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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CR-1938-2025

Date of Decision: 19.09.2025

National Highways Authority of India

.... Petitioner

Versus

Sham Lal and others

..... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JASGURPREET SINGH PURI

Present: Mr. Arkash Mani Garg, Advocate for
Mr. K.S. Kang, Advocate
for the petitioner.

JASGURPREET SINGH PURI, J. (ORAL)

1. The present petition has been filed under Article 227 of the Constitution of India seeking issuance of direction to the Court of Additional District Judge, Patiala to expedite the hearing of the application under Section 36(2) of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 (hereinafter referred to as 'the Act') in the objection petition under Section 34 of the Act filed by the petitioner-NHAI titled as "*National Highways Authority of India Vs. Sham Lal and others*", ARB/188/2023, pending adjudication before the learned Additional District Judge, Patiala.

2. On the last date of hearing i.e. on 12.08.2025, the following order was passed:-

"Learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner submitted that an application under Section 36(2) of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 as well as objection petition under Section 34 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 is pending before



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the learned Additional District Judge since long time but even the application for stay has not been adjudicated upon. He submitted that his limited prayer is for seeking issuance of a direction to the concerned Court to decide the same expeditiously.

Before proceeding further, let a status report be called from the concerned Additional District Judge, Jalandhar with regard to the status of the case.

Adjourned to 19.09.2025.

A copy of this order be placed on the file of another connected case”

3. In pursuance of the aforesaid order, a status report has been received from the Additional District and Sessions Judge, Patiala, wherein it has been so stated that the matter is adjourned to 21.11.2025.

4. Learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner has submitted that his only limited prayer is that the application filed by the petitioner-NHAI under Section 36(2) of the Act be considered and decided in accordance with law within a fixed time-framework.

5. Considering the aforesaid limited prayer made by learned counsel for the petitioner, this Court is of the view that even without issuing notice to the respondents, it will be just and proper to direct the learned Court where the application under Section 36(2) of the Act, if any, is pending to make an endeavour to decide the same as expeditiously as possible.

6. Disposed of.

19.09.2025

Bhumika

(JASGURPREET SINGH PURI)
JUDGE

1. Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No
2. Whether reportable: Yes/No