

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

**Civil Writ Petition No.15921 of 2016
Date of Decision: 14.09.2016**

Jaisi Ram and others

..... Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and another

..... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JASWANT SINGH

Present: Mr. P.S.Khurana, Advocate for the petitioners.

Mz. Sudeepti Sharma, Deputy Advocate General, Punjab
for the respondents/State.

JASWANT SINGH, J. (Oral)

Five petitioners-Jaisi Ram, Narinder Pal, Didar Singh, Balwant Singh and Balwinder Singh are employed as Work Munshis/Mistris with the PWD (B&R) Department and posted in different Offices at Patiala and Roopnagar. They assert that they have been given the exclusive/additional officiating charge of the next higher post of Junior Engineer (Civil), however, in their own pay scale of Work Munshi/Mistri. Thus, their claim is for grant of the pay scale of the Junior Engineer (Civil) in the light of the settled law on the subject. It is claimed that they are entitled to the difference of the pay scales with emoluments.

Upon notice, learned State Counsel submits that no official has come to assist her inspite of a D.O. Letter dated 12.08.2016, addressed to the respondents and the service being complete.

At this stage, learned Counsel for the petitioners submits that his clients would be satisfied that if a direction is issued to the Chief Engineer (H.Q.), Punjab PWD (B&R), Patiala to dispose of their Legal Notice dated 15.01.2016 (**Annexure P-13**) and its reminder dated 13.04.2016 (**Annexure P-15**) by passing a speaking order in accordance with the settled law, in a time bound manner.

Learned State Counsel has no objection to the same.

Accordingly, a direction is issued to the Principal Secretary, PWD (B&R), Govt. of Punjab/Chief Engineer (HQ), Punjab PWD (B&R) Department, Patiala to decide the claim of the petitioners, as set out in the Legal Notice **P-13/P-15**, as also in the present writ petition by passing a speaking order in accordance with law within four months from the receipt of the certified copy of this order.

Needless to say, the consequent monetary benefits would be released to the petitioners within next two months of the passing of the order. Failing which, the petitioners would be liable to receive the interest at the rate of 9 % per annum on their admissible dues, to be recovered from the guilty official concerned.

Disposed of in the above terms.

September 14, 2016

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(JASWANT SINGH)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned	Yes
Whether Reportable	No