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

**CWP-19439-2024 (O&M)  
Date of Decision: July 11, 2025**

**HEMANT SONI**

.....Petitioner

Versus

**UNION OF INDIA AND OTHERS**

.....Respondents

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARKESH MANUJA**

Present: Mr. Ashish Nagar, Advocate for the petitioner.  
Mr. Siddharth Sandhu, AAG, Punjab.  
Ms. Aashika Jain, IAS, SDM, Hoshiarpur-respondent No.3.

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**HARKESH MANUJA, J. (ORAL)**

Learned counsel for the respondents on instructions from respondent No.3 who is present in person submits that against acquisition of land owned by the petitioner, a sum of Rs.56,01,177/- was received as compensation from NHAI. Out of the said amount, a demand draft amounting to Rs.37,80,795/- (75% after deduction of TDS) bearing No.049582 dated 10.07.2025 has been handed over to learned counsel for the petitioner.

Respondent No.3 who is present in person assures that interest on the aforesaid 75% amount shall be released in favour of the petitioner within two weeks from today. She also assures that 75% of compensation shall be released in favour of all the similarly situated landowners qua whom the compensation amount already stands received from the NHAI authorities since the year 2016 onwards.

Learned State counsel on instructions from respondent No.3 also assures that the arbitration proceedings which are pending at the instance of NHAI shall be concluded latest by 31.12.2025. Considering the fact that the compensation was received by the O/o respondent No.3 from NHAI in 2016 but have been released now after a gap of around 9 years, O/o respondent No.3 shall be liable to pay cost of Rs.2,00,000/- for delay in disbursement of the amount of compensation to the petitioner in case the release of interest to the petitioner and the compensation amount is not released to the other similarly situated landowners within the period of two weeks from today.

It is also made clear that in case, the same is not done, Deputy Commissioner, Hoshiarpur shall recover the cost as arrears of land revenue and get the same released in favour of the petitioner and shall also file an affidavit before this Court.

Pending application(s), if any, shall also stand disposed of.

In case of non-compliance, the petitioner shall be entitled to seek revival of this writ petition.

**11.07.2025**

Tejwinder

**(HARKESH MANUJA)**

**JUDGE**

|                                  |               |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| <i>Whether speaking/reasoned</i> | <i>Yes/No</i> |
| <i>Whether Reportable</i>        | <i>Yes/No</i> |