

HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

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**CWP-18516-2021 (O&M)
Date of Decision: 16.09.2021**

HC/LR Rajnish Kumar & Ors.

... Petitioners

VS.

State of Punjab & Ors.

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE GIRISH AGNIHOTRI

Present: Mr. Nitesh Singla, Advocate for the petitioners.

Ms. Lavanya Paul, 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/LR Rajnish Kumar and twenty three others have jointly filed the present writ petition *inter alia* with the prayer for directing the respondents-department to step up the pay of the petitioners at par with respondent No.7/their junior, especially in view of letter dated 22.08.2019 (Annexure P-7) and speaking order dated 17.09.2020 (Annexure P-10) passed by the department in pursuance to the order dated 19.06.2020 (Annexure P-9) and to decide the representation/legal notice dated 06.06.2021 (Annexure P-8) along with further relief as mentioned in the petition.

Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that for same/similar grievance the petitioners had got served a legal notice upon respondents on dated 06.06.2021 (Annexure P-8) but the same has not been decided till date.

Notice of motion.

On asking of the Court, Ms. Lavanya Paul, Asst. A.G., Punjab accepts notice on behalf of the State.

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 respondent No.2/competent authority to consider and decide the claim of the petitioners as contained in the legal notice dated 06.06.2021 (Annexure P-8), in accordance with law, as expeditiously as possible, 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.

16.09.2021
Shruti

(Girish Agnihotri)
Judge

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

Yes/No
Yes/No