

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

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CWP-17883-2022

Date of decision : 17.08.2022

The Muktsar Central Cooperative Bank Ltd.

... Petitioner

Versus

Joint Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Ferozepur and another

.. Respondents

CORAM :HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL

Present:- Mr. Ferry Sofat, Advocate for the petitioner.

Anupinder Singh Grewal, J. (Oral)

The petitioner has challenged the order dated 21.09.2021 (Annexure P-16) whereby the appellate authority (respondent No.1) has imposed punishment of stoppage of two annual increments with future effect instead of demotion of respondent No.2.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that there were serious allegations against respondent No.2 as he was found having embezzled a sum of Rs.1,60,000/- which had been deposited by one Lakhvir Singh.

Heard.

Respondent No.2 is stated to have been appointed as Peon on compassionate ground after the death of his father who was an employee of petitioner/Bank. Respondent No.2 was promoted as Clerk-cum-Data Entry Operator in December, 2019. The allegations against respondent No.2 are that instead of depositing a sum of Rs.1,60,000/- in the account of one Lakhvir Singh, he had kept the amount himself. It was the case of respondent No.2 that as several persons had deposited the money at the same time, he was little

late in making the entry in bank register but he had duly made the entry in the passbook of Lakhvir Singh. Respondent No.2 had later deposited the amount in the bank and made entry in the bank register. The disciplinary authority after enquiring into the matter had imposed the punishment of demotion of respondent No.2 from the rank of Clerk to Peon. The appellate authority (respondent No.1) has altered the punishment of demotion to the stoppage of two annual increments with future effect on the ground that procedure under Clause 5(vi) of the Punjab Civil Services (Punishment and Appeal) Rules, 1970 was not followed.

In view of the above, I neither find any manifest illegality in the impugned order (Annexure P-16) nor deem it an appropriate case for interference while exercising writ jurisdiction.

Consequently, the petition stands dismissed.

(ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL)
JUDGE

August 17, 2022
sonia gugnani

Whether speaking/reasoned	:	Yes/No
Whether Reportable	:	Yes/No