



(207)

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

CWP-22956-2016 (O&M)

Date of decision:- 19.09.2024

Mandeep Singh and others

...Petitioner(s)

Versus

The Secretary, Punjab Mandi Board, Mohali and others

...Respondent(s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SHEEL NAGU, CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANIL KSHETARPAL

Present:- Mr. Sarabjit Singh Sidhu, Advocate,
for the petitioners.
Mr. Parambir Singh, Advocate,
for respondents No. 1 to 3.
Mr. Saurav Khurana, Additional Advocate General, Punjab.
Mr. Harsh Aggarwal, Advocate,
for respondent No. 6.

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SHEEL NAGU, C.J. (ORAL)

1. This petition, in the form of 'Public Interest Litigation', has been filed by few public spirited persons praying for the following reliefs:-

- “(i) Issue an appropriate writ, order or direction especially in the nature of mandamus directing the respondents to make allotment/provide permanent place and proper arrangement for holding and conducting Apni Mandi at City Ludhiana under the “Apni Mandi Scheme” launched by the Government of Punjab and further to restrain all the functioning of illegal Mandis on road sides and other places in the City Ludhiana.
- (ii) Issue direction to respondent No. 6 not to harass and charge any money/tax illegally from the petitioners community on entering the City with regard to the sale of their produce i.e. fruits and vegetables.”



2. The grievance raised in this Public Interest Litigation is that by way of launching ‘Apni Mandi Scheme’, the State Government has introduced the concept of organizing ‘Mandis’ on a temporary basis once in a few days in the City of Ludhiana to enable the farmers’ produce to be directly sold to customers in the City thereby eliminating middlemen. These Apni Mandi are functional since long.
3. In this process of holding such Apni Mandis, it is alleged that mis-management takes place by not providing space for proper parking and making arrangements for removal of garbage and other necessary basic amenities, leading to traffic jams and lack of hygiene and sanitation.
4. One of the prayers made by the petitioners is that permanent place ought to be allotted for such Apni Mandis.
5. This Bench makes it clear that since the entire Scheme, which is challenged, contemplates only temporary Mandis, especially, once in a few days, the said prayer cannot be acceded to and, thus, the same stands rejected.
6. However, it is expected of respondents No. 2 and 3 that as and when the temporary Mandis are organized, then proper management for parking, garbage removal and other basic amenities necessary for the customers who frequent the Mandi, be made available.
7. With the aforesaid directions, the petition stands disposed of.

(SHEEL NAGU)
CHIEF JUSTICE

(ANIL KSHETARPAL)
JUDGE

19.09.2024
Amodh Sharma

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