

HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

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CWP No.18956 of 2021

Date of Decision: 05.10.2021

HC/PR Gurdeep Singh & Ors.

... Petitioners

VS.

State of Punjab & Ors.

... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE GIRISH AGNIHOTRI

Present: Mr. B.S. Sidhu, Advocate for the petitioners.

Mr. Nikhil Chopra, 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 Gurdeep Singh and 18 others have jointly filed the present writ petition *inter alia* with a prayer for directing the respondents-department to count the service rendered by the petitioners on the post of SPOs as qualifying service for the purpose of pensionary/retiral benefits as the same benefits has been granted by this Court in view of *Harbans Lal's* case to the similarly situated persons vide order dated 15.02.2018 passed in CWP No.9936 of 2017 titled as '*Sukhjit Singh and Ors. Vs. State of Punjab and Ors*' (Annexure P-5).

Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that for the same/similar grievance the petitioners had got served a legal notice upon respondents on dated 18.01.2021 (Annexure P-9), but its response is still awaited.

Notice of motion.

Mr. Nikhil Chopra, Asst. AG, Punjab, accepts notice on behalf of the respondents-State, through video conferencing.

JYOTI
2021.10.12 11:15
I attest to the accuracy and
integrity of this document

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 (P9) 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.

05.10.2021

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**(Girish Agnihotri)
Judge**

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

Yes/No
Yes/No