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

**CRM-M-27318-2017
Date of Decision: 31.07.2017**

Hari Chand Pupneja and others

..... Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others

..... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDIP AHLUWALIA

Present: Mr. Piyush Sharma, Advocate,
for the petitioners.

SUDIP AHLUWALIA J. (ORAL)

Notice of motion.

2. On the asking of the Court, Mr. V.G. Jauhar, Senior Deputy Advocate General, Punjab, accepts notice on behalf of respondent Nos.1 to 4.

3. In this petition, the petitioners have prayed for a direction upon the official respondents to provide them a fair opportunity of hearing, if any criminal proceedings are lodged against them by private respondent Nos.5 to 13.

4. It transpires that all the private respondents are traders based in the grain market in Bhikhiwind, Tehsil and District Tarn Taran. Contention of the petitioners is that they had business transactions with the private respondents all along. But due to temporary financial problems, they are possibly unable to honour their previous commitment concerning those transactions and that the disputes between them and the private respondents are essentially of civil nature.

5. After hearing both sides, the present petition is disposed off with a direction upon respondent Nos.3 and 4 to give advance notice in view of the apprehensions expressed by the petitioners and to act in accordance with law and hear them in the event of any criminal proceedings being lodged against them before directly resorting to coercive action.

31.07.2017

Bhumika

**(SUDIP AHLUWALIA)
JUDGE**

1. Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes
2. Whether reportable: No