

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

CWP-20057-2014 (O&M)

Date of Decision: 16.04.2018

Satpal Singh Bawa

... Petitioner

Vs.

Punjab National Bank and others

... Respondents

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE P.B. BAJANTHRI

Present : Mr. R.S. Bajaj, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. N.C. Sahni, Advocate
for the respondents.

P.B. BAJANTHRI J. (Oral)

In the instant petition, petitioner has challenged the charge-sheet issued on 23.05.2001 and order dated 11.08.2014 by which respondents have changed the inquiry officer with reference to the charge-sheet dated 23.5.2001 (Annexures P-5 and P-7).

2. In the impugned charge-sheet dated 23.05.2001, 8 charges have been framed. Perusal of the each of the article of charges read with the statement of imputation in support of the article of charges, charges No.1 to 5 are very vague. In other words, dates and events like ingredients do not contain. Therefore, respondents cannot proceed holding of inquiry in respect of article of charge No.1 to 5. In respect of charges No.6 to 8, certain dates and events have been shown. Therefore, they are not vague so as to interfere. The petitioner has not made out a case in respect of change of inquiry officer and resumption of disciplinary proceedings with reference to charge-sheet dated 23.5.2001 to the extent of article of Charges No.6 to 8. During pendency of this petition, petitioner is stated to have attained the age of superannuation and retired from service. Whereas charge-sheet was filed while he was in service. Therefore, writ petition is allowed in part to the

extent of holding of disciplinary proceedings against the petitioner is permissible in respect of charges No.6 to 8 only. Since the petitioner has attained the age of superannuation and retired from service, respondents are directed to complete the inquiry proceedings within a period of six months from today. If the inquiry proceedings are not concluded within the stipulated period, in that event, respondents were bound to settle monetary dues of the petitioner.

3. With the above observation, petition stands allowed in part.

16.04.2018
rajeev

(P.B. Bajanthri)
Judge

Whether speaking/reasoned **Yes/No**

Whether reportable **Yes/No**