



129-CWP-PIL-280-2025 (O&M)

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

**CWP-PIL-280-2025 (O&M)
Date of decision: 20.01.2026**

Shaheed Bhagat Singh Welfare Society

....Petitioner.

Versus

State of Punjab and others

....Respondents.

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

**Present:- Mr. Ranbir Singh Pathania, Advocate,
for the petitioner.**

Mr. Salil Sabhlok, Senior DAG, Punjab.

.....

SHEEL NAGU, CHIEF JUSTICE (Oral)

CM-347-CWP-PIL-2025

1. Keeping in view the averments made in the application, reply filed by way of affidavit on behalf of respondents No. 2, 3, 5 and 6 along with annexures is taken on record.
2. Registry to tag the same at appropriate place.
3. Disposed of.

Main case

1. This petition has been preferred raising alleged public cause that no action is being taken by the competent authority under the State despite the private respondents indulging in acts of misdemeanor, embezzlement and corruption.



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2. Reply/affidavit dated 09.12.2025 filed by Block Development & Panchayat Officer, Sujanpur, District Pathankot, respondents No. 2, 3, 5 and 6, reveals the following: -

(i) *Chargesheet has been issued against Harbhajan Singh, SEPO (retired); Roshan Lal, Panchayat Secretary and Gurmeet Singh, Panchayat Secretary.*

(ii) *Recovery proceedings under Section 216 of the Punjab Panchayat Raj Act, 1994 has been initiated against Varinder Kumar, Ex-Sarpanch, Harbhajan Singh, Ex-BDPO, Gurmeet Singh Ex-Panchayat Secretary, Roshan Lal, Ex-Panchayat Secretary, and against the contractors, for recoverable consolidated amount of Rs. 6,75,38,918.80.*

(iii) *Against the Ex-Sarpanch, Varinder Kumar, proceedings have been commenced by issuing notice on 29.12.2023 (Annexure P-5) u/s 216 of the Punjab Panchayati Raj Act, 1994, leading to issuance of recovery order dated 03.11.2025 (Annexure R-3/T).*

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that no deposit has been made by the delinquent employee(s) pursuant to the said recovery order.

4. Learned State counsel informs that coercive steps would be taken for recovering the aforesaid recoverable amount in terms of Section 68 of the Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887.

5. In view of above, the grievance of the petitioner appears to be satisfied for the time being. In case any grievance remains un-addressed, the petitioner is free to approach this Court again.

6. The State authorities are directed to ensure completion of inquiry proceedings as well as recovery proceedings within an outer limit of 04 months.



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7. Accordingly, the petition stands disposed of.
8. Pending miscellaneous application, if any, also stands dismissed.

(SHEEL NAGU)
CHIEF JUSTICE

(SANJIV BERRY)
JUDGE

20.01.2026
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| i) | Whether speaking/reasoned? | Yes/No |
| ii) | Whether reportable? | Yes/No |