

IN THE HIGH COURT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH, SHIMLA

CWP No.11331 of 2026

Decided on: 9th July, 2026

Small Scale Katha Industries Association
and others

.....Petitioners

Versus

State of H.P. and others

.....Respondents

Coram

Ms. Justice Jyotsna Rewal Dua

Whether approved for reporting?¹

For the Petitioners: Mr. Jyotirmay Bhatt, Advocate.

For the Respondents: Mr. L.N. Sharma, Additional Advocate
General.

Jyotsna Rewal Dua, Judge

Notice. Mr. L.N. Sharma, learned Additional
Advocate General, appears and waives service of notice on
behalf of the respondents.

With the consent of learned counsel for the
parties, the matter has been taken up for disposal at this
stage.

2. The case set up by the petitioners is that they
are duly registered as Depot under the H.P. Forest (Sale of

¹Whether reporters of print and electronic media may be allowed to see the order? Yes.

Timber) Act, 1968 as also under the H.P. Forest (Sale of Timber) Rules, 1969, as amended from time to time. According to the petitioners, the respondent-Forest Department is compelling the registered Depot Holders to obtain direct export permits. This, as per them, is not in consonance with Rule 13 of the H.P. Forest (Sale of Timber) Rules, 1969.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that the petitioners have preferred a detailed representation on 26.02.2026 (Annexure P-2) to respondent No.1 in this regard, but no decision thereupon has yet been conveyed to them. That the petitioners will be satisfied in case respondent No.1/competent authority is directed to consider and decide the aforesaid representation of the petitioners in accordance with law within a time bound schedule. Learned Additional Advocate General is not averse to this prayer.

4. Keeping in view the submissions made by learned counsel for the parties, but without examining the merits of the matter, this writ petition is disposed of with direction to respondent No.1/competent authority to consider and decide the aforesaid representation of the petitioners dated 26.02.2026 (Annexure P-2) in accordance

with law and the Rules governing the field, within a period of six weeks from today. The decision so arrived at shall also be communicated to the petitioners.

The writ petition stands disposed of in the above terms, so also the pending miscellaneous application(s), if any.

July 09, 2026
Mukesh

Jyotsna Rewal Dua
Judge