

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

CWP-7872-2023

Date of decision: 22.08.2023

Paramjeet Singh and others

.....Petitioners

 V/s

State of Punjab and others

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DEEPAK MANCHANDA

Present: Ms. Manveen Kahlon, Advocate
for the petitioners.

DEEPAK MANCHANDA J. (ORAL)

The instant petition has been filed under Article 226/227 of the Constitution of India for issuance of a writ in the nature of mandamus, directing the respondents to grant pay scale to the petitioners, who are Meter Readers which is clerical post at par with the pay drawn by Clerks (i.e., 10,300+34,800+3,200 Grade Pay) and pay parity to be maintained as per the Punjab Govt. Notification No.983 dated 15.12.2011 w.e.f. 01.12.2011.

Learned counsel for the petitioners contends that petitioners are working as Meter Reader in the Punjab Urban and Development Authority. The services of the petitioners were regularized vide order dated 26.12.2001. He submits that the employees working as Meter Reader in the respondent-Department had to be given the revised pay scale of the Clerk i.e., pay band of Rs. 10300-34800+3200 grade pay vide Punjab Govt. Notification No.FPI-983 dated 15.12.2011 w.e.f. 01.12.2011. The petitioners are aggrieved that the employees, who are working as Meter Reader in the respondent-Department had to be given the amended pay scale of the Clerk i.e., Rs. 10300-34800+3200 grade

pay in terms of Punjab Government letter dated 15.12.2011 (Annexure P-2) and

refers to order passed by respondent No.3, whereby vide Resolution No.4909, it has been decided that the employees working in the PUDA under the designation of Bill Clerk and Ledger Keeper shall be placed at par with the Clerk w.e.f. 01.12.2011 at Rs. 10300-34800 pay band and grade pay Rs. 3200 whereby, the minimum/initial pay shall be fixed at Rs.13500. He further submits that petitioners No.2 and 3 have submitted various representations dated 21.08.2017, 04.04.2022 & 17.10.2022 (Annexure P-9) before the respondent/authorities i.e., the respondents No. 1 and 5, which have not been taken into consideration till date and the petitioners would be satisfied if necessary directions are given for deciding the representations in a time bound manner.

Notice of motion.

On asking of the Court, Mr. Arun Gupta, AAG Punjab, who is present in the Court, accepts notice on behalf of the respondents No. 1, 2 and 4. Mr. Ashish Grover, Advocate has put in appearance on behalf of respondents No.3 and 5 and filed his *memo of appearance*.

Learned State counsel submits that the representations dated 21.08.2017, 04.04.2022 & 17.10.2022 (Annexure P-9) as submitted by the petitioners No.2 and 3 are not addressed to respondent No.3 i.e., Chief Administrator, PUDA, who is the competent authority to redress the grievances of the petitioners.

Faced with this, learned counsel for the petitioners undertakes that all the petitioners will submit a detailed fresh representation before respondent No.3- Chief Administrator, PUDA and prays that the said representation be decided within a within a period of two weeks by looking into the grievances of the petitioners.

Prayer is allowed and petitioners are directed to file a detailed representation before respondent No.3- Chief Administrator, PUDA.

On their doing so, respondent No.3 is directed to look into the grievance of the petitioners and decide the representation, by passing a speaking order within a period of 8 weeks from the date of receipt of certified copy of this order with a further direction that if the petitioners are found to be entitled to the claim mentioned above, necessary disbursement of funds shall be made to them within a period of 8 weeks thereafter.

The petition stands disposed of.

22.08.2023
Sapna

(DEEPAK MANCHANDA)
JUDGE

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