

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

CWP-PIL No. 146 of 2021 (O&M)

Date of decision:- 16.08.2021

Sikh Sadbhawna Dal

.....Petitioner

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. Jagtar Singh Sidhu, Advocate, for the petitioner.
Mr. SP Jain, Addl. Solicitor General of India with
Mr. Sunil Sharma, Senior Panel Counsel for UOI.
Mr. P.S.Bajwa, Addl. Advocate General, Punjab.

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

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RAVI SHANKER JHA, CHIEF JUSTICE (oral)

This petition has been filed by the petitioner by way of public interest litigation alleging that the respondent-authorities are not taking necessary steps to protect and preserve ancient structures that have been unearthed during excavation being carried out by respondents No. 6 and 7 and that they are also not taking necessary steps to prevent any further construction in and around the said ancient archaeological structures. It is submitted that though a report has been submitted by the Archaeological Survey of India, further steps pursuant to the same are not being taken up by the authorities. Hence this Public Interest Litigation.

Learned Additional Solicitor General of India as well as the learned Additional Advocate General, Punjab submit that in case the petitioner pursue the matter with the respondent-authorities, the authorities will look into the same and take necessary steps in accordance with law, if so required.

In view of the statements made by learned Additional Solicitor General of India as well as the learned Additional Advocate General, Punjab, the petition stands disposed of.

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 keeping all facts and facets into consideration and thereafter accept or reject the same in accordance with law.

(RAVI SHANKER JHA)
CHIEF JUSTICE

(ARUN PALLI)
JUDGE

16.08.2021
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Whether speaking/reasoned	Yes/No
Whether reportable	Yes/No