

IN THE HON'BLE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA  
AT CHANDIGARH.

CWP No. 19086 of 2017

Ravinder Singh Dhull

.....PETITIONER

VERSUS


State of Haryana & Others

.....RESPONDENTS

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PLACE: PANCHKULA  
DATED: 24.5.2018

  
Addl. Director General of Police,  
Crime, Haryana, Panchkula.

**P. K. Agrawal**  
ADGP/Crime

**IN THE HON'BLE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA  
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Status Report by way of affidavit of P.K. Agrawal, IPS, Additional Director General of Police, Crime, Haryana, Panchkula as head of Special Investigation Team in compliance of the order dated 04.04.2018 passed by this Hon'ble Court.

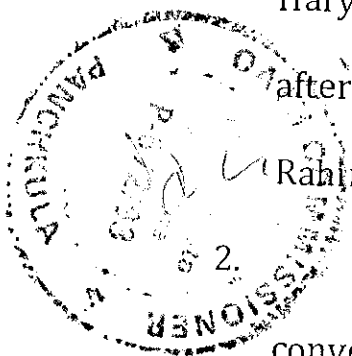
**RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:**

I, the above named deponent do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under:-

1. That the deponent is filing the present Status Report as head of Special Investigation Team (SIT), constituted for investigation of all the cases registered throughout the State of Haryana related to the incidents of violence and arson in the aftermath of the pronouncement of judgement against Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh by the Ld. CBI Court at Panchkula on 25.08.2017.

2. That it is submitted that the deponent has been duly conveying to the SIT members the directions given by this Hon'ble Court from time to time regarding investigation of cases for strict and meticulous compliance of the same. The directions given by this Hon'ble Court vide order dated 04.04.2018 were communicated

*he*

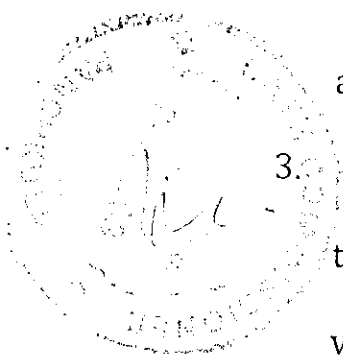


to members of the SIT vide Memo. No. 1860-80/R/ADGP dated 19.04.2018 for ensuring compliance. A true copy of the same is annexed as **Annexure R-1**.

It is further submitted that a meeting to discuss the issues related to investigation of cases registered in this regard was called by the deponent on 24.04.2018 and the members of SIT were directed to comply with the directions of this Hon'ble Court and make earnest and strenuous efforts to apprehend the remaining accused/suspects including key functionaries of DSS by maintaining apt coordination and sharing of information/inputs. Minutes of the meeting have been circulated to all members of SIT vide memo. No. 1992-2010/R/ADGP/Crime dated 26.04.2018. A true copy of the same is annexed as **Annexure R-2**. All the members of SIT were again directed to make sincere and stringent efforts to apprehend the remaining accused/suspects and send point-wise report by way of affidavit through their respective ADGP/IsGP/CP vide this office memo. No. 2128-48/R/ADGP/Crime dated 03.05.2018.

The reports submitted by the members of the SIT by way of affidavit regarding progress of investigation have been examined.

That it is submitted that total 240 cases were registered throughout the State of Haryana in connection with the incidents of violence, arson and destruction of public and private properties by the followers of Dera Sacha Sauda in the aftermath of pronouncement of judgment by Ld. CBI Court against Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh on 25.08.2017. Challans have been presented in the Courts of Jurisdictional Magistrates in 206 cases. During



*he*

investigation of all these cases, 16 more accused have been arrested by the SIT since the last status report filed before this Hon'ble Court on 04.04.2018. Detail of the accused arrested is annexed as **Annexure R-3**. Hence, as many as 1471 persons have been arrested so far. However, since some of these persons have been arrested in more than one case, hence, total number of arrests is 2586. The SIT is making all possible efforts to apprehend the remaining accused/suspects.

