

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

CWP-24437-2021 (O&M)

Date of decision: 02.12.2021

Gurpal Dass

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others

..Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANIL KSHETARPAL

Present: Mr. B.S.Sidhu, Advocate for the petitioner

Ms.Ambika Bedi, AAG, Punjab

ANIL KSHETARPAL, J (Oral)

The petitioner was elected to the office of Sarpanch of Gram Panchayat, Village Saffipur, Block Adampur, District Jalandhar. He was placed under suspension by the Director, Rural Development and Panchayat, Punjab, vide an order dated 22.03.2021 from the office of Sarpanch. An appeal preferred by the petitioner, has also been dismissed, by the Secretary to the Government of Punjab, Department of Rural Development and Panchayat, while exercising the powers under the Punjab Panchayati Raj Act, 1994. It is alleged that petitioner indulged in misappropriation of Panchayat funds and a report of the Block Development and Panchayat Officer has been received in this regard.

Ms.Ambika Bedi, AAG, Punjab, enters appearance on behalf of the respondents and submits that the regular inquiry into the affairs has been entrusted to Additional Deputy Commissioner (Development), Jalandhar, on 31.03.2021.

The suspension of an elected office bearer is only an interim

order passed during the pendency of a regular inquiry, which is stated to be pending.

Keeping in view the aforesaid facts, the Director, Rural Development and Panchayat is requested to ensure that the regular inquiry is concluded, positively, within a period of five weeks, from today. On the receipt of the inquiry report, the Director would decide the future cause of action within 15 days, from the date of receipt of the copy of the report.

With these observations, the writ petition is disposed of.

02.12.2021

rekha

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No

(ANIL KSHETARPAL)
JUDGE