

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

CWP No. 2188 of 2023 (O&M)

DECIDED ON:3rd February, 2023

Sarabjit Singh

.....PETITIONER

VERSUS

State of Punjab and others

.....RESPONDENTS

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AVNEESH JHINGAN.

Present: Mr. V.K. Jindal, Advocate for petitioner.

Mr. Rajesh Mehta, Additional Advocate General, Punjab.

AVNEESH JHINGAN, J (ORAL)

This petition is filed for quashing of order suspending the licence of petitioner

The brief facts are that the petitioner-Sarabjit Singh was issued licence for PDS Depot. While making inspection of depot holder of Nagar Panchayat, Ajnala relating to Distribution Centre, Ajnala, it was found that wheat in the bags was found with some other shopkeeper. On the basis of complaint, FIR No.224 dated 1.10.2022 was registered against the petitioner. Vide order dated 10.10.2022, licence of the depot holder was suspended. Hence, the present petition.

Learned State counsel submits that the order of suspension is challenged on the ground that District Controller Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Amritsar, (for short 'DFSC') had no jurisdiction to pass orders. He has produced notification dated 5.1.2023 amending the Punjab Targeted Public Distribution System (Licensing and Control) order, 2016, whereby word "District Magistrate" has been substituted with "Licensing

Authority." He further on instructions submits that in view of amendment, the orders passed by DFSC suspending the licences have been revoked and liberty is sought to pass a fresh order if need so arises.

In view of statement made by learned State counsel, no interference is called for, the petition is disposed of.

Needless to say that the respondents would be at liberty to proceed in accordance with law, if need so arises.

Since the main case has been decided, the pending application, if any is rendered infructuous.

3rd February, 2023

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**(AVNEESH JHINGAN)
JUDGE**

<i>Whether speaking/reasoned</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Whether reportable</i>	<i>No</i>