4. That it is worthwhile to mention here that conspiracy was hatched by the core group of Dera activists, pre or post 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2017, the details thereof have already been given in the status reports filed earlier. The lead case bearing FIR No. 345 dated 27.08.2017 u/s 145/146/150/151/152/153/216/121/121-A/120B IPC was registered in Police Station, Sector-5, Panchkula, in which the SIT is conducting investigation with regard to above mentioned conspiracy. During the investigation of this case, as many as 36 accused have been arrested so far including senior DSS functionaries. In the present case, Challan/ supplementary Challans have been submitted against 32 accused in the Court till now. Challan u/s 173(2) Cr.PC was filed on 28.10.2017 against 15 accused and thereafter supplementary challans u/s 173(8) Cr.PC have been filed on 11.01.2018 against 10 accused and on 07.04.2018 against 7 accused respectively. Supplementary challan against 4 accused under arrest will be filed shortly.

5. That it is submitted that the SIT had initiated proceedings for declaring the accused Dr. Aditya Insan as proclaimed offender

*He*



before Ld. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Panchkula and after culmination of the same, he has been declared proclaimed offender vide order dated 21.5.2018. Further, proceedings are being initiated for attachment of properties of accused Dr. Aditya Insan. A cash reward of Rs. 5 lakh has already been announced for providing any information about him. In addition to this, non-bailable arrest warrants have been obtained from the Jurisdictional Magistrate against 11 accused.

6. That it is submitted that 25 persons have been reported missing from DSS till now out of which 8 persons have been traced out by the SIT so far.

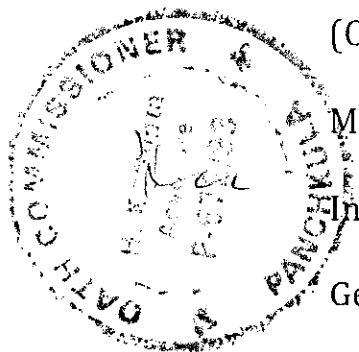
The SIT headed by Superintendent of Police, Jind and comprising of Dy. Superintendent of Police, City Jind and Dy. Superintendent of Police, Fatehabad constituted for this purpose is making all efforts to trace out remaining 17 missing persons. For the same, an information regarding missing persons has been got published in the local and national newspapers i.e. Dainik Tribune, Amar Ujala, and Dainik Bhaskar and also through Doordarshan Kendra Hisar and Akashwani. Details regarding the missing persons have also been uploaded on Haryana Police Website. Pamphlets with photographs and other details have been got pasted on public places as well as in the police stations in the state of Haryana. Cash rewards amounting to Rs. 50,000/- each have been announced for the informers for providing any information about missing persons.

The Anti Human Trafficking Unit of State Crime Branch, Hisar and Proclaimed Offender (P.O.) Staff of State Crime Branch, Jind have

*he*

been attached to assist the SIT for tracing out the remaining missing persons. Missing persons have also been searched by sending teams of SIT at various religious places and premises of non government organizations (NGOs) of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Punjab, Delhi and within the state. Records regarding unknown dead bodies recovered have also been obtained from the concerned police stations. However, no clue/lead has been found so far. Hence, the SIT is making sincere efforts to trace out these missing persons. It is further submitted that as per report received from this SIT, no evidence regarding involvement of functionaries of Dera Sacha Sauda in disappearance of missing persons has come before the SIT during investigation, so far.

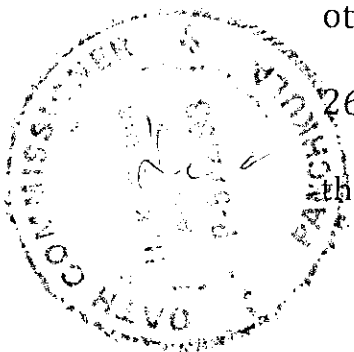
7. That it is submitted that during the course of investigation, Sirsa Police has recovered 65 severely damaged Hard Disc Drives (HDDs) from the Dera premises, the details whereof have been submitted before this Hon'ble court in earlier Status Reports. The SIT has been making all efforts to retrieve the data from these damaged HDDs. However, no data could be retrieved from these HDDs despite efforts made by Digital Investigation, Training and Analysis Centre (DITAC) and other Government as well as private agencies including Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Stellar Information Technology Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru and Mahadev Film Factory, Bengaluru. Therefore, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been approached through the Director General of Police, Haryana to retrieve the data from these severely damaged Hard Disc Drives (HDDs). It was submitted in the last



