IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

CWP No. 4519 of 2021 (O&M)
Date of decision:- 25.02.2021

Keshav Advertiser .....Petitioner

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. Karan Bhardwaj, Advocate, for the petitioner.
Mr. Deepak Balyan, Addl. Advocate General, Haryana.

(The aforesaid presence is being recorded through video conferencing since the proceedings are being conducted in virtual Court).

* * * *

RAVI SHANKER JHA, C.J. (ORAL)

This petition has been filed by the petitioner alleging that the tenders for publishing advertisements in Municipal Council, Hansi, which had previously been awarded for a higher sum of Rs.5,00,000/- have now been awarded for a mere sum of Rs. 1,00,000/- to the four members of the same family without issuing proper advertisement after constructing several bus queue shelters and Uni-Poles, out of which the members of one family are earning crores of rupees. It is also alleged that all the tenders have been awarded without following the procedure of law and issuing proper advertisement to the persons who are related to one of the Councilors of the Municipal Council, Hansi, as a result of which huge loss of public exchequer has been caused to the Municipal Council, Hansi in an illegal manner.

2. Having heard learned counsel for the petitioner at length, it is observed that under Chapter 12 of the Haryana Municipal Act, 1973, power of control in respect of all the aforesaid issues rests with the State Government. When confronted with the same, learned counsel for the

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petitioner submits that he shall immediately file a complaint in this regard before the Additional Chief Secretary, Urban Local Bodies Department, Haryana-respondent No.1.

3. Learned Additional Advocate General appearing for the State of Haryana submits that looking to the seriousness of the allegations, if such a complaint is filed by the petitioner, the same shall be taken up, examined and decided by the higher authorities expeditiously.

4. In view of the aforesaid statement made by the learned Additional Advocate General, Haryana and the submissions made by learned counsel for the petitioner, the petition is disposed of granting liberty to the petitioner to approach the Additional Chief Secretary, Urban Local Bodies Department, Haryana-respondent No.1 by filing a complaint.

It goes without saying that if such a complaint is filed by the petitioner, the same shall be dealt with expeditiously by respondent No.1, as stated by the learned Additional Advocate General, Haryana. It is made clear that this Court has not expressed any opinion on the merits of the case and therefore, the respondent-authorities would be at liberty to examine the matter and take independent decision in accordance with law on the same.

(RAVI SHANKER JHA)
CHIEF JUSTICE

(ARUN PALLI)
JUDGE

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

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