



139 IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

LPA-1081-2026 (O&M)
Date of decision: 21.04.2026

VARINDER SINGH SOHI AND OTHERS ...Appellants

Vs.

BALWINDER SINGH AND OTHERS ...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ASHWANI KUMAR MISHRA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ROHIT KAPOOR

Present: Ms. Avin Kaur Sandhu, Advocate
for the appellants.

ASHWANI KUMAR MISHRA, J. (Oral)

1. This Letters Patent Appeal arises out of an order passed by the learned Single Judge on 20.03.2026, whereby the contempt petition has been dismissed.

2. The relevant portion of the order of the contempt Court is contained in paragraphs 5 to 8, which is reproduced hereinafter:-

"5. It would be apposite to reproduce the relevant portion of order dated 05.03.2019:-

"[6]. After hearing learned counsel for the parties, I am of the view that the status quo regarding possession would suffice to meet ends of justice during pendency of the first appeal before the Lower Appellate Court. However, it is made clear that the present order shall not be construed to be an opinion on merits of any pending case inter se between the parties."

7 A perusal of Para 10 of the present contempt petition shows that the petitioner is making allegations against the official respondents that, despite status quo, official respondents have amended khasra girdawri. A perusal of the order dated 05.03.2019 as reproduced above shows



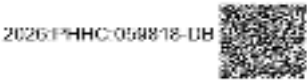
that this Court did not mention the portions under possession of the parties while granting status quo. And the dispute in the appeal is between different parties and without any mention regarding portions under possession of the parties, this would be a disputed question of fact before this Court which can only be decided by the Court by way of evidence.

8. Therefore, the dispute regarding violation can be decided by leading evidence which is not possible for this Court."

3. The contempt petition has been filed stating that the document of possession has been amended during the continuance of the interim order. In support of such plea, our attention has been invited to Annexure P-7 (page nos. 111 and 120). These girdawri entries are of the year 2021-22. The entries relate to two different villages.

4. We have made a pointed query to learned counsel for the appellants as to whether there is any assertion in the contempt petition that after the passing of the order dated 05.03.2019 any change of possession has been effected. Learned counsel has not been able to invite our attention to any such assertion.

5. In our view, the order dated 05.03.2019 directed status quo regarding possession to be maintained. Unless there is an assertion that the status quo with regard to possession has been altered, the contempt petition would ordinarily not proceed. Even with regard to girdawri entries, we are not convinced of the claim put up by the appellants, inasmuch as the entries prior to the passing of the order dated 05.03.2019 and thereafter, have not been shown to demonstrate any change in recording of the possession. We are otherwise of the view that once the status quo with regard to possession on



spot has not been altered and the appeal is otherwise *sub judice*, it would not be appropriate for the contempt Court to embark upon the legality of the orders passed by the authorities. Dismissal of the contempt petition, therefore, merits no interference.

- 6. The Letters Patent Appeal is accordingly ***dismissed***.
- 7. Pending application(s), if any, stand(s) disposed of.

(ASHWANI KUMAR MISHRA)
JUDGE

(ROHIT KAPOOR)
JUDGE

21.04.2026

neeraj	Whether speaking/reasoned :	Yes	No
	Whether Reportable :	Yes	No