He

status report that Deputy Inspector General, CBI, Chandigarh had conveyed to the then Superintendent of Police, Sirsa that a date will be fixed soon wherein the experts from the CBI will examine the case property viz. the broken/destroyed 65 HDDs at either Chandigarh or Delhi, however, no response was received from CBI. Therefore, the Deputy Inspector General, CBI, Chandigarh has again been requested by the Inspector General of Police, Hisar Range, Hisar in this regard vide his office memo. No. 12718-19/A-4 dated 24.04.2018. Report has been received from Dy. Inspector General of Police, CBI, Chandigarh Range, Chandigarh vide his office ID No. 193-194/Misc./Trial/2018/SCB/CHG dated 17.05.2018. It has been conveyed by the CBI that the HDDs were mechanically damaged with the intention of destroying the data and recovery completely impossible. True copy of the same is annexed as **Annexure R-4**.

8. That it is submitted that in the last status report submitted before this Hon'ble Court, it was conveyed that an application for custodial interrogation of Balraj Singh in case FIR No. 696 dated 26.08.2017 u/s 147/148/149/307/124A/435/436/332/353/186/201/109/120B IPC, 3/4 PDPP Act and 25/54/59 Arms Act, Police Station City Sirsa was moved by the SIT before the Illaqua Magistrate to ascertain the movement of any movable asset from Dera Premises and destruction of Hard Disk Drive (HDDs) or for any other useful information. However the same was rejected on 26.02.2018. Against the order, a revision petition was filed before the Ld. Additional Sessions Judge, Sirsa and the same has been



*He*

dismissed by the Ld. Court vide order dated 23.04.2018. Appropriate legal remedy is being availed in this case.

9. That it is further submitted that accused Rakesh Arora s/o Sunder Lal Arora R/o Dirba Mandi Sangroor Punjab( PA of Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh) was thoroughly questioned on 10.05.2018 in case FIR No. 147 dated 26.08.2017 u/s 148/149/307/124A/395/436/332/333/353/186/188/201/109/427/120B IPC, 3/4 PDPP Act and 25/54/59 Arms Act, Police Station City Sirsa for obtaining any clue regarding transportation of the valuables and other articles from the Dera premises, but he has not divulged anything in this regard.

10. That it is submitted that some Digital Video Recorders (DVRs) and other digital data/equipments were recovered and sealed by Ld. Court Commissioner appointed by this Hon'ble Court on 08.09.2017, which may contain information regarding movement of assets from DSS premises. In this regard, an application was moved before the Jurisdictional Magistrate to seek permission for de-sealing of these DVRs and other digital data/equipments so as to obtain any lead/clue about the movement of movable assets and to know the events that took place on or after 25.08.2017 in Dera premises. The same was dismissed vide order dated 20.03.2018.

Against the same, a revision petition was filed before Ld. Additional Sessions Judge, Sirsa and the same has also been dismissed by the Ld. Court vide order dated 11.05.2018. Appropriate legal remedy is being availed in this case.





The SIT is making its earnest efforts to gather information and material to corroborate the movement of moveable assets from DSS premises.

11. That it is respectfully submitted that the investigation is being carried out by the SIT in thorough and impartial manner and the SIT is making sincere efforts to arrest the remaining accused, who are still at large.

