



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

CWP-PIL-16-2024 (O&M)

Date of decision : 05.08.2024

Narender

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Haryana and others

....Respondents

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

Present: None for the petitioner.

Mr. Deepak Balyan, Addl. Advocate General, Haryana.

SHEEL NAGU, CHIEF JUSTICE (Oral)

1. Even on second call, none is present on behalf of the petitioner.
2. This petition in the shape of PIL has been filed raising the alleged public cause that certain full grown trees standing on the land belonging to Gram Panchayat, Village Barah Khurd, Block Jind, Tehsil and District Jind, have been unlawfully cut by the Sarpanch of the said Gram Panchayat (respondent No.5), her husband (respondent No.13) and father-in-law (respondent No.14). It is also alleged that the said trees have been sold in the market.
3. Learned counsel for the State of Haryana has drawn attention of this Court to the provision, contained in Section 54 of the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 (in short, "the Act"), which confers authority upon the Block



Development and Panchayat Officer of the concerned area to take cognizance of such acts which inter-alia lead to damage to the property of the Gram Panchayat.

4. It would, thus, be appropriate that the petitioner prefers a representation/complaint before the Block Development and Panchayat Officer of the area.

5. This petition, therefore, without entering into merits of the case, is disposed of with a direction that in case the petitioner prefers a representation/complaint with regard to the cause raised herein before the Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Jind, within a period of fifteen (15) days from today, then the same shall be considered and decided in terms of the provision of Section 54 of the Act, by passing an appropriate order.

6. It is made clear that this Court has not commented upon merits of the case and the competent authority is free to decide the matter in accordance with law, either way.

7. Pending application stands disposed of accordingly.

(SHEEL NAGU)
CHIEF JUSTICE

(ANIL KSHETARPAL)
JUDGE

August 05, 2024
ndj

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