

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

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CWP-12789-2020(O&M)

Date of Decision: 22.04.2024

Jaspal Singh and others

...Petitioners

Versus

Punjabi University, Patiala and others

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AMAN CHAUDHARY

Present: Mr. Sajjan Singh, Advocate for the petitioners.

Mr. H. S. Batth, Advocate for the respondents.

AMAN CHAUDHARY, J. (Oral)

1. The prayer in the present petition is for quashing the impugned action of the respondents of relieving petitioners during vacations/end of semester classes and to allow them to work without break till regular appointments are made, as also not replace them by other similarly situated engagements or by way of transfer/deputation of regular faculty. Further prayer is made for quashing action whereby the petitioners are deprived of minimum basic salary/remuneration to the post as per UGC norms and grant arrears of salary with interest @ 18% per annum since date of joining.

2. Learned counsel appearing on behalf of the respondents-University and constituent colleges submits that the substantive relief prayed for by the petitioners, inasmuch as to be neither replaced by similar set nor removed during non-teaching period, has been accepted by the Syndicate meeting vide order dated 05.11.2022, Annexure R-1/2 and the monthly capping of the guest faculty from Rs.30,000/- to Rs.35,000/- have been increased, as also the wages of the lectures being paid as fixed in 2020, for 60 and 45 minutes lecture, with sum of Rs.750/- and Rs.525/- respectively, vide decision dated 12.04.2024, Annexure R-1/3.

3. The aforesaid statement satisfies the learned counsel for the petitioners, who however contends that his claim as regards the minimum pay scale has not been yet decided, representation shall be submitted, which may be decided in a time bound manner, as they are entitled to the same in terms of the judgment passed by Hon'ble the Supreme Court in **State of Punjab and others vs. Jagjit Singh and others**, 2017(1) SCC 148, relying on which this Court in CWP-11201-2022, **Suchitra and others vs. State of Haryana and others**, vide judgment dated 29.09.2023, held the petitioners entitled to receive remuneration equivalent to the minimum of the pay scale payable to their regularly appointed counterparts in the College of Pharmacy, wherein the LPA filed by the State also stands dismissed on 04.03.2024.

4. Learned counsel for the respondents has no objection to the limited prayer made.

5. In view of the aforesaid and without commenting upon the merits of the case, this petition is hereby disposed of with a direction to the respondents that in case, the petitioners submit representation within a period of 4 weeks, the same be decided within six months, which this Court has no reason to believe the authorities would not address in a just, fair and reasonable manner. Upon doing so, after notice and hearing offered to them, and if found entitled, grant the benefit forthwith. Needless to say, if the orders are adverse to their interest, the same shall contain reasons and the petitioners shall be free to seek legal redress.

(AMAN CHAUDHARY)
JUDGE

22.04.2024

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Whether speaking : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No