

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

CWP No.8129 of 2015
Reserved on:28.08.2015
Date of decision: 02.09.2015

Sucha Singh Nagra

....Petitioner(s)

Versus

State of Punjab & others

...Respondent(s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE G.S.SANDHAWALIA

Present: Mr.Manish Dadwal, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr.Aman Bahri, Addl.A.G., Punjab
Mr. H.S.Sethi, Addl.A.G., Punjab
Mr.A.P.S.Mann, Addl.A.G., Punjab
Mr.L.S.Virk, Addl.A.G., Punjab
Mr.Rakesh Verma, Sr.DAG, Punjab
and Mr.Pankaj Mulwani, DAG, Punjab.

G.S.SANDHAWALIA, J.

1. Challenge in the present writ petition is to the order dated 20.04.2015 (Annexure P6) whereby the benefit of 2nd extension in service to the petitioner has been denied, on account of the fact that the petitioner had been chargesheeted under Rule 8 of the Punjab Civil Services (Punishment & Appeals) Rules, 1970, in view of the instructions dated 30.10.2014 (Annexure P7) and 07.01.2015 (Annexure P8). Accordingly, the petitioner's request for 2nd extension was declined by the Committee on 08.04.2015 and the effective order was passed on 20.04.2015 by superannuating him from 30.04.2015.

2. The issue of extension in service has already been settled by a Co-ordinate Bench of this Court in CWP No.3826 of 2015 titled *Romesh Garg Vs. State of Punjab & others*, decided on 24.04.2015, wherein it was held that

extension is a mere concession and the employee has no legal right. The issue of consideration of Rule 3.26 as substituted vide notification dated 08.10.2012 and the instructions of even date alongwith the instructions dated 22.01.2013, 20.09.2013, 30.10.2014 and 07.01.2015, were subject matter of consideration. The said issue has been dealt with by the Co-ordinate Bench, by holding as under:

“In view of the above, it can safely be held that the petitioners have no vested right to seek extension in their services beyond the age of superannuation. To grant or not to grant extension is as per the discretion of the employer.

Further, since extension in service beyond the age of superannuation cannot be claimed as a matter of right, it virtually is by way of a concession given by the employer to its employee and once such extension is held to be by way of a concession, then there is no reason in law why the same cannot be unilaterally withdrawn for justifiable reasons and in public interest.”

3. The said view has been upheld in LPA No.776 of 2015 titled *Ashok Arora Vs. State of Punjab & others* decided on 20.05.2015. The Division Bench in the said case has further approved the reasoning given in the case of *Romesh Garg (supra)* and held that it was a correct statement of law and no elaborate discussion is required.

4. Faced with this situation, counsel for the petitioner in not in a position to controvert the said fact.

5. Accordingly, the present writ petition is dismissed, being covered by the above said cases. However, the petitioner was granted interim protection on 06.05.2015 in terms of CWP No.3592 of 2015 titled *Harnam Singh Khosa Vs. State of Punjab & others*. The petitioner would, thus, be entitled for the financial benefits from 06.05.2015 till today, as per the terms of extension of service.

02.09.2015
sailesh

(G.S. SANDHAWALIA)
JUDGE