



2023:HHC:9058

**Karam Chand vs. The State of H.P. and others.**

**CWPIL No.85 of 2022.**

**31.07.2024.** Present: Mr. K.B. Khajuria, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr. I.N. Mehta and Mr. Yashwardhan Chauhan, Senior Additional Advocates General with Mr. Navlesh Verma, Ms. Sharmila Patial, Additional Advocates General, Mr. J.S.Guleria and Mr. Raj Negi, Deputy Advocates General, for respondent Nos. 1 to 3.

Mr. Sat Prakash, Advocate, for respondent No.4.

Ms. Urvashi Rajta, Advocate vice Mr. Vijay Kumar Arora, Advocate, for respondent No.5.

We are not at all satisfied with the contents of the counter-affidavit as also the conduct of the Deputy Ranger in issuing the letter dated 28.06.2023. In the given facts and circumstances, we deem it appropriate to direct the concerned Deputy Ranger to explain his position as to how, at the first instance, he had mentioned that the logs of the illicit felling were lying in the Depot and why, all of a sudden, he has retracted from this statement vide letter dated 28.06.2023. Ordered accordingly. In the meanwhile, the Special Investigation Team is directed to further investigate the matter, more especially, with regard to use of illegal wood by Jhagad Singh and also trace the logs of the illicit felling.

List on **14.08.2024** when fresh status report be filed.

**(Tarlok Singh Chauhan)**

**Judge**

**(Sushil Kukreja)**

**Judge**

**31<sup>st</sup> July, 2024.  
(krt)**