

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

CWP-3013 of 2024

Date of decision: 12.02.2024

Balbir Singh Matoo

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others

.....Respondents

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NAMIT KUMAR**

Present: - Mr. Gurinder S. Lalli, Advocate,  
for the petitioner.

Ms. Neha Sonawane, DAG, Punjab.

**NAMIT KUMAR, J. (ORAL)**

1. Present petition has been filed under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India praying for issuance of writ in the nature of *mandamus* directing the respondents to refund the amount of Rs.5.24 lakhs out of total Rs.6.24 lakhs deposited with respondent No.3 under protest as per charge-sheet issued, as the petitioner stands acquitted in the criminal case registered against him.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner at the outset confines his prayer for deciding legal notice dated 20.11.2023 (Annexure P-6). He submits that at this stage, petitioner would be satisfied, if the said legal notice is decided by passing a speaking order within a time-bound frame.

3. Notice of motion.

4. Ms. Neha Sonawane, DAG, Punjab, who is present in Court accepts notice on behalf of the respondents.

5. I have heard learned counsel for the parties and have gone through the record of the case.
6. Without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case or the claim being made by the petitioner in the present petition, respondent No.2-Managing Director, Punjab Water Resources and Management and Development Corporation Limited, is directed to consider and decide the claim made by the petitioner in the legal notice dated 20.11.2023 (Annexure P-6) in accordance with law, by passing a speaking order within a period of two months from the date of receipt of certified copy of this order and convey the same to the petitioner.
7. The petition stands disposed of.

12.02.2024  
R.S.

(NAMIT KUMAR)  
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether Reportable : Yes/No