



CRWP-4216-2025

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

CRWP-4216-2025

Date of decision: 25.04.2025

Ranjit and others

...Petitioners

versus

State of Haryana and others

... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARPREET SINGH BRARPresent: Mr. Bhupender Singh, Advocate
for the petitioners.

HARPREET SINGH BRAR, J. (ORAL)

1. The present petition has been filed under Article 226 of Constitution of India for issuance of a writ in the nature of *habeas corpus* for release of detenues as mentioned in para No.4 of the petition, alleged to be detained illegally by respondent No.4.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioners contends that private respondent had contacted the petitioners and detenues for working at his brick kiln for moulding *kacha* bricks at the rate of Rs.730/- per thousand *kacha* bricks and other terms and conditions i.e. suitable accommodation, medical aid etc. However, the private respondent turned hostile towards the petitioners and detenues and made them forcibly work whole day, while paying very meager wages. He further submits that when the petitioners and detenues asked the private respondent to give their total amount of about Rs.8,00,000/-, he came in rage and called his musclemen and gave them merciless beatings. Learned counsel further submits that seven detenues as mentioned in para 4 of the



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petition were illegally detained by private respondent and their household articles were also snatched.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioners relies upon the judgment rendered by a Division Bench of this Court in *LPA No.32 of 2013* titled as *Murti Vs. State of Punjab and Others*, decided on 11.01.2013 to contend that as per the ratio decidendi culled out in the said judgment, respondent No.2- District Magistrate, Ambala has to conduct an enquiry as per Section 12 of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 by treating the present petition as a complaint and to get the detenues released forthwith, in case they are found to be bonded labour by private respondent.

4. Notice of motion.

5. Mr. Vikas Bhardwaj, AAG, Haryana, who is present in Court, accepts notice on behalf of official respondents and submits that the official respondents will look into the matter and will take a decision. Let sufficient number of copies of the complete paper book be supplied to him during the course of day.

6. In view of the above, instant petition is disposed of with a direction to respondent No.2 to treat the present writ petition as a complaint and conduct an enquiry as per Section 12 of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 and in case the detenues are found in illegal detention of private respondent i.e. respondent No.4, they be released forthwith.

(HARPREET SINGH BRAR)
JUDGE

25.04.2025
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| (i) | Whether speaking/reasoned | Yes/No |
| (ii) | Whether reportable | Yes/No |