HIGH COURT OF UTTARAKHAND AT NAINITAL

Writ Petition Misc. Single No. 2511 of 2026

26 October, 2026

Harsh Singh Bisht --Petitioner

Versus

District Magistrate Nainital and Others --Respondents

Presence:-

Mr. D.S. Mehta, learned counsel for petitioner.
Mr. Devendra Pant, learned Standing Counsel and Mr. J.S. Bisht, learned Standing Counsel for the State of Uttarakhand/respondent Nos.1 and 2.
Mr. Shailendra Singh Chauhan, learned counsel for respondent No.3.
Mr. T.A. Khan, learned senior counsel assisted by Mr. Vinay Bhatt, learned counsel for respondent No.5.

Hon'ble Pankaj Purohit, J.

Pursuant to earlier order dated 13.10.2026, Mr. Pranav Sharma, Unit Head of respondent No.5-ITC Ltd., Lalkuan, District Nainital, is present before this Court.

2. The present writ petition has been filed by petitioner on the premise that respondent No.4-Century Pulp & Paper, Lalkuan, District Nainital, has given undertaking on 09.09.2021 (Annexure No.1 to the writ petition) on the basis of report of the Committee dated 22.08.2019 (Annexure No.6 to the writ petition), wherein, respondent No.4 has

undertaken to construct a Tube well with Overhead Tank at Ghoranala, Bindukhatta Lalkua, to ensure supply of safe drinking water in the area and it also undertook to bear all the expenses for installation of the tube well along with overhead tank, if this work is carried by Chief Engineer, Jal Sansthan, Uttarakhand, Vikash Bhawan, Bhimtal, District Nainital.

3. The grievance of the petitioner is that till date, the said tube well along with overhead tank has not been constructed and the people in the area are forced to drink polluted water due to respondent No.4 Century Pulp & Paper, Lalkuan, District Nainital.

4. Learned senior counsel appearing for respondent No.5 submits that respondent No.5-ITC Ltd., Lalkuan, District Nainital, has taken over respondent No.4 Century Pulp & Paper, Lalkuan, District Nainital, only on 01.08.2026 and it sincerely wants to comply with the undertaking given by respondent No.4 under the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

5. Learned counsel appearing for respondent No.3 also submits that construction is to be done by the Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam and not by the Uttarakhand Jal Sansthan, and therefore, they are also ready to carry out the construction work provided the land and fund are made available for it.

6. Learned counsel for petitioner at this juncture submits that land would be provided by the villagers of Bindukhatta for the said purpose after

negotiating with the State Government or stakeholders.

7. Having heard learned counsel for parties and having perused the material placed on record, the writ petition is disposed of with the consent of learned counsel for parties. It is directed that petitioner shall arrange and provide land for the purpose of construction of tube well along with overhead tank of sufficient capacity in the village and if land is provided by the petitioner to respondent No.3, the fund for the said purpose would be released by the respondent No.5, the tube well along with overhead tank of sufficient capacity shall be constructed within a period of six months from the date of providing land and fund to respondent No.3.

(Pankaj Purohit, J.)
26.10.2026

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