

GURDEEP SINGH GILL VS STATE OF PUNJAB AND ANOTHER

Present: Mr. Gurjeet Singh Gill, Advocate and
Mr. Manan Kheterpal, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Shailendra Jain, Senior Advocate as Amicus Curiae with
Mr. Rahul, Advocate,
Mr. Munish Sharma, Advocate and
Mr. Ravinder Kumar,

Mr. Maninderjit Singh, Advocate General, Punjab
Mr. Maninder Singh, Addl. A.G., Punjab
Mr. Rajiv Madan, Addl. A.G., Punjab.
Mr. Shekhar Verma, Addl. A.G., Punjab.
Mr. Aftab Singh Khara, Sr. DAG, Punjab

Ms. Anu Chatrath, Sr. Advocate with
Mr. Ratik Chatrath, Advocate
for respondent-State of Punjab.

Learned Advocate General, Punjab prays for time to inform this Court as to whether the Social Impact Assessment was carried out before notifying the policy and to respond to the arguments of the counsel for the petitioner as noticed in the order of this Court dated 30.07.2025. He shall also inform this Court if the Environmental Impact Assessment had been carried out before notifying the policy. It has been directed by the Supreme Court in the case of *Resident's Welfare Association and another Vs. Union Territory of Chandigarh, (2023) 8 Supreme Court Cases 643*, that before permitting urban development, the Environmental Impact Assessment study should be conducted. The relevant extract of the judgment is reproduced hereunder:-

“174. Before we part with the judgment, we observe that it is high time that the legislature, the executive and the policy-makers at the Centre as well as at the State levels take note of the damage to the environment on account of haphazard developments and take a call to take necessary measures to ensure that the development does not damage the environment. It is necessary that a proper balance is struck between sustainable development and environmental protection. We therefore appeal to the

legislature, the executive and the policy-makers at the Centre as well as at the State levels to make necessary provisions for carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment studies before permitting urban development.

175. We direct the copy of this judgment to be forwarded to the Cabinet Secretary to the Union of India and the Chief Secretaries to all the States to take note of the aforesaid observations. We hope that the Union of India as well as the State Governments will take earnest steps in that regard.”

Learned Advocate General, Punjab shall also inform this Court as to whether there is any provision in the policy, for rehabilitation of the landless labourers and others, who do not own any land but are dependent on the land for their sustenance. He submits that the policy would be kept on hold and no further steps would be taken till the next date of hearing.

List on 07.08.2025.

(ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL)
JUDGE

(DEEPAK MANCHANDA)
JUDGE

06.08.2025

Sapna