

National Highways Authority of India Ltd. Versus Dilla Ram
Arbitration Appeal No.268 of 2025

24.11.2025 Present: Ms. Ritu Sharma, Advocate, for the appellant-NHAI.

Mr. Suneet Verma, Advocate, for respondent No.1.

Mr. Sumeet Sharma, Deputy Advocate General, for respondent No.2-State.

Arbitration Appeal No.268 of 2025

Instant appeal has been filed under Section 37 of Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 assailing the judgment dated 07.03.2025 passed by Learned District Judge, Mandi, whereby, the objections filed under Section 34 of the Act by the NHAI have been dismissed and *Award dated 12.10.2023* passed by Arbitrator-cum-Divisional Commissioner, Mandi, [Annexure A-2] has been affirmed.

2. Pursuant to issuance of notice, Mr. Suneet Verma, Advocate, puts in appearance on behalf of respondent No.1.

In view of the averments made in the appeal and the contentions raised, since arguable points are involved in the appeal, which shall take considerable time hereinafter, therefore, the instant appeal is ***admitted.***

List the matter in due course.

Parties are free to make application for expeditious hearing, if so desired.

OMP No.957 of 2025

Instant application is under Section 36 of Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, read with Order 41 Rule 5 and Section 151 of Code of Civil Procedure, praying for stay of the impugned judgment dated 07.03.2025, passed by the Learned District Judge, Mandi, and the stay of the impugned Award dated 12.10.2023 *Annexure A-2*], passed by Arbitrator-cum-Divisional Commissioner, Mandi.

Heard.

3. Upon issuance of Post-Admission Notice, Mr. Suneet Verma, Learned Counsel, and Mr. Sumeet Sharma, Learned Deputy Advocate General, accept service of notice on behalf of Respondent No.1 and Respondent No.2, respectively.

4. Upon listing of this application, Learned Counsel(s) for the parties jointly represent that for safeguarding the interests of parties, the prayer for staying the Award as well as Impugned Judgment are not objected to.

Taking into account the entirety of facts and circumstances and the submissions made, this Court directs that subject to deposit of the entire Award amount alongwith up-to-date interest in the Registry of this Court,

within four weeks from today, the operation of execution of Impugned Judgment dated 07.03.2025, passed by Learned District Judge, Mandi, in Arbitration Case No.353 of 2024 and Impugned Award dated 12.10.2023 [Annexure A-2], passed by Arbitrator-cum-Divisional Commissioner, Mandi, shall remain stayed, during the pendency of the appeal.

Application stands disposed of accordingly.

(Ranjan Sharma)
Judge

November 24, 2025
[Bhardwaj]