

117 IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CWP-6969-2024

Date of Decision:01.04.2024

Harbhajan Singh and another

..... Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others

.....Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJESH BHARDWAJ

Present: Mr. Gurmohan Singh Bedi, Advocate and
Mr. Pawandeep Singh, Advocate, for the petitioners.
Mr. Navneet Singh, Sr. DAG, Punjab.
Mr. N.P.S. Mann, Advocate, for respondent No.5.
Mr. Sandeep Kumar, Advocate, for respondent No.12.

Rajesh Bhardwaj, J. (ORAL)

Present writ petition has been filed for directing respondents No.1 to 3 to initiate the vigilance inquiry and criminal action against the guilty persons/respondents No.4 to 12 after getting a FIR registered under relevant provisions of law for embezzling the huge funds to the tune of Rs.27,53,702/- (Twenty Seven Lac Fifty Three Thousand Seven Hundred and Two Rupees) of Gram Panchayat of village Kaler Khurd and to comply with the statement/undertaking recorded in the order dated 19.12.2022 (Annexure P-2) passed in CWP No.25505/2022.

In pursuance to the notice issued by this Court, respective counsel for respondents No.5 and 12 appeared and have stated before this Court that the allegations made against respondents No.4 to 12 are found to be false and frivolous as is evident from the order dated 08.05.2023 passed by the DDPO, Gurdaspur, wherein, in the appeal filed under Section 216 (3) of the Punjab Panchayati Raj Act, 1994, the order dated 25.11.2022 was set aside and the case was remanded to the BDPO, Dhariwal for fresh assessment.

Learned State counsel on instructions from Mr. Santokh Singh, BDPO, Dhariwal, has affirmed the same and submitted that the case is pending adjudication before the BDPO.

After hearing learned counsel for the parties, it is apparent that after the remand by the DDPO, Gurdaspur vide order dated 08.05.2023, the case is pending adjudication before the BDPO, Dhariwal. In view of the same, the present petition is disposed of with a direction to the BDPO, Dhariwal to expedite the proceedings pending before him and conclude the same expeditiously preferably within four months from today. The petitioners would be at liberty to pursue their remedy as per law, if they have any surviving cause of action.

(RAJESH BHARDWAJ)
JUDGE

01.04.2024
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Whether Speaking/Reasoned : Yes/No
Whether Reportable : Yes/No