

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

CWP No. 3769 of 2015

Date of Decision: 18.3.2015

Gindori Devi and others

....Petitioners.

Versus

State of Haryana and another

...Respondents.

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

PRESENT: Mr. Vikram Singh, Advocate for the petitioners.

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 notifications dated 20.4.1990 (Annexure P-3) issued under Section 4 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 (in short "the Act") and dated 18.4.1991 (Annexure P-4) under Section 6 of the Act vide which the land of the petitioners has been acquired. Further a writ of mandamus has been sought directing the respondents to release the land of the petitioners in terms 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 and have constructed their residential houses upon the land comprised in khewat No. 9/18min,

khatauni No. 9, khasra Nos. 37/23 min, 47/2/2, 47/3, 37/16/1 (4-2). Respondent No.1 issued notification dated 20.4.1990 (Annexure P-3) under Section 4 of the Act followed by notification dated 18.4.1991 (Annexure P-4) under Section 6 of the Act for the public purpose, namely, for the development and utilization of land for residential, commercial, institutional and open spaces/recreational area in Gurgaon. The award was passed on 23.3.1999. The petitioners submitted a representation dated 20.12.2014 (Annexure P-5) for release of their land in terms of Section 24(2) of the 2013 Act as they are in actual physical possession of the property in dispute. 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 compensation has not 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 the petitioners have moved a representation dated 20.12.2014 (Annexure P-5) to respondent No.1 for releasing the land in question but no action has so far been taken thereon. He, however, prayed that 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 and 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 petitioners, 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 competent authority. It is directed that in the event of a representation being filed by the petitioners within a period of one month 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 appropriate authority. Till the matter is decided by the said authority, status quo shall be maintained by the parties.

(AJAY KUMAR MITTAL)
JUDGE

March 18, 2015
gbs

(REKHA MITTAL)
JUDGE