

CWP No.15100 of 2026 (O&M)

2026:PHHC:078087



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

284-U

CWP No.15100 of 2026 (O&M)
Date of Decision:18.05.2026

SUKHDARSHAN SINGH AND ANR.Petitioners

Vs

UNION OF INDIA AND OTHERSRespondents

CORAM: *HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARKESH MANUJA*

Present: Mr. Vikram Rathore, Advocate and
Mr. Chander Kant Rana, Advocate
for the petitioners.

HARKESH MANUJA, J. (Oral)

1. The present writ petition has been filed under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India. The limited relief sought is that the respondents be directed to grant 100% solatium alongwith interest to the petitioner as per provisions of Section 30 and The First Schedule of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (for short, "2013 Act") for the land acquired under the National Highways Act, 1956 in view of letters dated 05.06.2015 (Annexure P-2) & 03.02.2016 (Annexure P-3).

2. The claim is based on the guidelines/letter dated 28.12.2017 (Annexure P-4) issued by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways regarding the grant of benefit of 2013 Act to the landowners.

3. In short, the stand of the petitioners is that certain land owned by her was acquired by NHAI vide Notifications dated 05.07.2013 and 04.02.2014 issued under Sections 3-A & 3-D of the 2013 Act respectively, for public purpose of widening and four laning of the National Highway No.15 (Bathinda Section) from



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265.700 Km to 287.215 km. The award dated 07.11.2014 was passed by respondent No.3 (Annexure P-1), whereby solatium at 30% was granted alongwith other statutory benefits. The grouse thus is that in view of the abovesaid letter/guidelines, the solatium has to be granted @ 100% alongwith interest.

4. Learned counsel submits that the award dated 07.11.2014 was passed by respondent No.3 (Annexure P-1), whereby solatium at 30% was granted and the representation dated 17.04.2026 (Annexure P-6) has already been moved to the respondents and the amount was only paid to the petitioner after 01.01.2015 i.e. after the relevant date i.e. 31.12.2014 fixed by the NHAI and, therefore, the petitioners are entitled for the benefit of 100% solatium, plus interest.

5. Notice of motion.

6. On asking of the Court, Mr. H.S. Gill, Advocate accepts notice on behalf of respondent No.2, whereas, Mr. Karunesh Kaushal, Asstt. A.G., Punjab accepts notice on behalf of respondent No.3.

7. Keeping in view the controversy involved, and the fact that the decision making process on the representation is still incomplete, there is no requirement at this stage to call upon for reply on behalf of the respondents as it would delay the proceedings further.

8. Without commenting upon the merits of the case and entitlement of the petitioner, the present writ petition is disposed of with direction to respondent No.3 to take a decision on the representation dated 17.04.2026 (Annexure P-6) and pass a speaking order within a period of two months from the date of receipt of certified copy of the order by associating respondent No.2 with the said process.

9. In case, the petitioners' case is covered under the abovesaid guidelines/letter 28.12.2017 (Annexure P-4), necessary award shall be passed and



the amount if so payable, the same be disbursed to the petitioners within a period of three months thereafter. It is open to respondent No.3 to reject the case in case there is any legal impediment and speaking order can accordingly be passed in that case.

- 10. The writ petition is accordingly, disposed of.
- 11. Pending application, if any, also stands disposed of.

May 18, 2026
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(HARKESH MANUJA)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned	Yes/No
Whether reportable	Yes/No