



123-CWP-39418-2025

-1-

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

CWP-39418-2025

Date of decision: 28.01.2026

Lal Bahadur Singh**....Petitioner.**

Versus

State of Punjab and others**....Respondents.**

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

Present:- Mr. Anmol Rattan Sidhu, Sr. Advocate, (arguing counsel)
with Ms. Sandhya Gaur, Advocate,
Mr. Aditya Pratap Singh Nain, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr. Salil Sabhlok, Senior DAG, Punjab.

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SHEEL NAGU, CHIEF JUSTICE (Oral)

The grievance of the petitioner is that an application dated 21.08.2025 (Annexure P-1), for cutting of trees in respect of area, i.e. village Jhandia, Hadbast no. 515, Tehsil Sri Anandpur Sahib, District Rupnagar, was preferred well within the time limit as prescribed in the Government of Punjab, Department of Forests & Wildlife Preservation Punjab Management Plan of Private Forest Areas Closed u/s 4 of Punjab Land Preservation Act, 1900 (for short, '*the Management Plan 1900*'))

2. This petition was filed on 20.12.2025, aggrieved by the order dated 28.11.2025 (Annexure P-6) vide which the Superintendent, Department of Forest and Wildlife Conservation, Punjab, granted last opportunity to the petitioner/applicant to provide details about Court

123-CWP-39418-2025

-2-

case/complaint/dispute etc., in regard to the land on which the trees, sought to be cut are standing.

3. It appears that the petitioner/applicant, vide letter dated 26.09.2025 (Annexure P-5), had already informed the District Forest Officer, Rupnagar, about the pendency of Civil Suit No. 440-2025 which appears to have been ignored by the District Forest Officer, Rupnagar. It seems that the District Forest Officer, Rupnagar, wanted the petitioner to furnish a copy of order of the Court case but the same was not provided by the petitioner. However, according to learned counsel for the petitioner, the same was also supplied but to no avail.

4. Be that as it may. Since the application is still pending with the District Forest Officer, Rupnagar, and the same needs to be taken to its logical conclusion in terms of the *Management Plan 1900* (Annexure P-7), the District Forest Officer, Rupnagar, is directed to decide the said application by passing a speaking order within a period of 15 days from the date of communication of this order.

(SHEEL NAGU)
CHIEF JUSTICE

(SANJIV BERRY)
JUDGE

28.01.2026
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| i) | Whether speaking/reasoned? | Yes/No |
| ii) | Whether reportable? | Yes/No |