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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CWP No. 405 of 2020
Date of decision: 24.02.2020

Jagtar Singh

.....Petitioner

V/s.

State of Punjab and others

.....Respondents

CORAM: - HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY KUMAR

Present: Mr. Parminder Singh Sekhon, Advocate with
Mr. Tahar Singh, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Sanjay Kumar, J. (Oral)

The grievance of the petitioner is that the authorities concerned are not taking appropriate action upon his representation dated 30.08.2019 (Annexure P-5) made against the sixth respondent, the former Sarpanch of the Gram Panchayat of Village Uggoke, Tehsil Tappa, District Barnala.

Perusal of the record reflects that there was exchange of correspondence between the Deputy Commissioner, Barnala, and the Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Sehna, with regard to the irregularities allegedly committed by the former Sarpanch. Pursuant thereto, the Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Sehna, seems to have addressed letter dated 01.10.2019 (Annexure P-8) to the former Sarpanch requiring him to deposit a sum of ₹1,70,000/-.

The complaint of the petitioner presently is that no further action is being taken in the matter.

It is not open to the authorities to drag their feet in matters of this nature where a person holding public office is alleged to have abused his power and position, requiring recoveries to be made from him.

As this Court does not propose to go into the merits of the matter, there is no necessity to put the sixth respondent on notice or afford him an opportunity of hearing. It is for the authorities concerned to take appropriate action in the matter, as warranted, in accordance with due procedure.

The writ petition is accordingly disposed of directing the Deputy Commissioner, Barnala, the second respondent, to ensure that appropriate necessary action is taken in the matter as per law, pursuant to the petitioner's representation dated 30.08.2019 (Annexure P-5) and the exchange of correspondence between the officials, referred to *supra*. This exercise shall be completely expeditiously and in any event, not later than six weeks from the date of receipt of a certified copy of this order.

No order as to costs.

(SANJAY KUMAR)
JUDGE

24.02.2020

rakesh

whether speaking/non speaking

: Yes/no

whether reportable/non reportable

: Yes/no