



CWP-13828-2024

1

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

118

CWP-13828-2024

Date of decision: 06.08.2024

Sh. Ashnil Kumar

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab & ors.

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VINOD S. BHARDWAJ

Present : Ms. Shivani, Advocate for
Mr. Narinder S. Lucky, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Ms. Niharika Sharma, AAG, Punjab.

VINOD S. BHARDWAJ, J. (Oral)

Prayer in the present petition is for seeking direction to respondents No.1 to 6 to provide adequate security to protect the temple and its Mukh Sewadar, keeping in view that certain untoward events have taken place in the temple premises.

Learned counsel for the petitioner has vehemently contended that the petitioner is a preacher in a temple, in the name of Shri Ram Bala Ji Dham, which has been constructed at Village Kale Ghanupur, Amritsar. In the said temple, various religious and social welfare activities works are being carried by the trust of the Mandir. He submits that various anti social elements had made various attacks in the temple and had sent threat messages through unknown phone calls to the petitioner. Details of incidents have been mentioned by the petitioner in para No.7 of the writ petition.

**CWP-13828-2024****2**

A short reply by way of affidavit of Sukhpal Singh, PPS Assistant Commissioner of Police (West), Amritsar, has been filed on behalf of respondents No.1 to 4 and 6. Copy thereof has been supplied to the counsel for the petitioner.

It has been specified in the above said status report that certain untoward incidents occurred in the temple premises against which three FIRs were lodged and in all the three FIRs that were lodged, the accused persons have already been arrested and a final report under Section 173 Cr.P.C has already been filed and now the matters are pending before the trial Court. Further reference is made that the threat perception was assessed and based thereupon recommendation was made by the local police and adequate protection has been given to the petitioner and one gunman has been provided to him for the purpose of his security. So far as the security of temple is concerned, two police personnel are deployed on daily basis from Police Station Chheharta, Amritsar, who remain present at the temple for the whole day. Additionally, the police officials deployed at PCR motorcycle No.16 in the area of Ghanupur Kalle, Chheharta have also been directed to carry out random check and patrol during their duty hours outside the temple for the purpose of its safeguard. The relevant extract of the affidavit reads thus:-

“8. That taking into consideration the incidents as mentioned in the present petition by the petitioner as well as the representations given to various authorities by the petitioner, the threat perception qua the present petitioner was assessed and based thereupon recommendation was made by the local police for providing adequate protection to the petitioner. Hence, in pursuance thereto, as per direction



CWP-13828-2024

3

issued vide office letter bearing No. 9280/DDSB-5 dated 17.02.2023 by the Additional Director General of Police (Security), Punjab, Chandigarh (respondent No. 3), one gunman has been provided to the petitioner for the purpose of his security who has been performing his duty with the petitioner.

9. *That so far as the issue of security of temple Shri Ram Bala Ji Dham Charitable Trust (Regd.) and its office bearers, is concerned, it is submitted that two police personnel are deployed on daily basis from Police Station Chheharta, Amritsar at the temple for security of temple and its office bearers. The deployed police personnel remain present at the temple for the whole day and in addition to this, the police officials deployed at PCR motorcycle No. 16 in the area of GhanupurKalle, Chheharta also station randomly during their duty hours outside the temple for the purpose of safeguarding. Besides, the patrolling parties of Police Post Ghanupurkalle and Police Station Chheharta, Amritsar also take round of temple after specific intervals for this purpose. Apart from all of the above, adequate security is provided at the temple as and when any religious function is organized at the temple and specific security programme is issued in this respect by office of the Commissioner of Police, Amritsar.*

10. *That it is respectfully submitted that keeping in view the facts and circumstances mentioned above and threat perception assessed pertaining to the petitioner he has been provided 01 PSO on temporarily basis for his protection subject to review as per State Security Policy. Furthermore, two police personnel are deployed on daily basis for safeguarding the temple and its office bearer and in addition to this, the patrolling parties of PCR, PP KalleGhanupur and PS Chheharta, Amritsar also take round of temple after specific intervals for this purpose. As such, adequate security*

**CWP-13828-2024****4**

has been provided to the petitioner and the temple as well. Hence, no further action is required to be taken in this regard.”

It is thus evident that the State has assessed threat perception expressed by the petitioner and has taken necessary steps to ensure safety of the petitioner as also property of the temple. I find that there is no pressing ground that would warrant a fresh review as already sufficient security is deployed.

In view of the above-said facts, the present petition is accordingly disposed of as having been rendered infructuous at this stage.

06.08.2024
monika

(VINOD S. BHARDWAJ)
JUDGE

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