

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

Ramesh Sanka

Vs.

Union of India

WP(CrI.)No.142 of 2018

(Abhay Manohar Sapre and R.Subhash Reddy,JJ.,)

25.01.2019

JUDGMENT

Abhay Manohar Sapre,J.,

1. This writ petition is filed by one Mr. Ramesh Sanka under Article 32 of the Constitution of India seeking for the issuance of Writ of Mandamus or any other Writ or directions directing Respondent No.23 (CBI) to investigate the entire matter and examine all the allegations made by the writ petitioner against Respondent Nos.12 to 22 in accordance with law. The other reliefs claimed in clause (b) to (d) of the writ petition are consequential to the main relief.

2. Stated concisely, the petitioner seeks the aforementioned reliefs on following facts.

3. The petitioner is a former employee of Respondent No.12 - a Limited Company. He worked as CEO of the said company from June 2014 till 31st December 2016.

4. In substance, the grievance of the writ petitioner is against Respondent No.12. He has highlighted the manner and the modus operandi of Respondent No.12 - Company, in carrying out their business and financial operations/dealings.

5. His grievance is also against the persons who are managing the affairs of Respondent No.12 - Company and also against the Companies, individuals and the firms with whom respondent No.12 - Company is having their business and financial dealing/operations i.e. (Respondent Nos.13 to 22, 24 and 25).

6. According to the writ petitioner, Respondent No.12 - Company, through their Directors and employees has committed several financial irregularities in their business and financial dealing with many Companies, firms and individuals who are having their work places in India and abroad contrary to and in contravention of the provisions of Several Acts/ Rules / Regulations which have gone unnoticed despite the writ petitioner had sent several complaints/representations to various statutory authorities in this behalf.

7. According to the writ petitioner, all such dealings/activities of Respondent No.12 - Company, which he has highlighted in the writ petition has not only caused heavy loss to the public exchequer but also rendered the persons, who indulged in these activities, liable to face prosecution for commission of several cognizable offences punishable under the Acts.

8. It is essentially with these background facts; the writ petitioner has made allegations in the writ petition. He has also filed some documents to show prima facie that the prayer made by him in his writ petition deserves consideration.

9. On 11.07.2018, this Court issued notice of this writ petition confining it to the official respondents namely, respondent Nos.7 to 11. These respondents have filed the status report in a sealed cover. One official-respondent has filed the affidavit.

10. Respondent No.12 - Company, however, in the meantime entered suo motu appearance and has filed IA No.104447 of 2018 praying therein for dismissal of the writ petition on legal as well as on factual grounds.

11. In substance, according to respondent No.12 - Company, the writ petition filed by the writ petitioner under Article 32 of the Constitution deserves dismissal on the grounds inter alia that it is not a bona fide petition. It is contended that this writ petition is filed by a former employee of respondent No.12 - Company to score his personal issues and the differences qua respondent No.12 - Company, for which some civil suits are pending between the parties in the Civil Court: that the writ petitioner has suppressed several material facts in the writ petition including the fact of pendency of the Civil Suits between them: that the writ petition is filed with an ulterior motive at the behest of others only to tarnish the image of respondent No.12 - Company, in the market: that the writ petition does not involve any issue of infraction/violation of any fundamental rights, guaranteed to the citizens under the Constitution of India, of the petitioners. The Respondent No.12 - Company, has denied all such allegations made against them by the writ petitioner as being baseless.

12. The writ petitioner has countered the averments made in the aforesaid IA by placing reliance on the averments made in the writ petition contending that there has been no suppression of the material facts as alleged by respondent No.12 - Company.

13. In the meantime several persons /organizations have suo motu filed the applications being I.A. Nos.3739/2018, 176284-85/2018, D.No.110020/2018, 160094/2018, 171501/2018, 160094/2018, 163098/2018, D. No.175943-47/2018, 144019/2018, 81895/2018, 165472/2018, 163874/2018, 157884/2018, 115735/2018 and 2974/2019, seeking therein various kinds of reliefs for them individually and collectively against respondent No.12 - Company, in relation to their independent dealings which they claimed to have had with respondent No.12 - Company and which according to them are not till date fructified and given to them by respondent No.12 - Company, as agreed.

14. We have heard all the learned counsel for the parties in support of their case.

15. Having heard the learned counsel for the parties and keeping in view the law laid down by this Court in the cases reported in *State of Uttaranchal vs. Balwant Singh Chauhal & Ors*¹. *K.D. Sharma vs. Steel Authority of India Ltd. & Ors*². and lastly in *Arun Kumar Agrawal vs. Union of India & Ors*³. we are not inclined to grant any relief in this writ petition.

16. At the outset, we find that the writ petitioner has not claimed any relief in person qua respondent No.12 - Company, in this writ petition. Even otherwise, no writ lies under Article 32 of the Constitution at the instance of any employee or the employer for claiming enforcement of any personal contractual rights inter se the employee and his employer.

17. If the writ petitioner has any personal grievance in relation to any of his contractual personal rights flowing from any service conditions or any other agreement with the respondent No.12 - Company, his legal remedy lies in filing Civil Suit or take recourse to any other civil law remedy for adjudication and enforcement of his rights qua respondent No.12 - Company or anyone claiming through them as the case may be. The writ petition under Article 32 of the Constitution is not the remedy for agitating any such grievance.

18. It is not in dispute that the parties are already prosecuting their grievances against each other in Civil Court in their respective civil suits filed by them against each other. If that be the position, the same have to be pursued by them in accordance with law against each other.

19. So far as the raising of other grievances as set out supra by the writ petitioner against the other respondents are concerned, suffice it to say, this court by order dated 11.07.2018 had issued notice to the official respondents Nos.7 to 11. These respondents pursuant to the notice issued have filed their respective status report in relation to the inquiries, which is being undertaken by them in their respective jurisdiction. We have perused the same.

20. Needless to say depending upon the outcome of the inquiry once it is completed by the respective official respondents in their exclusive jurisdiction under various Acts, the appropriate action as provided in law will follow against all those who are found guilty.

21. Before parting, we make it clear that we have not expressed any opinion on several factual issues alleged and denied by all the parties against each other in this writ petition and in respective IAs.

22. This order, therefore, will not influence any authority or the Court or ongoing inquiry or proceedings while dealing with any issue. The same has to be dealt with uninfluenced by this order.

23. In view of the foregoing discussion, it is not necessary to entertain several IAs bearing Nos.3739/2018, 176284-85/2018, D.No.110020/2018, 160094/2018, 171501/2018, 160094/2018, 163098/2018, D. No.175943-47/2018, 144019/2018, 81895/2018, 165472/2018, 163874/2018, 157884/2018, 115735/2018 and 2974/2019, filed by different

applicants for claiming various reliefs qua respondent No.12 - Company, in relation to their individual and collective grievances.

24. All such applicants would be at liberty to raise their grievances qua respondent No.12 – Company whether individually or severally for adjudication of their rights before an appropriate Judicial Forum in accordance with law.

25. It is with these observations, we find no merit in this writ petition, which fails and is accordingly dismissed.

Judgment Referred.

¹(2010) 3 SCC 0402

²(2008) 12 SCC 0481

³(2014) 2 SCCC 0609