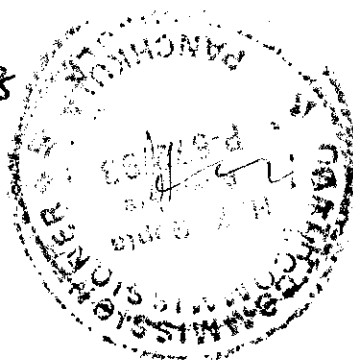
PLACE: PANCHKULA  
DATED: 24.5.2018

*PK*  
DEPONENT  
P. K. Agrawal  
ADGP/Crime

VERIFICATION:-

Verified that the contents of para No.1 to 11 of the status report by way of affidavit are true and correct to my knowledge based on information derived from official record which are believed to be correct. No part of it is false and nothing has been concealed therein.

PLACE: PANCHKULA  
DATED: 24.5.2018



*PK*  
DEPONENT  
P. K. Agrawal  
ADGP/Crime

I identify the deponent as...

Sl. No. 1266 Dt. 24-5-18  
Certified that..... S/o .....

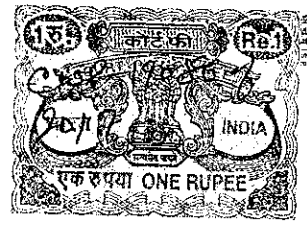
R/o .....  
has made this statement on oath  
before me who has seen  
identified by *Sunil K...*

ATTESTED

*PK*  
Dist. Commissioner, Panchkula

DIST. COMMISSIONER, PANCHKULA

1 DC on DM R 829B  
0730

**ANNEXURE R-1**

From

Addl. Director General of Police,  
Crime, Haryana, Panchkula.

To

1. ADGP/Ambala Range, Ambala.
2. ADGP/Railways & Commando, Haryana, Panchkula.
3. CP/Panchkula.
4. IsGP/ Rohtak, Karnal & Hisar Ranges.
5. SsP/Ambala, Kurukshetra, Karnal, Kaithal, Panipat, Rohtak, Sonapat, Bhiwani, Hisar, Sirsa, Fatehabad, Jind & Hansi.
6. DCP/Panchkula.
7. SP/Railways, Ambala Cantt.

No. **1860-80/R/ADGP/Crime** dated, Panchkula the, **19.04.2018****Subject: Regarding CWP No. 19086 of 2017 filed by Ravinder Singh Dhull Vs. State of Haryana and others.**

Memo.

Please find enclosed herewith a copy of order of the Hon'ble High Court dated 04.04.2018 in CWP No. 19086, mentioned above.

The above mentioned CWP was fixed for hearing in the Hon'ble High Court on 04.04.2018. During the course of hearing, the Hon'ble High Court has expressed its displeasure in para No. 10 of the said order regarding the efforts made by the SIT for apprehending the remaining accused/suspects in the cases of violence and arson registered in the aftermath of the judgment against Gurmit Ram Rahim Singh by Ld. CBI Court on 25.08.2018. Besides, some specific directions have also been issued to Commissioner of Police, Panchkula and Superintendent of Police, Sirsa in paras 11 & 12. These may be meticulously complied with under intimation to this office.

Instructions have been issued by this office from time to time with regard to the investigation of above mentioned cases. However, the following instructions are reiterated and may also be complied with during the course of investigation of the said cases:-

1. Proper co-ordination be maintained amongst all the members of SIT regarding sharing of information/inputs leading to the arrest of accused/suspects.
2. Sincere and stringent efforts i.e. proper surveillance with the help of cyber assistance or informers, continuous raids on the suspected places, assistance of SITs of other districts, STF and local police within and outside the state etc. be made to apprehend the remaining accused/suspects.
3. Challans against arrested accused be put in the Court well in time after completing all legal formalities to prevent any undue benefit to any accused.
4. The matter of extraction of data from damaged HDDs be followed up with CBI by SP/Sirsa and progress in this regard be intimated to this office.
5. As directed by the Hon'ble High Court in its previous order dated 06.02.2018, all the statements recorded u/s 161 CrPC be scrutinized properly and needful be done accordingly.
6. Investigation of these cases be reviewed from time to time. Necessary directions be given to the subordinates, who are investigating these cases.
7. Investigation regarding persons missing from DSS be scrutinized by SP/Jind personally and specific directions be given to the

members of SIT constituted in this regard. All out efforts be made to trace out the remaining missing persons.

