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

**CWP No.13866 of 2016
Date of Decision : 12.01.2017**

Om Parkash Dhanda and others

.... Petitioners

Versus

The State of Haryana and others

..... Respondents

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SURYA KANT
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDIP AHLUWALIA**

- | | |
|--|--------|
| 1. Whether speaking/reasoned? | Yes/No |
| 2. Whether reportable? | Yes/No |
| 3. Whether Reporters of local papers may be allowed to see the judgment? | Yes/No |
| 4. To be referred to the Reporters or not? | Yes/No |
| 5. Whether the judgment should be reported in the Digest? | Yes/No |

Present: Mr. Saurabh Bajaj, Advocate,
for the petitioners.

Mr. R.D. Sharma, DAG, Haryana.

Ms. Kamlesh, Advocate for
Mr. Parminder Singh, Advocate,
for respondent No.3.

SURYA KANT J. (ORAL)

The petitioners are residents of Village Hansumajra, Tehsil Indri, District Karnal. Their grievance is that the Gram Panchayat is hell-bent to utilize the land which is reserved for common purposes of 'Gau Charand' (grazing ground) for a different purpose without preparing the utilization plan.

2. The official respondents No.1 and 2 have filed their written statement, which is taken on record. Along with the written statement, the latest utilization plan approved by the Competent Authority on the basis of

the resolution passed by the Gram Panchayat, has been appended. As per the utilization plan, the total land owned by the Gram Panchayat is more than 160 acres, out of which more than 108 acres was ear-marked as Gau Charand. Out of this, it appears that 32 acres of land has been decided to be given to the Forest Department for afforestation. Such a noble purpose of increasing the forest cover is surely in conformity with the original purpose for which the land is reserved. Once the trees will gain appropriate height, the forest area can also be utilized as Gau Charand, if so required. Otherwise there is sufficient land available with the Gram Panchayat to utilize it as Gau Charand. The petitioners appears to have an eye on the land for agricultural purposes as a huge chunk of land measuring more than 108 acres cannot possibly be used as a Gau Charand.

3. For the reasons afore-stated, we dispose of this writ petition with a direction to the respondents to adhere to the utilization plan as and when occasion to utilize the land for common purposes arises.

4. Ordered accordingly.

(SURYA KANT)
JUDGE

(SUDIP AHLUWALIA)
JUDGE

12.01.2017
Bhumika/Dinesh