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

CR-5846-2025

Date of Decision: 28.10.2025

National Highways Authority of India

.... Petitioner

Versus

Narinder Singh and others

..... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JASGURPREET SINGH PURI

Present: Mr. Sunil Kumar, Advocate for
Mr. Samarth Sagar, Advocate for the petitioner.

JASGURPREET SINGH PURI, J. (ORAL)

1. The present petition has been filed under Article 227 of the Constitution of India seeking issuance of direction to the Court of Additional District Judge, Rupnagar to expedite the hearing of the application under Section 36(2) of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 (hereinafter referred to as 'the Act') in the objection petition under Section 34 of the Act filed by the petitioner-NHAI titled as "*Union of India and another Vs. Narinder Singh and others*", ARB/441/2023, pending adjudication before the learned Additional District Judge, Rupnagar.

2. On the last date of hearing i.e. on 25.09.2025, the following order was passed:-

"On the last date of hearing, the learned District & Sessions Judge, Rupnagar was directed to file a fresh status report.

Again a report has been filed which is ambiguous and not clear.

To clarify the query raised by this Court, it is reiterated that this Court has sought a status report from the concerned Court or the learned District Judge



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regarding whether any application under Section 36(2) of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 is pending in all these three cases or not. It appears that in both the reports sent earlier, the learned District Judge has confused between any application before the Executing Court and the application before the Court hearing objections under Section 34 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996. Therefore, a report be sent in a clear-cut manner in all the three cases whether application under Section 36(2) of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 is pending or not.

Adjourned to 28.10.2025.

A copy of this order be placed on the files of other connected cases.”

3. In pursuance of the aforesaid order, a status report has been received from the Additional District Judge, Rupnagar, wherein it has been so stated that the application under Section 36(2) of the Act is pending.

4. Learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner has submitted that his only limited prayer is that the application filed by the petitioner-NHAI under Section 36(2) of the Act be considered and decided in accordance with law within a fixed time-framework.

5. Considering the aforesaid limited prayer made by learned counsel for the petitioner, this Court is of the view that even without issuing notice to the respondents, it will be just and proper to direct the learned Court where the application under Section 36(2) of the Act, if any, is pending to make an endeavour to decide the same as expeditiously as possible.

6. Disposed of.

28.10.2025

Bhumika

(JASGURPREET SINGH PURI)
JUDGE

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| 1. Whether speaking/reasoned: | Yes/No |
| 2. Whether reportable: | Yes/No |