



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

CWP-9521-2010

Date of decision : 22.07.2025

Resurgence India and others

.....Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others

.....Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SHEEL NAGU, CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJIV BERRY

Present: Mr. A.P.S. Shergill, Advocate (arguing counsel), and
Ms. Shagun Goyal, Advocate,
for the petitioners.

Mr. Vipin Pal Yadav, Addl. A.G., Punjab (arguing counsel), and
Mr. Salil Sabhlok, Senior D.A.G., Punjab.

Ms. Puneeta Sethi, Senior Panel Counsel, UOI, and
Mr. Y.S. Thakur, Advocate.

Mr. Arjun Pratap Atma Ram, Advocate,
for respondent No.6.

Mr. R.S. Gill, Advocate,
for respondent No.7.

Mr. Anupam Singla, Advocate,
for respondents No.8 to 11.

SHEEL NAGU, CHIEF JUSTICE (Oral)

1. The present petition has been filed by two Societies, registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, and one individual, who claim themselves to be whistleblowers, in respect of alleged embezzlement of Central Government funds of about Rs. 3.84 crores by officials of four Farm Councils and functionaries of the State of Punjab. Respondent No.6



(functionary of the State) and respondent No.7 (President of four Farm Councils) have been arrayed as private respondents in this petition.

2. Various affidavits, which have been filed by the respondents, indicate that an enquiry was held at the level of the State Government, wherein certain functionaries of the State were *prima facie* found to be involved in cognizable offences of cheating, forgery, criminal breach of trust and also offences punishable under the Prevention of Corruption Act. Resultantly, it is revealed by the State that FIR No.1 dated 03.02.2011 under Sections 409, 420, 467, 468, 471, 120-B IPC read with Section 1 (1) (D) (2) of Prevention of Corruption Act,; and FIR No.2 dated 21.01.2014 under Sections 420, 467, 468, 471, 120-B IPC, were lodged at Police Station State Crime, SAS Nagar.

2.1 With regard to FIR No.1 dated 03.02.2011, learned State counsel informs that challan under Section 173 (2) Cr.P.C., and supplementary challans under Section 173 (8) Cr.P.C. have been filed on different dates in 2011 and 2012. Charge has been framed and trial is going on.

2.2 As regards FIR No.2 dated 21.01.2014, it is informed by learned counsel for the State of Punjab that charge sheet has been filed, whereafter charge has been framed and trial is on.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner, Mr. A.P.S. Shergill, however, contends that out of various illegalities, which were pointed out vide Annexures P-3 to P-7, very few have been inquired into at the level of the State Government.

4. This Court has no manner of doubt that an FIR can be lodged even by a stranger, provided a cognizable offence has been committed.



4.1 Thus, any of the petitioners are free to initiate lodging of FIR with regard to the un-inquired allegations with the police, failing which the petitioners are free to avail the alternative remedy under Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 or any other law.

5. With the aforesaid liberty, the petition stands disposed of.

(SHEEL NAGU)
CHIEF JUSTICE

(SANJIV BERRY)
JUDGE

July 22, 2025
narotam

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