

BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT SPECIAL LOK ADALAT

Civil Appeal No(s). 11318-11321/2025

SRI DIGAMBER JAIN PANCHAYATI MANDIR EVAM JAIN BHAWAN Appellant(s)

VERSUS

NARESH & ORS.

Respondent(s)

Date : 22-08-2026

Present: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE B.V. NAGARATHNA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJEEV SACHDEVA
DR. (MS.) MONIKA GUSAIN, SENIOR ADVOCATE
MR. NEERAJ SHEKHAR, ADVOCATE-ON-RECORD
MR. DHRUV GAUTAM, ADVOCATE-ON-RECORD

For Appellant(s) : Mr. Shobhit Jain, Adv.
Mr. Sachin Jain, Adv.
Mr. Mohit Jain, Adv.
Ms. Harsh Lata, AOR

For Respondent(s) : Mr. Ankur Yadav, AOR
Mr. Abhimanyu Roy, Adv.

Ms. Anubha Dhulia, Adv.
Mr. Ashutosh Kumar Sharma, AOR

A W A R D

Learned counsel for the respective parties as well as Member Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Dehradun (who has appeared virtually) as well as the parties submitted in unison that the four respondents have received Rs.1,61,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Sixty One Lakh only) each. They also acknowledged receipt of the Demand Draft(s). Consequently, learned counsel for the appellant submitted that a sum of Rs.1,28,970/- and a sum of Rs.12,89,700/- which are deposited before the respective authorities must be

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returned to the appellant with accrued interest, if any.

2. Taking note of the aforesaid submission, we observe that the dispute between the parties has been settled in terms of the Settlement Agreement dated 11.08.2026. Consequently, sum of Rs. 1,28,970/- and sum of Rs.12,89,700/- which have been deposited by the appellant before the respective authorities shall be returned to the appellant with accrued interest, if any, as expeditiously as possible.

3. The question as to whether, the appellant/Temple is an 'industry' within the meaning of Section 2(j) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 or Section 2(p) of the Industrial Relations Code, 2020 is left open.

4. The Civil Appeals are disposed of in the aforesaid terms.

5. The Settlement Agreement shall be read as part and parcel of this Award.

6. The Registry may draw up a decree accordingly.

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[DHRUV GAUTAM, AOR]

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[NEERAJ SHEKHAR, AOR]

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[MONIKA GUSAIN, SR. ADV.]

.....J.
[SANJEEV SACHDEVA]

.....J.
[B.V. NAGARATHNA]