

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

CWP-32189-2019

Date of Decision : **06.03.2025**

M/S ANANAD ASSOCIATES

.....Petitioner

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB AND OTHERS

.....Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE KULDEEP TIWARI

Present : Mr. Sushil Jain, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr. Sahil R. Bakshi, AAG, Punjab.

Mr. Angadpreet Singh, Advocate,
for respondent no.2 to 6.

KULDEEP TIWARI, J.(Oral)

1. The grievance, which propelled the present petitioner to approach this Court, by filing the instant writ petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, is for seeking a *mandamus* upon the competent authority amongst the respondents, to release the outstanding amount, i.e. Rs.55,65,443/- incurred on account of operation and maintenance of Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), Sahnewal, Ludhiana, for a period w.e.f. 10.11.2017 till date.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that during the pendency of the instant writ petition, about Rs.40 lakhs has already been paid, however, rest of the amount has not been paid while taking some flimsy objections.

3. Learned counsel for respondents no.2 to 6 submits that there is some dispute with regard to date of stabilization of the plant, and therefore, the amount has not been released.

4. Upon a specific query to learned counsel for the respondents no.2 to 6, as to whether, any speaking order has been passed with regard to the claim, which has been raised by petitioner by filing the instant petition, to which he answered in negative.

5. In view of the above, without adjudicating the issue on merits, at the first instance, this Court deems it appropriate to direct the competent authority amongst the respondents, i.e. respondent no.3- Engineer-in-Chief, Punjab Water Supply and Sewage Board, to take a final decision on the claim, as raised by the petitioner, by passing a speaking order, within a period of three months from today.

6. It goes without saying that before passing a speaking order by respondent no.3, an opportunity of hearing be granted to the petitioner.

7. **Disposed of** accordingly.

March 06, 2025
dharamvir

(KULDEEP TIWARI)
JUDGE

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