

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT  
CHANDIGARH**

**(PROCEEDINGS THROUGH V.C.)**

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CWP-1388-2022

Date of decision : 07.02.2022

THE BATHINDA CENTRAL COOPERATIVE BANK  
EMPLOYEES UNION

...PETITIONER

V/S

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA AND OTHERS

...RESPONDENTS

**CORAM : HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE RITU BAHRI  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ASHOK KUMAR VERMA**

Present: Mr. Naveen Batra, Advocate  
for the petitioner.

Mr. Namit Kumar, Advocate  
for the Election Commission of India.

Mr. Abhaypal Singh, AAG, Punjab.

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**RITU BAHRI, J. (ORAL)**

Mr. Namit Kumar, Advocate has sent a letter dated 06.02.2022 issued by Chief Electoral Officer, Punjab through e-mail which is taken on record. As per letter dated 06.02.2022 initially the number of polling booths were 23211 which have now been increased to 24740 and as per the letter dated 18.02.2011 the employees of banks and LIC can be drafted on election duty to the minimum extent possible, only in a constituency where sufficient numbers of Government employees are not available. In paragraph 4 it has been further clarified that if some of the staff of bank employees are put on election duty then bank work would not be adversely affected as most of the rehearsals are carried out on gazetted holidays and even the

polling is on a day when holiday is declared under Negotiable Instruments Act by the Chief Electoral Officer.

Mr. Namit Kumar, Advocate submits that with respect to exemption from election duty, the District Election Officer, Bathinda vide order dated 06.02.2022 has exempted 33 employees from Bathinda Central Cooperative Bank.

Since 33 employees of Bathinda Central Cooperative Bank have already been exempted, no further direction is required to be given in this writ petition and the same is disposed of accordingly.

**(RITU BAHRI)**  
**JUDGE**

**(ASHOK KUMAR VERMA)**  
**JUDGE**

**07.02.2022**

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Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No

Whether Reportable: Yes/No