisition proceedings initiated vide notifications dated 26.5.1995 (Annexure P-1) issued under Section 4 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 (in short “the Act”), dated 24.5.1996 (Annexure P-2) under Section 6 of the Act and the award dated 21.5.1998 (Annexure P-3) qua his land measuring 1 kanal 2 marlas situated within the revenue estate of village Bahadurgarh, District Jhajjar, having lapsed 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 petitioner is owner in possession of the land measuring 1 kanal 2 marlas situated within the revenue estate of village

Bahadurgarh, District Jhajjar as per the registered sale deed dated 19.1.1993. Government of Haryana vide notification dated 26.5.1995 (Annexure P-1) issued under Section 4 of the Act followed by notification dated 24.5.1996 (Annexure P-2) under Section 6 of the Act, acquired the land including the land of the petitioner situated in village Bahadurgarh, District Jhajjar for the development and utilization of land as residential and commercial, Sector 2, Bahadurgarh. The award was passed on 21.5.1998 (Annexure P-3). The petitioner is still in physical possession of the land in question and is ready to refund the amount of compensation received by him along with interest. According to the petitioner, 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 petitioner submitted that the petitioner is still in physical possession of the land in question and is ready to refund the amount of compensation received by him along with interest. 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 petitioner 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 petitioner, 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 petitioner 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 petitioner 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 the petitioner within a period of four months from the date of receipt of representation. The petitioner shall be entitled to lead any evidence to substantiate his 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

August 6, 2015
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(REKHA MITTAL)
JUDGE