

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

CWP-14102-2021

Date of Decision: 29.07.2021

RESHMA DEVI

...Petitioner

Versus

STATE OF HARYANA AND OTHERS

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN MONGA

Present : Mr. Sudhir Rana, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Pankaj Middha, Addl. A.G., Haryana.
(Presence marked through video conference).

ARUN MONGA, J. (ORAL)

Petitioner, inter alia, seeks issuance of a writ in the nature of *mandamus* directing the respondents to provide her a job on compassionate grounds as per ex-gratia policy of the State Government.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the husband of the petitioner died in harness on 05.04.1982. When petitioner's son attained majority, an application was moved to the Superintending Engineer, Construction Circle, Kaithal for providing service to him under Ex-gratia Scheme. The said claim of the petitioner was rejected on 07.10.1996 on the ground of delay that petitioner did not claim compassionate employment within a period of three years.

Matter remained buried until, the petitioner out of the blue, again served a legal notice on 20.08.2016 (Annexure P8) claiming same relief. Notice was not adverted and hence now the instant petition.

Heard.

Writ petition is dismissed on the ground of delay and laches. It has been filed after an inordinate delay of 25 years. Claim of the petitioner was rejected way back on 07.10.1996 and the writ petition has been filed on 26.07.2021. Even otherwise, compassionate appointment is not to be

construed as any kind of reservation. The very purpose thereof is to ameliorate immediate penury inflicted on a family caused by sudden demise of an earning member/bread winner. In the case in hand, death took place on 05.04.1982 i.e. 39 years ago. No ground to interfere for that reason as well.

July 29 , 2021
gurpreet

(ARUN MONGA)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned:	Yes/No
Whether reportable:	Yes/No