

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

127

CWP-25486-2021
Date of Order: 15.12.2021

GURMEET KAUR AND ORS

..Petitioners

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB AND OTHERS

..Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANIL KSHETARPAL

Present: Sh. Swarn Tiwana, Advocate
for the petitioners.

Ms. Anju Arora, Addl. A.G., Punjab.

ANIL KSHETARPAL, J(Oral)

The petitioners herein, four Panches of Gram Panchayat Village Lataur, Block Sirhind, District Fategarh Sahib, prays for issuance of a writ in the nature of mandamus directing the Block Development and Panchayat Officer, to call a meeting in terms of the directions issued by the Director on 10.05.2021, and in consonance with the provisions of Section 20(5) of the Punjab Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.

Ms. Anju Arora, Additional Advocate General, Punjab, has entered appearance on behalf of the respondents and has stated that the Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Sirhind, called for a meeting however, the various Panches did not come forward to attend the aforesaid meeting.

On a Court question, she state that there are no proceedings/ record of the alleged meeting with the officials.

The elected Sarpanch has been placed under suspension. Sub-Section 5 of Section 20 of the Punjab Panchayati Raj Act, 1994, permits the Block Development and Panchayat Officer to hold a meeting and allow one of the Panches to perform the functions of the Sarpanch.

Keeping in view the aforesaid facts, let the Block Development

and Panchayat Officer call a fresh meeting of the Panches, positively,