

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

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CWP No.6743 of 2024 (O&M)
Date of decision: 21.03.2024

Balkar Singh and others
.....Petitioners
Versus
State of Punjab and others
.....Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NAMIT KUMAR

Present: Mr. Abhishek Kumar Premi, Advocate
for the petitioners.

NAMIT KUMAR J. (Oral)

1. Prayer in this writ petition filed by the petitioners under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India, is for issuance of a writ in the nature of mandamus, directing the respondents to De-reserve/Convert the vacant posts of Firemen reserved for women (due to lack of sufficient number of eligible women candidates) in respective vertical categories as per Rule 5 of the Punjab Civil Services (Reservation of Posts for Women) Rules, 2020 (Annexure P-7) and to fill up the said posts in accordance with merit, with a further direction to consider the candidature of the petitioners for appointment to the post of Firemen, if found meritorious, in their respective categories. Further a writ of mandamus has been sought for directing the respondents to decide the legal notice dated 02.03.2024 (Annexure P-10) by passing a speaking order in a time bound manner.
2. Learned counsel for the petitioners, at the very outset, confines his prayer for deciding legal notice dated 02.03.2024

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(Annexure P-10). He submits that at this stage, petitioners would be satisfied, if the said legal notice is decided by passing a speaking order within a time bound frame.

3. Notice of motion.
4. Mr. Rajesh Sehgal, Addl. A.G., Punjab, accepts notice on behalf of respondents No.1 and 2 and has no objection to the innocuous prayer made by learned counsel for the petitioner.
5. I have heard learned counsel for the parties and have gone through the record of the case.
6. Without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case or the claim being made by the petitioners in the present petition, respondent No.2, is directed to consider and decide the claim made in the legal notice dated 02.03.2024 (Annexure P-10) in accordance with law, by passing a speaking order within a period of 02 months from the date of receipt of certified copy of this order.
7. The petition stands disposed of.

(NAMIT KUMAR)
JUDGE

21.03.2024

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