



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

124

CWP-12134-2024
Date of decision: 27.05.2024

DEEPAK KUMAR PANDEY AND OTHERS

...PETITIONERS

Vs.

STATE OF PUNJAB AND OTHERS

...RESPONDENTS

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JAGMOHAN BANSAL

Present: Mr. H.C. Arora, Advocate and
Ms. Sunaina, Advocate
for the petitioners.

Mr. Aman Dhir, DAG, Punjab.

Mr. Prateek Gupta, Advocate
for respondent No. 3.

JAGMOHAN BANSAL, J (ORAL)

1. The petitioners through the instant petition under Article 226 of the Constitution of India are seeking direction to respondents to withdraw their deployment as Presiding Officer in the upcoming Lok Sabha Election-2024.
2. The petitioners are working as Associate/Assistant Professors in the Central University of Punjab at Bathinda. They have been deployed as Presiding Officers by District Election Officer, Bathinda in the forthcoming General Election of Lok Sabha.
3. Mr. H.C. Arora, Advocate submits that petitioners are assigned duty of Presiding Officers whereas many government officials who are junior to them, have been assigned duty of micro observers. The deployment of petitioners as Presiding Officers is contrary to instructions issued by Election Commission.

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4. The elections are going to be held on 01.06.2024. The petitioners have already been imparted training as Presiding Officers. They as per their status can be deployed as Presiding Officers. Their only grievance is that many officials holding rank junior to them have been appointed micro observer. No person who cannot be appointed as micro observer has been appointed as micro observer. The petitioners do not claim that they cannot be appointed as Presiding Officers. The elections are around the corner and petitioners have already been imparted training, thus, at this advance stage, it is not appropriate to issue any direction to the respondents.
5. Dismissed.

27.05.2024
manoj

[JAGMOHAN BANSAL]
JUDGE

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