

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRWP No. 987 of 2017 (O/M)
Date of decision : 25.8.2017

Gursewak Singh

..... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others

..... Respondents

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE KULDIP SINGH

Present:- Mr. Surinder Gandhi, Advocate, for the petitioner.

1. Whether the Reporters of local newspaper may be allowed to see the judgment ?
 2. To be referred to the Reporter or not.
 3. Whether the judgment should be reported in the digest ?
- . - .-

KULDIP SINGH J. (ORAL)

Heard.

Notice of motion to the State only.

On asking of Court, Mr. C.L. Pawar, Senior DAG Punjab, accepts notice on behalf of respondent-State.

The learned counsel for the petitioners contends that 10 persons, as mentioned in para-3 of the petition, are being held as bonded labours by private respondents No. 4 to 6 in a brick kiln. The plea is for appointment of a warrant officer, stating that it is in violation of Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976. The learned counsel for the petitioner relies upon the authorities of the Apex Court in People's Union for Democratic Rights and others Versus Union of India and others, AIR 1982 Supreme Court 1473 and in Bandhua Mukti Morcha Versus Union of India and others, AIR 1984 Supreme Court 802.

After considering the provisions of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, I am of the view that under the said Act, it is the

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duty of the District Magistrate concerned to make an inquiry and take necessary action in the matter.

In these circumstances, petition is disposed of with a direction to the District Magistrate, Tarn Taran, to make an inquiry whether 10 persons, as mentioned in para-3 of the petition, are being held as bonded labours of private respondents No. 4 to 6 and if it is so, take necessary action under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, for getting them released.

Let copy of the petition be also sent to the District Magistrate, Tarn Taran, alongwith the copy of this order.

(KULDIP SINGH)
JUDGE

25.8.2017
sjks

Whether speaking / reasoned : Yes

Whether Reportable : No