

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

**CWP No.16885 of 2017 (O&M)**

**Date of Decision:01.08.2017**

Manjit Kaur

--Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab & others

--Respondents

**CORAM:- HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE TEJINDER SINGH DHINDSA.**

Present:- Mr. M.S. Bhullar, Advocate for the petitioner.

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**TEJINDER SINGH DHINDSA, J.**

Petitioner is serving as a Punjabi Mistress under the Sarva Siksha Abhiyan Authority, State of Punjab. She is presently posted at Government Middle School, Gamiwala, District Mansa.

It is averred that the petitioner being in a family way applied for maternity leave and which was duly sanctioned for 90 days i.e. from 16.02.2017 to 16.05.2017.

Grievance raised in the instant petition is that the benefit of maternity leave that stands extended upto 26 weeks from 12 weeks as per Maternity Benefits (Amendment) Act, 2017 has not been granted to her.

Counsel adverts to the application dated 14.07.2017 made by the petitioner to the District Education Officer (Secondary Education), Mansa seeking extension of maternity leave from 12 weeks to 26 weeks. It is submitted that till date no final decision thereupon has been taken.

Without even ascertaining the correctness of the averments made in the petition, I deem it appropriate to dispose of the instant petition with a direction to respondent No.3 i.e. the District Education Officer

(Secondary Education)-cum-District Project Director, Sarva Siksha Abhiyan Authority, Mansa/Competent Authority to take a final decision as regards the claim of the petitioner seeking maximum period of maternity leave i.e. 180 days and for which the application at Annexure P-5 has already been submitted.

A final decision thereupon be taken by passing a speaking order and the same be communicated to the petitioner within a period of two weeks from today.

Disposed of.

**01.08.2017**

*harjeet*

**(TEJINDER SINGH DHINDSA)  
JUDGE**

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|-----|----------------------------|--------|
| i)  | Whether speaking/reasoned? | Yes/No |
| ii) | Whether reportable?        | Yes/No |