

CWP-1698-2021

Date of decision : January 25, 2021

DARSHAN SINGH AND ORS

.....Petitioners

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB AND OTHERS

....Respondents

CORAM:- HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE LISA GILL

Present: Mr. Harnek Singh, Advocate for the petitioners.

Mr. Abhay Pal Singh Gill, AAG, Punjab.

LISA GILL, J.

This matter is being taken up for hearing through video conferencing due to outbreak of the pandemic, COVID-19.

Petitioners seek revision of pay scales with regard to skilled and semi-skilled staff of the Punjab Government in view of decision dated 26.04.2018 passed in CWP-7001-2013 titled as Daljeet Singh and others versus State of Punjab and others (Annexure P8). It is submitted that the petitioners are identically situated as the petitioners in CWP-7001-2013 (Annexure P8). Decision dated 26.04.2018 in the said writ petition, it is stated, has attained finality and has in fact been implemented by the Department vide order dated 16.10.2019 (Annexure P10). However, petitioners are not being afforded the said benefit despite being similarly situated. Legal notice dated 06.12.2019 (Annexure P18) in this regard has been submitted.

Learned counsel also refers to communication dated 06.01.2020 by the General Manager, Punjab Roadways, Chandigarh, which indicates that petitioners are entitled to the benefit in question. Despite submission of legal notice dated 06.12.2019 (Annexure P18) and petitioners thereafter pursuing the matter with the Department, no decision is statedly being taken thereon.

At this stage, learned counsel for the petitioner restricts the prayer for a direction that legal notice dated 06.12.2019 (Annexure P18), be decided by the authorities in a time bound manner.

Keeping in view the facts and circumstances of this case, but without any expression of opinion on the merits of the matter, this petition is disposed of with a direction to the competent authority to decide legal notice dated 06.12.2019 (Annexure P18), within a period of three months from receipt of certified copy of this order. In case, petitioners are found entitled to the benefit in question, the same be released to them within six weeks thereafter. Needless to say if decision be adverse to the petitioners, same be by way of a speaking order.

Petition is disposed of accordingly.

January 25, 2021

rts

(Lisa Gill)
Judge

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