

HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

141

CWP No.16041 of 2021

Date of Decision: 19.08.2021

C-II Henry (Belt No.75/745) and Ors.

... Petitioners

VS.

State of Punjab & Ors.

... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE GIRISH AGNIHOTRI

Present: Mr. Jasbir Singh Mohri, Advocate for the petitioners.

Mr. Ayush Sarna, Asst. A.G. 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-C-II Henry (Belt No.75/745), and 22 others have jointly filed the present writ petition *inter alia* with a prayer for issuance of a writ in the nature of mandamus directing the respondents department to count the service rendered by the petitioners as SPOs as qualifying service for all intents and purposes including grant of all service benefits, along with further prayer to direct the respondents to decide the legal notice dated 04.05.2021 (Annexure P-11).

Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that the petitioners had made a request to the respondents department to count the service rendered by the petitioners as SPOs as qualifying service. He submits that the petitioners had also relied upon the judgment dated 15.02.2018 in **CWP No.9936 of 2017** titled as **'Sukhjeet Singh and Others Vs. State of Punjab and Others'**.

Learned counsel submits that for the same/similar grievance, the petitioners had got served a legal notice dated 04.05.2021 (P11) upon the respondents but its response is still awaited.

Notice of motion.

Mr. Ayush Sarna, Asst. A.G., Punjab, accepts notice on behalf of the respondents-State, through video conferencing.

At this stage, learned counsel makes a request that the petitioners would be satisfied if a direction is issued to the competent authority to decide the legal notice in a time bound manner.

Having heard learned counsel for the parties and without commenting upon the merits of the case, the writ petition is disposed of with a direction to the competent authority/respondent No.2 to consider and decide the claim of the petitioners as contained in the legal notice (P11) by passing a speaking order within six months from the date of receipt of certified copy of this order.

Needless to say that in case the petitioners are found entitled on merits to the claim as raised in the legal notice, the same be disbursed within one month from the date of decision of the legal notice.

So ordered.

19.08.2021

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**(Girish Agnihotri)
Judge**

1. Whether speaking/reasoned?
2. Whether reportable?

Yes/No
Yes/No