

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH
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CWP No.18366 of 2020

Date of Decision: 3rd November, 2020

Raghu Exports (India) Pvt. Ltd.

....Petitioner

VERSUS

State of Punjab and another

....Respondent

**CORAM: JUSTICE S. MURALIDHAR
JUSTICE AVNEESH JHINGAN**

Present: Mr. R.S. Bajaj, Advocate for the Petitioner.

Mr. Vikas Mohan Gupta, Additional Advocate General, Punjab
for Respondent No. 1.

Dr. S. Muralidhar, J.

1. The Petitioner/Company, having its registered office in Jalandhar city, is engaged in the manufacturing of leather and prays in this writ petition for a direction to the Respondents to allow the Petitioner to resume its operations and to restore its electricity and water connections.
2. It is stated in the petition that pursuant to the order dated 29th October, 2019 in LPA No. 1924 of 2014 (*Punjab Effluent Treatment Society for Tanneries & Ors. v. Punjab Leather Federation & Anr.*), the Petitioner/Company was ordered to be shut down for non-compliance with the norms and regulations of Schedule 1 (16) of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 as well as the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. Thereafter, by an order dated 24th January, 2020 in the aforesaid LPA, the Court permitted those facilities seeking permission to run dry units/activities to submit applications to the Punjab Pollution Control Board (Respondent No. 2) for resumption of operations. The Petitioner then submitted an application to the Punjab Pollution Control Board. It is stated that, as in several similar cases, Petitioner has also been issued an 'No Objection Certificate' (NOC) dated 23rd October, 2020 by the Punjab Pollution Control Board, subject

inter alia to the condition that the Petitioner abides by all the norms and regulations of Schedule 1 (16) of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 as well as the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. It is stated that despite the grant of such NOC, electricity and water connections have not been restored in the Petitioner's facility.

3. The Court finds that in an identical petition CWP-11542-2020 (O&M) (*Amsan Leather Industries v. State of Punjab and another*), a Division Bench of this Court has on 10th August, 2020 disposed of the said petition in terms of the order dated 15th June, 2020 passed in CWP-7687-2020 (*Lakshay International Pvt. Ltd. v. State of Punjab and another*), whereby the Respondents were directed to restore electricity and water connections to the Petitioners therein, subject to the Petitioners clearing their dues and completing all formalities at the earliest.
4. It may be noted here that Mr. Vikas Mohan Gupta, learned Counsel for Respondent No. 1 does not dispute that the Petitioner would be entitled to a direction similar to the ones passed by this Court while disposing of the aforementioned petitions.
5. Accordingly, a direction is issued to the Respondents to restore the Petitioner's electricity and water connection, subject to the Petitioner clearing all its dues and fulfilling all formalities at the earliest.
6. The petition is disposed of in the above terms.

(S. MURALIDHAR)
JUDGE

(AVNEESH JHINGAN)
JUDGE

3rd November, 2020
Sachin M.

Whether speaking/reasoned Yes/No

Whether reportable Yes/No