Serial No. 96
Suppl. Cause List

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH AT SRINAGAR

WP(C) 1122/2024 CM (3070/2024)

M/S Aspire Technologies Self Help Group …Petitioner(s)/Appellant(s).

Through: Mr. Tawheed Ahmad, Advocate

Vs.

Union Territory of J and K and Others ...Respondent(s).

Through: None.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MOHD YOUSUF WANI, JUDGE

ORDER

31.10.2026

1. Respondents are yet to file their reply in the matter.

2. It is submitted by the learned counsel for the petitioner that the matter can be disposed of even at this threshold stage as the petitioner is seeking release of the admitted liability in his favour against the works that had been allotted to him as a Member of the Self-Help Group of Engineers and finally completed.

3. The case of the petitioner is that the Government launched a scheme with the object of providing gainful employment to unemployed engineers by allotting work contracts to them, thereby enabling them to become self-dependent and also create employment opportunities for other unemployed youth. That in furtherance of the said scheme, the petitioner, being a self-help group of unemployed engineers, was allotted various works/contracts by the respondent department, which were duly

executed and completed by the petitioner within the stipulated time and in accordance with the terms and conditions prescribed by the respondent department. That the petitioner incurred huge expenditure and raised finances from various banks and financial institutions. That the respondent/Department, after being satisfied with the execution and completion of the allotted works, issued work completion certificates in its favour, and the final bills were also duly raised, signed and approved by the competent authorities. That, however, despite fulfilment of all contractual obligations by the petitioner-group and the liability of the respondents having been admitted, an amount of ₹70,28,000/- (Rupees Seventy Lakh Twenty-Eight Thousand only) has been withheld by the respondent/Department without any cogent reason or justification. That despite the availability of funds and approval of the final bills, the respondents have deliberately failed to release the outstanding payment, thereby causing financial hardship to the petitioner-group.

4. The petitioner-group has, accordingly, prayed for issuance of writ/direction in the nature of mandamus for commanding upon the respondent's-Department to release the admitted liability of Rs. ₹70,28,000/- (Rupees Seventy Lakh Twenty-Eight Thousand only) along with 18% interest in its favour.

5. Perused the memo of the petition and the copies of the documents enclosed with the same as Annexures I-III.

6. In the facts and circumstances of the case, the Court is of the opinion that as submitted by the learned counsel for the petitioner,

the matter can be disposed of at this stage by passing of appropriate directions which are not likely to prejudice the interests of any of the parties.

7. Accordingly, the instant petition is **disposed of** with the direction to the respondents to release the due liability amount in favour of the petitioner-group in respect of execution of the works alleged to have been completed by it pursuant to formal allotment of the same after proper verification and in accordance with the law.

8. Respondents shall do the needful within a period of Eight (8) weeks from the date copies of this order are left at their offices.

(MOHD YOUSUF WANI)
JUDGE

SRINAGAR
31.10.2026
Shahid Manzoor