



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

164**CWP-10401-2026****Date of Decision: 07.04.2026****AU Small Finance Bank Limited****....Petitioner****Versus****District Magistrate, Ludhiana and others****....Respondents**

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUVIR SEHGAL
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIKAS SURI**

Present: Ms. Deepika Mittal, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Ms. Neha Sonawane, Deputy Advocate General, Punjab.

SUVIR SEHGAL, J. (ORAL)

1. This writ petition has been filed *inter alia* for issuance of a writ in the nature of mandamus directing District Magistrate, Ludhiana, to decide the application dated 14.05.2024, Annexure P-3, filed by petitioner under Section 14 of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (for short, 'SARFAESI Act').

2. Counsel for the petitioner submits that respondents No.2 and 3 had availed credit facility from the petitioner-Bank and had mortgaged an immovable property. Counsel asserts that due to continuous default in repayment, loan account was classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA) on 08.08.2023. A notice under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act was issued on 11.08.2023 (Annexure P-1), followed by notice under Section 13(4) of



CWP-10401-2026

-2-

SARFAESI Act dated 16.12.2023 (Annexure P-2), whereafter symbolic possession of the secured asset was taken. Counsel states that petitioner moved an application (Annexure P-3) under Section 14 of SARFAESI Act, on 14.05.2024 before the District Magistrate, Ludhiana in May, 2024, which is still pending. Counsel has made a reference to the statutory provisions and has urged that the application has to be decided within the time frame provided in the statute.

3. Heard counsel for the petitioner.

4. In view of the observations of this Court in ***Bank of Maharashtra vs. District Magistrate, Hisar and others***, 2024(2) PLR 346 as well as in ***IIFL Home Finance Limited vs. State of Haryana and others***, Law Finder Doc ID #2875322, writ petition is disposed of with a direction to District Magistrate, Ludhiana to decide the application dated 14.05.2024 (Annexure P-3) as expeditiously as possible, preferably within a period of 60 days from the date of communication of copy of this order, unless there is any legal impediment in doing so.

(SUVIR SEHGAL)
JUDGE

(VIKAS SURI)
JUDGE

April 07, 2026
Varinder

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No