

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

CWP-PIL No. 70 of 2020 (O&M)
Date of decision:- 03.07.2020

Bikramjit Singh BajwaPetitioner

Versus

Union of India and others ...Respondents

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

Present:- Mr. Birkramjit Singh Bajwa, Advocate, in person.
Mr. P.S.Bajwa, Addl. Advocate General, Punjab.
Mr. Deepak Balyan, Addl. Advocate General, Haryana.
Mr. Satya Pal Jain, Addl. Solicitor General of India with
Mr. Dheeraj Jain, Standing Counsel for UOI.

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RAVI SHANKER JHA, C.J. (ORAL)

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

This petition has been filed by the petitioner praying for taking steps against a banned organization; Sikh for Justice, which has suddenly become very active furthering the cause of separate State for Sikhs i.e. Khalistan. The petitioner submits that this organization is going ahead with all kind of anti national activities and is also provoking the residents of the Punjab especially the Sikh youths to declare a war against the present Punjab Government. It is submitted that photographs of the petitioner were publically displayed through an electronic media and he has also been threatened with dire consequences.

Learned Additional Advocate General appearing for the State of Punjab submits that the organization in question has already been banned by the Government of Punjab on 10.07.2019 and the head of the organization, namely, Gurpatwant Singh Pannu has also been declared as a designated terrorist by the Government of India on 01.07.2020. It is also stated that 116 Whatsapp group relating to this organization have been blocked and further steps in this regard are being taken. Further, as many as 16 FIRs have been registered against the organization. He submits that the details of these operations and the steps being taken by the Government cannot be shared with or disclosed being sensitive and for security reasons. But he assured this Court that all necessary measures are being taken by the State of Punjab to prevent any kind of anti national activities being undertaken by the organization including blocking the proposed referendum being taken by the organization. Learned Additional Advocate General further submits that he appreciates the initiative taken by the petitioner and the concern as regards his personal security expressed before this Court, he assures that let the petitioner bring all the facts to the notice of the police authorities and upon evaluating the threat perception to the petitioner, all possible steps, as are necessary, for securing the life and liberty of the petitioner shall be taken.

Though the State of Haryana is not a party, learned Additional Advocate General appearing for the State of Haryana as well as learned Additional Solicitor General appearing for the Union of India submit that the Union of India has infact banned the organization and declared Gurpatwant Singh Pannu as a designated terrorist. Further, Union of India in coordination with all the State Governments including the State

Governments of Punjab and Haryana and is taking all the necessary steps to ensure the safety and integrity of the country.

In view of the statement of learned counsel for the respondents, the petition filed by the petitioner is disposed of with a direction that necessary action be taken by the authorities. The information available with the petitioner may be analyzed and necessary steps for dealing with the threat perception be taken, if so required.

(RAVI SHANKER JHA)
CHIEF JUSTICE

(ARUN PALLI)
JUDGE

03.07.2020
ravinder/amodh

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