

HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH**CWP-21653-2020****(Heard through VC)****Date of decision: 15.12.2020****Balwant Singh (Retired Assistant Engineer)****....Petitioner****V/s.****The State of Punjab and others****.....Respondents****CORAM: HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE RITU BAHRI.**

Present: Mr. J.S.Jaidka, Advocate
for the petitioner.

**********Ritu Bahri, J. (Oral)**

The petitioner is seeking writ of mandamus directing the respondent-authorities to grant him annual increment for completing service from 01.01.2017 to 31.12.2017 alongwith interest @ 18% p.a.from the date of benefit became due.

The petitioner retired as Assistant Engineer on 31.12.2017 and he sought extension of service from 01.01.2018 to 31.12.2018. The petitioner used to get annual increment on 1st January of each year. The last increment granted to the petitioner was on 01.01.2017. The period of service w.e.f. 01.01.2017 to 31.12.2017 has not been taken into account for giving him increment before superannuation. The petitioner has made representation dated 06.10.2020 (Annexure P-1) to respondents No. 2 and 3, but no action has been taken till date.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that similarly situated employees have also approached this Court by way of CWP-2276-2020 which was disposed of on 29.01.2020 (Annexure P-4). Pursuant to the direction given by this Court vide order dated 29.01.2020 (Annexure P-4),

the petitioner therein was granted the necessary benefit vide order dated 24.09.2020 (Annexure P-5). He has also referred to an order dated 12.10.2020 passed by this Court in the case of CWP-16810-2020 (Annexure P-6) in similar background.

Notice of motion.

Ms. Akshita Chauhan, Assistant Advocate General, Punjab accepts notice on behalf of the official respondents.

Without expressing any opinion on the merits of this case, this petition is being disposed of by giving direction to respondent No.2-Chief Engineer/Drainage, Water Resources Department Punjab, Chandigarh to examine the representation dated 06.10.2020 (Annexure P-1) made by the petitioner and pass a speaking order within a period of two months from the date of receipt of certified copy of this order.

Since the case of the petitioner is from the same department as that of Hardeep Singh, the department can consider the order dated 29.01.2020 (Annexure P-4) and office order dated 24.09.2020 (Annexure P-5).

15.12.2020

Divyanshi

**RITU BAHRI
(JUDGE)**

Whether speaking/reasoned:

Yes/No

Whether reportable:

Yes/No