

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

CWP-26132-2023

Decided on : 21/22.11.2023

Gurpreet Singh

.....Petitioner(s)

Versus

Income Tax Officer, Ludhiana

.....Respondent(s)

**CORAM : HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE G.S. SANDHAWALIA
HON'BLE MS.JUSTICE LAPITA BANERJI**

Present: Mr.S.K.Mukhi, Advocate for the petitioner (s).

G.S. Sandhawalia, J. (Oral)

After arguing for some time and faced with the fact that the Bench was not inclined to call upon the other side, counsel for the petitioner in the face of the Court made personal comment against the Bench.

2. Accordingly, we issue notice of criminal contempt to him as he has scandalized and lowered the authority of Court in open Court and direct him to file a reply by the next date of hearing.

3. Adjourned to 11.12.2023.

4. In spite of the matter being adjourned, counsel for the petitioner continues to interfere in the next case and, thus, further compounding the contempt, which is on the face of it, also contemptuous. However, keeping in field view the fact that he is a counsel with substantial standing in the field of Income Tax, we do not feel it is a fit case to send him into custody immediately under Section 14(1) read with Section 14(4) of Contempt of Courts Act, 1971 and give him an opportunity to file necessary affidavit.

**(G.S. SANDHAWALIA)
JUDGE**

**(LAPITA BANERJI)
JUDGE**

21.11.2023

5. Before the above order dated 21.11.2023 could be signed, Mr.Mukhi, later in the evening, came to apologise and sought an audience in the chambers. The same was not granted because it was not the first time that it had happened and also at that point of time, the second Member of the Bench was not available.

6. On 22.11.2023, affidavit of the counsel has been filed tendering his unconditional apology stating that he will abide by the decorum of the Court in future. Same is taken on record.

7. In such circumstances, we do not propose to further keep the issue open regarding the issue of Criminal Contempt and the same is hereby dropped.

8. On the merits of the case, counsel further submits that since we were already disinclined to interfere in the matter, he does not wish to press the present petition and prays that the same may be disposed of, as such.

9. Ordered accordingly.

(G.S. SANDHAWALIA)
JUDGE

22.11.2023
Sailesh

(LAPITA BANERJI)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned :	Yes	No
Whether Reportable :	Yes	No