



283/2

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

CR-1083-2025

Date of Decision: March 04, 2025

DERA TAPWALA

.....Petitioner

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB AND ANR

.....Respondents

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

Present: Mr. Rajan Bansal, Advocate for the petitioner.  
Mr. Rohit Bansal, Sr. DAG, Punjab.

\*\*\*\*

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

By way of present petition filed under Article 227 of the Constitution of India, prayer has been made for issuance of direction to the Reference Court for deciding the reference petition filed at the instance of the petitioner-landowner in a time-bound manner.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that in pursuance to proceedings relating to a land owned by the petitioner, an award was passed by the authority concerned on 20.11.2002.

3. Being aggrieved, Reference under Section 18 of Land Acquisition Act, 1894 seeking enhancement was invoked by the petitioners on 26.12.2002 which was never forwarded to the Reference Court. Faced with this, the petitioner approached this Court by way of CWP-18207-2014 which came to be disposed of vide order dated 04.09.2014 with following observations:-

*“After hearing learned counsel for the petitioner and going through the paper-book of the case, we dispose of this petition with a direction to respondent No.3 to refer the application filed by the petitioner under Section 18 of the Land Acquisition Act supplemented by Section 54 of the Improvement Act to the Land Acquisition Tribunal, Improvement Trust (District Judge), Bathinda, for determination of compensation. The reference be made within a period of two months from the date of receipt of certified copy of this order.”*

4. In pursuance to the aforementioned order, the reference was sent to the learned Presiding Officer, Land Acquisition Tribunal on 17.09.2014 which is pending consideration for the last more than 10 years.

5. In view of the aforesaid fact, learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner-landowner who is awaiting enhancement of compensation is suffering. In such circumstances, the learned District Judge-cum-Land Acquisition Tribunal, Bathinda is most humbly requested to expedite the proceedings arising out the reference invoked by the petitioner-landowner and conclude the same as expeditiously as possible, preferably within a period of three months.

6. The present petition is thus, disposed of.

**04.03.2025**

Tejwinder

**(HARKESH MANUJA)  
JUDGE**

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