

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION**

WRIT PETITION NO. 15913 OF 2024

Balkrishna Lalji Mehta
since decd. through LRs & Ors. ... Petitioners
Versus
The Chief Engineer, National Highways
PWD, Konkan Bhawan & Ors. ... Respondents

Mr. Anil Sakhare, Senior Advocate, i/by Mr. Vivek V. Salunke for
the Petitioners.

Mr. A. I. Patel. Addl. G. P. a/w Mrs. G. R. Raghuwanshi, AGP for
Respondents.

**CORAM : MANISH PITALE AND
SHREERAM V. SHIRSAT, JJ.**

DATE : 21st JANUARY 2026

P.C. :

. Heard learned senior counsel appearing for the petitioners
and the learned Addl. G. P. for respondent Nos.3 and 4. There is
no appearance on behalf of respondent Nos.1 and 2 despite
service.

2. Having perused the documents available along with the writ
petition, we are convinced that the petitioners have made out a
case in their favour for allowing the writ petition and granting
direction for disbursal of the amount of compensation determined
as per the award, copy of which has been annexed to the writ
petition. There does not appear to be any ground for respondents

to resist the prayers made on behalf of the petitioners. It appears that despite the quantum of compensation having been determined as far back as on 8th April 2024, the amount has not been disbursed and the petitioners are running from post to pillar for their own money. It is brought to our notice that land of the petitioners is already utilized for construction of road.

3. We were inclined to allow the writ petition today itself, but for the fact that the learned Addl. G. P. submitted that an affidavit could be placed on record on behalf of respondent No.3-competent Authority for Land Acquisition. It was submitted that the said Officer is currently appointed for election duties and in that light, a short adjournment may be granted to place an affidavit on record.

4. By way of indulgence and as a matter of last chance, the respondent No.3 is granted time till 9th February 2026 to place affidavit on record. No further time shall be granted.

5. List the petition for hearing/disposal on 12th February 2026, to be included in the supplementary list.

(SHREERAM V. SHIRSAT, J.)

(MANISH PITALE, J.)