

Office of the Election Authority

Under J&K Panchayati Raj Act, 1989

(Chief Electoral Officer, J&K)

“Greater Participation for a Stronger Democracy”

Subject: OWP No. 2192/2018, IA No.01/2018 titled Balwan Singh and others versus State of J&K & Others.

ORDER

Whereas, the petitioners preferred to file the aforesaid writ petition seeking following reliefs:

“for issuance of appropriate writ, order or direction in the nature of writ of mandamus commanding upon the respondents to decide the representation of the petitioners and make necessary corrections with regard to the name of the Panchayat Khoon and rename it as Panchayat Amara which is common and proper name, used for all practical purposes in the official records since long.”

Whereas, Hon’ble High Court has been pleased to dispose of the instant writ petition by way of an order dated 23-10-2018, the operative part of which is reproduced below:

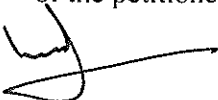
“This petition at the threshold is disposed of with a direction to the respondent No. 3- Director, Rural Development Department, Jammu to consider the representation of the petitioners on its own merits and pass an appropriate orders thereon preferably within a period of one week from the date, a copy of this order is made available to the concerned. It is however, made clear that none of the issues raised in the petition has been decided on merits.”

Whereas, in pursuance to the aforementioned court order, Director General, Rural Development Department Jammu has furnished a report in the matter dated 03-11-2018 enclosing therewith the reports of concerned District Panchayat Officer and Block Development Officer.

Whereas, it has been stated in the reports that Block Khoon was carved out from erstwhile Block Majalta and Block Dudu Basantgarh in 2014 vide Govt. order No. 222-RD&PR of 2014 dated 23-07-2014 issued by Government of J&K and Department of Rural Development Department and Panchayati Raj, Civil Secretariat, J&K. The said Block became functional with effect from September, 2014 with ten (10) number of Panchayats (seven No. of panchayats were delinked from Block Majalta and three no. of Panchayats from Block Dudu Basantgarh) with the details as under:

| Panchayats delinked from Block Majalta | Panchayats delinked from Block Dudu Basantgarh |
|---|---|
| 1. Bilaspur | 1. Babey |
| 2. Khoon | 2. G.S. Banj |
| 3. S.K bair | 3.C- Janjian |
| 4. Sundla | |
| 5. Palnoo | |
| 6. Pathwar | |
| 7. Thial | |

Also, it has been stated that even during the Panchayat Elections conducted in 2011, the name of Panchayat in question was reflected in the Government Gazette as ‘Khoon’ and no change has been made in the nomenclature of the said Panchayat. It is also pertinent to mention that the said Panchayat now forms the part of Block Khoon of District Udhampur and has been reflected as Panchayat ‘Khoon’ even in the latest issue of the Government Gazette. Further, Director General, Rural Development Department has stated that the plea of the petitioner does not sustain and may be rejected.



Now, therefore, in due deference of the court direction and in view of the above factual reports, the claim of the petitioner is hereby rejected.



(~~Shaleen Kabra~~) IAS

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Dated: 03-11-2018

No. 5402/CEO/LS/Pyt/2018/117

Copy to:

1. Director General, Rural Development Department, Jammu for information.