

HARI CHAND

ADVOCATE

ਹਰੀ ਚੰਦ

ਵਕੀਲ

PUNJAB & HARYANA HIGH COURT

ਪੰਜਾਬ ਅਤੇ ਹਰਿਆਣਾ ਹਾਈ ਕੋਰਟ

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ਸੈਕਟਰ 44- ਸੀ

ਚੰਡੀਗੜ੍ਹ 160045

DATED: 23.6.2019

To,

Hon'ble Governor, Punjab

Punjab Raj Bhawan, Chandigarh

Through e-mail: adc.govpb@gmail.com

Hon'ble Sir,

**APPEAL AGAINST PARDON GRANTED TO FOUR MURDER-
CONVICTED COPS: SEEKING RECONSIDERATION:**

The news papers have carried stories of pardon granted by your majesty to 4 cops, namely, 3 cops from UP, (i) Ravinder Kumar Singh; (ii) Brij Lal Verma, and Onkar Singh Yadav, and a former Inspector of Punjab Police, namely, Harinder Singh.

I may be permitted to state that grant of pardon to cops convicted for murder of a young man, by showing a fake Police encounter, is fraught with very danger consequences, as pardon has washed away all the sins of these cops, as if they have been made to have a bath in Ganga Ji. They have become sacrosanct. The stigma of conviction for murder has been washed away. They

will remain in service, and get promotions, as if they never committed offence of murder, notwithstanding the fact that they have spent some period of 2-3 years in prison. Releasing such murder convicted cops by granting them pardon is fraught with very dangerous consequences for the society/general public, as also the family members of the murdered young man, namely, Harjit Singh. It may also be submitted that in the case titled "DIG v. Rajaram, AIR 1960 AP 259 (261-262), it has been held that the "***effect of pardon and amnesty is to absolve the person not only from the penal consequences of the offence, but also from civil disqualifications, such as loss of office following from his conviction***". Thus, the pardoned cops are liable to be reinstated and continued in service, and given promotions, as if they were never convicted. They can contest election to State Legislature, as well as Parliament. They can become our future Chief Ministers in Punjab/Utter Pardesh.

I may be permitted to state that such pardon should not have been granted without giving an opportunity of hearing to the parents of slain young man, to enable them to convince your majesty that pardon in this case was not justified. In view of the emerging trend of transparency, it would have been more appropriate if the objections should have been invited from CBI (Central Bureau of Investigation) also in this case as the trial has been conducted in a special CBI Court at Patiala, and prosecution was at the instance of CBI.

It also needs serious consideration that life convicts are granted premature release by the State of Punjab after completion of 10 years' of sentence, and they carry stigma of conviction for entire life. They cannot get Government service. It also requires serious consideration as to why State of Punjab has always recommended the cases of convicted Police officers only for pardon, which strikes at the very foundation of our Constitution. I am of the humble view that power of pardon should not be exercised by your majesty in case of murder convicted Police officers, except in rare of rarest cases, as such pardon sullies the stream of good administration, as they would again become prosecutors under the criminal law. Such pardon encourages politician-criminal nexus

With these submissions, I would appeal to your majesty to kindly review your decision of granting pardon to the aforesaid 4 cops, in larger interest of public and democracy.

Soliciting serious consideration in correct perspective.

Submitted by:-

(HARI CHAND ARORA)

ADVOCATE