IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

CWP No.12848 of 2009 (O&M) Date of decision: 07.05.2012

Chamel Singh and others

....Petitioners

Versus

The State of Punjab and others

....Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE THE ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ALOK SINGH

Present: - Mr. R.D. Sharma, Advocate, for the petitioners.

Mr. Jaskirat Singh Sidhu, Sr. Addl. A.G., Punjab.

Mr. A.R. Takkar, Advocate, for respondents No.4 to 7.

Mr. Rajesh Garg, Advocate, for respondents No.9 and 10.

- 1. Whether to be referred to the Reporters or not?
- 2. Whether the judgment should be reported in the Digest?

M.M. KUMAR, Acg.C.J.

1. The only grievance which survives in this Public Interest Litigation is that the PSIEC-respondents No.4 to 7 has not been able to stop the grazing of cattle by Gujjars in the Industrial Growth Centre, Pathankot. In the affidavit of Mr. C.M. Sharma, Superintendent Engineer, PSIEC, it has been specifically stated in para No.4(iv) that the field staff deployed in the Growth Centre is trying its best to persuade the Gujjar community not to release their cattle for grazing in the fields of Industrial Growth Centre. The matter has also been taken up with the local police and local authorities. In that regard, letters written by PSIEC in the year 2008 have been placed on record as A-2 (collectively). In the affidavit dated 14.10.2011 filed by Mr. M.P. Arora, IAS, Managing Director, PSIEC, it has been stated that two tubewells have been working to provide water supply to the residents and third one is kept as stand by. New water supply lines have been provided replacing the A.C. pipes with D.I. (Ductile Iron) pipes in the residential area to provide proper water supply. According to the affidavit, roads are being carpetted and work shall be completed by 31.10.2011 to provide smooth riding surface to the residents. According

to Mr. A.R. Takkar, learned counsel for PSIEC, roadside plantation has already been completed alongwith development of park in the residential colony. Still further new street lights have been provided in the residential area and the proper maintenance of the aforesaid services is being carried out by the PSIEC. In the counter-affidavit filed by the petitioner, the only problem which appears to have survived is with regard to the grazing cattle and some questions with regard to the drainage system and sewerage.

- 2. In view of the various steps, which have already been taken by the PSIEC, we are of the view that no useful purpose would be served by keeping the instant PIL pending. We direct the State of Punjab through its Local Government Department, that menace of stray cattle or the grazing cattle be rectified by taking effective steps and direction in that regard be issued by the Local Bodies Department to the Municipal Council, Pathankot. The direction may also cover the issue of drainage and sewerage as has been raised by the petitioner in the counter-affidavit. Needless to say that the Pollution Control Board would monitor the parameters of pollution emitted by the industries.
- 3. Petition stands disposed of.

(M.M. Kumar)
Acting Chief Judge

(Alok Singh) Judge

May 07, 2012 R.S.