



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

116-A

CWP-35182-2024 (O&M)
Date of Decision:-29.01.2025

Ravneet BajwaPetitioner

Vs.

Income Tax Officer, Ward 2(1), Amritsar ...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN PALLI
HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE SUDEEPTI SHARMA

Present: Mr. S.K. Mukhi, Advocates
for the petitioner.

Mr. Saurabh Kapoor, Sr. Standing counsel with
Ms. Muskan Gupta, Advocate
for the respondent-Union of India.

SUDEEPTI SHARMA, J.

1. Challenge in the present petition is to notice dated 31.03.2023 (P-2) issued under Section 148 of the Income Tax Act, 1961 (for short ‘Act 1961’) and all consequential actions, as order dated 18.03.2024 issued under Section 147 read with Section 144 of the Act, 1961, for A.Y 2020-2021, since the notice dated 31.03.2023 issued under Section 148 of the Act, 1961 was without jurisdiction and issued by ‘JAO’ instead of ‘NFAC’ .

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the issue involved in the above writ petition is covered by the judgment passed by a Co-ordinate Bench of this Court in the cases of *Jatinder Singh Bhangu vs. Union of India and others*, passed in CWP No. 15745-2024 and connected



matter, decided on 19.07.2024 and ***Jasjit Singh vs. Union of India and others*** (CWP No. 21509-2023 and other connected matters), decided on 29.07.2024. Learned counsel for the petitioner has further submitted that the petitioner has preferred an appeal and the same is pending before the Appellate Authority.

3. Learned counsel appearing for Union of India has also not disputed the same.

4. We have heard learned counsel for the parties and perused the whole records of the case.

5. The petitioner has challenged the notice dated 31.03.2023 (P-2) issued under Section 148 of the Act, 1961 and consequential actions, as order dated 18.03.2024 issued under Section 147 read with Section 144 of the Act, 1961, for A.Y 2020-2021, since the notice dated 31.03.2023 issued under Section 148 of the Act, 1961 was without jurisdiction and should be issued by 'NFAC' instead of 'JAO', in view of the circular/notification dated 29.03.2022 of the CBDT, wherein, it has been specifically enumerated that the NFAC has exclusive power to issue the notice under Section 148 of the Act, 1961.

6. A Co-ordinate Bench of this Court in ***Jatinder Singh Bhangu's case (supra) and Jasjit Singh's case (supra)***, allowed the writ petitions on the same issue, as raised in the present writ petition, by granting liberty to the revenue to follow the procedure as laid down under the Act, 1961 and proceed accordingly, if so advised.

7. Since in the present case, the appeal is pending before the Appellate Authority, the writ petition is disposed of with a direction to the



Appellate Authority to decide the appeal of the petitioner, in terms of the judgments mentioned above.

8. All the pending applications, if any, also stand disposed of.

(ARUN PALLI)
JUDGE

(SUDEEPTI SHARMA)
JUDGE

29.01.2025
Gaurav Arora

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