

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

Date of decision: 03.05.2016

CWP No.8319 of 2016

Manmohan Kumar

...Petitioner

Vs.

State of Punjab & others

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJIV NARAIN RAINA

Present: Mr. Manuj Nagrath, Advocate, for the petitioner.

1. *To be referred to the Reporters or not?*
2. *Whether the judgment should be reported in the Digest?*

RAJIV NARAIN RAINA, J. (ORAL)

The statutory appeal against the order of punishment inflicted on the petitioner by the punishing authority in the Punjab State Power Corporation Limited, Patiala withholding four annual grade increments without cumulative effect, filed by the petitioner is pending before the appellate authority since February 05, 2015 without a decision. The direction sought in this petition is for expeditious disposal of the appeal due to unreasonable delay in its disposal. It cannot be over-emphasized that statutory appeals against adverse administrative orders deserve to be decided within a reasonable time and the delay in this case cannot be held to be reasonable.

Therefore, without entering into the merits of the dispute or expressing any opinion on the departmental proceedings leading to minor punishment, a direction is issued to the competent authority, the second respondent in the interest of speedy justice to decide the appeal within two months from the date of receipt of the certified copy of the order. It goes

CWP No.8319 of 2016

without saying that the petitioner would be heard and a speaking order passed on the grounds taken in the memorandum of appeal by disclosing reasons for arriving at the conclusions reached. The orders passed would be communicated to the petitioner within one week thereafter.

With these directions, the present writ petition stands disposed of.

03.05.2016
Vimal

[RAJIV NARAIN RAINA]
JUDGE