

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH**

-:-

C.W.P No. 1974 of 2015(O&M)

Date of Decision: February 23, 2016.

Satnam Singh

..... Petitioner

Versus

Union of India & Ors.

..... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJESH BINDAL

Present:- Mr. B.S.Sidhu, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr. V.K.Kaushal, Advocate, for respondent No.1 – UOI.

Mr. Anil sharma, Additional A.G., Punjab.

Mr. Navneet Jindal, Advocate, for respondent Nos. 4 and 5.

Rajesh Bindal, J.

The petitioner approached this Court, *inter alia*, seeking direction to respondents to ensure proper and smooth supply of urea fertilizer to the farmers as after every two or three years there is shortage of fertilizers in the market.

In response to the notice, affidavit of Suresh Kumar, Additional Chief Secretary (Development), Punjab , dated 10.12.2015 has been filed stating therein that the State has taken appropriate steps to ensure proper supply of fertilizers to the farmers, the movement of which is regulated by the Government of India. Appropriate measures have been taken to ensure that there is no black marketing of fertilizers in the State. Flying squads have also been constituted to ensure that malpractice of hoardings, breach of maximum retail price, tagging and black marketing of fertilizers etc are not adopted. During the year 2014-15, Department of Agriculture, Punjab

detected eight such cases and FIR No.1 dated 02.01.2015 has been registered. Before any crop season commences the State assesses the provisional requirement keeping in view the previous years consumption and raises demand of fertilizer with the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India.

It is not in dispute that in the previous year there had been shortage of fertilizer on account of which the farmers may have to suffer. It is expected that before the sowing of next crop, the State will ensure that sufficient supply of fertilizers is available in the market so that the farmers do not suffer.

Petition is disposed of accordingly.

February 23, 2016
tripti

(RAJESH BINDAL)
JUDGE