



Sr. No.101
IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

CWP-7257-2025 (O&M)

Date of Decision : 18.03.2025

Gurmeet Kaur

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others

...Respondents

CORAM : HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE LAPITA BANERJI

Present : Mr. Savreet Singh Brar, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr. Brijesh, AAG, Punjab.

LAPITA BANERJI, J. (Oral)

Learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner submits that the grand father-in-law of the petitioner was a license holder of a fair price depot in Village Toot, District Ferozepur. He passed away on January 24, 2021. The petitioner being the grand daughter-in-law made a representation for transfer of the license on compassionate grounds.

2. The Director, Ferozepur, vide letter dated September 8, 2023, transferred the said license in the name of the petitioner. Upon receiving a representation dated April 16, 2024 from a co-villager against transfer of such license in favour of the petitioner, it was found that as per clause 6 of the Policy dated June 15, 2016 issued vide memo No.1KV (110-A)-2016/1284 dated 15.06.2016, a depot holder's license could not be transferred in the name of his/her grand daughter-in-law. The said position was also confirmed by the Food and Supply Officer, Ferozepur-respondent No.6. Therefore, the District Controller-respondent No.5 cancelled the license of the petitioner vide impugned order dated May 7, 2024 (Annexure P-4), keeping in view the Punjab Public Distribution Licensing and Control Order, 2016.



3. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that such cancellation was illegal and arbitrary as no opportunity of hearing was granted to the petitioner. An appeal was preferred on November 11, 2024 against the said impugned order and the personal hearing was given on December 23, 2024. However, no decision has been arrived at in the said appeal.

4. Issue notice to the respondents.

5. Mr. Brijesh, AAG, Punjab accepts notice on behalf of the respondents-State and submits that since the license was granted without taking into consideration 2016 Control order, there was no need to issue a show-cause-notice to the petitioner. However, principles of natural justice had been complied with as the petitioner was admittedly given an opportunity of hearing.

6. This Court has heard the learned counsel for the parties and perused the material on record.

7. The authorities are directed to decide the appeal of the petitioner within 3 months from the date of this order as the livelihood of the petitioner is dependent on the same.

8. Since the petitioner was already granted the license to run a fair price shop and there is no allegation of irregularities against her during the period wherein she had run the fair price shop, this Court feels that justice will be done if the petitioner is allowed to run the same till such time the authorities take a reasoned decision in her appeal. Accordingly, the supply to the petitioner's fair price shop shall be restored.

9. With the directions aforesaid, the writ petition being CWP No.7257 of 2025 is **disposed of**.



10. Connected applications, if any, are also accordingly disposed of.

11. Needless to mention here that in view of nature of order being passed, this Court is not inclined to call for reply of respondent/State at this stage.

(LAPITA BANERJI)
JUDGE

March 18, 2025

Vandana

Whether speaking/reasoned :	Yes/No
Whether reportable :	Yes/No