

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

CWP-21187-2022

Date of Decision: 21.09.2022

SATPAL SINGH
Versus

..... Petitioner(s)

STATE OF HARYANA AND OTHERS

..... Respondent(s)

CORAM:- HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE LISA GILL
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARSH BUNGER

Present: Mr. Ashish Aggarwal, Senior Advocate with
Ms. Aashna Aggarwal, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Raman Sharma, Addl. AG, Haryana.

LISA GILL, J.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that Tehsildar-cum-Consolidation Officer, Gharaunda (Karnal) vide common order dated 14.12.2018 (Annexure P-5) decided number of petitions filed under Section 21(2) of the East Punjab Holdings (Consolidation and Prevention of Fragmentation) Act, 1948, including the petition filed by the petitioner. It is further submitted that petitioner along with others filed appeals challenging said order dated 14.12.2018. Some of the connected appeals i.e. Appeal No.350/DRO/2019, Appeal No.354/DRO/2019 and Appeal No.355/DRO/2019 were decided by the Settlement Officer-cum-District Revenue Officer, Consolidation, Karnal - respondent no.3 vide separate orders of even date i.e. 27.01.2021. Above said three appeals, it is submitted, have been allowed with the impugned order dated 14.12.2018 being set aside and matter remanded to the Tehsildar-cum-Consolidation Officer, Gharaunda (Karnal), for a decision afresh. However, appeal filed by petitioner is still pending with steps being taken for eviction of the petitioner from the land in question.

Learned counsel for the petitioner raises a limited prayer at this stage for a decision of his pending appeal before the Settlement Officer-cum-DRO, Consolidation, Karnal in a time bound manner and for protection of his possession till then.

Learned counsel for the State, who had been asked to seek instructions on the last date of hearing, does not raise any objection to the limited prayer addressed and submits that appeal filed by the petitioner would be decided by the competent authority within a period of three months and as of now no steps are being taken for dispossessing the petitioner from the land in question.

Keeping in view the facts and circumstances as above and specifically the stand taken on behalf of the respondents, but without any expression of opinion on merits of the matter, this writ petition is disposed of with a direction that appeal filed by the petitioner be decided by the competent authority, in accordance with law expeditiously and definitely within three months from receipt of certified copy of this order.

Till then status quo regarding possession qua the land in question, as on today, be maintained.

(LISA GILL)
JUDGE

(HARSH BUNGER)
JUDGE

21.09.2022
Sunil

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