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

+ **W.P.(C) 16779/2024**

RAGHVANDER SINGH

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Rachit Khandelwal, Mr. Rohan Aggarwal, Mr. A. Singh, Advocates.

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ANR.

.....Respondent

Through: Mr. Sanjay Kumar Pathak, Standing Counsel with Ms. K.K. Kiran Pathak, Mr. Sunil Kumar Jha, Mr. Mod. Sueb Akhtar, Advocates for R-1.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NITIN WASUDEO SAMBRE

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANISH DAYAL

ORDER

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13.08.2025

1. We have heard the respective counsels for some time.
2. The issue which warrants consideration before this Court is whether reference under Section 18 of the Land Acquisition Act 1894 (*'Act of 1894'*) is still pending with respondent, and whether the same can be directed to be forwarded to the competent authority for its adjudication.
3. Though a copy of reference under Section 18 is placed at *Annexure P-2*, it is the contention of counsel for petitioner that the index depicting the acknowledgment from the office of Land Acquisition Collector (*'LAC'*) is in custody of petitioner and, if so required, same can be made available to counsel appearing for respondent no.1/Union of India (*UOI*) or LAC.



4. Apart from above, it is claimed that the reminder dated 23rd February 2023, at *Annexure P-3* has the acknowledgement of respondent no.1, a fact which is borne out of record and not disputed by *Mr. Sanjay Kumar Pathak*, counsel appearing for respondent no.1.
5. In this background, we deem it appropriate to dispose of the present petition.
6. We permit the petitioner to appear before the LAC on 25th August 2025, along with original acknowledgement *qua* the submission of reference under Section 18 of the Act of 1894, to the LAC.
7. Upon satisfaction, the LAC shall forthwith forward the same for its adjudication as per the scheme of Section 18 of the Act of 1894, within a period of two weeks thereafter.
8. Accordingly, petition is disposed of.
9. Pending applications, if any, are rendered infructuous.
10. Order be uploaded on the website of this Court.

NITIN WASUDEO SAMBRE, J

ANISH DAYAL, J

AUGUST 13, 2025/RK/zb