

254+256
IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

Date of Decision: 15th February, 2023

1.

CWP-963-2021

Ransher Singh and others

... Petitioners
- Versus
- State of Punjab and others

... Respondents
2.

CWP-1291-2021

Savita Badhan and others

... Petitioners
- Versus
- State of Punjab and others

... Respondents
3.

CWP-3387-2021

Jai Pal

... Petitioner
- Versus
- State of Punjab and others

... Respondents
4.

CWP-3365-2021

Gurpreet Singh and another

... Petitioners
- Versus
- State of Punjab and others

... Respondents
5.

CWP-2006-2021

Gurdev Singh and another

... Petitioners
- Versus
- State of Punjab and others

... Respondents

6. CWP-3247-2021

Gurdeep Singh ... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others ... Respondents

7. CWP-2580-2021

Manpreet Kaur ... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others ... Respondents

8. CWP-5638-2021

Varundeep Singh and another ... Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others ... Respondents

9. CWP-6207-2021

Buta Singh ... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others ... Respondents

10. CWP-6175-2021

Reetu Bala ... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others ... Respondents

11. CWP-16939-2021

Anil Kumar and others
... Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others
... Respondents

12. CWP-18337-2021

Vikas Sharma
... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others
... Respondents

13. CWP-19870-2021

Gurjit Kaur
... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others
... Respondents

14. CWP-1500-2021

Ration Depot Holder Federation of Punjab
... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and another
... Respondents

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AVNEESH JHINGAN

Present : Mr. Sukhandeep Singh, Advocate,
Mr. Harmanjeet Sing Jugait, Advocate,
Mr. Harinder Sharma, Advocate,
Mr. Rishab Kumar Jain, Advocate for
Mr. Tribhawan Singla, Advocate,
Mr. Ravinder Singh, Advocate for
Mr. H.S. Bedi, Advocate and
Mr. Amit Sharma, Advocate for the petitioner(s).
Mr. Rajesh Mehta, Addl. A.G., Punjab.

AVNEESH JHINGAN , J.(Oral)

1. These are bunch of petitions challenging the public notice dated 25th November, 2020 and the details of vacancy uploaded on the website.
2. The public notice published in the newspaper was that the person interested for a depot of fair price shop can get the information with regard to the vacant vacancies, eligibility and other conditions from District Controller, Food and Supply and Consumer affairs of their respective district.
3. The grievance raised in the present petitions is that advertisement was not in compliance with the policy dated 15th June, 2016 prescribing the reservation of various classes.
4. Learned State counsel has filed an affidavit dated 15th February, 2023 in CWP No. 963 of 2021. He on instructions from Ms. Sweety Devgan, Deputy Director and Ms. Mamta Garg, Inspector, Grade I, Head office, who is present in the Court submits that the affidavit is adopted in all connected petitions.
5. It would be appropriate to mention here that in all these petitions except two while issuing notice of motion, interim directions were issued that allocation of depot would be subject to the outcome of the petition or in the meantime, the process of allocation of ration depot shall remain stayed.
6. The impugned public notice published in the newspaper was only an information and gives no basis for the grievance raised by the petitioner in the present petitions.
7. During the pendency of petitions, the respondent realising

issue fresh advertisement/public notice. Paragraph No. 3 of the affidavit dated 15th February, 2023 is reproduced below:-

“ That it has been decided that all district Controllers Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs of all Districts in State of Punjab, would issue fresh advertisement/public notice in each districts for allotment of Fair Price Shops specifically mentioning numbers of vacancies as per the reservation quota of each category in the Depot allotment policy and any subsequent amendments connected with policy for applying the licence by the applicant with cut off date in the leading two newspapers (one in Punjabi and one in Hindi) within three weeks from the date of submission of this affidavit in this Hon'ble Court.”

8. Learned State counsel on instructions submits that for all depots fresh determination for eligibility and allotment would be done in pursuance to the new advertisement to be issued. Further that till allotment of the depot is finalized, as an interim measure, the persons who have been allotted depot shall continue.

9. In view of the above, no further directions are called for, the petitions are disposed of.

10. Needless to say that petitioners would be at liberty to avail remedies for redressal of surviving grievance, if any, in accordance with law.

11. A photocopy of this order be placed on the files of connected cases.

(AVNEESH JHINGAN)
JUDGE

15th February, 2023

Parveen Sharma

Whether reasoned/speaking

Yes/No

Whether reportable

Yes/No