

IN THE PUNJAB AND HARYANA HIGH COURT AT
CHANDIGARH

208-1 CWP-24644-2016 (O&M)

NIRMAL SINGH & ORS ... Petitioners

VERSUS

STATE OF HARYANA AND OTHERS ... Respondents

208-2 CWP-12504-2018 (O&M)

KRISHAN BALDEV AND ORS. ... Petitioners

VERSUS

STATE OF HARYANA AND OTHERS ... Respondents

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208-3 CWP-10422-2018 (O&M)
Date of Decision: 01.05.2023

SUBHASH CHAND AND ORS. ... Petitioners

VERSUS

STATE OF HARYANA AND OTHERS ... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VINOD S. BHARDWAJ.

Present: Mr. Mohinder Pal, Advocate
for the petitioner(s).

Mr. Pankaj Mulwani, DAG, Haryana.

VINOD S. BHARDWAJ, J. (ORAL)

A batch of three cases is being disposed of by this common order
as the issue involved therein is identical and the counsel for the parties do
agree that the same may be decided together.

The present petitions have been filed for seeking issuance of directions to the respondents to issue BPL (Below Poverty Line) Cards to the petitioners, who claim to be left out even though their names were reflected in the initial survey. However, the list submitted by the Committee was further entrusted for verification before a Committee headed by the District Development Panchayat Officer, as per which the names of the petitioners were dropped from the eligible beneficiaries to the said claim. The petitioners thus sought issuance of directions to the respondent-Authorities to include their names in terms of the initial survey conducted by the Committee headed by Sub Divisional Officer, Panchayati Raj.

Upon notice, reply had been filed by the District Development Panchayat Officer, Sirsa on behalf of respondents No.1 to 4, wherein it was pointed out in the preliminary submissions that the BPL list has not been finalized till date and the same is yet to be prepared.

Learned State Counsel, on instructions from Mr. Rohtash Kumar, Investigator, DRDA, Sirsa, contends that there are interregnum developments and that vide letter No.EA-2020/9030 dated 06.11.2020, the State Government has transferred the BPL Scheme to the Chief Executive Officer, District Rural Development Agency and now the appropriate authority in this regard is the Chief Executive Officer, District Rural Development Agency, which is not a party herein. The matter is thus required to be finalized by the Chief Executive Officer, District Rural Development Agency, Sirsa. Learned State Counsel further points out that as of now the procedure to apply for BPL Cards under the BPL Scheme has been made online and in the event of the petitioners applying online under the said scheme, the same shall be duly considered by the competent Authority.

Faced with the above, learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner(s) does not intend to press the instant petition at this stage and seeks liberty for the petitioners to submit their online applications with the competent Authority for issuance of BPL Cards as per the existing scheme.

Disposed of as not pressed at this stage.

Needless to mention that in the event of any such online application being submitted by the petitioners, the competent Authority i.e. Chief Executive Officer, District Rural Development Agency, Sirsa shall take a decision on such application in accordance with the applicable policy in a time bound manner and preferably within a period of three months from the date of filing of such application.

01.05.2023

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(VINOD S. BHARDWAJ)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No