

# **H.C. ARORA**

ADVOCATE

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## **PUNJAB & HARYANA HIGH COURT**

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Dated: 17.4.2020

Hon'ble Captain Amrinder Singh,

Chief Minister, Punjab.

Dear Sir,

SUBJECT: Determined, repeated and deliberate violation of Government instructions pertaining to compulsory wearing of masks during curfew imposed all over the State ( by Shri Navjot Singh, MLA (Ex-Minister), :

Dear Sir,

The News 18 Channel has repeatedly telecast yesterday the images of Shri Navjot Singh, MLA (Ex-Minister) freely moving in bazaars of Amritsar, without wearing face mask. On an earlier occasion also, Shri Navjot Singh had come out during curfew hours for honouring safai sewaks. No doubt, his object was laudable, but his conduct in not wearing face mask on that occasion ( early this week, as shown by the aforesaid channel), was in gross violation of lock down/curfew laws. Thus, in his case, legally speaking "mens rea " is involved, as he has done it consciously/deliberately. He thus, deserves to be proceeded against under section 188 of the Indian Penal Code, and under various relevant provisions of other laws.

You may kindly appreciate that hundreds of criminal cases under the aforesaid provisions of laws have been registered during the current lock down period in the State of Punjab, against ordinary citizens for not wearing face masks. Thus, there can not be two sets of laws, one for the powerful persons like Shri Navjot Singh, MLA (Ex-Minister) and another set of laws for children of lesser Gods, i.e., ordinary citizens. I am purposely writing to you, instead of sending a complain to District Magistrate, or SSP/Commissioner of Police, Amritsar, as the aforesaid officers shall not dare to register an FIR against this powerful politician of Punjab. The principle of law that every body is equal before law, remains just on paper, Had it been otherwise, an FIR

must have been registered immediately yesterday (16.4.2020) against Shri Navjot Singh when he was found moving in bazaars of Amritsar yesterday without wearing a face mask, and local Police officials around him. The aforesaid incident is a clear example of failure of law and order machinery in Amritsar. Strict instructions are therefore, required to be issued to District Magistrate, or SSP/Commissioner of Police, Amritsar, to enforce the law within areas of their respective jurisdiction, by registering an FIR against Shri Navjot Singh, for his determined, repeated and deliberate defiance of instructions/laws in the manner mentioned above. His conduct is unpardonable also for the reason that the entire Nation is facing unprecedented crisis due to Covid-2019, and any discordant note in such a situation by a VIP figure sends wrong signals to the ordinary citizens regarding the will power of the State to successfully meet the aforesaid challenge.

As you are an ex-Army Officer, and presently carrying the responsibility to run the administration according to letter and spirit of the Constitution of India, I urge upon you to issue appropriate instructions to District Magistrate, or SSP/Commissioner of Police, Amritsar, to enforce the lock down/curfew laws within areas of their respective jurisdiction, by registering an FIR against Shri Navjot Singh, for his aforesaid conduct.

Kindly intervene in this matter.

With regards.

Yours Sincerely,

(H.C. ARORA)

ADVOCATE

AND SOCIAL ACTIVIST