

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

CWP-PIL No. 60 of 2020 (O&M)
Date of decision:- 02.06.2020

National Campaign Committee for Eradication of Bonded Labour through
its ConvenerPetitioner

Versus

State of Haryana and others ...Respondents

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAVI SHANKER JHA, CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN PALLI, JUDGE.**

Present:- Mr. Arun Kasi, Advocate, for the petitioner.
Mr. Deepak Balyan, Addl. Advocate General, Haryana,
for the respondents.

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RAVI SHANKER JHA, C.J. (ORAL)

With the consent of learned counsel for both the parties, the matter is being taken up and heard via video conferencing (Webex App software).

This petition has been filed by way of public interest litigation praying for a direction to provide food and ration to 2500 stranded migrant labourers in the District of Faridabad. It is stated that the persons mentioned in Annexure P-7 are all stranded migrant labourers in District Faridabad and the ration etc. has been provided to them by the authorities of the State only once. It is stated that they are at the verge of starvation and therefore, necessary directions be issued to the respondent-authorities.

At the very outset, it is noted that the petition has been filed by a committee, namely, National Campaign Committee for Eradication of Bonded Labour. On a specific query being raised it is informed that the said committee is neither registered nor a registered union or a representative union. Even no averment in this regard has been made in the petition. Apparently, the petition filed by such a society which has no legal status or entity in the eyes of law and thus the writ petition is not maintainable.

The petition filed by the petitioner is accordingly dismissed.

However, the issue raised by the petitioner regarding providing of food and ration etc. to the stranded migrant labourers is an issue of importance and therefore, the Court is inclined to take up the issue on its

own.

Learned Additional Advocate General appearing for the State of Haryana submits that the State of Haryana has taken all the possible steps to provide necessary facilities of food, ration and transport etc. to all the migrant labourers in the State of Haryana. He further undertakes that the authorities of the State shall look into the issue raised in the petition regarding supply of food and ration to all the stranded migrant labourer in District Faridabad and for this purpose the authorities shall take into consideration the details and the averments mentioned by the petitioner in the petition. He further submits and undertakes that the Supreme Court in a suo-motu writ petition No. 6 of 2020 has already taken up the issue of migrant labourers and issued interim directions including direction to provide free food and ration to the migrant labourers. It is submitted that the State of Haryana is duly complying with the directions issued by the Supreme Court and shall submit a report in this regard before the Supreme Court as the matter is going to be listed on 06.06.2020.

In such circumstances as the Supreme Court is already seized of the matter and necessary interim directions have already been issued, we think it appropriate to dispose of the present petition directing the State of Haryana to look into the issue raised in the petition and in case the food and ration etc. have not been provided to the migrant labourers mentioned therein, the same be provided. The State of Haryana shall also comply with all the interim directions issued by the Supreme Court in this regard.

With the aforesaid observations and directions, while the petition filed on behalf of the petitioner is dismissed, the suo-motu cognizance taken by this Court in respect of the issue raised is disposed of with the directions and observations mentioned above.

(RAVI SHANKER JHA)
CHIEF JUSTICE

(ARUN PALLI)
JUDGE

02.06.2020
ravinder sharma

Whether speaking/reasoned	Yes/No
Whether reportable	Yes/No