

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH**

AMIT KUMAR
No. 1.043/2006:17
I attest to the accuracy and
integrity of this document

CWP-PIL-107-2021
Date of decision: 27.9.2021

Amit Kaushik

.....Petitioner

Versus

Public Works Department (B&R), Government of Haryana

...Respondent

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

Present:- Petitioner in person.

Mr. Deepak Balyan, Additional A.G., Haryana.

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

RAVI SHANKER JHA, CHIEF JUSTICE (Oral)

The petitioner purports to have approached this Court in public interest.

The respondents had initiated the process of widening of G.T. Road NH-44 (Panipat) up to NH-709 (Dahar). For the works involved four-laning, the authorities had dug one side of the road up to a certain length and as a result, hundreds of trees that existed in that stretch were likely to be felled. Thus, this petition to direct the authorities to devise a mechanism so that only the minimum number of trees, if necessary, were cut.

We had adjourned the matter on a few occasions in the past, as Mr. Deepak Balyan, learned Additional Advocate General, Haryana, had assured the Court that authorities would re-examine the technical feasibilities of the project with an objective to save the age old trees that existed on the spot, if possible. And finally, in reference to the response

submitted on behalf of the respondents, he submits that a High Level Committee was constituted in this regard and being equally sensitive to the cause, it has redrawn the plans and reduced the width of the central verge to save 233 fully grown up trees. However, considering the project's viability and its satisfactory execution, he submits, though with regret, that 17 trees would still have to be uprooted/cut. It is urged that, in fact, the State is committed to afforestation and he has instructions to submit if the petitioner wishes to contribute in the afforestation activities, the State authorities, at the local level, would provide him the required support by supplying the saplings etc.

To this, the petitioner, who appears in person, submits that he would be more than willing to render his services for a cause as sensitive as environment.

That being so, nothing further survives in the matter. Accordingly, we close these proceedings. However, before we part with, we must place on record our appreciation for the assistance rendered by Mr. Deepak Balyan, learned Additional Advocate General, Haryana, for it was owing to his persistent efforts, the viability to save 233 fully grown up trees could be worked out by the authorities.

(RAVI SHANKER JHA)
CHIEF JUSTICE

(ARUN PALLI)
JUDGE

27.9.2021
AK Sharma

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