

HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

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**CWP-11009-2021 (O&M)
Date of Decision: 06.07.2021**

HC/PR Baldev Singh & Ors.

... Petitioners

VS.

State of Punjab & Ors.

... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE GIRISH AGNIHOTRI

Present: Mr. Krishan Kumar Thakur, Advocate for the petitioners.

Mr. Ayush Sarna, AAG, Punjab.

GIRISH AGNIHOTRI, J. (Oral)

The matter has been taken up through video conferencing on account of restrictions due to outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic.

Petitioners-HC/PR Baldev Singh and 20 others have jointly filed the present writ petition *inter alia* with the prayer for issuance of direction to respondents department to step up the pay of the petitioners at par with respondent Nos. 14 to 16/their juniors in their own cadres, in view of speaking order dated 17.09.2020 (Annexure P-10) passed by the department in pursuance to the order dated 19.06.2020 (Annexure P-7) and to decide the legal notice dated 02.02.2021 (Annexure P-8), along with further relief as mentioned in the petition.

Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that the petitioners had made a request to the respondents-department to step up the pay of the petitioners at par with respondent Nos.14 to 16 (their juniors in their own cadres). He submits that reliance was also placed upon order dated 17.09.2020 (Annexure P-10).

At this stage, learned counsel for the petitioners submits that a detailed legal notice dated 02.02.2021 (Annexure P-8) had served upon the

respondents, however, the same has not been decided.

Notice of motion.

On asking of the Court, Mr. Ayush Sarna, AAG, Punjab accepts notice on behalf of respondents-State.

In view of the above and without commenting on the merits of the case, the present petition is disposed of with a direction to respondent No.2/Competent Authority, to consider the legal notice dated 02.02.2021 (Annexure P-8), and decide the same in accordance with law, as expeditiously as possible, preferably within a period of **06 months** from the date of receipt of certified copy of this order.

Ordered accordingly.

06.07.2021
Shruti

(Girish Agnihotri)
Judge

1. *Whether speaking/reasoned?*

Yes/No

2. *Whether reportable?*

Yes/No