

CWP-19067-2020

Date of decision : November 24, 2020

SUKHVIR KAUR

.....Petitioner

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB AND ANOTHER

....Respondents

CORAM:- HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE LISA GILL

Present: Mr. A.P. Kaushal Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Abhay Pal Singh Gill, AAG, Punjab.

Mr.B.S. Sidhu, Advocate for the caveator.

LISA GILL, J.

This matter is being taken up for hearing through video conferencing due to outbreak of the pandemic, COVID-19.

It is submitted that the petitioner, who was elected as a Sarpanch of Gram Panchayat Dhurali, Block Kharar, District SAS Nagar, has been suspended from the said post in terms of Section 20(5) of the Punjab Panchayti Raj Act, 1994 vide order dated 21.09.2020 (Annexure P5). The petitioner preferred an appeal against the said order. It is submitted that the said appeal alongwith the stay application (Annexure P9) is not being heard and decided by the Financial Commissioner, Rural Development and Panchayat Department, Punjab – respondent No. 1.

Learned counsel for the State, to whom an advance copy of the petition has been supplied as well as learned counsel for the caveator, inform that notice was issued in the petitioner's appeal on 19.11.2020 and the matter is now listed for 31.12.2020, with the lower courts record having been summoned.

Learned counsel for the petitioner, at this stage, confines his prayer in this petition for an expeditious disposal of the appeal filed by the petitioner and disposal of the petitioner's stay application pending before respondent No. 1, on 31.12.2020.

Learned counsel for the State as well as the caveator do not raise any serious objection to the limited prayer addressed.

Keeping in view the facts and circumstances of the case as well as the limited prayer addressed at this stage, but without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, this writ petition is disposed of with a direction to the competent authority to decide the petitioner's appeal expeditiously, preferably within three months from 31.12.2020. Needless to say, an endeavour shall be made to decide the application for stay moved by the petitioner on 31.12.2020 itself or two weeks thereafter, after affording due opportunity to all the concerned parties.

November 24, 2020
rts

(Lisa Gill)
Judge

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