

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

**CWP No. 4898 of 2018
Date of decision: 25.03.2019**

Hari Chand

... Petitioner

Versus

UT of Chandigarh and others

... Respondents

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE KRISHNA MURARI,
CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN PALLI, JUDGE**

Present: Mr. J.S. Rana, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr Sukant Gupta, Additional P.P. for UT Chandigarh.

Mr. Dheeraj Jain, Senior Counsel, for Govt. of India.

KRISHNA MURARI, CHIEF JUSTICE (Oral)

The issue raised in this Public Interest Litigation pertains to chain snatching, with a prayer to command the respondents to take effective steps to curb the menace of chain snatching, which has assumed alarming proportions during the years 2017 onwards.

Learned counsel appearing for the UT Chandigarh states that ever since issuance of notice in this petition, since effective steps have been taken by the administration, no incident of chain snatching has been reported in the year 2019. An assurance has been given to the Court that effective steps to curb this menace shall continue in force. Thus, for all practical purposes, this PIL has served its purpose.

However, one of the issues, which remains, is that vide order dated 29.5.2018, Union of India through the Ministry of Home Affairs, was directed to take a decision on the proposal submitted by the Union Territory on 23.5.2018, with respect to the enhancement of punishment for offences under Sections 379A IPC and 379B IPC.

Learned counsel for Union of India, on the basis of instructions, states that the issue is engaging the attention and the matter has been referred to the Law Ministry.

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We hope and trust that an appropriate decision in this regard, which is of vital importance, shall be taken by the concerned Ministry within a period of four weeks, after following due procedure.

The office report indicates that order dated 1.6.2018, whereby the trial courts were directed to make appropriate endorsement on the original documents, which are accepted along with the bail bonds and sureties before returning the same to the person furnishing the surety and to ensure maintenance of computer data of all the particulars of the sureties as well as the details of the properties, which have been furnished along with the bail bonds and sureties, has been circulated amongst the District Courts of Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh..

We have also heard respondent No.5, who is present in person.

Having heard respondent No.5, we feel that nothing further is required to be done against her and she is discharged.

In the circumstances, we dispose of this Public Interest Litigation, with a direction to list the same on 16.5.2019, for reporting compliance by the Union of India.

(KRISHNA MURARI)
CHIEF JUSTICE

(ARUN PALLI)
JUDGE

March 25, 2019

AK Sharma

Whether speaking / reasoned:

YES

Whether Reportable:

NO