

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

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**CWP-29403-2022
Date of decision: 20.12.2022**

SUKHPAL SINGH CONTRACTOR

.....Petitioner

VERSUS

THE STATE OF PUNJAB AND OTHERS

.....Respondents

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VINOD S. BHARDWAJ

Present:- Mr. Chirag Girdhar, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Saurav Verma, Addl. A.G. Punjab
for respondents.

VINOD S. BHARDWAJ, J. (Oral)

The instant petition has been filed under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India for the issuance of a writ in the nature of mandamus directing the respondents to release the 3rd & final bill amounting to Rs. 5,42,669/- qua the works executed by the petitioner alongwith interest @ 12% per annum.

Learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner contends that the petitioner was allotted work of Stabilization of Pond at Village Hissowal, Block Sudhar, District Ludhiana vide allotment letter No. 3084 dated 24.08.2020. The petitioner successfully completed the same on 05.02.2021. However, the payment of the 1st & 2nd running bills has been

released to the petitioner but the payment of 3rd & final bill amounting to Rs. 5,42,669/- has not been released to the petitioner.

It is contended that the bill with respect to the aforesaid work has already been sent to the respondent-authorities and various representations including representation dated 27.12.2021 (Annexure P-3) has been made by the petitioner to the respondent No.4-the Executive Engineer, Panchayati Raj Public Works Division, Ludhiana for release of his due payment.

Learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner contends that he would be satisfied at this juncture in case the respondent No.4-the Executive Engineer, Panchayati Raj Public Works Division, Ludhiana is directed to look into the representation dated 27.12.2021 (Annexure P-3) and to pass a reasoned and speaking order thereupon in a time bound manner.

Notice of motion.

Mr. Saurav Verma, Addl. A.G. Punjab appears and accepts notice on behalf of respondents and has no objection in the event such prayer of the petitioner as aforesaid is accepted.

Accordingly, the present petition is disposed of with consent and without commenting on the merits of the claim, with a direction to respondent No.4-the Executive Engineer, Panchayati Raj Public Works Division, Ludhiana to examine the grievance espoused by the petitioner in the representation dated 27.12.2021 (Annexure P-3) and to pass a reasoned and speaking order thereupon within a period of 03 months of the receipt of certified copy of this order after affording an opportunity of hearing to the respective parties.

Needless to mention that in the event any amount is found payable, the same shall be released forthwith and preferably within a period of 03 months of such a decision being taken by the respondent-authorities.

The petition is accordingly disposed of.

(VINOD S. BHARDWAJ)
JUDGE

DECEMBER 20, 2022
Vishal Sharma

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No
Whether Reportable : Yes/No