



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

CWP-15864-2026(O&M)
Date of decision: 20.05.2026

District Social Justice & Empowerment Officer, Ferozepur

... Petitioner

Versus

Bhola Nath and another

... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JAGMOHAN BANSAL

Present: Mr. Ishan Kaushal, Assistant Advocate General, Punjab,
for the petitioner.

JAGMOHAN BANSAL, J. (ORAL)

1. The petitioner through instant petition under article 226/227 of the Constitution of India is seeking setting aside of award dated 16.01.2025 (Annexure P-9) whereby learned Permanent Lok Adalat (for short 'PLA') has allowed respondent's application filed under Section 22C of the Legal Services Authority Act, 1987 (for short '1987 Act').

2. Respondent No.1-Bhola Nath on 08.07.2020 filed an application before competent authority seeking release of benefit of Shagun Scheme. As per application his daughter solemnized marriage on 15.06.2020. Marriage was fixed for 15.06.2020 but was actually performed on 07.06.2020. The petitioner rejected his application on the ground of delay. He filed an application under Section 22C of 1987 Act before PLA which sought response of the petitioner. Matter was tried to be reconciled, however, was finally adjudicated on merits. PLA has concluded that there was delay of only one day in filing application and there is no other objection with respect to applicant's entitlement.



3. Contention of the State *prima facie* seems to be correct and justified to the extent that PLA had no jurisdiction to consider eligibility and release of benefit under a particular scheme, however, considering the fact that amount involved is merely Rs.32,500/- and respondent's claim was rejected on the ground of one day's delay, this Court does not find it appropriate to interfere. The question of law involved is left open.
4. The petition stands dismissed.
5. Pending application(s), if any, also stands disposed of.

(JAGMOHAN BANSAL)
JUDGE

May 20, 2026

Rajan

Whether speaking / reasoned:
Whether Reportable:

Yes/No
Yes/No