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

CWP-17701-2022

Date of decision:-11.02.2026

M/s Poonam Transport Company and another

...Petitioners

Versus

State of Haryana and others

...Respondents

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUVIR SEHGAL

Present: Mr. Shivam Kapila, Advocate for
Ms. Tanu Bedi, Advocate
for the petitioners.

Mr. Deepak Vashisth, DAG, Haryana.

Mr. K.K. Gupta, Advocate
for respondents No.5 to 7.

SUVIR SEHGAL, J.(ORAL)

1. Instant writ petition has been filed, inter alia, for issuance of a writ in the nature of mandamus directing respondents to release the amount due to the petitioners for transportation work as per terms and conditions of work orders, Annexures P5, P6, P8, P14 and P16.

2. Writ petition is being contested by the respondents. An additional affidavit has been filed by Mr. Aditya Kaushik, Controller,



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Food Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Panipat, wherein it has been deposited as under:

“3. That meeting of State Level Committee (SLC) held on 23.01.2023, wherein, it has been decided t hat in case of 85 mandis for Mandi Labour Contractor (MLC) and 47 Mandis for Mandi Transport Contractor (MTC) rates of which were not approved earlier, in order to provide some relief to MLC/MTC contractors who have already executed the work, payment may be released as per the approved rates of Rabi Marketing Season/Khariff Marketing Season 2021-22 of these Mandis. Further, regarding unfinalised rate of remaining 85 Mandis for Mandi Labour Contractor (MLC) and 47 mandis for Mandi Transport Contractor (MTC) rates of which were not approved earlier, it is decided by the State Level Committee (SLC) that the rates of Mandi Labour Contractor (MLC) and Mandi Transport Contractor (MTC) of these Mandi for the previous year, 2021-22 or quoted rates by tender in the year 2022-23, whichever is lower, is approved. It is further submitted that case of the Petitioner No.1 falls under this category. As per Government of India letter No.192(14)/2018/FcAc/s dated 06.05.2019, State Level Committee is the only competent authority to decide the rates of Mandi Labour Contractor (MLC)/Mandi Transport Contractor (MTC) in respect of CMR/Paddy/Wheat and there are no instruction to adopt interim rates. Further as the rates of Mandi Labour Contractor (MLC) (Rabi Marketing Season 22-23) for Samalkha Mandi are on higher side that’s why these rates couldn’t decided by State Level Committee and therefore, hike of rates was the primary reason to reject such rates, Copy of the minutes of the meeting of State Level Committee held on 23.01.2023 is annexed herewith as **Annexure R-2/4.**”



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3. It is evident from the above that there is a dispute regarding the payment being claimed by the petitioners. Petitioners have a remedy of raising the dispute by approaching an Arbitrator in terms of Clause 27 of the tender policy for Mandi Transport Contractor.

4. In view of the above, writ petition is disposed of.

5. Liberty is granted to the petitioner to take recourse to the alternate remedy.

(SUVIR SEHGAL)
JUDGE

11.02.2026

Brij

Whether reasoned/speaking : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No