Compliance report in this regard be sent to this office by 30.04.2018 positively.

-Sd-

**Addl. Director General of Police,  
Crime, Haryana, Panchkula.**

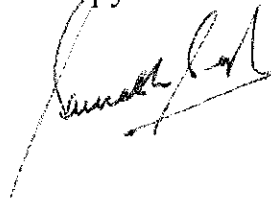
Endst. No. **1881/R/ADGP/Crime** dated, Panchkula the, **19.04.2018**

A copy of the above is forwarded to the Director General of Police, Haryana for information.

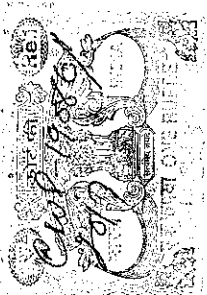
-Sd-

**Addl. Director General of Police,  
Crime, Haryana, Panchkula.**

True Copy



Inspector General of Police  
Crime Haryana, Panchkula



**ANNEXURE R-2**

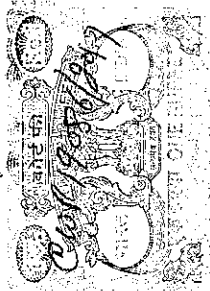
**Minutes of the Meeting held regarding CWP No. 19086 of 2017 filed by Ravinder Singh Dhull vs State of Haryana and others on 24.04.2018 in the office of Addl. Director General of Police, Crime, Haryana, Panchkula.**

A meeting was held on 24.04.2018 at 11:30 AM in the office of undersigned at Police Headquarters, Sec-6, Panchkula. The following officers attended the meeting:-

1. Sh. A.S. Chawla, IPS, Commissioner of Police, Panchkula.
2. Sh. Subhash Yadav, IPS, Inspector General of Police, Karnal Range, Karnal.
3. Sh. Sanjay Kumar, IPS, Inspector General of Police, Hisar Range, Hisar.
4. Sh. Abhishek Garg, IPS, Superintendent of Police, Kurukshetra.
5. Sh. Manbir Singh, IPS, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Panchkula.
6. Sh. Ravinder Singh, HPS, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Fatehabad.
7. Sh. Pawan Kumar, HPS, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Jind.

Apart from general guidelines/directions, the main points discussed and relevant directions issued by the undersigned during the meeting are as under:-

- Earnest and strenuous efforts be made to apprehend the remaining accused/suspects including Key Functionaries of DSS, who were part of conspiracy regarding incidents of violence and arson in the aftermath of the pronouncement of judgment against Gurmeet Ram Rahim by Ld. CBI Court at Panchkula on 25.08.2017 by maintaining apt coordination amongst all the SIT members regarding sharing information/inputs leading to the arrest of any accused.



- Expedite the investigation in the remaining cases and challans/supplementary challans be submitted before the concerned court in time after completing all legal formalities to prevent any undue benefit to any accused.
- The Superintendent of Police, Sirsa shall get in touch with office of the Director, Central Bureau of Investigation and follow up the matter of retrieval of data from damaged HDDs with CBI. Progress report be sent to this office in this regard.
- The Inspector General Hisar Range is requested to direct Superintendent of Police, Jind to personally review the investigation regarding persons missing from DSS and make stringent efforts to trace out the remaining missing persons. He is also requested to look after the matter of de-sealing of DVRs and custodial interrogation of Balraj regarding destruction of HDDs and movement of movable assets from Dera.
- The Addl. Director General of Police, Ambala Range, Ambala could not attend the meeting due to law and order duty at Yamunanagar. He is requested telephonically to look after the issues pertaining to district Ambala and Kurukshetra and direct the concerned Superintendents of Police to expedite the investigation of remaining cases and efforts to arrest the remaining accused.
- The Commissioner of Police, Panchkula and Inspector General Hisar Range are requested to handover the necessary documents and digital records etc. to the Enforcement Directorate and

Income Tax Department as requested by them and as directed by Hon'ble High Court in paras 11 & 12 of the order dated 04.04.2018 in CWP No. 19086 of 2017.

