

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

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CROCP No. 1 of 2016
Date of decision: 19.07.2017

Court on its own motion

...Contemner

Vs.

Amarjit Singh

...Respondent

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE M. JEYAPPAUL
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AUGUSTINE GEORGE MASIH**

Present: Mr. Kanwaljit Singh, Sr. Advocate with
Mr. Armaan Midha, Advocate for the contemner.

Ms. Guneet Babbar, Advocate
for Mr. Reeta Kohli, Sr. Advocate
for Forest Department.

M. JEYAPPAUL, J.(ORAL)

Contemner is present along with his counsel. He has filed an affidavit unconditionally apologizing for his conduct which culminated in initiation of present contempt proceedings. He has submitted that while changing the mode of the mobile set to switch off, the applicant inadvertently opened it. He was coming out of the Court in order to switch off the mobile phone, however, the Hon'ble Judge noticed that the deponent was recording the proceedings in the Court.

Though we find a prima facie case was made out as against the applicant, we wanted to verify whether his presence during the contempt proceedings before the Learned Single Judge was authorised by his higher authorities. Dr. M. Sudhagar, I.F.S., Divisional Forest Officer, S.A.S. Nagar, Forest Division, Mohali, has sworn to an affidavit to the effect that he directed the

Range In Charge namely, Amarjit Singh, Forest Ranger, (contemner hearing) to personally attend the contempt proceedings. Mrs. Shailender Kaur, authorised Officer Patiala also has confirmed the above information shared by Dr. M. Sudhagar, I.F.S., Divisional Forest Officer, S.A.S. Nagar, Forest Division, Mohali.

Inasmuch as the contemner was in fact authorised officially by his higher authorities to be present during the contempt proceedings pending before Hon'ble Single Bench and the contemner by way of an affidavit has tendered an unconditional apology for the incident that took place in the Court, we are of the considered view that no further proceedings in this contempt case are required. Therefore, accepting the unconditional apology tendered by the contemner the contempt proceedings are dropped. Rule stands discharged.

(M. JEYAPPAUL)
JUDGE

July 19, 2017
Poonam (II)

(AUGUSTINE GEORGE MASIH)
JUDGE

<i>Whether speaking/reasoned:</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Whether reportable</i>	<i>No</i>