

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

CWP-18234-2021 (O&M)

Date of decision: 15.09.2021

Baljit Singh

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others

..Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANIL KSHETARPAL

Present: Mr.N.P.S.Mann, Advocate for the petitioner
 Ms. Kanica Sachdeva, AAG, Punjab
 Mr. V.K.Sandhir, Advocate for caveator/respondent no.4

ANIL KSHETARPAL, J (Oral)

The hearing of the case was held through video conferencing on account of restricted functioning of the Courts.

The petitioner is an elected Sarpanch of Village Chapaar, Block Pakhowal, District Ludhiana. He has been placed under suspension by the Director, Rural Development and Panchayats Department, vide an order dated 22.03.2021. The appeal filed by the petitioner has also been dismissed by the Additional Chief Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayats Department, Punjab.

Heard learned counsel for the parties at length and with their able assistance perused the paper book. Learned counsel representing respondent no.4-caveator submits that report in the regular inquiry has been submitted by the Additional Chief Secretary on 13.07.2021 and thereafter, a show cause notice has already been issued to the petitioner on 23.08.2021. He submits that the petitioner be directed to file his defence so as to enable the Director, Rural Development and Panchayats Department, Punjab, to pass appropriate

orders.

Learned counsel representing the petitioner does not dispute the receipt of notice dated 23.08.2021 and submits that the petitioner would file his response within a period of one week.

Keeping in view the aforesaid facts, the Director, Rural Development and Panchayats Department, is requested to pass speaking order, within a period of 15 days from today, after hearing both the parties. It is clarified that if the petitioner does not file his defence, the Director , Rural Development and Panchayats, shall be at liberty to proceed in accordance with law.

Disposed of.

All the pending miscellaneous applications, if any, are also disposed of.

15.09.2021

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Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No

(ANIL KSHETARPAL)
JUDGE