

IN THE HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA
CONSTITUTIONAL WRIT JURISDICTION
APPELLATE SIDE

WPA 8912 of 2026

UCO Bank
Vs.
State of West Bengal and Ors.

Mr. Asif Hussain
Mr. Arijit Ghosh
Mr. Rahul Modak
...For the petitioner

Mr. Ranjan Saha
...For the private respondents nos.3,4 & 5

1. The grievance of the petitioner is directed against unnecessary delay and procrastination by the State respondents in particular the respondent no.2 being the District Magistrate, South 24 Parganas in disposing of an application under section 14 of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI).
2. It is submitted on behalf of the petitioner that notwithstanding the application having been filed as far back as on 17 February 2020 the respondent no.2 has taken no steps in the matter.
3. The private respondent is represented and seeks an opportunity to file an opposition. The prayer of the private respondent is outrightly rejected.

4. The delay of more than seven years in disposing of the application only demonstrates lethargy and bad faith on the office of the District Magistrate.
5. In view of the above, the District Magistrate is directed to expeditiously dispose of the application under section 14 and file a Report on the returnable date.
6. Let this matter appear for further hearing on 15 May 2026. The petitioner is directed to forthwith intimate the District Magistrate of the passing of this order. The petitioner is also directed to file a Supplementary Affidavit enumerating the reasons for the delay in approaching this Court. The affidavit should also provide full particulars of the Officers responsible for such delay.

(Ravi Krishan Kapur, J.)