



RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
RAJYA SABHA

Member of Standing Committee on Information Technology
Member of Consultative Committee on Finance
Member of Parliamentary Forum on Youth
Co-Chairman, Vigilance & Monitoring Committee, Bangalore Urban District

Dear Shri Anthony,

22 March, 2011

I refer to recent media reports relating to strictures and fines imposed by the Punjab & Haryana High Court on the Government, for misleading the Court in a case relating to a petition filed by a boarded out disabled personnel, Sukhjinder Singh, requesting for disability pension.

The facts of the case, as reported by the media, are as follows.

A single Bench of the High Court had allowed the grant of disability pension to ex-recruit Sukhjinder Singh on the grounds that his disability was attributable to military service. The Government, had thereafter, filed a Letter Patents Appeal (LPA) before the Division Bench challenging the Order of the Single Bench.

The Division Bench has expressed "amazement" at the conduct of the Appellant and its officers and observed that "the perusal of the Appeal found that a false plea had been set out which is simply against the record." Further, in the original proceedings of the Medical board, it was categorically found that the disease was aggravated by military service, whereas the proceedings of the Board were misquoted in the Government's Appeal to show otherwise.

The Division Bench has further held that the filing of the appeal by the Appellants in this case was wholly unwarranted as the matter was already decided in respect of the issues concerned, and that this appeal was an "illustration of frivolous litigation initiated at the instance of Union of India and its officers." Accordingly, the Division bench has imposed a fine on the Government to the tune of Rs.50,000.



It is distressing to note that officials of the Ministry of Defence are resorting to subterfuge to deny legitimate justice to our Armed Forces Veterans.

I urge you to initiate an enquiry into this matter at the earliest and determine which officers were responsible for filing such an appeal in the Court. I also request you to keep my office informed on the action taken against these officers by the Government.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Rajeev Chandrasekhar', is written over a horizontal line.

RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR

Shri A. K. Antony
Hon'ble Minister of Defence
Government of India
New Delhi