

11-A) That in view of the details given in the preceding paragraphs, the defendants should have taken an affidavit or taken an official report that any of the proposed applicant/nominated person to be selected for the award is not a member of the advisory board or of a screening committee and no one being considered for the award should have any conflict of interest, so that the selector might not be the one, who is being chosen for the award. Now, after filing the case, it has been learned that total go-by was given to such procedure and not only this, one Gulzar Singh Sandhu has been selected for the top award i.e. Punjabi Sahitya Rattan carrying a cash award of RS.10 Lakhs and Shri Gulzar Singh is none other, but he is a President of Punjabi Sahitya Sabha, Delhi, who is by appointment, is a member of Advisory Board. As such, he was disentitled to be given the award. If at all his name was to be considered, then he should have resigned from the position held by him, but still he was considered and given the award, which speaks about the collusion between the selectors and selected. Similarly. one Dr.Dhanwant Kaur has been given award of "Sharomani Punjab Alochak", who now it has been learned that is a real sister of Veerpal Kaur Joint Director Language Department who is officiating as Director Languages presently and is also in helms of affairs when the award was granted. Not only this, Dhanwant Kaur's husband Dr.Jaswinder Singh, who was earlier made member of the Advisory Board, apparently under the influence of Veerpal Kaur and this advisory board has selected the awardees. This nexus has been working overtime to give benefits to the near and dear ones as it is apparent that earlier Dr.Dhanwant Kaur was got nominated as member of advisory board and this board selected her husband Dr.Jaswinder Singh for the award carrying cash amount of Rs.2,50,000/-. It can be well-imagined that one official of Language Department Veerpal Kaur could manipulate in making her relatives, member of the advisory board and then select another relative for the award. One Dr.Joginder Singh Kairon has been selected for the award of Sharomani Punjabi Sahitkar carrying a cash award of RS.5 Lakhs, who was guide of Shri Surjit Paattar in his PHD and Shri Surjit Paatar is most influential member of the Advisory Board and is seen along with the Power Corridors be it any Government. It would be further relevant to mention here that three persons namely Dr.Nadeem Ahmad, Shri Mohd.Basheer and Shri Rehman Akhtar had filed applications to become party and had appended their detailed bio-data, in which, minute details of delivering a lecture in the school, such type of claims have been asserted to buttress the bio-data, however the bio-data supplied by these persons expose that how ineligible people, who have nothing to their credit concerning literature for which they were selected for the award of Sharomani Urdu Sahitkar carrying a cash award of RS.5 Lakhs. It would also be not out of place to mention here that the persons hold high posts misuse the authority given to them by the Government, more particularly where cash is involved. Shri Surjit Paatar is also President of Punjab Art Council, an institution established by the Government of Punjab for the promotion of Punjabi Literature, Culture and Fine Arts, who invariably get grant to the tune of Rs.1 Crore every year, which is also being misused and the glaring example is that rather than, spending money in propagating literature, culture and art, cash grants are further given to choicest individuals running into lakhs of rupees. Such cash Awards are also given without following any procedure or guidelines, and for example, Dr. Joginder Singh Kairon has been given a Rs. 1 Lakh cash award. This speaks volumes about how hard-earned tax money paid by taxpayers is being used in the name of promoting Punjabi language, literature, culture, etc., for vested interest.

