

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH**

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In Virtual Court

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**CWP No. 16317 of 2020
Date of decision : 18.01.2021**

Vikram Singh

.....Petitioner

Vs.

Union of India and others

.....Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJBIR SEHRAWAT

Present : Mr. Roopak Bansal, Advocate, for the petitioner

None for the respondents

Rajbir Sehrawat, J. (Oral)

This petition has been filed under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India seeking issuance of a writ in the nature of mandamus, directing respondent No.5 to decide the Reference No. LAC/68/2011 in Record No. 388 (Annexure P-1), pending in the Court of Deputy Collector, Rewari-cum-Arbitrator, in a time bound manner.

It is submitted by the counsel for the petitioner that the land of the petitioner was acquired for construction of the National Highway. The award of compensation was declared. Against that award, the above numbered reference is pending before respondent No.5 since the year 2011. Even the replies have been submitted by the contesting respondents in the said reference. However, the reference has not been decided by the respondent No. 5 so far.

Notice of motion was issued in this case. At the initial stage, the

Union of India, as well as, other contesting respondents were represented by the counsels. However, today, there is no representation on behalf of any one of the contesting respondents.

Undisputedly, the land of the petitioner stands acquired for which the petitioner is entitled to just compensation. The compensation has been awarded by the Collector. Finding the compensation to be inadequate, the petitioner has availed the statutory remedy of reference, which is pending decision before respondent No.5. The record does not disclose any specific reason as to why respondent No.5 has not taken a final decision on the reference, pending for such a long duration of about 9 years. Hence, this Court deems it appropriate to issue direction to respondent No.5; to take a final decision on the said Arbitration Reference; pending before him.

Accordingly, the present petition is disposed of with a direction to respondent No.5 to finally decide the abovesaid arbitration reference, within a period of 4 months, from the date of receipt of the certified copy of this order.

(RAJBIR SEHRAWAT)
JUDGE

18.01.2021

Ashwani

Speaking/Reasoned	:	Yes/No
Reportable	:	Yes/No