- The SIT members are also directed to send weekly progress reports in this regard.

-Sd-

**Addl. Director General of Police,  
Crime, Haryana, Panchkulka.**

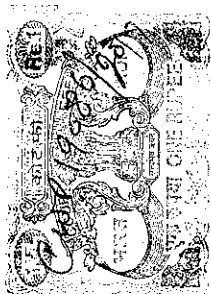
Endst. No. **1992-2010/R/ADGP-Crime** dated **26.04.2018**

A copy is forwarded to the following for information and necessary action:-

1. The Director General of Police, Haryana for kind information.
2. Sh. A.S. Chawla, IPS, Commissioner of Police, Panchkula.
3. Sh. Subhash Yadav, IPS, Inspector General of Police, Karnal Range, Karnal.
4. Sh. Sanjay Kumar, IPS, Inspector General of Police, Hisar Range, Hisar.
5. Sh. Abhishek Garg, IPS, Superintendent of Police, Kurukshetra.
6. Superintendents of Police, Ambala, Karnal, Kaithal, Panipat, Sonapat, Bhiwani, Hisar, Fatehabad, Sirsa, Jind & Hansi.
7. Deputy Commissioner of Police, Panchkula.
8. Sh. Ravinder Singh, HPS, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Fatehabad.
9. Sh. Pawan Kumar, HPS, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Jind.

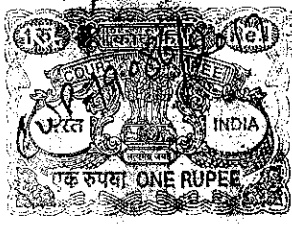
-Sd-

**Addl. Director General of Police,  
Crime, Haryana, Panchkulka.**



True Copy


*[Handwritten Signature]*  
Inspector General of Police  
Crime Haryana, Panchkula

**ANNEXURE R-3****List of accused arrested since filling of last status report on  
04.04.2018**

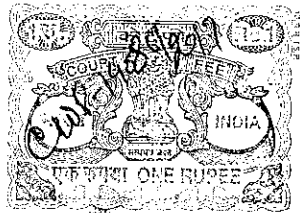
Sr. No.	Name and address of accused arrested	Case FIR No., Police Station
1	Om Pal Sharma S/o Lachhman Dass Sharma R/o Village Amrawali Kher, PS Pillukhera, District Jind.	Case FIR No. 345 /2017, PS Sector-5, Panchkula.
2	Vijay Kumar S/o Sh. Udhmi R/o H.No. 264, Village Kheri Chopta, District Sirsa.	Case FIR No. 345 /2017, PS Sector-5, Panchkula.
3	Charan Singh S/o Sohan, R/o Arniyawali Colony, Sirsa.	Case FIR No. 73 / 2017, PS MDC, Panchkula.
4	Sewa Singh S/o Bhim Singh, R/o Siwah, District Panipat.	Case FIR No. 360/2017, PS Sector-5, Panchkula.
5	Paramjeet @ Pamma S/o Baldev Singh, R/o Village Bhokhara, PS Naiyawala, District Bhathinda (PB) now R/o Village Mangali, PS Rania, District Sirsa.	Case FIR No. 345 /2017, PS Sector-5, Panchkula.
6	Mohan @ Bittu S/o Balkishan, R/o Vivek Nagar Dadri, now R/o Sukh Sagar Colony, Sirsa.	Case FIR No. 696/2017, PS City Sirsa.
7	Deepak Gulahti S/o Vinod Kumar Arora, R/o Gali No. 14, Preet Nagar, Sirsa.	Case FIR No. 695/2017, PS City Sirsa and FIR No.702/2017, PS City Sirsa.
8	Prince S/o Chiman Lal Arora, R/o Shahpur Begu, Sirsa.	Case FIR No. 695/2017, PS City Sirsa.
9	Jeet Bajaj S/o Jai Chand Arora, R/o Sarswati Colony, Sirsa.	Case FIR No. 696/2017, PS City Sirsa.
10	Mandeep Kumar S/o Balwant Rai Arora R/o Preet Nagar, Sirsa	Case FIR No. 695/2017, PS City Sirsa
11	Baljinder Kumar S/o Channan Ram Bania, R/o Kalyan Nagar, Sirsa.	Case FIR No. 695/2017, PS City Sirsa



