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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

+ W.P.(C) 2151/2022

ROHIT GUPTA

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Abhishrut Singh, Advocate.

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ANR.

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Sanjay Kumar Pathak, SC with
Mrs. K.K. Kiran Pathak, Mr. Sunil
Kumar Jha, Mr. M.S. Akhtar and Mr.
Divakar Kapil, Advs for R-1.

+ W.P.(C) 2246/2022

MADHU GUPTA

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Abhishrut Singh, Advocate.

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ANR.

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Sanjay Kumar Pathak, SC with
Mrs. K.K. Kiran Pathak, Mr. Sunil
Kumar Jha, Mr. M.S. Akhtar and Mr.
Divakar Kapil, Advs for R-1.

+ W.P.(C) 2380/2022

RAM KISHAN GUPTA

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Abhishrut Singh, Advocate.

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ANR.

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Sanjay Kumar Pathak, SC with
Mrs. K.K. Kiran Pathak, Mr. Sunil
Kumar Jha, Mr. M.S. Akhtar and Mr.
Divakar Kapil, Advs for R-1.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NITIN WASUDEO SAMBRE

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANISH DAYAL

ORDER

% **08.08.2025**

1. *Vide* impugned order dated 17th December 2021, in all these petitions,
and similar other orders in these petitions, the *Tehsildar* who acted as the



Land Acquisition Collector, refused to forward the reference preferred under **Section 18** of the **Land Acquisition Act, 1894**, for the reason that the same was time barred.

2. The fact remains that it is not for the Land Acquisition Collector/ Tehsildar to adjudicate upon the issue of limitation, as he cannot be termed as a ‘*Court*’ for the purpose of **Limitation Act, 1963**.

3. In that view of the matter, impugned order dated 17th December 2021, in all these petitions, is hereby quashed and set aside.

4. We direct the Land Acquisition Collector/Tehsildar to forward the references submitted by petitioner under **Section 18** forthwith, if so required, with his comments to the competent authority for determination of the issues involved therein.

5. Needless to clarify, we have not expressed any opinion on the merits of the matter.

6. Accordingly, the petitions stand allowed in above terms.

7. Order be uploaded on the website of this Court.

NITIN WASUDEO SAMBRE, J

ANISH DAYAL, J

AUGUST 8, 2025/RK/sp