

Court on its own motion Versus State of H.P. and others

CWPIL No.14 of 2017

21.04.2022 Present: Ms. Shreya Chauhan, Advocate as Amicus Curiae, for the petitioner.

Ms. Ritta Goswami, Additional Advocate General, for respondents No.1 to 4-State.

Mr. Ajeet Pal Singh Jaswal, Advocate, for respondent No.5.

Mr. N.K. Sood, Senior Advocate with Mr. Aman Sood, Advocate, for respondent No.6.

Mr. Surinder Saklani, Advocate, for respondents No.7 and 10.

Mr. Balram Sharma, ASGI, for respondent No.8.

Mr. Munish Datwalia, Advocate, for respondent No.9.

The respondents-State have filed progress report indicating the status of construction of Slapper-Tatapani road as well as bridges and also the status of land acquisition, forest clearance etc. The same is ordered to be taken on record.

2. With regard to the land acquisition, it is submitted that draft awards for balance nine numbers of revenue Mohal required for construction of the road, has been submitted to the competent authority for approval.

3. Regarding status of forest case under FCA, 1980, it is stated that the forest case has been submitted to the office of the Regional Officer Integrated Regional Office, Shimla, for approval. The meeting of the Regional Empowered Committee was convened on 23.04.2021 and 11.05.2021, but certain observations were made. The respondents have attended to such

:2:

observations. Now, in the Regional Empowered Committee meeting held on 23.02.2022, certain observations were raised again, which are being attended by the respondents.

4. With regard to the work of widening of Slapper-Tatapani road Km.8/500 to 20/500, it is stated that metalling and tarring, R/wall, B/wall, CD work, metal beam crash barrier and dumping site etc. for single lane portion has been awarded to Shri Vijay Kumar Sharma, vide letter dated 19.06.2021, about 20% work has been completed and balance work is in progress.

5. With regard to road at Km. 20/500 to 25/400, it is submitted that in this portion there exists a *katcha* single lane road and DPR for improvement and widening of this road is under progress.

6. With regard to road at Km. 25/400 to 30/600, it is stated that work of formation cutting (single lane) has been awarded to M/s Striker & Brother, vide letter dated 21.08.2020. The work has been completed from Km. 25/400 to 26/800 from Slapper side and Km. 29/00 to 36/600 from Tatapani side. Balance formation from Km. 26/800 to 29/00 is in progress, which is likely to completed by 31st October, 2022.

7. The same is with regard to road at Km. 31/300 to 36/600. It is stated that work has been awarded to Shri Bhupinder Paul Mahajan, vide letter dated 23.03.2021 of which about 35% work has been completed and the balance work is in progress.

:3:

8. With regard to road at Km. 36/600 to 56/600, the tenders have been called on-line on 16.04.2022 and will be opened on 05.05.2022.

9. With regard to road at Km. 56/600 to 61/600, the work has been awarded to one Shri Munish Kumar Sharma, vide letter dated 19.06.2021 and 30% work has been completed and the balance work is in progress.

10. Regarding the work of Neri Bridge, it is stated that the work has been awarded to M/s Vijay Kapoor Constructions on 08.04.2022 and the work of decking is in progress, which is likely to be completed by 31st July, 2022.

11. Except for the deadlines indicated by the respondents-State in regard to various works, we direct that the respondents, in respect of the work where only minor part of the work has been completed, fresh deadlines shall be given to the contractors, so as to ensure the completion of the work at the earliest and preferably within not more than three months from today.

12. Copy of this order be provided to the learned Additional Advocate General for its onward communication and compliance.

13. Matter to come up after four weeks to see further progress in the matter.

(Mohammad Rafiq)
Chief Justice

(Sandeep Sharma)
Judge

April 21, 2022
(Bhardwaj)