2026:AHC:211099

HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT ALLAHABAD

WRIT - C No. - 40964 of 2026

Paschimanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited

.....Petitioner(s)

Versus

Permanent Lok Adalat And Another

.....Respondent(s)

Counsel for Petitioner(s)	:	Ankit Prakash
Counsel for Respondent(s)	:	

Court No. - 36

HON'BLE SAURABH SHYAM SHAMSHERY, J.

1. Petitioner before this Court is Paschimanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited and is aggrieved by impugned order dated 30.05.2026 passed by Permanent Lok Adalat, Meerut.

2. As per the facts mentioned in impugned order the contesting-respondent, a practicing Advocate has raised a dispute of Rs. 675.50/- that it was not adjusted though according to learned counsel for petitioner it was later on adjusted.

3. Permanent Lok Adalat in a very cursory manner has conducted the conciliation proceedings only on ground that contesting-respondent has not appeared for conciliation. There is nothing on record, whether any further steps were taken or not. Therefore, it would be in the teeth of a judgment passed by this Court in **Manager Life Insurance Corporation of India, Basti vs. Permanent Lok Adalat, Basti and others, 2021:AHC:151400.**

4. Permanent Lok Adalat has refused to accept that Rs. 675.50 was adjusted by petitioner and held that contesting-respondent will be entitled for payment of Rs. 675.50 with 6% annual interest from 11.11.2024 to 30.05.2026.

5. Learned counsel for petitioner submits that petitioner is not much aggrieved by said part of order since the amount would come to about Rs.

738/- however, petitioner is aggrieved by later part of order, i.e., exemplary cost of Rs. 20,000/-; Rs. 10,000/- for mental agony and Rs. 5000/- towards litigation expenses.

6. The Court takes note of claim raised by contesting-respondent that he has demanded Rs. 20,000/- towards damages and Rs. 10,000/- towards cost. Contesting-respondent has never asked for damage towards mental agony.

7. Court further takes note of the procedure of Permanent Lok Adalat as mentioned in Section 22-D of Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 which also includes objectivity, fair play and equity, therefore, imposition of cost should be determined considering said aspect of case, whereas in the present case there is no consideration for determining amount towards damage, mental agony and litigation expenses.

8. In aforesaid circumstances, the Court finds that it was not a case of exemplary cost. Therefore, the writ petition is disposed of that in case petitioner paid amount determined against non-adjusted amount of Rs. 675.50 alongwith 6% annual interest within a period of three weeks from today, remaining amount towards cost shall be kept in abeyance for a period of six months. Meanwhile, petitioner will be at liberty to file a recall application so far as later part of order is concerned. In case any such application is filed, the Permanent Lok Adalat will pass a fresh order so far as later part of order is concerned, in the light of above observations. Order of abeyance would be subject to fresh order.

October 8, 2026
AK

(Saurabh Shyam Shamshery,J.)

Digitally signed by :-
AWADESH KUMAR
High Court of Judicature at Allahabad