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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CWP-PIL-89-2026 (O&M)
Date of Decision: 08.04.2026

MANJIT KAUR

... PETITIONER

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB AND OTHERS

... RESPONDENTS

**CORAM:- HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SHEEL NAGU, CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJIV BERRY**

Present:- Mr. Munish Puri, Advocate (arguing counsel)
for the petitioner.

Mr. Vipin Pal Yadav, Addl. Advocate General, Punjab.

SANJIV BERRY, J.

1. The instant writ petition (Public Interest Litigation) under Article 226/227 of the Constitution of India has been preferred by the petitioner seeking redressal against the illegal mining and financial loss to the public exchequer and environmental challenges resulting from piling of the mined material in the village panchayat Anerh, Tehsil and District Pathankot.

2. During course of hearing on 05.02.2025 following order was passed:-

“The reply of the State reveals that auction of 40,000 metric ton dumped material ‘sand and gravel’ was conducted by Gram Panchayat and the Panchayat Department on 13.09.2019 in favour of the successful bidder who offered Rs.30,55,000/-. Later, it was found by conducting a volumetric assessment of the material



through drone survey that the same was weighing 1,59,500 metric ton valuing Rs.2,34,78,400/- (including royalty of Rs.95,70,000/-) as against the auctioned out dumped material to be 40,000 metric ton.

To enquire into the aforesaid anomaly, a Committee was constituted comprising of Additional Deputy Commissioner, Rural Development Panchayat, Executive Engineer (Water Resource-Mining) Pathankot and District Development and Panchayat Officer, which made recommendations followed by directions to the auction purchaser to pay the balance amount.

The reply is silent as to what steps, thereafter, were taken. Let an affidavit be filed by the competent Authority before the next date of hearing.

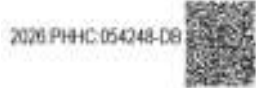
List on 19.03.2025.

Photocopy of this order be placed on the file of the connected case.”

3. In response thereto, the State has filed reply by way of an affidavit dated 27.02.2026 of Executive Engineer, Drainage-cum Mining and Geology, Division, Water Resource Department, Punjab, Pathankot on behalf of respondent No.1 to 4.

4. After considering the submissions made by learned counsels for the parties and perusing the affidavit filed on behalf of respondent No.1 to 4, it transpires that the affidavit filed on behalf of respondent No.1 to 4 answers the query raised by this Court vide order dated 05.02.2025. As, it is specifically mentioned therein that as per letter dated 20.03.2024 (Annexure R-10) an amount of ₹2,37,37,225/- was to be paid by bidder for lifting material weighing 1,61,477.72 MT. The affidavit also specifically mention that this amount of ₹2,37,37,225/- had already been recovered from the bidder.

4.1 The affidavit also specifies the queries raised by this Court and the learned counsel for the petitioner has not disputed the genuineness thereof.



5. In view of the above, the cause raised in the present petition having been satisfied and continuation of the petition any further is not required. As a consequent, the writ petition is hereby disposed of as such.
6. Pending application(s) if any, stands disposed of.

(SANJIV BERRY)
JUDGE

(SHEEL NAGU)
CHIEF JUSTICE

Dated: 08.04.2026
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| i) | Whether speaking/reasoned? | Yes/No |
| ii) | Whether reportable? | Yes/No |