

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

**Civil Writ Petition No. 13441 of 2018 (O&M)
Date of Decision: 25.05.2018**

Sukhjeet Kaur and another

..... Petitioners

Versus

Punjabi University, Patiala

..... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JASWANT SINGH

Present: Mr. Dharmender Singh Rawat, Advocate
for the petitioners.

JASWANT SINGH, J. (ORAL)

Two petitioners, namely, Sukhjeet Kaur and Anita Sharma, have been promoted as Library Assistant vide order dated 01.01.2015 (**Annexure P-3**) on their own turn being General Category candidates. They are claiming stepping up of their pay on the 'Catch Up' Rule in relation to their juniors belonging to the reserved category having availed the benefit of accelerated promotion in view of the reservation policy.

It is stated that the Government of Punjab has issued instructions dated 14.03.2017 (**Annexure P-6**), whereby the benefit of stepping up of pay in such situation has been provided; and the same stands duly adopted by the respondent (Punjabi University, Patiala) vide its Resolution dated 24.01.2018 (**Annexure P-7**).

Counsel for the petitioners states that a legal notice dated 24.02.2018 (**Annexure P-9**) claiming the aforesaid relief based on the aforesaid instructions has been made to the respondent/University and at this stage, his clients would be satisfied if the legal notice dated 24.02.2018

(P-9) be decided by the respondent/University within a reasonable time frame, as directed by this Court.

In view of above, present petition is **disposed of** with the **directions** to the competent authority/University to pass a speaking order on the claim raised by the petitioners in their legal notice dated 24.02.2018 (P-9), in accordance with law, within a period of six months from the date of receipt of certified copy of this order. The consequential relief, if any, be released to them within next two months.

It is clarified that if the aforesaid time is not adhered to, the respondent-University shall be liable to be hauled up in contempt proceedings, apart from inviting imposition of interest to be recovered from the official(s) concerned.

May 25, 2018

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(JASWANT SINGH)
JUDGE

<i>Whether Speaking/reasoned</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>
<i>Whether Reportable</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>