

**IN THE PUNJAB AND HARYANA HIGH COURT
AT CHANDIGARH**

CWP No.8806 of 2015

Date of Decision:06/05/2015

Darbara Singh

...Petitioner

Versus

Food Corporation of India and others

... Respondents

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DEEPAK SIBAL

Present: Mr. Surinder Sharma, Advocate for the petitioner.

DEEPAK SIBAL, J. (Oral)

Against the punishment order dated 02.01.2012 (Annexure P-2), the petitioner has preferred a statutory appeal under Rule 68 of the Food Corporation of India (Staff) Regulations, 1971. This appeal was filed on 9.2.2012. Even after the passage of more than three years, the same remains undecided.

A statutory appeal is expected to be decided within the prescribed time frame as may be given under the Rules and if no such time frame is given then within a reasonable time. Three years by no stretch of imagination are considered to be reasonable time to decide a statutory appeal.

In view of the above, respondent No.1 is directed to decide the appeal (Annexure P-3) filed by the petitioner against the order of punishment dated 02.01.2012 (Annexure P-2) by passing a speaking order and after affording opportunity of hearing to the petitioner, preferably within two months from the date of receipt of a certified copy of this order.

Needless to add that the decision so taken be communicated to the petitioner and if the decision is not to the satisfaction of the petitioner, he would be at liberty to challenge the same, in accordance with law.

The writ petition stands disposed of accordingly.

**(DEEPAK SIBAL)
JUDGE**

06.05.2015

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