12	Manish Kundu S/o Randhir, R/o Gali No. 12 Preet Nagar, Sirsa	Case FIR No. 695/2017 PS City Sirsa
13	Raghubir Singh S/o Jangir Singh, Caste Brahmin, R/o Balbehra, PS Sadar Patiala.	Case FIR No. 196/2017, PS Cheeka, District Kaithal.
14	Nirmal Singh S/o Partap Singh, Caste Chamar, R/o Village Charso, PS Sadar Patiala.	Case FIR No. 196/2017, PS Cheeka, District Kaithal.
15	Chander Bhan @ Bhana S/o Deva , Caste Jat, R/o Titram, District Kaithal.	Case FIR No. 106/2017, PS Titram, District Kaithal.
16	Sadhu Ram s/o Kehar Singh, R/o Dhundwa, PS Kalayat, District Kaithal.	Case FIR No. 326 /2017, PS Civil Line Kaithal.

  
 Inspector General of Police  
 Crime Haryana, Panchkula



**ANNEXURE R-4**

CENTRAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 CHANDIGARH RANGE  
 SECTOR 30-A, CHANDIGARH  
 PHONE No. 0172-2657469  
 FAX NO. 0172-2637239  
 E-MAIL ID: [digchg@cbi.gov.in](mailto:digchg@cbi.gov.in)

**Sub:- Digital Forensic Assistance in Dera Sacha Sauda cases in view of directions of the Hon'ble Punjab and Haryana High Court dated 20.12.2017 in CWP No. 19086 of 2017- reg.**

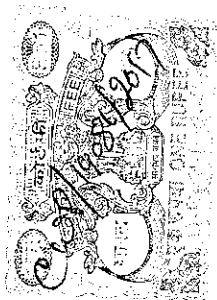
May kindly refer to your letter No. 1002/CR-4 dated 18.01.2018, addressed to Director, CBI, New Delhi, seeking Digital Forensic Assistance and guidance for retrieval of data from the damaged HDDs on the basis of photographs of the damaged HDDs.

2. In this regard, it is submitted that after examine the photographs of the damaged HDDs, CFSL/New Delhi has informed that they do not have the tools and expertise to recover data from the HDDs in such a damaged condition. C-DAC, Thiruvananthapuram has also informed that such facilities are not available with them.
3. The HDDs in question were also examined by a Forensic Expert, presently working with M/s Price Waterhouse Cooper and who had earlier worked as Cyber Forensic Scientist in Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, at the CBI Headquarters in the presence of representatives of Distt. Police, Sirsa. He has given the following opinion:-

"The Hard Disk Drives (HDD's) of different mark and models sent for the examination, were forensically analyzed for possibility of retrieving the active, deleted files and also data from unallocated sectors by "reconstructing" the physically damaged drives using various hardware and software tools.

The following are the observations based on forensic examination:-

- It will not be possible to recover any data/digital evidence (active, deleted etc) and the HDD's were physically damaged beyond data recovery.
- The HDD's were immersed in water for a definite period of time, basis the fungal infection of the surface of platters. The fungus formation was due to absorption of moisture by iron oxide particles present on platters.
- The HDD's were mechanically damaged with the intention of destroying the data and recovery completely impossible.



Sd/-  
(TARUN GAUBA, IPS)  
Dy. Inspector General of Police  
Central Bureau of Investigation  
Chandigarh Range  
Chandigarh

The Director General of Police, Haryana, Panchkula

ID No. 193-194/Misc./Trial/2018/SCB/CHG Dated: 17/05/2018

Copy to:

The Inspector General of Police, Hisar Range, Hisar- for kind information w.r.t. his letter No. 12717/A04 dated 26.04.2018.

*True Copy*

Inspector General of Police  
Haryana, Panchkula