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Capt. Amarinder Singh, Chief Minister, Punjab.

Subject :- I urge you to review the controversial dope test order, that has shifted the political discourse from the burning issue of police- drug mafia nexus.

Dear Capt. Amarinder Singh ji,

As stated above I would request you to reconsider the en mass dope test of all government employees. The said order has generated a new debate on the burning issue of drugs, virtually eclipsing the main problem of drug abuse, its ramifications on our society and possible solutions.

Of course feeling the pinch many government employee unions have demanded dope test of the political class of the state as well. In order to avoid social stigma many political leaders including Ministers, MLA's etc., have made a beeline to get their dope tests done. As such the focus of debate has shifted from the real issue of drug mafia having deep connections with the police officers of the state, to a non issue of dope test.

I am of the firm opinion, that if at all a dope test is needed it should be conducted upon the officers level of police force and not the entire police constabulary or the lower ranks. The government can ask those enforcing law in the field beginning from Assistant Sub Inspector to the DGP level, to undergo dope test. The dope tests should be conducted randomly with a surprise element, as it is highly impossible to get a positive result by voluntary methods.

What is the point in having all the approx. 3 lac government employees to undertake the dope test? Particularly woman employees, clerks etc., who have no connection with the drug trafficking menace. I am told that if all state employees were to take a dope test it will cost the public exchequer Rs. 17-18 crores annually. The said controversial dope test order can also create an embarrassing position for aged politicians and officers who may have been taking opioid based drugs for their medical treatment, that can lead to the test being positive. The core issue is that despite your best efforts drugs continue to be abundantly available in every nook and corner of the state, leading to large number of deaths reported on social media recently. Such large scale drug trafficking is not possible without the connivance, patronage and support of the police machinery.

My charges of police connivance with drug mafia stand substantiated by your actions against senior police officers. You have recently dismissed a DSP level officer, transferred the controversial SSP Moga besides action against other junior police officers.

You are aware that the STF and the SIT reports submitted in the High Court have pointed a serious finger against top police officers, having deep connections with the dismissed SI Inderjeet Singh. It is hard to believe that a junior level officer like Inderjeet could have been the kingpin of such a widespread drug racket in Punjab.

Recently the Zee Punjab TV has also exposed a sensational scandal of Rajjit Singh, who as SSP Taran Taran falsely implicated 17 innocents in a NDPS case, took Rs. 17 lacs bribe in 2015 but yet the VB then headed by Suresh Arora set over the inquiry.

Similarly, Inderjeet Singh in his statement before STF admitted that he use to pay Rs. 10-12 lacs monthly bribe to Rajjit Singh as SSP Taran Taran. He also accused Rajjit Singh of acquiring assets from the ill gotten drug money.

Therefore, I urge you to order a time bound CBI inquiry monitored by the High Court or a judicial commission headed by a sitting judge, to investigate the nefarious role of senior police officers with drug mafia in the state. I also request that pending inquiry the present DGP Mr. Suresh Arora be asked to proceed on leave, as there are serious charges against him for shielding Rajjit Singh and ultimately having links with the drug cartel through officers like Inderjeet Singh, to whom he also gave a commendation certificate.

Hence, I reiterate that you should reconsider the blanket dope test order, that has added confusion to the issue and misdirected the actual debate and solutions to the drug menace.

With regards,

Sukhpal Singh Khaira, LoP