

H.C. ARORA

ADVOCATE

PUNJAB & HARYANA HIGH COURT

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EMAILS ADDRESS:-

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Dated: 18.5.2020

To,

1. Dr. Jatinder Singh, Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Government of India, New Delhi.
2. Sh. Ashish Kumar, Secretary Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Government of India, New Delhi.
3. Captain Amrinder Singh, Chief Minister of Punjab, Punjab Civil Secretariat, Chandigarh.

Subject:- Demand Notice- before filing PIL- and seeking initiation of appropriate proceedings against Sh. Karan Avtar Singh, Chief Secretary, on account of certain acts of misconduct on his part.

Through E-mail

Dear Sirs,

On behalf of my client, Sh. Kapil Arora S/o Shri Jagdish Chander, 186-E, B.R.S. Nagar, Ludhiana, Punjab, I serve the following notice on you:-

1. That my client is a Civil Engineer. He is President of Council of Engineers (an Association of Building Engineers of India). He is a non-political person and is a renowned Social Activist of Ludhiana. He always takes up the matters relating to transparency in administration. With the aforesaid background, I further state as under, on behalf of my aforesaid client.
2. That Sh. Karan Avtar Singh, the present Chief Secretary, Government of Punjab, was appointed on the said post in March, 2017 and was also assigned the function of Financial Commissioner and the Department of Excise and Taxation. Recently on 11.5.2020, Sh. Amrinder Singh Raja Warring, who is Political Advisor to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Punjab, leveled very serious allegations in writing on his Twitter, wherein it was categorically stated that Sh. Harman Singh son of Sh. Karan Avtar Singh had "benami" interest in the lease of the Hamira distillery in Kapurthala District of Punjab, which belongs to M/s Jagjit Industries Limited. Thus, Mr. Amrinder Singh Raja Warring levelled the allegations that the Chief Secretary, Mr. Karan Avtar Singh, was acting in a

manner involving conflict of his personal interest and the interest of the State of Punjab, as being Financial Commissioner and incharge of the Excise & Taxation department, he was the officer, who would recommend ex-distillery price of spirit, and was Heading the Committee which approves such ex-distillery price. Sh. Amrinder Singh Raja Warring, therefore, demanded the removal of Sh. Karan Avtar Singh from the post of Chief Secretary. As a matter of fact, on 12.5.2020 itself, the Chief Secretary, Sh. Karan Avtar Singh, was divested of the Department of Excise & Taxation, although he continues to be Chief Secretary till date.

3. That it hardly needs be stated that the allegations being levelled in the instant Demand Notice are not on the basis of personal knowledge of my client, but on the basis of the writings of Sh. Amrinder Singh Raja Warring, the Political Advisor to present Chief Minister of Punjab, which cannot be disbelieved, as such statements on the part of none else than the Political Advisor to the present Chief Minister carry a great weight. From a perusal of the aforesaid allegations leveled by Sh. Amrinder Singh Raja Warring, Political Secretary to present Chief Minister, it is clear that Sh. Karan Avtar Singh had concealed the factum of his interest in the liquor business through his son and thereby shown a lack of integrity and acted in a manner unbecoming of a Member of All India Services. The disciplinary action requires to be initiated against him without any further loss of time since he is due for retirement in the month of August, 2020. Raja Warring has also levelled allegations that due to aforesaid conduct on the part of Shri Karan Avtar Singh, the State Exchequer has suffered huge financial loss.

I would therefore, call upon you on behalf of my client to take immediate action against Sh. Karan Avtar Singh, the Chief Secretary, Government of Punjab, under the relevant provisions of All India Services (Discipline & Appeal) Rules, 1969 for placing him under suspension before initiating proceedings by issuing to him a charge sheet under the provisions of aforesaid Rules.

Needless to state that in case no action is taken against Sh. Karan Avtar Singh, Chief Secretary, Government of Punjab, within a period of one week from the date of receipt of this Demand Notice (which is being sent by E-mail) in that event, I stand authorized by my client to file appropriate proceedings by way of a PIL in the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana at Chandigarh for seeking redressal of his aforesaid legitimate grievance, in public interest.

Meanwhile, please acknowledge.

(H.C. ARORA)
ADVOCATE

Annexure :-Extract from writing of Sh. Amrinder Singh Raja Warring on his
Twitter.