

HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

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CWP No.16030 of 2021

Date of Decision: 19.08.2021

HC/PR Baldev Singh and Ors.

... Petitioners

VS.

State of Punjab & Ors.

... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE GIRISH AGNIHOTRI

Present: Mr. K.K. Thakur, 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 – HC/PR Baldev Singh and 10 others have jointly filed the present writ petition *inter alia* with a prayer to direct the respondents department to step up the pay of the petitioners at par with respondent Nos. 8 and 9/their juniors, especially in view of speaking order dated 17.09.2020 passed by the department in pursuance to order dated 19.06.2020 (Annexure P-7) passed by this Court in CWP No.8290 of 2020 titled as **Sukhwinder Singh and Ors Vs. State of Punjab and Ors**, along with further prayer to direct the respondents to decide the legal notice dated 10.02.2021 (Annexure P-8).

Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that the petitioners had made a request to the respondent department to step up their pay at par with respondent Nos. 8 and 9/their juniors. He submits that the petitioners had also relied upon the judgment dated 19.06.2020 in **CWP No.8290 of 2020** titled as **Sukhwinder Singh and Ors Vs. State of Punjab and Ors**.

Learned counsel submits that for the same/similar grievance, the petitioners had got served a legal notice dated 10.02.2021 (P8) 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 (P8) 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