

THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CWP No.4453 of 2024
Date of Decision: 14.03.2024

Manjit Singh Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others Respondents

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJESH BHARDWAJ

Present: Mr. D. V. Sharma, Senior Advocate with
Ms. Shivani Sharma, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Navneet Singh, Sr. DAG, Punjab.

Mr. Raj Kumar Garg, Advocate
for respondent No.6.

RAJESH BHARDWAJ, J. (ORAL)

Present writ petition has been filed for directing respondents No.1 to 3 to hold an enquiry in the misappropriation of the Government grant and Panchayat funds by Smt. Jatinder Kaur Pannu, Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Khokhar Faujian, Tehsil Batala, District Gurdaspur in the execution of development works during the period December, 2018 to July 2022 in view of complaint made by the petitioner attached as Annexure P-2 and subsequent letters dated 31.10.2023 (Annexure P-3), dated 20.12.2023 (Annexure P-4) and dated 15.01.2024 (Annexure P-5) issued by respondent No.3 directing the Block Development & Panchayats Officer, Batala, respondent No.4 to produce the record of the Gram Panchayat, Khokhar Faujian for holding the enquiry into the complaint but no record has so far been produced for

reasons best known to respondent No.4, Block Development & Panchayats Officer, Batala. Further prayer has been made for directing the Competent Authority to initiate surcharge proceedings under Section 216 of the Punjab Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 against Smt. Jatinder Kaur, Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Khokhar Faujian in order to recover the embezzled amount.

In pursuance to the order passed by this Court on 27.02.2024, Mr. Raja Singh, BDPO i.e. respondent No.4 is present in person in Court today. He has submitted before this Court that the requisite record has already been submitted before the Joint Director, Department of Rural Development & Panchayats, Punjab i.e. respondent No.3 on 05.03.2024, before whom the inquiry is pending.

In view of the above, it is apparent that grievance of the petitioner as raised in the present petition for submitting the record has already been redressed as the record is produced before the Competent Authority.

Thus, the present petition is disposed of. However respondent No.3 i.e. Joint Director, Department of Rural Development & Panchayats, Punjab is directed to proceed with the inquiry, which is already with him to you and conclude the same in accordance with law expeditiously preferably within a period of two months from the date of receipt of copy of this order.

14.03.2024
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(RAJESH BHARDWAJ)
JUDGE

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