

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

CWP-22859-2019

Date of Decision: 28.8.2019

Arshdeep Singh

...Petitioner.

v.

State of Punjab and others

...Respondents.

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN MONGA.

Present: Mr. Mohit Garg, Advocate for the petitioner.

ARUN MONGA, J. (ORAL)

The grievance of the petitioner is that his claim to seek appointment on compassionate grounds in terms of the applicable policy of the State has been given short shrift vide impugned order dated 8.3.2019 (Annexure P-9), on the only ground that the dependent of an employee cannot be given compassionate appointment if the death has taken place during the extension in service. Learned counsel for the petitioner relies on the State Policy dated 27.12.2016 (Annexure P-5) and contends that the impugned order is in complete violation of the same. The said Policy dated 27.12.2016 was later on withdrawn and was taken back vide instructions dated 29.3.2017 (Annexure P-7) w.e.f. 29.3.2017 and the death of the father of the petitioner took place on 15.8.2016, i.e., prior to the same.

2. Notice of motion.

3. On advance service of copy of the petition, Ms. Anu Chatrath,

Senior Advocate with Ms. Ambika Bedi, Assistant Advocate General, Punjab, appears and accepts notice on behalf of the respondents and has rendered her assistance.

4. Having heard the learned counsel for the petitioner as also the learned Senior Counsel representing the State, I am of the view that no reply is required in the present case as the short controversy is whether the impugned order is in consonance with the State Policy dated 27.12.2016 *ibid*. For ready reference, the relevant clause of the policy as relied upon by the learned counsel for the petitioner is reproduced below:-

“Now the Govt. has decided to give employment compassionate appointment to those employees/officers of the State Govt. who in pursuance of the above mentioned instructions has been given extension from 58 to 60 years (Group A, B and C) and 60 to 62 years in case of Group-D employees and if the employee dies sudden death during the period of extension in service then the dependents of the employee will be given employment on the basis of compassionate appointment. These instructions will be implemented from 08.10.2012.”

5. A perusal of the above leaves no manner of doubt that the benefit of appointment on compassionate ground is to be accorded to even those employees who have been given extension from 58 to 60 years (Group A, B and C) and also to the employees who have been given extension from 60 to 62 years serving in Group-D.

6. The perusal of the record shows that concededly the father of

the petitioner was serving as Assistant Sub Inspector at the time of his death on 15.8.2016. The aforesaid policy relied upon by the learned counsel for the petitioner clearly states that the same has to be implemented w.e.f. 08.10.2012. This policy held the field till its withdrawal on 29.03.2017. In the aforesaid premise, the impugned order dated 8.3.2019 (Annexure P-9) seems to have been passed by overlooking the said Policy. The same is accordingly set aside being not sustainable in law.

7. The writ petition is disposed of with a direction to the respondents to pass a fresh appropriate order by according the benefit of the Policy/ Instructions dated 27.12.2016 (Annexure P-5) to the petitioner, in accordance with law.

8. Let the needful be done within four months from the date of receipt of the certified copy of the order.

August 28, 2019
gbs

(ARUN MONGA)
JUDGE

Whether Speaking/Reasoned
Whether Reportable

Yes/No
Yes/No